

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET

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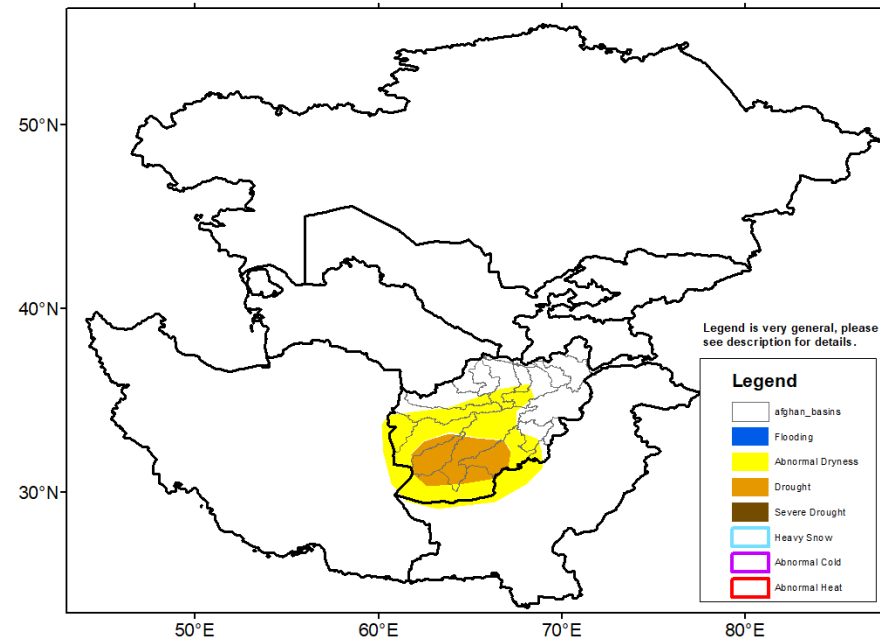
Temperatures:

Following a period of below normal temperatures during mid-March, weekly temperatures averaged +1 to +7 degrees C above normal from March 21 to 27. During this time period, maximum temperatures warmed to the middle 30s (degrees C). This recent warmth likely resulted in rapid snowmelt. The GFS model depicts that temperatures are likely to average near to below normal during the first week of April.

Precipitation

Locally heavy precipitation (more than 25 mm, liquid equivalent) fell throughout northeast Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and southern Kazakhstan for the third consecutive week. This heavy precipitation extended east to northern Pakistan where flooding was reported. The frequent, heavy precipitation during March continues to support a decrease in the coverage of abnormal dryness. The drought hazard is based on RFE satellite estimates of 90-day precipitation deficits.

Additional precipitation (locally more than 25 mm, liquid equivalent) is forecast for northeast Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and northeast Pakistan. Although no flooding hazard is posted, any heavy rain coupled with snowmelt may trigger flash flooding across northeast Afghanistan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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