

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 20 October – 26 October, 2022

Temperature:

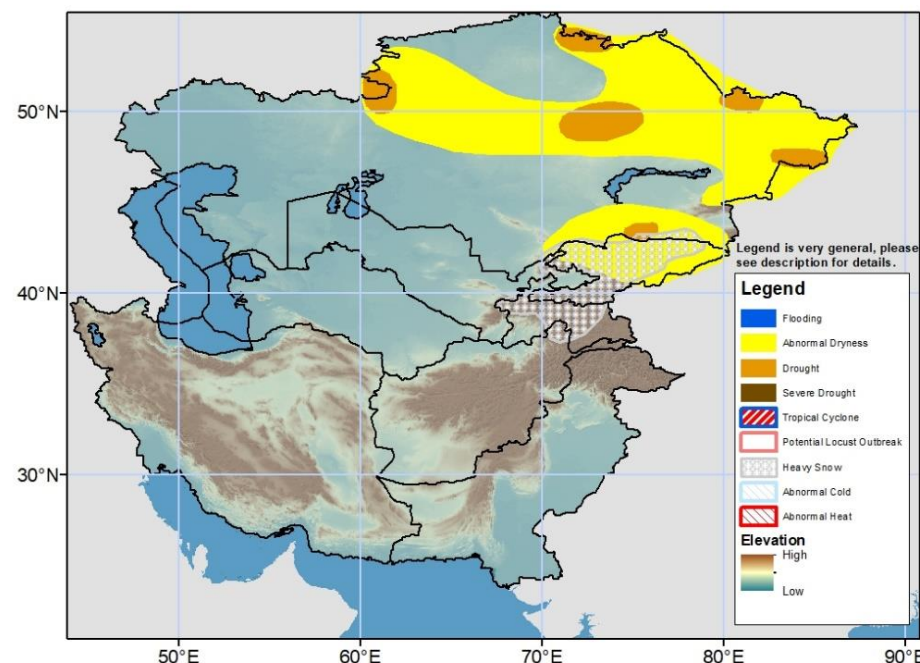
Weekly mean maximum temperatures were above normal across the eastern two thirds of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan, where positive anomalies were 2-6°C. Most of Afghanistan was 2-4°C above average. Maximum temperature exceeded 30°C in southwestern Afghanistan, but remained less than 20°C across the northern two thirds of Kazakhstan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were warmer than average by 2-6°C across western and north-central Kazakhstan, western Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. Minimum temperatures were cooler than average across Afghanistan and dipped below 0°C in the northeast mountains and the central highlands.

The GEFS model forecasts above-average maximum temperature (1 to 4°C anomalies) across large portions of central Asia. Only parts of Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and northern Afghanistan's higher elevations will see below average temperatures. Maximum temperature should remain less than 20°C across Kazakhstan and most of Uzbekistan. Weekly minimum temperatures are also forecast to be 1-4°C warmer than average across most of the region. Sub-freezing temperatures are expected in a few parts of eastern, north central Kazakhstan and the northeast mountains and the central highlands of Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

This past week, the majority of the region was mostly dry, however moderate rains (5-25mm) were observed in western Kazakhstan and some very light rains were scattered across parts of eastern Kazakhstan. Light rain was also observed in northern Pakistan. SPI, VHI, and soil moisture levels have decreased in the Kostanay region leading to expanded abnormal dryness and improved in the Akmola region. The cropping season is coming to an end across the region. The time for monitoring mountain snowpack is starting and is lagging a bit behind in the early going for Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

A strong upper-level low is forecasted to trek across northern Kazakhstan during the outlook period, bringing rain and the first widespread snow of the season. The GEFS weekly ensemble mean forecasts 5-25mm liquid equivalent precipitation with 4-8cm of snow possible. Heavy mountain snow is expected for northeastern Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. A heavy snow polygon is placed where 20-35cm is possible.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), sub-seasonal forecasts up to 4 weeks, and assesses the potential impact of extreme events on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed and predicted to continue during the outlook period. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at the spatial scale of the map. This product takes into account long range seasonal climate forecasts but does not reflect current or projected food security conditions. FEWS NET is a USAID-funded activity whose purpose is to provide objective information about food security conditions. Its views are not necessarily reflective of those of USAID or the U.S. Government. The FEWS NET weather hazards outlook process and products include participation by FEWS NET field and home offices, NOAA-CPC, USGS, USDA, NASA, and a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned. Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverd@usaid.gov.