Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
16 February – 22 February, 2023

Temperature:

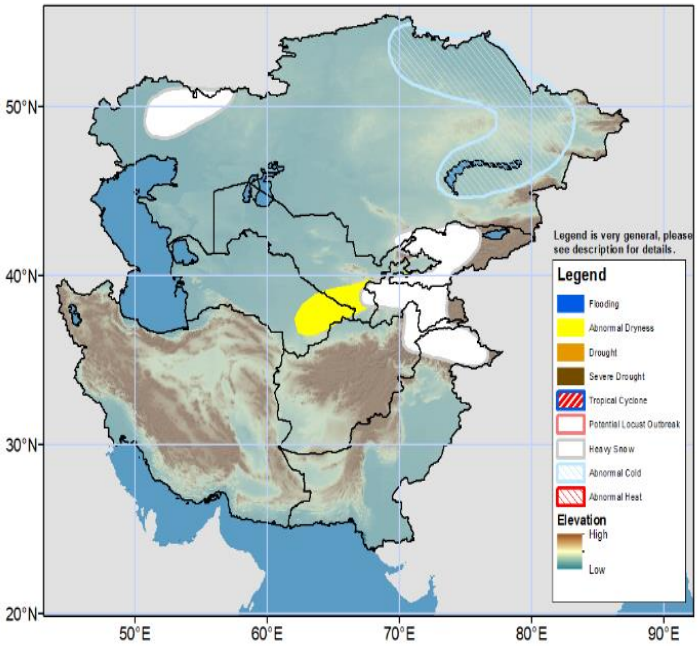
Weekly average minimum temperatures were below normal (-6 to -2 ºC) across northwest, northern, and Karaganda regions of Kazakhstan, and eastern Tajikistan during 07 Feb – 13 Feb 2023, with -8 to -6 ºC in southeast region of Kostanay, Kazakhstan. In contrast, above normal minimum temperatures were observed eastern Kazakhstan and northern and northeast Kyrgyzstan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were observed around -25 to -15 ºC across northwest and northern Kazakhstan, eastern regions of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, while minimum temperatures were observed around -15 to 0 ºC across Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and central, eastern and northeast Afghanistan.

The GEFS model forecasts below normal temperature (-4 to -1 ºC) across southeast Karaganda, and western Almaty regions of Kazakhstan during 16 Feb – 22 Feb 2023. In contrast, above normal mean temperatures (1 to 6 ºC) are forecast across western, northern, and southern Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and Tajikistan, with 6 to 8 ºC above average in eastern regions of Afghanistan. Weekly average minimum temperatures are forecast around -20 to -10 ºC across northern and eastern Kazakhstan, central and eastern regions of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, and northeast Afghanistan. An abnormal cold hazard is posted across northeast and eastern Kazakhstan where temperature anomaly is below normal around -6 to -4 ºC and daily minimum temperature is around -25 to -20 ºC in starting two days of the outlook period.

Precipitation:

Moderate to heavy precipitation was observed across western, central, northern and northeast Afghanistan, western and central Tajikistan, and southern regions of Kazakhstan during 07 Feb – 13 Feb 2023. Light to moderate precipitation was overserved across western, southern and eastern Turkmenistan, eastern Uzbekistan, southern Kyrgyzstan, and central, northern and eastern Kazakhstan. Some greater amount of precipitation (25 to 50mm) was observed in southwest Tajikistan, and northwest and northeast Afghanistan. Based on USGS snow depth and snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, negative snow depth and SWE anomalies currently exist across eastern Tajikistan, northeast Afghanistan, northwest Kazakhstan, and eastern and western Kyrgyzstan.

The GEFS weekly ensembles mean forecasts moderate to heavy precipitation across Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, northwest, northern, northeast and some of the central provinces of Afghanistan, central and eastern region of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, northwest and southern Kazakhstan, pockets of southern Iran, and northern Pakistan during 16 Feb – 22 Feb 2023. Heavy snowfall is predicted across central and northwest Tajikistan, southern and southwest Kyrgyzstan, northern Pakistan, parts of northeast Afghanistan, and northwest Kazakhstan. Therefore, a heavy snow polygon is posted.



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, jverdin@usaid.gov