

## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 20 April – 26 April, 2023

### Temperature:

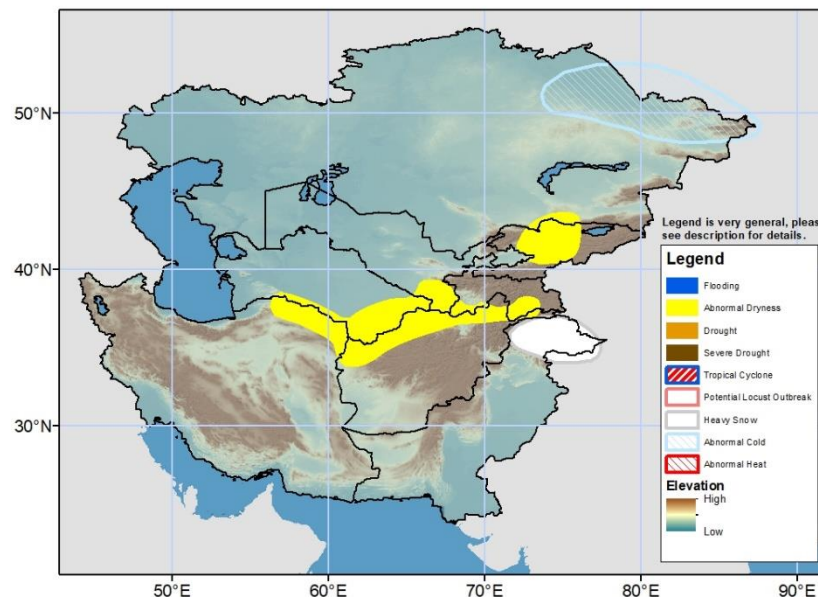
Weekly average minimum temperatures were above normal by 2-6°C across southern Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, eastern Iran, and northern Afghanistan. 2-6°C negative anomalies were observed across northern Kazakhstan. Maximum temperatures were much warmer than average across southern Turkmenistan, northeastern Iran, and northwestern Afghanistan, with positive anomalies topping out at 6-8°C above average. Northern Kazakhstan registered 2-8°C negative anomalies. Weekly average maximum temperatures higher than 30°C reached into northern Afghanistan and southern Turkmenistan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were observed around -10 to 0°C across higher elevations of Kyrgyzstan (>3000 m), the higher elevations of eastern Tajikistan (>4000 m), northern Kazakhstan, and the highest elevations of northeastern Afghanistan (>4000 m).

During the outlook period, the GEFS model forecasts below-normal mean minimum temperatures (2 -10°C anomalies) across eastern Kazakhstan, with the largest anomalies in Pavlodar, northern Abai, and East Kazakhstan. These areas correspond with fresh thick snow cover and an abnormal cold hazard is placed. Lesser negative anomalies (1-4°C) are expected in many other eastern portions of the region. Western Kazakhstan, western Turkmenistan, and Iran can expect 2-4°C positive anomalies. Weekly average minimum temperatures are forecast around -20 to -5°C across eastern Tajikistan, the higher elevations of eastern/southern Kyrgyzstan and northeastern Afghanistan. Mean minimum temperatures between -5 and 0°C are forecast for central Kyrgyzstan, and northeastern Kazakhstan. The mean maximum temperature pattern is predicted to look very similar with comparable magnitude anomalies. Mean maximum temperatures are forecast to exceed 30°C in Turkmenistan and southwestern/northern Afghanistan, while exceeding 35°C in eastern Iran and Pakistan. While daily temperatures will start out quite-below average over the region, by the latter half of the outlook period, much warmer temperatures will overspread the southern two thirds of the region.

### Precipitation:

Patches of heavier precipitation (25-50mm) was observed in Kazakhstan. Northwestern Kazakhstan as well the Akmola, Pavlodar, and east Kazakhstan regions received swaths of heavy snowfall. Another region with similar precipitation amounts emerged in eastern Afghanistan and northern Pakistan. Lighter precipitation, less than 25mm, was received across many other portions of Kazakhstan, central/southern Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan. Based on USGS snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, negative SWE anomalies exist across eastern/northwestern Tajikistan, most of northeastern/central Afghanistan, and most of Kyrgyzstan outside of lower elevations in west-central portions of the country. However, recent precipitation has steadied or slightly increased SWE values in Afghanistan. Low SWE values and low standardized precipitation index (SPI) values support abnormal dryness in central Kyrgyzstan. Low SPI values and precipitation accumulation over the last two months, as well as low soil moisture, supports the retention and expansion of the abnormal dryness polygon across the northern tier of Afghanistan and neighboring portions of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, southern Turkmenistan, and northern Iran.

The GEFS ensemble mean forecasts moderate precipitation for northeastern Afghanistan, parts of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, as well as heavy precipitation in northern Pakistan early during the outlook period. Heavy snowfall (>25mm) is likely to accumulate in the higher elevations with liquid equivalent values of 25-50mm. The region will dry out after the passage of this system. lighter snowfall is forecast in Kyrgyzstan and eastern Kazakhstan. Light rains, less than 10mm, are forecast across northern Kazakhstan.



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](mailto:wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov). Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, [jverdind@usaid.gov](mailto:jverdind@usaid.gov).