

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 11 – 17 May, 2023

Temperature:

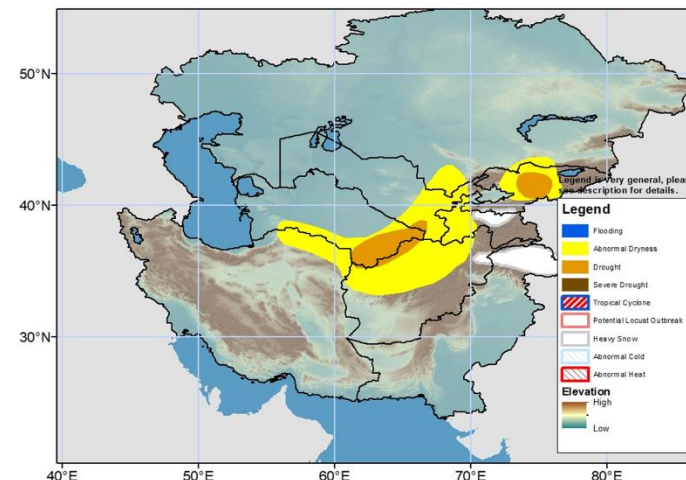
Weekly average minimum temperatures were above average (2 to 4°C) across western parts of Kazakhstan during the period 02 – 08 May 2023. In contrast, below normal minimum temperatures were observed across eastern Kazakhstan, eastern Kyrgyzstan, eastern Tajikistan, and over western and eastern regions of Afghanistan, with the highest negative anomaly of 8-12°C being observed in Almaty province of Kazakhstan. Maximum temperatures were above average (2 to 6°C) across western Kazakhstan covering West Kazakhstan, Atyrau, Aqtobe, and Qostanay provinces, with the highest positive anomaly of more than 4°C occurring across Aqtobe provinces of Kazakhstan. Maximum temperatures in western and southern Afghanistan (Hirat, Farah, Nimroz, and Hilmand provinces) exceeded 35°C during the period 02 – 08 May 2023.

The GEFS model forecasts above normal weekly average minimum temperatures of 2 to 4°C from central to eastern parts of Kazakhstan, from central to eastern Uzbekistan & bordering areas of Turkmenistan, over much of Kyrgyzstan, western and southern Tajikistan, and central and northeastern Afghanistan through the forecast period. On the other hand, weekly minimum temperatures are forecasted to be 1-4°C below average over the extreme western and northern areas of Kazakhstan, western Turkmenistan, and over eastern Tajikistan. Except over eastern Tajikistan and the extreme eastern borders of Kyrgyzstan, where average minimum temperatures are expected to be 5-10°C below freezing with a potential for associated adverse impacts on standing crops, much of Central Asia will experience warm minimum temperatures between 5-25°C during the forecast period. Weekly average maximum temperatures are forecasted to hover around 30 to 35°C across southern Kazakhstan, eastern Uzbekistan, and eastern Turkmenistan. Maximum temperature anomalies are expected to be 2-4°C warmer than average over southeastern Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Western and southern Afghanistan (Farah, Nimroz, Hilmand, and Kandahar provinces) will likely experience warm temperature between 35-40°C during the period 11 – 17 May 2023.

Precipitation:

Moderate to heavy precipitation amounts (10-50 mm), which were near to above the long term values over many places, were observed over western and southwestern Kazakhstan, central Turkmenistan, west-central Tajikistan, and over much of eastern Afghanistan. Light precipitation was observed in the eastern parts of Turkmenistan, eastern Uzbekistan, and western areas of Tajikistan. Based on USGS snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, negative SWE anomalies persisted across eastern and northwestern Tajikistan, most of northeast and central Afghanistan, and western and eastern Kyrgyzstan.

During the next week, the GEFS model forecasts moderate to heavy precipitation (10 to 50mm) across central and northwest Tajikistan, over much of Kyrgyzstan, and parts of northeastern Afghanistan. It is surmised that some of the heavy precipitation could lead to local flooding. Western parts Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are forecasted to receive light precipitation (< 5mm). Likewise, 5-25 mm of precipitation is expected over near-border areas of western, northern, and eastern 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. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, jverd@usaid.gov.