





Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 25 – 31 May, 2023

Temperature:

Weekly average minimum temperatures were close to the long term values over most parts of Central Asia. However, a few places in western and northeastern Afghanistan and eastern Tajikistan recorded 2-6°C below their long term average minimum temperatures during 16-22 May 2023. On the other hand, a large area in western Kazakhstan, the western half of Uzbekistan and adjoining borders of Turkmenistan experienced 2-6°C below their long term average maximum temperatures. A few pocket areas in southwestern Afghanistan and western Tajikistan showed a 2-4°C above average maximum temperatures. Most places in Nimraz province of Afghanistan experienced the warmest afternoon temperatures (>40°C) in the region during 16 – 22 May 2023.

During the next week, western parts of Central Asia will have warmer than average temperatures while eastern areas will experience cooler than average temperatures. Accordingly, western and northern Kazakhstan, western Uzbekistan, and western Turkmenistan are likely to record 2-6°C warmer than average early morning and late afternoon temperatures during the forecast period. On the other hand, the eastern parts of Kazakhstan, northeastern Uzbekistan, and northern Kyrgyzstan are predicted to show 2-4°C cooler than average minimum and maximum temperatures. Eastern borders of Kyrgyzstan and eastern Tajikistan will continue to record below freezing minimum temperatures. A few locations in Nimraz province of Afghanistan will likely record above 40°C maximum temperature.

Precipitation:

There was a significant increase in precipitation over most of Kazakhstan and western Uzbekistan. Accordingly, 25-50 mm was recorded in western Uzbekistan, southwestern Kazakhstan extending to Aqtobe province, and at a few locations in South Kazakhstan, Zhambyl, and Almaty provinces of Kazakhstan. Western, central and eastern provinces of Kazakhstan, eastern Uzbekistan, and southern Kyrgyzstan received 10-25 mm. The western half of Turkmenistan recorded 5-10 mm light precipitation during 16-22 May 2023. Based on USGS snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, negative SWE anomalies persisted across eastern and northwestern Tajikistan, most of northeastern and central Afghanistan, and western and eastern Kyrgyzstan. Because of the continuing large 30-day and 90-day precipitation deficits, abnormal dryness polygon has been extended to cover western and northern Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan, western Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, and southeastern Kazakhstan.

During the next week, a general decrease of precipitation is expected over western parts of Central Asia (western Kazakhstan, western Uzbekistan, and western Turkmenistan), but a substantial increase is predicted for Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Accordingly, northern Kyrgyzstan and northern Tajikistan are predicted to receive moderate to heavy precipitation (25-50 mm). In addition, the GFS model predicts a total snowfall that accumulates to more than 40cm at a few northern highlands of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Up to 25 mm weekly total precipitation is expected in Aqmola, North Kazakhstan, Pavlodar, and eastern Almaty provinces of Kazakhstan. Heavy snowfall polygons are now placed in northern Kyrgyzstan and northern Tajikistan, where the GFS model indicates heavy snowfall in the highlands.



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, <u>wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov</u>. Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, <u>iverdin@usaid.gov</u>