

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 13 July – 19 July 2023

Temperature:

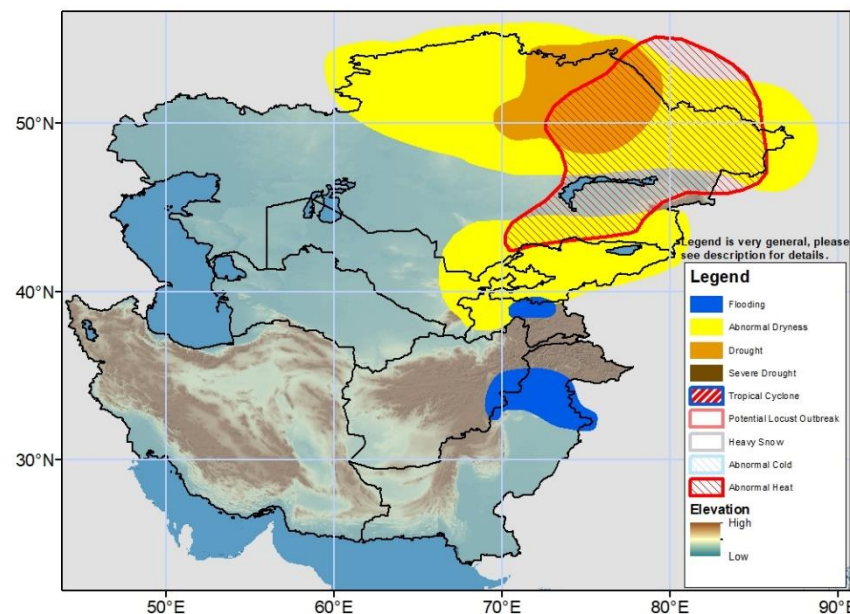
During early July, mean temperatures were at or above normal across Central Asia, with the warmest temperature anomalies in northern Kazakhstan. Maximum temperature averaged between 2 - 8°C above normal in northern Kazakhstan along the border with Russia but remained near normal elsewhere over the remainders of the sub-region. The highest maximum temperature exceeded 40°C and was observed over portions of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, much of Iran, and western/southern Afghanistan. Similarly, minimum temperature averaged 2 - 6°C above normal over the northwestern and north-central Kazakhstan and parts of Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

During the next week, well-above normal mean temperatures are forecast in the eastern half of Kazakhstan, where maximum temperature is expected to rise up to 10°C above normal and minimum temperature is expected to rise up to 6°C above normal. An abnormal heat hazard is posted in eastern Kazakhstan, where the hybrid Heat Index (HI) and maximum temperature is likely to exceed the 95th percentile for 3 or more consecutive days, particularly during the early days of the outlook period. In general, maximum temperature is expected to average between 25 - 45°C across Central Asia, with the hottest weather over portions of Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Precipitation:

During the past week, heavy rain fell over the southern portions of Central Asia, which has led to flooding in northern Pakistan. In Afghanistan, provinces including Logar, Ghazni, and Wardak experienced localized flooding. More widespread little to light (up to 25 mm) rain was received farther north across Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. This past 30 days precipitation anomaly shows moderate to large (up to 50 mm) rainfall deficits in north-central Kazakhstan and near to above normal conditions elsewhere. Over the past 90 days, moderate to large rainfall deficits spread across northern and central Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, southern Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, eastern Iran, northern and central Afghanistan. A drought polygon is placed in Kazakhstan's regions of Pavlodar, eastern Akmola, eastern North Kazakhstan, and northeastern Karaganda, where from 25 to more than 85% of cropland was affected by severe drought conditions (FAO). Negative ground impacts are also strongly reflected in vegetation health indices in those regions.

During the outlook period, moderate to locally heavy rain is forecast in the South over northern Pakistan, which could exacerbate conditions on the ground or trigger new flooding over previously-flooded areas in the Punjab Province of the country. Light to moderate rains are also expected to continue in eastern Afghanistan. Riverine flooding is forecasted in central Tajikistan due to the combination of recent rain and snow melt. Farther north, light to moderate (more than 25 mm possible) is expected in northern Kazakhstan. Totals are forecast to be above average in the Northwest and below average in the Northeast. The forecast continued insufficient rain could worsen ground conditions in the already drought stricken areas in northern Kazakhstan. Light (up to 25 mm liquid equivalent) precipitation is also expected in eastern Kyrgyzstan and eastern Tajikistan.



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.