

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

Temperature:

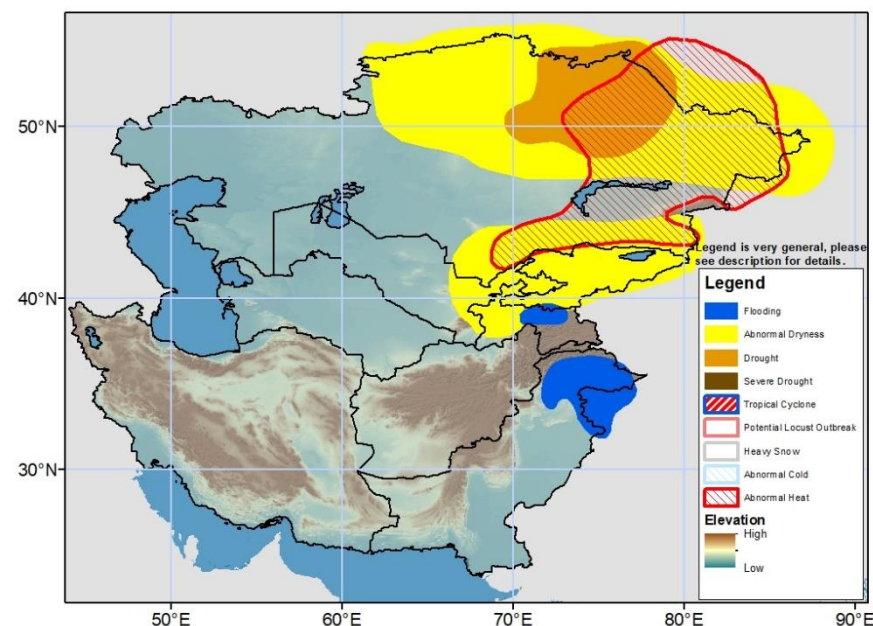
During mid-July, mean temperatures were mostly at or above normal across Central Asia, with the warmest temperature anomalies in north-central Kazakhstan. Maximum temperature averaged 4 - 8°C above normal in northern/eastern Kazakhstan, while smaller positive anomalies spread across many other central and southwestern portions of the sub-region. The maximum temperature exceeded 40°C over portions of Turkmenistan and central Uzbekistan, much of Iran, northern/western/southern Afghanistan, and southern Pakistan. Minimum temperature averaged 2 - 6°C above normal over parts of Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and northern Afghanistan.

During the next week, well-above normal mean temperatures are forecast in the eastern half of Kazakhstan, where maximum temperature is expected to rise to 4 - 8°C above normal and minimum temperature is expected to be 2 - 4°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 90th percentile for 3 or more consecutive days, particularly during the second half 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 portions of India and northern Pakistan, which led to flooding in parts of India including along the Yamuna River in Delhi. A few light showers were received in eastern Afghanistan. More widespread little to moderate (up to 25 mm) rain was received farther north across northern and western Kazakhstan, with one gauge in West Kazakhstan measuring more than 100mm. The past 30 day's precipitation anomaly shows moderate to large (up to 50 mm) rainfall deficits in north-central and eastern Kazakhstan with near to above-normal conditions elsewhere. Over the past 90 days, moderate to large rainfall deficits spread across northern, eastern, and southern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, southern Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and 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 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 (more than 100mm possible) is forecast in the South over northern Pakistan and India, which could exacerbate conditions on the ground or trigger new flooding over previously-flooded areas. Light to moderate rains are also expected to continue in eastern Afghanistan and the remainder of Pakistan. Riverine flooding is forecast to persist in central Tajikistan due to the combination of recent rain and snow melt. Farther north, light to moderate (5 - 25 mm) rain is expected in northern Kazakhstan. Totals are forecast to be above average in the Northwest and below average in the East. The forecast continued insufficient rain could worsen ground conditions in the already drought stricken areas in northern Kazakhstan. Moderate (10 - 50 mm liquid equivalent) precipitation is also expected in 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, jverdin@usaid.gov.