

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 28 September – 04 October 2023

Temperature:

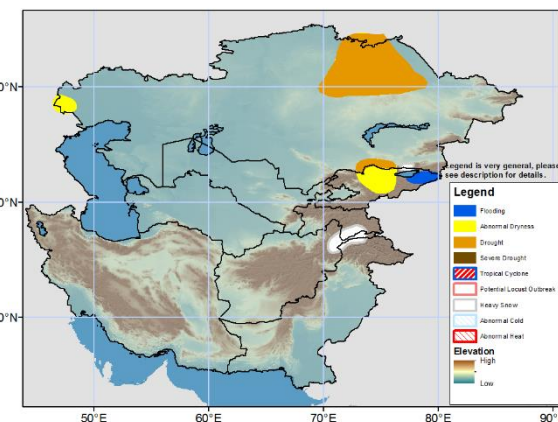
Weekly average maximum temperatures were below average (up to 2-6°C below normal) across eastern provinces of Kazakhstan, with the largest anomalies (4-6°C below normal) observed in the southern Almaty, central Abai, and northern East Kazakhstan regions during the period 19 September – 25 September 2023. Similarly, southeastern Uzbekistan, eastern Turkmenistan, most of Kyrgyzstan, northern Tajikistan, western Afghanistan, and northeastern and northwestern Iran observed 2-8°C cooler than normal maximum temperatures during the week with the largest anomalies (6-8°C below normal) in central Kyrgyzstan. North-central and northwestern Kazakhstan, east-central Afghanistan, northern Pakistan, and southern Iran observed maximum temperatures that were 2-8°C above normal with the largest anomalies (6-8°C above normal) in northern West Kazakhstan. Central and southwestern Pakistan and southern Iran observed mean maximum temperatures above 35°C, and southwestern Iran observed mean maximum temperatures over 40°C. The highlands of central and eastern Kyrgyzstan, eastern Tajikistan, most of northern Pakistan, parts of eastern Kazakhstan, and northeastern and parts of central Afghanistan observed mean minimum temperatures below freezing.

During the next week, the GEFS model predicts cooler than average maximum temperatures (1-6°C below normal) in southeastern Uzbekistan, eastern Turkmenistan, central and eastern Iran, Afghanistan, parts of northern and southwestern Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and western Pakistan. Maximum temperatures are predicted to be 15°C and higher in Kazakhstan (outside of the higher elevations of eastern Kazakhstan) and between 25-30°C in central and eastern portions of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Maximum temperature anomalies are expected to be 2-6°C warmer than average in north-central and western Kazakhstan, western Uzbekistan, western Turkmenistan, and northeastern and southwestern Pakistan, with the highest anomalies (4-6°C above normal) in the West Kazakhstan, western Atyrau, northwestern Aktobe, northern Kostanay, and northern North Kazakhstan regions. Mean maximum temperatures could be below freezing in northeastern Tajikistan (above 5000m) and far northern Pakistan (above 6000m) and above 40°C in southwestern Iran and east-central Pakistan. Minimum temperature are expected to be below freezing (-15-0°C) in the higher elevations of eastern Kazakhstan (above 2000m), southern, eastern, and parts of northwestern Kyrgyzstan (above 3000m), central, eastern, and most of northern Tajikistan (above 3500m), central and northeastern Afghanistan (above 3500m), and in northern Pakistan (above 3500m). The largest minimum temperature anomalies (2-6°C below normal) are expected in northwestern and eastern Tajikistan, as well as northeastern Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

Moderate to heavy precipitation was observed over eastern and parts of central Kazakhstan, parts of northeastern and southeastern Pakistan, northwestern Iran, and parts of eastern and west-central Kyrgyzstan. Light precipitation fell over most of central Kazakhstan and western Turkmenistan. Some locations in the East Kazakhstan, Abai, Jetisu, and Almaty regions of Kazakhstan, as well as the lower lying areas of west-central Kyrgyzstan, received 25-50mm which was 10-50mm above average for the week. Areas southeast of Islamabad and the southern Sindh region of Pakistan, as well as northwestern Iran (along the Caspian Sea), received 50-100mm, which was at least 50mm above average for the week for parts of these regions. The 30-day precipitation product shows surpluses of 25-100+ mm covering northwestern, west-central, and eastern Kyrgyzstan, northwestern Iran, northeastern and parts of southeastern Pakistan, and most regions of Kazakhstan outside of northwestern and south-central areas. Deficits between 10-50 mm cover parts of northwestern Kazakhstan, eastern Afghanistan, central Kyrgyzstan, and central and south-central Pakistan. Over the 90-day period, deficits have been large (25-100 mm) in a small area (including Kabul) of east-central Afghanistan, parts of northwestern and north-central Kazakhstan, and over central Kyrgyzstan, the latter of which received less than 25% of normal precipitation.

During the coming week, the GEFS model predicts 10-50mm of precipitation in eastern Kazakhstan, northern, eastern, and parts of southern Kyrgyzstan, northeastern Afghanistan, eastern Tajikistan, and northwestern Pakistan, resulting in positive anomalies up to 30mm in northeastern Afghanistan, northwestern Pakistan, and southeastern Tajikistan. Northeastern Kyrgyzstan could receive around 30cm of snowfall with similar accumulations across higher elevations of southeastern Kazakhstan (Almaty), northeastern Afghanistan, southeastern Tajikistan, and northwestern Pakistan. Little to no precipitation is expected across northwestern Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, southern Pakistan, and much of Iran. An abnormal dryness polygon has been added to northwestern Kazakhstan (between West Kazakhstan and Atyrau), and a flooding polygon has been added to eastern Kyrgyzstan due to forecasted high river discharge rates near the Issyk-Kul lake.



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.