Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
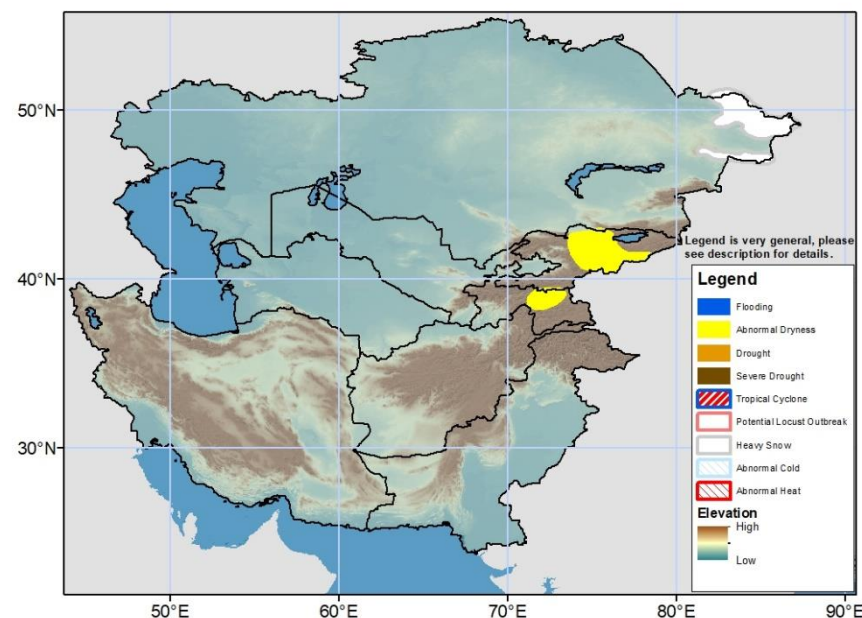# 2 November – 8 November 2023

Temperature:

Weekly average maximum temperatures were above normal by 2-4ºC in a swath stretching from northern Iran and Turkmenistan, through Uzbekistan, northern/western Afghanistan, and Tajikistan. Northwestern Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, and southern Uzbekistan recorded the largest (6-8ºC) mean maximum temperature anomalies. Cooler than average mean maximum temperatures (2-4ºC anomalies) moved into north-central Kazakhstan. Meanwhile, mean minimum temperatures were also above average for many central and southern portions of Central Asia. Northern Kazakhstan, the highlands of Kyrgyzstan, eastern Tajikistan, northeastern and central Afghanistan observed mean minimum temperatures below freezing.

During the outlook period, the GEFS model predicts above-average maximum temperatures across large portions of Central Asia. These areas should broadly expect temperature anomalies of 2-6ºC. Larger departures are forecast in western Kazakhstan with mean maximum temperatures anomalies of 6-8ºC. Temperatures should be colder than average by 2-6ºC over the period in eastern Kazakhstan and near average in southern Afghanistan. Mean maximum temperatures are predicted to exceed 20ºC in southern Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, western and northern Afghanistan and exceed 25ºC in Pakistan, and southwestern Afghanistan. Above-average mean minimum temperatures are forecast over the entire Central Asian region except for northeastern Kazakhstan. Positive anomalies will range from 2ºC to 6ºC with the larger anomalies to the west. Sub-freezing minimum temperatures are forecast in northeastern Kazakhstan.

Precipitation:

Moderate to heavy precipitation was observed over northern and eastern Kazakhstan totaling 10 to 50 mm. Some fell in the form of heavy snow over northern Kazakhstan. Some light rain or high elevation snow was received in eastern Uzbekistan and western Kyrgyzstan. The southern part of the region, including Afghanistan, was largely dry. The 30-day precipitation analysis shows 10-50 mm surpluses in southern and western Kazakhstan. Larger positive anomalies were recorded locally in southern Uzbekistan. Conversely, rainfall has been slightly suppressed in central Kyrgyzstan. Over the 90-day period, significant deficits (25-100 mm) remain in central Tajikistan, as well as in Kyrgyzstan where an abnormal dryness hazard is placed. Early-season snow depth is also below average for the mountains of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

During the outlook period, the GEFS model predicts widespread light to moderate precipitation across northeastern Kazakhstan and very heavy snow in the eastern mountains. 5 -25 mm of liquid equivalent precipitation is widely expected across eastern Kazakhstan with higher terrain-induced totals. This latest system will have enough cold air to bring a swath of moderate to locally heavy snow and as much as 50cm or more in the higher terrains where Heavy Snow hazards are posted. Lighter rain and mountain snow is likely for Afghanistan (5-25 mm) and Tajikistan (2-5 mm). Some isolated river flooding is possible in eastern Kazakhstan due to precipitation and snow melt.

Legend is very general, please see description for details.

Legend
- Flooding
- Abnormal Dryness
- Drought
- Severe Drought
- Tropical Cyclone
- Potential Locust Outbreak
- Heavy Snow
- Abnormal Cold
- Abnormal Heat

Elevation
- High
- Low