

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 07 December 2023 – 13 December 2023

Temperature:

Weekly average minimum temperatures were above average (4 to 8 °C) across southern and western Kazakhstan, northern and parts of central Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, central and eastern Turkmenistan, parts of western Pakistan, and northern and southern regions of Afghanistan during the period 28Nov – 04Dec2023. Anomalies were higher (8 to 12 °C) in much of central and eastern Kazakhstan and parts of northeastern Kyrgyzstan. Weekly average maximum temperatures were above average (4 to 8 °C) across western, south-central, parts of north-central, and parts of eastern Kazakhstan, central and southern Kyrgyzstan, much of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, northern and central Iran, and central, western, and northern Afghanistan. Anomalies were slightly higher (8 to 12 °C) in much of central and eastern Kazakhstan, parts of northwestern Uzbekistan, and northern Kyrgyzstan.

The GEFS model forecasts above average weekly mean minimum temperatures (2 to 8 °C) across parts of southern Kyrgyzstan, southeastern Uzbekistan, most of Tajikistan, western Pakistan, Iran, and northern, western, southern, and central Afghanistan during the period 07 – 13Dec2023. Minimum temperatures are expected to be below average (4 to 12 °C) in most of Kazakhstan, with the largest negative anomalies in the North Kazakhstan, Akmola, Kostanay, Pavlodar, Aktobe, and East Kazakhstan regions. Weekly mean minimum temperatures are forecasted around -15 to 0 °C in northwestern and central Tajikistan, central, parts of eastern, and northeastern Afghanistan, northern and central Kyrgyzstan, western, central, and parts of northeastern Uzbekistan, north-central Turkmenistan, and central and southern Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures are expected to be even colder in eastern Tajikistan (-25 to -15 °C), northern, central, and higher elevations of eastern Kazakhstan (-35 to -15 °C), southern and northwestern Kyrgyzstan (-20 to -15 °C), and northeastern Afghanistan (-25 to -15 °C). The coldest temperatures are expected from the middle to the end of the valid period, with minimum temperature anomalies more than 6°C below average from Kazakhstan to central Kyrgyzstan and central Turkmenistan. Weekly mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be below freezing in most of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, northern, central, and eastern Tajikistan, north-central and western Uzbekistan, parts of north-central Turkmenistan, and northeastern Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

Light to moderate precipitation (5 to 50mm) was observed across northern, eastern, and south-central Kazakhstan, eastern Uzbekistan, northwestern Tajikistan, parts of southern Turkmenistan, eastern Afghanistan (Konar and Nangargar provinces), and northern Pakistan during the period 28Nov – 04Dec2023. Heavier precipitation (50 to 75mm) fell in north-central Iran. Negative snow depth/SWE anomalies exist across eastern, central, and northwestern Tajikistan, central, northeastern, and eastern regions of Afghanistan, most of Kyrgyzstan, and some northern, central, and eastern regions of Kazakhstan. Over the last 30-days, precipitation is below normal (10 to 50 mm) across western and central Kyrgyzstan, central Tajikistan, parts of northeastern and northwestern Afghanistan, northeastern and south-central Kazakhstan, and southwestern Turkmenistan. Abnormal dryness is present in western and central Kyrgyzstan, central and eastern Tajikistan, southwestern Turkmenistan, and northeastern Afghanistan.

The GEFS weekly ensemble mean forecasts moderate to heavy precipitation across eastern and south-central Kazakhstan, northern and western Kyrgyzstan, northwestern and central Tajikistan, eastern Uzbekistan, northeastern Afghanistan, and northwestern Iran during the period 07 – 13Dec2023. A heavy snowfall polygon is posted in northeastern Afghanistan, northern Pakistan, central and northwestern Tajikistan, eastern Uzbekistan, western Kyrgyzstan, and across higher elevations of eastern, south-central, and southeastern Kazakhstan. West-central Kyrgyzstan, northeastern and southeastern Uzbekistan, central Tajikistan, and northeastern Afghanistan could receive >50 cm of snowfall.

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.

