Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
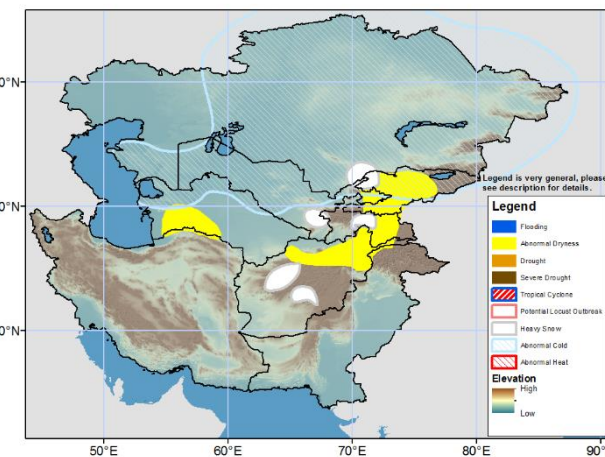## 14 December 2023 – 20 December 2023

Temperature:

Weekly average minimum temperatures were above average (4 to 8 °C) across parts of southeastern Kazakhstan, central and eastern Kyrgyzstan, southeastern Uzbekistan, parts of south-central Turkmenistan, west-central Tajikistan, and northwestern Iran from 05 – 11Dec2023. Weekly average minimum temperatures were below average (4 to 8 °C) across north-central Kazakhstan and parts of eastern Tajikistan. Anomalies were slightly higher (8-15 °C) from the northern Kostanay to northern Pavlodar regions. Weekly average maximum temperatures were above average (6 to 12 °C) across southeastern Kyrgyzstan, west-central Tajikistan, central and western Iran, eastern, central, and northeastern Afghanistan, and northeastern and northwestern Pakistan. Weekly average maximum temperatures stayed below freezing in central, northern, and eastern Kazakhstan, parts of central and eastern Kyrgyzstan, eastern Tajikistan, northwestern Uzbekistan, northeastern Afghanistan (eastern Badakhshan), and northern Pakistan.

The GEFS model forecasts above average weekly mean minimum temperatures (2 to 8 °C) across most of Tajikistan, western Kyrgyzstan, central, northeastern, and southwestern Afghanistan, parts of southern and northern Pakistan, and western, central, and eastern Iran from 14 – 20Dec2023. Minimum temperatures are expected to be below average (4 to 12 °C) in parts of southwestern, south-central, and eastern Kazakhstan, north-central Kyrgyzstan, and parts of western Uzbekistan. The largest negative anomalies are expected in eastern Kazakhstan in the first half of the valid period. 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 western Kyrgyzstan, western, central, and northeastern Uzbekistan, north-central Turkmenistan, and central, southern, and northwestern Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures are expected to be colder in eastern Tajikistan (-30 to -15 °C), north-central and northeastern Kazakhstan (-30 to -15 °C), parts of central and southern Kyrgyzstan (-25 to -15 °C), and northeastern Afghanistan (-25 to -15 °C). The coldest temperatures are expected on 14Dec, with minimum temperature anomalies more than 6 °C below average from much of Kazakhstan to central Kyrgyzstan and central Uzbekistan and more than 10 °C below average in eastern and south-central Kazakhstan, northern Kyrgyzstan, and northeastern Uzbekistan. Weekly mean maximum temperatures are expected to be below freezing in northern, central, and eastern Kazakhstan, most of Kyrgyzstan, northern, central, and eastern Tajikistan, northeastern and western Uzbekistan, and northeastern and parts of central Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

Light to moderate precipitation (5 to 25mm) was observed across north-central, eastern, and south-central Kazakhstan, western and eastern Uzbekistan, western Kyrgyzstan, central Tajikistan, and north-central Iran from 05 – 11Dec2023. Heavier precipitation (25 to 50mm) fell in south-central Kazakhstan (Turkistan/Jambyl regions). Negative SWE anomalies exist across eastern, central, and northwestern Tajikistan, central, northern, northeastern, and eastern regions of Afghanistan, southern and central Kyrgyzstan, and some northeastern, central, and northwestern regions of Kazakhstan, where snowpack is typically developed this time of year. In addition, precipitation across these regions is below normal (10 to 50 mm) over the last 30 days. Abnormal dryness is present in western and central Kyrgyzstan, central and parts of eastern Tajikistan, southwestern Turkmenistan, and northeastern and parts of northern Afghanistan.

The GEFS weekly ensemble forecasts light to moderate precipitation across western and central Kazakhstan, northern Kyrgyzstan, western and central Tajikistan, eastern and western Uzbekistan, most of Afghanistan (especially the central highlands), and northern and western Iran from 14 – 20Dec2023. Heavy snowfall polygons are posted in central Afghanistan, central Tajikistan, northwestern Kyrgyzstan, south-central Kazakhstan, and southeastern Uzbekistan.