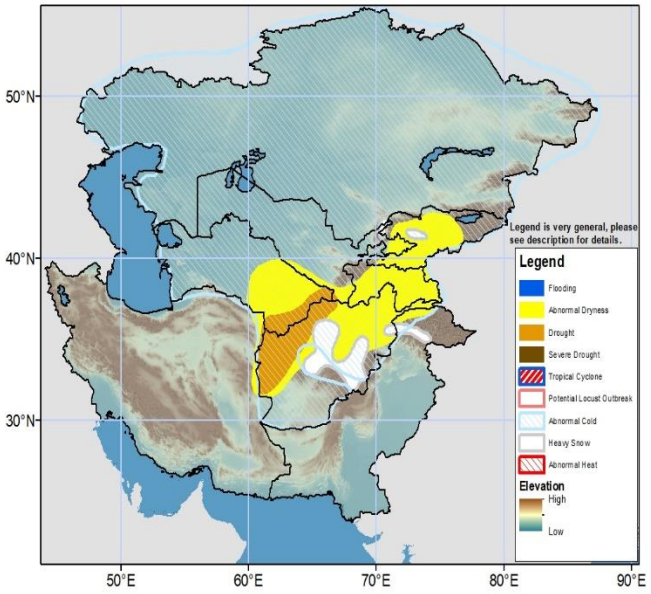
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
22 February 2024 – 28 February 2024

Temperature:

Weekly average minimum temperatures were below average (-8 to -4ºC) in many parts of northern, central, eastern and southeastern Kazakhstan during period 13Feb – 19Feb2024, with coldest temperature anomalies around -12 to -8ºC in North-Kazakhstan, Akmola, central Karaganda, Abai and East-Kazakhstan provinces of Kazakhstan. In contrast, weekly average minimum temperatures were above average (2 to 6ºC) in eastern parts of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, central and eastern Kyrgyzstan, and northeastern, northern, central, eastern, southeastern and southern Afghanistan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were observed around -30 to -20ºC in northern, northeastern, central, and eastern Kazakhstan. The daily extreme minimum temperatures were registered around -40 to -35ºC in central Karaganda, central and northern Abai and East-Kazakhstan provinces of Kazakhstan on 18Feb2024 and 19Feb2024.

The GEFS model forecasts below average temperature (-6 to -2ºC) in many parts of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and northeastern, northern, western, southern, central and eastern Afghanistan during the period 22Feb – 28Feb 2024, with coolest temperature anomalies -10 to -6ºC in eastern Kazakhstan. Weekly mean minimum temperatures are forecasted around -25 to -20ºC in northeastern, central and eastern Kazakhstan, eastern Tajikistan, eastern Kyrgyzstan and northeastern Afghanistan. An Abnormal cold hazard is posted in many parts of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and northeastern, northern, western, southern, central and eastern Afghanistan during the outlook period. The daily minimum temperature is forecasted around -30 to -20ºC in northwestern, northern, central and eastern Kazakhstan (in the starting few days of this outlook period), eastern Tajikistan, and northeastern Afghanistan. The daily minimum temperature is forecasted below normal -10 to -8 ºC in northwestern, northern and eastern Kazakhstan in the starting few days of this outlook period.



Precipitation:

According to reports, heavy snowfall and rainfall triggered a landslide in the village of Teten in Noorgram district (Nuristan Province), Afghanistan on 18 February 2024 resulting in 25 fatalities, 10 people injured, and 30 houses being damaged. Heavy snowfall triggered a landslide in Panjshir province, Afghanistan resulting in 2 fatalities and 3 people being disappeared. Moderate to heavy precipitation was observed across eastern, southeastern and southern Kazakhstan, eastern Uzbekistan, southwestern, central and eastern Turkmenistan, western and central Tajikistan, and northeastern, northern, eastern, central and southeastern Afghanistan during period 13Feb – 19Feb2024. The past ninety-day below-average rainfall negatively affected soil-moisture levels in northern and western Afghanistan and eastern Turkmenistan, where poor and degraded vegetation conditions were depicted. The drought polygon is posted in northern and western Afghanistan and eastern Turkmenistan, where the standard precipitation index (SPI) is also depicted below normal values.

The GEFS weekly ensembles mean forecasts moderate precipitation in western Tajikistan, many parts of eastern, central highland, central, southeastern and southern Afghanistan, eastern Uzbekistan, southwestern Kyrgyzstan, and pockets of southeastern Kazakhstan during the period 22Feb – 28Feb 2024. Heavy precipitation (25 to 50mm) is forecasted in Zabul, Ghazni and northern Hilmand provinces of Afghanistan. Light precipitation is forecasted in many parts of northeastern, northern, and western Afghanistan, central and eastern Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, eastern Kazakhstan, and southern Turkmenistan. A heavy snow polygon is posted in southern Kyrgyzstan and some parts of eastern, central highland, central and southeastern Afghanistan during the outlook period.

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