

## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 07 – 13 March 2024

### Temperature:

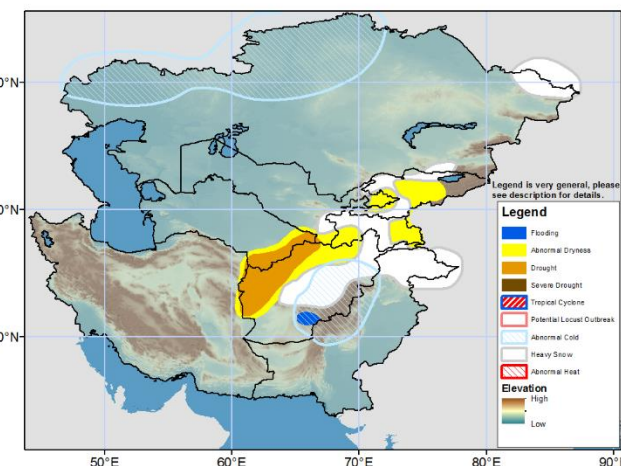
Weekly average minimum temperatures were below average (-12 to -6°C) in parts of eastern Kazakhstan, parts of western and eastern Turkmenistan, western and northern Afghanistan, parts of north-central Kyrgyzstan, northwestern Tajikistan and parts of northwestern, central, and eastern Iran during the period 27Feb – 04Mar2024, with the coldest temperature anomalies up to -15 °C in the East-Kazakhstan province of Kazakhstan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were below average (-6 to -2°C) in northwestern and southern Kazakhstan, eastern and western Uzbekistan, most of Turkmenistan, parts of southern Afghanistan, northern Kyrgyzstan, northwestern Tajikistan, and throughout most of Iran. Minimum temperatures were slightly above average (2 to 8 °C) in north-central Kazakhstan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were observed around -30 to -20°C in parts of eastern Kazakhstan and parts of northern and eastern Kyrgyzstan, while minimum temperatures were between -20 to -5°C in Kyrgyzstan, western and parts of eastern Uzbekistan, northwestern Turkmenistan, northwestern and northeastern Iran, northern Pakistan, northwestern, central, and eastern Tajikistan, and northeastern and central Afghanistan.

The GEFS model forecasts below average minimum temperatures (-8 to -2°C) in northwestern Kazakhstan during the period 07 – 13Mar2024, with the largest negative temperature anomalies (-8 to -6°C) in northeastern portions of the West Kazakhstan province. In the first few days of the forecast period, minimum temperatures are expected to be below average (-6 to -2 °C) in parts of central, northern, and eastern Afghanistan, as well as central Pakistan. In contrast, weekly average minimum temperatures are forecasted to be above average (1 to 6°C) in eastern and southern Kazakhstan, most of Uzbekistan, central and eastern Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, western and northern Afghanistan, eastern Iran, and parts of southern Pakistan. Weekly mean minimum temperatures are forecasted around -20 to -10°C in northern, central, and eastern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, northwestern and central Tajikistan, and central and northeastern Afghanistan. Minimum temperatures are expected to be colder (-30 to -20°C) in eastern Tajikistan, northeastern Afghanistan, and northern Pakistan. An abnormal cold hazard is posted in much of northwestern Kazakhstan (from North Kazakhstan to Pavlodar) and eastern and central Afghanistan during the outlook period.

### Precipitation:

Moderate precipitation (10 to 50mm) was observed in western, central, northern, and southern Afghanistan, eastern Turkmenistan, eastern Uzbekistan, much of western Tajikistan, west-central Pakistan, and central and eastern Iran. Heavy precipitation (50 to 150mm) was observed in southeastern Iran, parts of eastern Afghanistan, northern and southwestern Pakistan, and southwestern Tajikistan during the period 27Feb – 04Mar2024. Heavy snowfall killed 39 people and nearly 14,000 livestock across northern, central, western, and southern portions of Afghanistan (Kandahar, Helmand, Sar-e-Pol, Badakshan, Balkh, Jawzjan, Badghis, Faryab, Herat, Ghazni, Daykundi, and Ghor). Flooding was also reported in Pakistan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan) and Iran (Baluchistan), killing at least 36 people in Pakistan and displacing ~500,000 people in Iran. Negative snow depth anomalies exist across much of Tajikistan, northeastern and parts of central Afghanistan, and much of Kyrgyzstan.

The GEFS weekly ensemble mean forecasts moderate precipitation (25-50mm) across northwestern, central, and northeastern Afghanistan, southeastern Iran, parts of southwestern and northern Pakistan, much of western Tajikistan, southeastern and northeastern Uzbekistan, northwestern Kyrgyzstan, and parts of south-central and northeastern Kazakhstan during the period 07 – 13Mar2024. A heavy snowfall polygon is posted in most of these regions, and parts of western Tajikistan could receive upwards of 80cm of snowfall. In addition, the recent heavy precipitation coupled with the expected moderate precipitation could lead to flooding in eastern portions of the Kandahar province (Afghanistan). Flooding may also continue throughout southeastern Iran and southwestern Pakistan.



**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](mailto:wassila.thiaw@noaa.gov). Questions about the USAID FEWS NET activity may be directed to Dr. James Verdin, Program Manager, FEWS NET/USAID, [jverd@usaid.gov](mailto:jverd@usaid.gov).