

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 21 – 27 March 2024

Temperature:

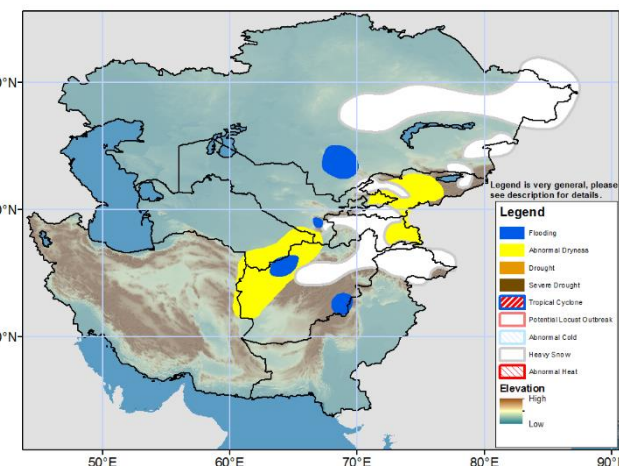
Weekly average minimum temperatures were below average (-6 to -2°C) in parts of northwestern, north-central, and south-central Kazakhstan, parts of northeastern Afghanistan, most of Kyrgyzstan, northeastern Uzbekistan, and eastern and parts of central Tajikistan from 12 – 18Mar2024. Localized areas in north-central Kazakhstan (Karaganda) and northwestern Kyrgyzstan (Talas, Jalal-Abad, Chuy, and Naryn) observed below average minimum temperature anomalies between -6 to -12°C. Minimum temperatures were above average (2 to 6°C) in parts of northeastern Kazakhstan. Weekly average minimum temperatures were observed between -20 to -15°C in north-central Kazakhstan and parts of central and southeastern Kyrgyzstan. Most of Kyrgyzstan, central, eastern, and northern Kazakhstan, northern Pakistan, northwestern, central, and eastern Tajikistan, and northeastern and parts of central Afghanistan observed average minimum temperatures between -15 to -5°C.

The GEFS model forecasts below average minimum temperatures (-2 to -1°C) in parts of north-central and northeastern Kazakhstan from 21 – 27Mar2024. Early in the valid period, minimum temperatures are expected to be below average (-6 to -2°C) in north-central and northwestern Kazakhstan, parts of central and western Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, central Tajikistan, and southwestern Kyrgyzstan. In contrast, weekly average minimum temperatures are forecasted to be above average (2 to 6°C) in much of eastern and southern Kazakhstan, eastern Iran, eastern and central Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, most of Kyrgyzstan, eastern and western Tajikistan, and most of Pakistan. By the middle to the end of the valid period, much of western, northern, and parts of central Afghanistan, eastern Iran, central and eastern Turkmenistan, western Kazakhstan, northwestern Kyrgyzstan, and southwestern Pakistan may observe minimum temperatures between 6 to 10°C above average. Weekly mean minimum temperatures are forecasted around -20 to -10°C in parts of northeastern Kazakhstan, southeastern and parts of southwestern Kyrgyzstan, central and parts of eastern Tajikistan, northeastern Afghanistan, and much of northern Pakistan. Minimum temperatures are expected to be colder (-25 to -20°C) in eastern Tajikistan and parts of northeastern Pakistan.

Precipitation:

Moderate precipitation (10 to 50mm) was observed in northwestern, southeastern, and parts of northeastern Afghanistan, eastern Turkmenistan, eastern Uzbekistan, western Tajikistan, south-central, eastern, and parts of west-central Kazakhstan, northwestern Kyrgyzstan, west-central and northern Pakistan, and northeastern and parts of western Iran from 12 – 18Mar2024. Flooding was reported in the Herat province of western Afghanistan, killing at least ten people. Negative snow depth anomalies exist across much of Tajikistan, northeastern and parts of central Afghanistan, much of Kyrgyzstan, and southeastern Uzbekistan. Precipitation over the last 30- and 90-day periods has been above average in much of Afghanistan, eastern Turkmenistan, and western Tajikistan.

The GEFS weekly ensemble mean forecasts moderate precipitation (10-50mm) across much of northern, northeastern, and central Afghanistan, parts of northern Pakistan, western and central Tajikistan, northern and western Kyrgyzstan, eastern and northwestern Turkmenistan, eastern and western Uzbekistan, and much of southern and eastern Kazakhstan from 21 – 27Mar2024. Heavy precipitation (50 to 100mm) is expected particularly in western Iran, western Tajikistan, parts of northeastern Afghanistan, and northwestern Pakistan. A heavy snowfall polygon is posted in northeastern and central Afghanistan, western and central Tajikistan, northern Pakistan, northeastern and southeastern Uzbekistan, western and parts of eastern Kyrgyzstan, and south-central, eastern, and parts of central Kazakhstan. The precipitation in central portions of the Turkistan province (Kazakhstan) and western and southern Iran may result in flooding. Snowmelt and precipitation may also contribute to flooding in southeastern Uzbekistan (northeastern parts of Qashqadaryo) and northwestern (Faryab) and eastern (Paktika) Afghanistan.



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.