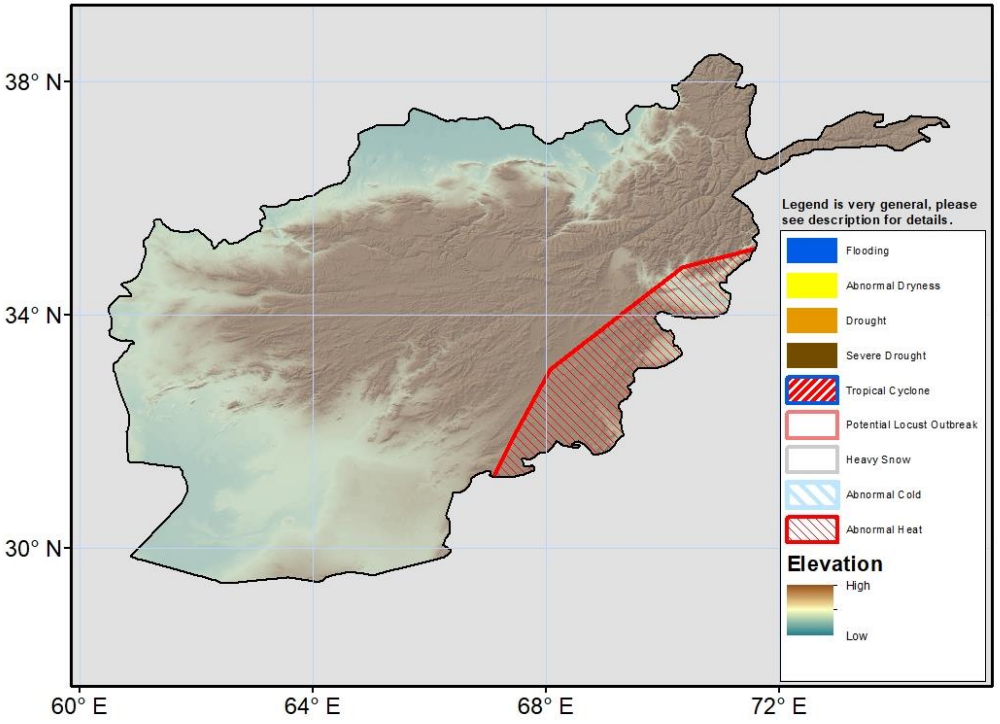
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
14 September – 20 September 2023

Temperature:

Mean maximum temperatures were slightly above average (2-4°C anomalies) for southwestern, northern, and eastern provinces of Afghanistan and near average elsewhere. Maximum temperature exceeded 40°C in parts of Farah, Nimroz, and Hilmand, while they exceeded 35°C for many other lower elevation regions during the period. Weekly average minimum temperatures were 2-4°C below average for eastern portions of the country. Temperatures were above average in several southern and northern provinces. Minimum temperatures were 0-5°C in the highest elevations (above ~3000m), while lower elevations (below ~1500m) remained higher than 15°C and above 20°C in the Southwest.

During the outlook period, mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be above average by 2-4°C across central and eastern Afghanistan, and 4-6°C across the East and Northeast. As such, an abnormal heat hazard is posted in those regions. Slightly below-average temperatures are possible along the western Border. Maximum temperature will exceed 35°C in parts of Farah, Nimroz, Hilmand, and Kandahar provinces during the period, with many lower elevations (below ~1000m) between 30°C and 35°C. Mean minimum temperatures are forecasted to be 2-6°C above average across the country.



Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, a few scattered light rain showers were observed in far-eastern Afghanistan. Total rainfall stayed less than 10mm according to satellite estimates. 30-day rainfall analysis shows generally slightly below-average rainfall over eastern and northeastern zones. Vegetation health indices show somewhat degraded ground conditions for much of the country. However, positive conditions are present in the East and Southeast.

For the outlook period, an uptick in rain shower activity is expected in eastern and northeastern Afghanistan, especially in the middle of the period. Total rainfall should range between 2 and 20 mm. The remainder of the country remains seasonably dry.

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 considers 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 several other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned.

Questions or comments about the hazard's outlooks 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