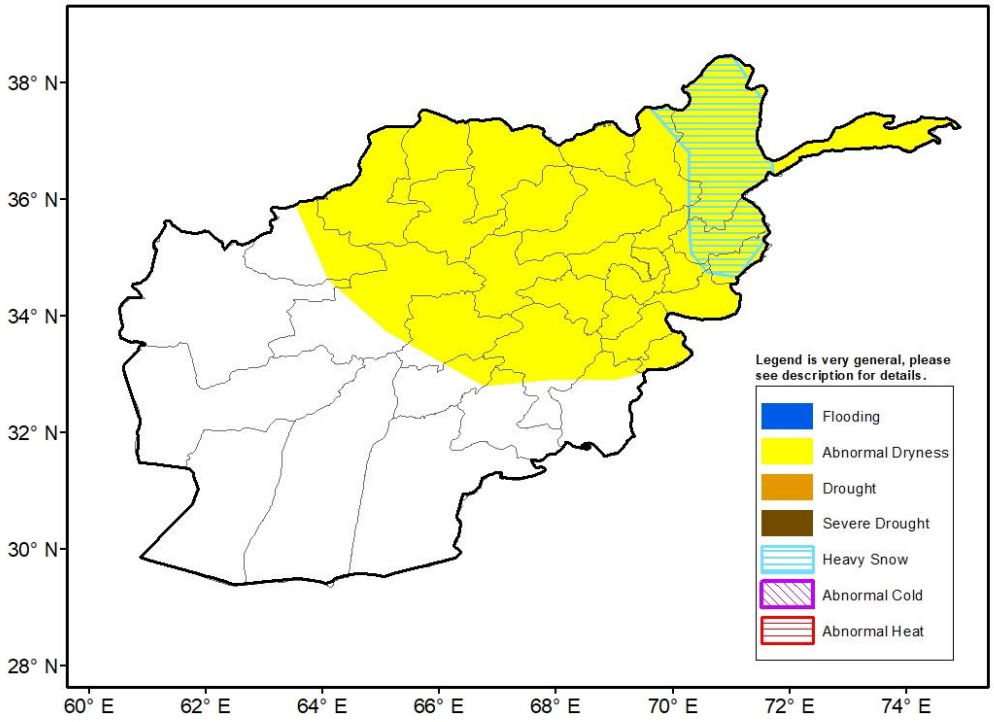
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
23 December – 29 December, 2021

Temperatures

During the last week, 7-day mean minimum temperatures were near or slightly below average across Afghanistan. Negative anomalies (2-6°C) were present in the South and the Northeast. Subfreezing weekly mean minimum temperatures covered a large portion of the country, especially eastern areas, and ranged from -15°C to -5°C across the highlands. 7-day mean maximum temperatures did not deviate substantially from average.

For the outlook period, warmer-than-normal conditions are forecasted to overspread the area. Mean temperature anomaly are expected to be between +.5°C and as much as +6°C in the south. As such, subfreezing daily minimums should be a bit less widespread.



Precipitation

During the last 7 days, some light snow or low elevation rain was observed across the northern half of Afghanistan. Analyzing the past 30-day period's precipitation performance using multiple rainfall estimates reveals lagging moisture, with a large portion of the country registering deficits of 10-50mm liquid equivalent. Snow water equivalent and snow depth observations from USGS also show negative anomalies in central and northeastern basins. Some measurements are historically low. As such, abnormal dryness is posted across central and northeastern portions of the country. For the outlook period, a robust disturbance will impact the areas bringing the greatest precipitation in weeks. Total snowfall of at least 10mm is widely expected with some areas likely to receive more than 30mm. Therefore, a heavy snow polygon is posted.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.