

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 2 February - 8 February, 2023

Temperature:

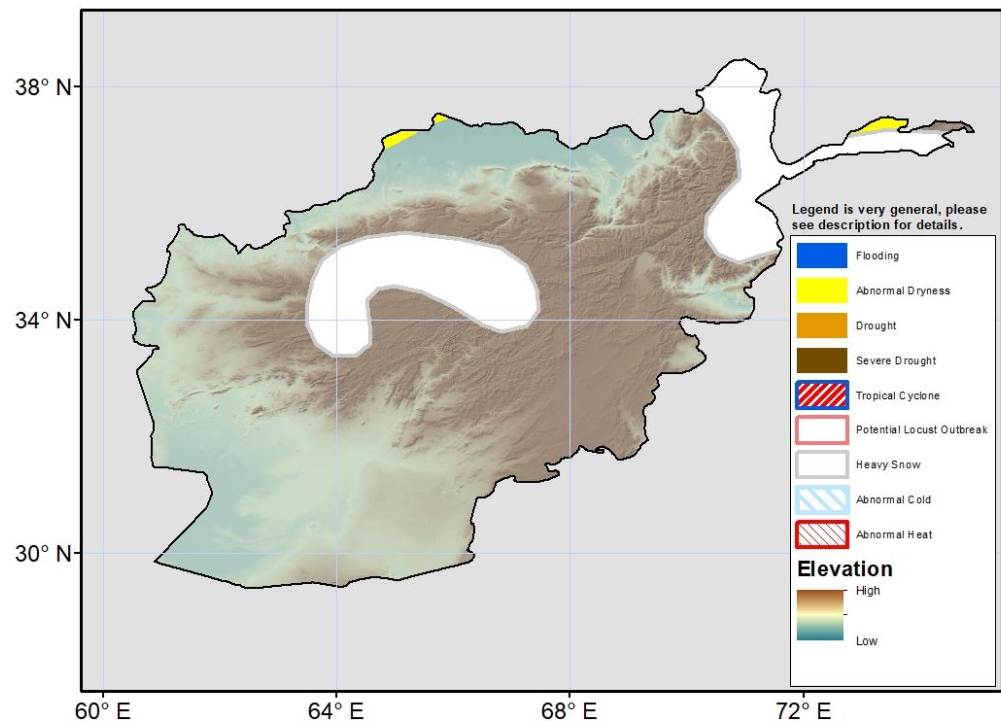
During this past week, temperatures were once again below normal. Much of Afghanistan observed maximum temperatures 2-6°C or more below average and minimum temperature anomalies were slightly larger. The majority of the country experienced subfreezing conditions and lows across the higher elevations were colder than -15°C.

A significant warm up is forecast for the outlook period. Warmer than average temperatures are quickly overspreading the region. Mean temperature anomalies of 2-6°C are widely expected with some 6-8°C anomalies in the Southwest. Due to much warmer temperatures, subfreezing temperatures will be substantially reduced in coverage. Melting of lower-elevation snowpack is expected.

Precipitation:

During the past 7 days, rain and widespread snow occurred across southern and eastern portions of the country. Liquid equivalent totals of more than 25mm were observed. Despite recent precipitation, the past 30 days' precipitation performance is a bit inconsistent and shows 10-25mm deficits for northern provinces. Snow water equivalent values have improved, especially in the East, but below-average conditions are still present to the north.

For the outlook period, additional snow is expected for northeastern Afghanistan and the central highlands. With a northward shift in storm track, liquid equivalent amounts of 10-25mm and locally greater than 25mm are expected across the northern two thirds of Afghanistan. Heavy snowfall in excess of 25cm is expected in the Northeast and northern parts of the central highlands. Localized heavy rain is also anticipated to cause disruption at lower elevations.



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.