Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
12 January– 18 January, 2023

Temperature:

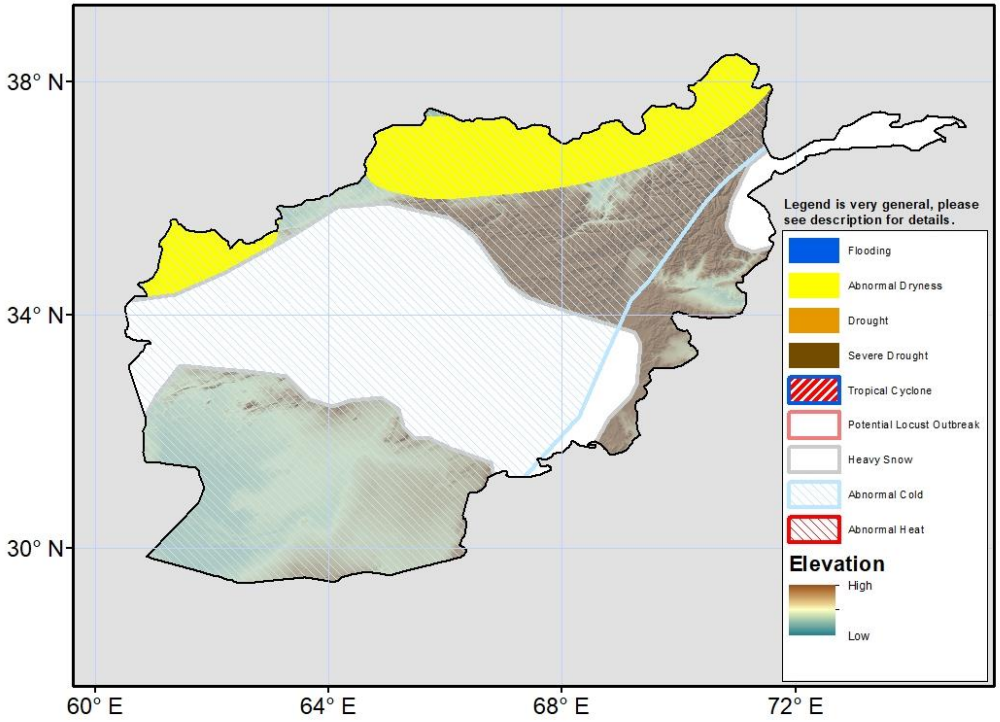
This past week, mean minimum temperatures were near normal, while mean maximum temperature was warmer than average in Afghanistan. Mean maximum temperature anomalies were 2-6°C slightly above average for central and eastern parts of the country. The coldest temperatures dipped below 10°C in the higher elevations.

Big temperature changes are expected to start the outlook period. Following the recent storm system an Arctic air mass is filtering south into the region. Models forecast that temperatures be will 6-10°C or more below average. The largest anomalies can be expected in northern and western Provinces. The week's minimum temperatures will be quite cold and the whole country can expect freeze conditions.

Precipitation:

During the past 7 days, rain and snow was observed across the country. Liquid equivalent amounts of 5-10mm were widespread. A passing storm system is bringing precipitation, likely significant in some cases, at the time of this outlook's writing. Despite recent precipitation, past 30 days' precipitation performance has been below average and still shows widespread deficits of 10-50mm across the country. Snow water equivalent is improving during the week, but many areas still exhibit below-average conditions. Abnormal dryness is placed in parts of the North and West as a result of the 30-day moisture deficits.

For the outlook period, some additional snow is possible to start the period. Otherwise, the next system arrives by the end of the period likely bringing snows and low elevation rain to central portions of the country. Heavy snowfall in excess of 20cm is expected in the Northeast, and in the central and southern highlands.



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.

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