

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 19 January– 25 January, 2023

Temperature:

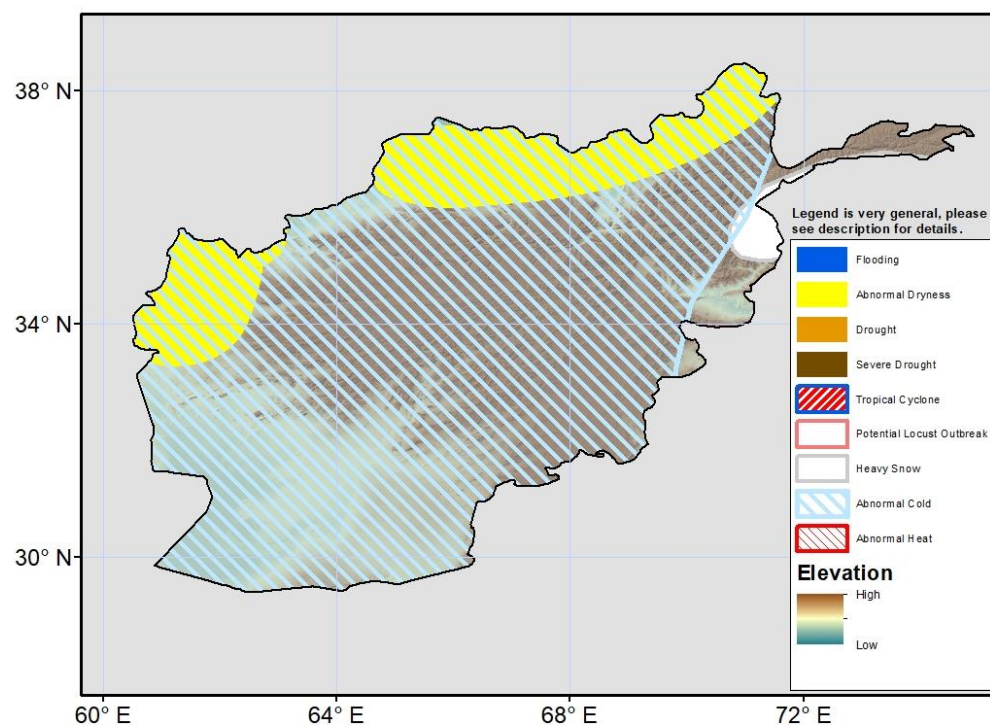
During this past week, mean temperatures were extremely cold, the coldest of the season, with large negative anomalies. Northern and western parts of Afghanistan observed mean temperatures more than 15°C below average. Minimum temperatures in the northern half of the central highlands were lower than -25°C. The arctic air mass was ubiquitous with the entire country experiencing subfreezing conditions.

Very cold temperatures are forecast to remain in place during the outlook period. Models forecast that mean temperatures will be 6-10°C or more below average. The largest anomalies are expected for northern and southern Provinces. The week's minimum temperatures will be quite cold and the whole country can expect freeze conditions. Higher elevations will have minimum temperatures less than -20°C

Precipitation:

During the past 7 days, rain and mostly snow was observed across the country - mainly at the beginning and end of the period. Liquid equivalent totals of 10-25mm were widespread. Regions of heavier precipitation, greater than 25mm were observed just north of Jalalabad, and Kandahar province. Despite recent precipitation, the past 30 days' precipitation performance is inconsistent and still shows 10-50mm deficits in many areas. Snow water equivalent is improving, but some below-average conditions are still present. Abnormal dryness is placed in parts of the North and West as a result of the 30-day moisture deficits.

For the outlook period, additional snow is expected over the eastern half of the country over the course of the period. Heavy snowfall in excess of 20cm is expected in the local portions of the Northeast, while light amounts are expected elsewhere.



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