Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
January 23 – January 29, 2020

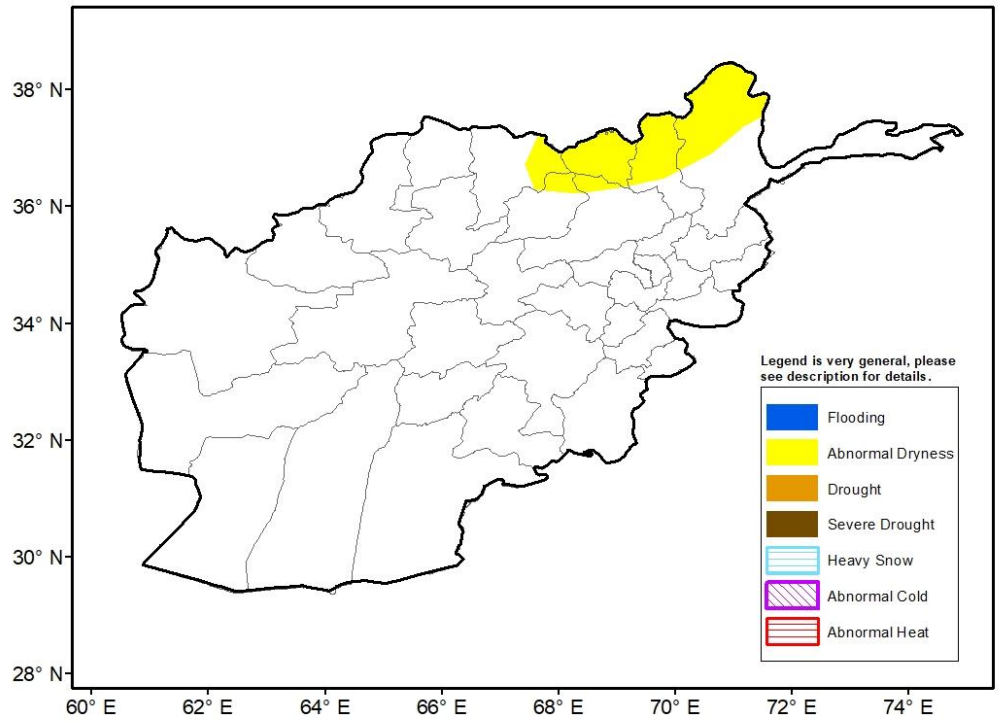
Temperatures:

During the third week of January, mean temperatures in Afghanistan were cooler than average, especially in the lower elevations. In many low elevation areas, the week's minimum temperaures dipped well below 0°C. minimum temperatures were more than 8°C below average in northwestern Afghanistan. Temperatures were seasonably cold in the higher elevations of the country, dipping below -15°C. During the next week, below-normal temperatures are forecast to continue over the central highlands and the northeast. Minimum temperature could fall below -20°C.

Precipitation:

During the past week, light or moderate (< 25 mm liquid equivalent) precipitation was observed in several parts Afghanistan, including the northeast and northwest. Heavy snowfall cut off the Salang highway linking Kabul to the northern parts of the country, according to reports. Both short-term and long-term rainfall deficits since November 1 remain in the north. An abnormal dryness hazard is maintained where precipitation and snow water equivalent deficits have persisted.

During the next week, the passage of a couple week disturbances will bring widespread light or moderate rain and snow over the country. Precipitation amounts of 10-25mm liquid equivalent are expected in many areas. The forecast increased precipitation should help alleviate dryness in the region.



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.