Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
18 – 24 May, 2023

Temperature:

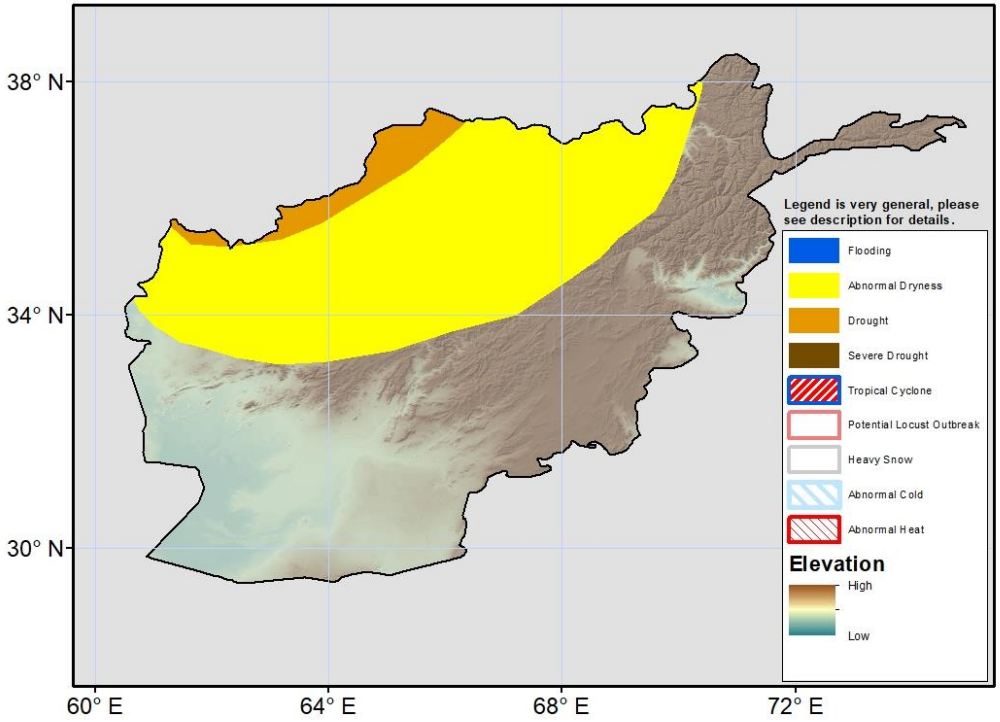
Mean maximum temperatures were 2-4°C warmer than average across northern and western portions of the country during the past week. Maximum temperature in the northern zone exceeded 35°C and in Farah, Nimroz, and Hilmand provinces it exceeded 40°C during the period. Weekly minimum temperatures were 2-4ºC below average for province in central, south, east, and northeast regions. Minimum temperatures stayed above freezing across most of the country and low elevations remained above 15°C.

During the next week, maximum temperatures are forecasted to be warmer than average with the largest anomalies in the range of 2-6°C across northern and western portions of the country. Minimum temperatures are likewise forecasted to be warmer than average. Temperatures overall are expected to get warmer for the second half of the outlook period. Farah, Nimroz, and Hilmand will likely experience maximum temperature between 40-45ºC during the period 18 – 24 May.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, central, eastern, and northeastern portions of Afghanistan received scattered light precipitation. Rainfall totals of 2-25mm were observed according to satellite estimates. The 30-day rainfall analysis shows small negative anomalies of 10-25mm over Central, northern and western zones. Deficits (25-100mm) have also accrued according to 90-day analysis in the same regions. As such, a drought hazard is placed along the Turkmenistan border within the region of abnormal dryness. Vegetation health indices indicate significantly degraded ground conditions along the northern border as a result of the poor rains.

For the outlook period, light to moderate precipitation is forecast for central, eastern, and northeastern zones of Afghanistan. Precipitation is favored at the beginning and end of the period. As much as 25mm of precipitation is forecasted and some may still fall as snow at the highest 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