



## Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 26 – April 1, 2015

### **Temperatures:**

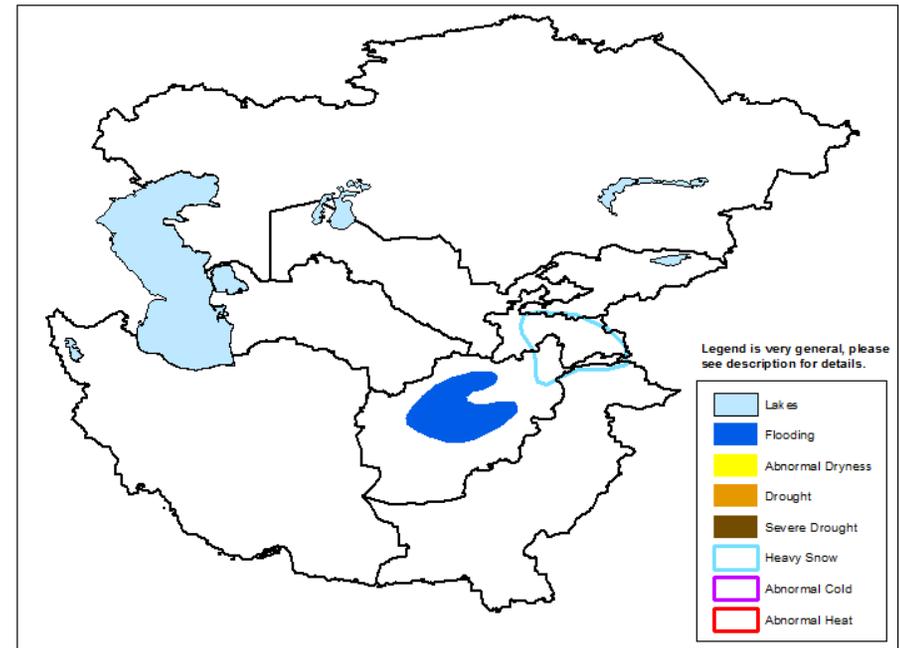
Temperatures averaged above-normal across Central Asia during the third week of March. During the next week, much colder temperatures are expected to prevail throughout the region behind a cold front. The GFS model indicates that minimum temperatures could fall below -20 degrees C across northern Kazakhstan with freezing temperatures spreading into Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

### **Precipitation**

During the third week of March, widespread rain and high-elevation snow fell across much of the region with the heaviest precipitation (more than 25 mm) across eastern Afghanistan. Snow-water content, according the USGS, is at or above-average across the northern and central river basins of Afghanistan. A recent decrease in the snow-water content values is consistent with the snow melt that is likely continuing with the warmer temperatures.

During the next week, the GFS model indicates widespread precipitation with many areas forecast to receive in excess of 25 mm. Snow is expected to be limited to the highest elevations of Afghanistan and Tajikistan where a heavy snow hazard is posted.

The predicted rainfall during the next week coupled with rapid snowmelt is expected to cause localized flooding across central Afghanistan.



**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.