

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET December 26, 2019 – January 1, 2020

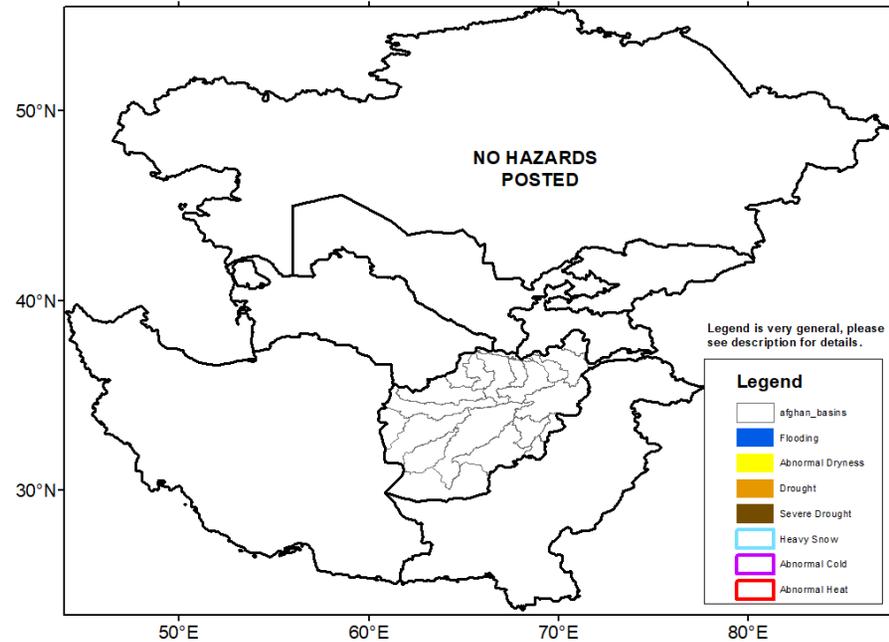
Temperatures:

Above-normal temperatures persisted for the third consecutive week with the largest positive anomalies (5 to 7 degrees C) observed across northwest Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures were below -20 degrees C in the coldest locations of northeast Kazakhstan and higher elevations of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Minimum temperatures were near freezing in the lower elevations of Afghanistan. Above-normal temperatures are forecast to persist for much of the region although periods of below-normal temperatures are expected to shift south into northern Kazakhstan by the beginning of January.

Precipitation

Widespread snow (5 to 25 mm, liquid equivalent) fell throughout much of the Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, while mostly dry weather prevailed across Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. According to the RFE satellite estimates, 90-day precipitation deficits are now exceeding 50 mm in parts of southeast Kazakhstan. Snow water equivalent anomalies are negative in parts of northeast Afghanistan which will need to be closely monitored for developing abnormal dryness.

A large area of surface high pressure is likely to result in mostly dry weather across Central Asia during the final week of December. This dry week will lead to increasing precipitation deficits across Afghanistan and Kazakhstan. The GFS model indicates that snow may develop across the central highlands of Afghanistan at the beginning of January.



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.

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