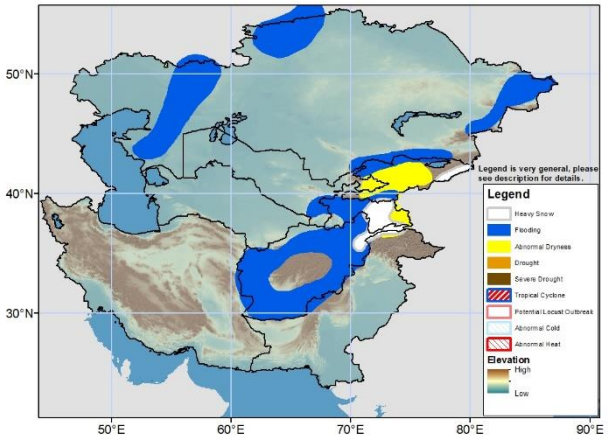
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
23 May 2024 – 29 May 2024

Temperature:

Weekly average minimum temperatures were near average over most parts of Central Asia. However, minimum temperatures were 2-4ºC below average over the western parts of Kazakhstan, western Turkmenistan, and at a few places in northeastern Afghanistan, and 2-4ºC above average over central and eastern Kazakhstan and southeastern border of Uzbekistan during last week. Average minimum temperatures were 5º to 15ºC across most of Kazakhstan, and 0º to 5ºC across most of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and central and northeastern Afghanistan. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan recorded average minimum temperatures between 15-20ºC. Maximum temperature anomalies showed similar patterns as their minimum temperature counterparts, with negative anomalies in the western Kazakhstan and over most of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and positive anomalies in the eastern parts of Central Asia. Average maximum temperatures ranged between 15-30ºC over most places, with lower temperatures of 10-15ºC occurring in eastern parts of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and northeastern Afghanistan.

The GEFS model forecasts cooler air moving into Central Asia during the forecast period. Accordingly, 2-6ºC below average mean minimum temperatures are expected in most parts of Central Asia excluding Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and most of Afghanistan that likely will have 2-4ºC above average minimum temperatures. Average minimum temperatures will be below freezing (up to -5ºC) in eastern Tajikistan, but largely will remain between 15-25ºC in Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and southwestern Kazakhstan. Like minimum temperatures, average maximum temperatures are also expected to be 2-6ºC below average across most of Central Asia. However, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and most of Afghanistan will be above average by 2-4ºC. The weekly average maximum temperature in these areas will be between 5-20ºC.



Precipitation:

Above average precipitation was observed in parts of Uzbekistan, south-central Turkmenistan, northern and eastern Kazakhstan, and western parts of Afghanistan. According to media reports, heavy rainfall in Ghor and Faryab provinces triggered devastating flash floods last week and caused the deaths of 84 people and damaged nearly 80 per cent of the city of Feroskoh. Streamflows in Farah Adraskan in the western and Ghazni in the eastern Afghanistan are the highest in their respective records for the month. Many hydrograph in the eastern, southeastern and southern regions depicted significantly high magnitudes of streamflows. According to GloFAS forecast, the high river discharges across Afghanistan are expected to continue up to the end of May 2024.

The GEFS model forecasts moderate to heavy (25-50mm) precipitation in many parts of northeastern and eastern Kazakhstan and over most of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, while moderate (10-25mm) precipitation is expected in most of northern Kazakhstan and northeastern Afghanistan. The precipitation predicted in northern and eastern parts of Kazakhstan will be above average, but those forecasted in eastern parts of Central Asia are expected to be below average.

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 takes into account 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 a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned. Questions or comments about this product 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