Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
28 September – 4 October 2023

Temperature:

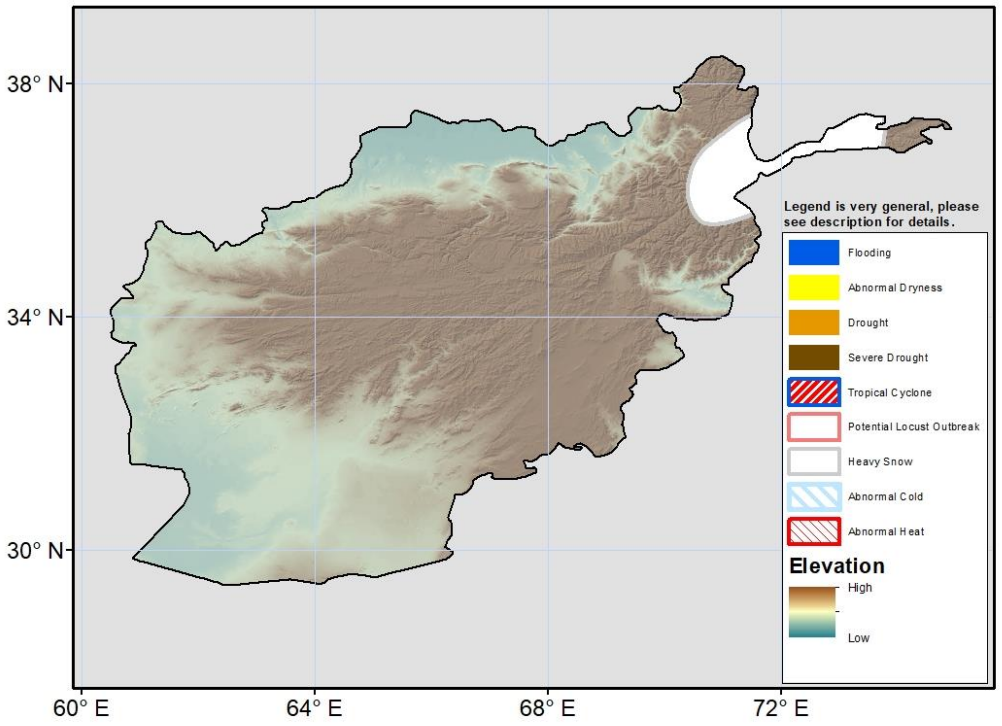
Mean maximum temperatures were slightly-above average (2-4°C anomalies) for western provinces of Afghanistan and above average in the eastern region. Maximum temperature exceeded 30°C in parts of the South and West, while they were 25-30°C for other lower elevation regions during the period. Weekly average minimum temperatures were 2-4°C above average for parts of the South and East. Minimum temperatures were 0-5°C in the highest elevations (above ~3000 m), while minimum temperatures averaged 20-25°C in the Southwest.

During the outlook period, mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be below average by 2-4°C across the country. Maximum temperature will exceed 30°C in parts of Farah, Nimroz, Hilmand, and Kandahar provinces during the period, with many lower elevations (below ~1000 m) between 25°C and 30°C. Mean minimum temperatures are forecasted to be 1-2°C above average in the North and West and below average in parts of the South and Northeast. Subfreezing temperatures are likely in the Northeast and the Central Highlands.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, a few scattered rain showers were observed in far-eastern Afghanistan. Total rainfall stayed less than 25 mm according to satellite estimates. Rainfall analysis for the past 2 months shows generally below-average rainfall over eastern and northeastern zones. Vegetation health indices show somewhat degraded ground conditions for much of the country. However, positive conditions are present in parts of the East and South.

For the outlook period, moderate to locally heavy precipitation is expected in eastern and northeastern Afghanistan. Total liquid equivalent precipitation should range between 5 and 50 mm. Snowfall (10 to 30 cm) is likely in the Northeast's higher terrains above ~3,000 m. The remainder of the country remains seasonably dry.



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