

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 7 November – 13 December 2023

Temperature:

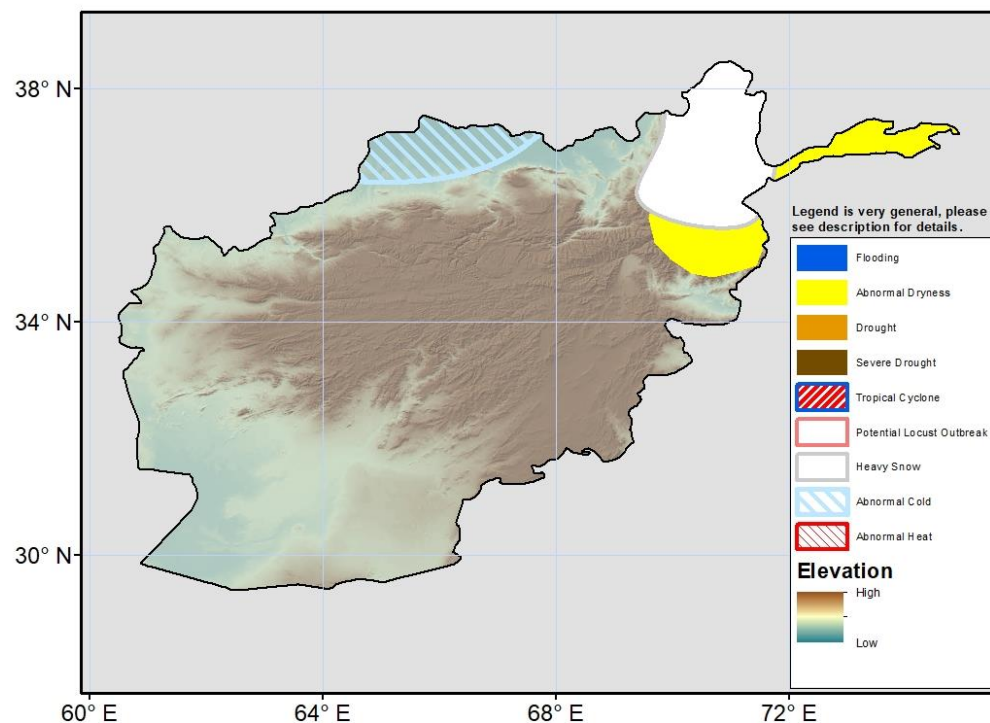
Mean maximum temperatures were well-above average across Afghanistan except for the southern region. Positive anomalies ranged from 4 to 8°C, with the west region being most anomalous. Maximum temperature exceeded 15°C in many lowland areas across the country and 20°C in the South and West. Weekly average minimum temperatures were above average by 2-6°C across southern, northern, and some western areas of Afghanistan. Near-average conditions were present elsewhere. Minimum temperatures were below -15°C in the Northeast's mountains and between -10°C and 0°C widely across the Central Highlands.

During the outlook period, 7-day mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be above average across Afghanistan. The largest anomalies (4-8°C) are forecast for Afghanistan's central highlands. Mean maximum temperature will exceed 15°C in the Southwest. 7-day mean minimum temperatures are forecasted to be similarly above average (1-6°C anomalies). Minimum temperatures are likely to reach to 10 degrees below freezing in the Central Highlands and as cold as 20-25° below freezing in the Northeast. Colder (sub-freezing) and below average air filters into northern Afghanistan at the end of the period as part of a large central Asian trough.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, light rain was observed in eastern and northwestern Afghanistan. Total liquid equivalent ranged from 2 to 10 mm. Rainfall analysis for the past 2 months shows below-average precipitation over the country. Snowfall performance to date has been subpar in the northeastern mountains and in the central highlands where negative snow depth and snow water equivalent anomalies are ubiquitous. As a result, abnormal dryness is placed in northeastern Afghanistan where snow depth is most below average.

For the outlook period, heavy mountain snow and low elevation rain is expected in northeastern Afghanistan. Total liquid equivalent precipitation between 10 and 75 mm. Total accumulated snowfall 50 cm in the northeastern mountains. Outside of some additional light precipitation in the North, the remainder of the country is 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