Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
21 November – 27 December 2023

Temperature:

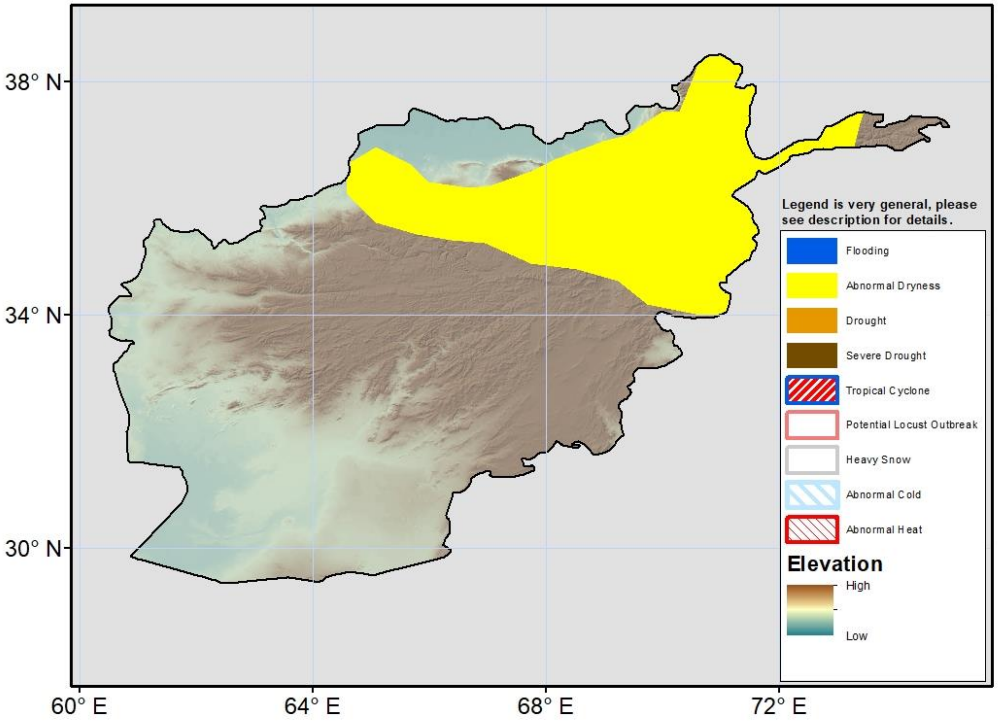
Mean maximum temperatures were above average across southwestern, eastern, and northeastern Afghanistan. Positive anomalies ranged from 2 to 6°C, with the near-average conditions elsewhere in the country. Mean maximum temperature remained below freezing in parts of the central highlands, but exceeded 20°C in the Southwest. Weekly average minimum temperatures were near average most places, except the southern provinces observed 2-4°C positive anomalies. Mean minimum temperatures were below -10°C in the Northeast's mountains and a portion of the Central Highlands. Temperatures below 0°C were observed into relatively low elevations.

During the outlook period, 7-day mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to get warmer across Afghanistan. Positive anomalies will be ubiquitous with the largest anomalies (6-10°C) forecast for northern and central portions of the country. Mean maximum temperature will exceed 20°C in the Southwest and warm above freezing in the Central highlands. 7-day mean minimum temperatures are likewise forecasted to be above average by 2-8°C across the country. Minimum temperatures are likely to be -10 to 0°C in the Central Highlands and as cold as 15-25° below freezing in the Northeast.

Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, light to moderate rain and snow accumulations were observed over many parts of Afghanistan. Total liquid equivalent ranged from 2 to 25 mm, with the higher amounts in the Northeast. Rainfall analysis for the period since 1 November shows below-average precipitation over the country (10-100mm anomalies). Snowfall performance to date has been subpar throughout the country. However, snow cover has expanded somewhat over the Central highlands. As a result, abnormal dryness is placed in northern and northeastern Afghanistan where snow depth is most below average.

For the outlook period, a little light rain is expected for northern and western portions of the country. Total liquid equivalent precipitation should be 2 - 5 mm. Some light snowfall accumulations are possible at higher elevations despite above-average temperatures



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