

## Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 22 February– 28 February 2024

### Temperature:

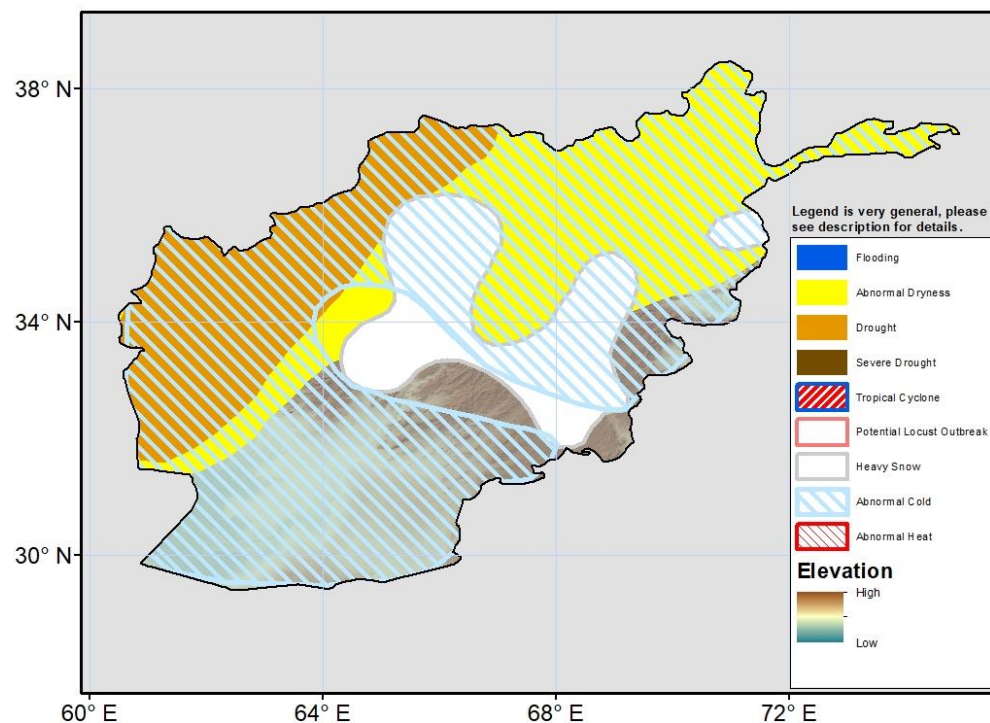
Mean maximum temperatures were above average across Afghanistan. Anomalies were as large as 6-8°C in the East, South, and parts of the West. Mean maximum temperatures averaged above freezing across the highlands and higher than 25°C in the South. Weekly average minimum temperatures were above average (2-6°C anomalies) with the exception of most of the West. Mean minimum temperatures ranged from -15°C to -10°C in the Northeast's mountains and -10°C to -5°C in the Central Highlands, with subfreezing temperatures down to moderately low elevations (2000 m).

During the outlook period, mean maximum temperatures are forecasted to be colder than average across the country. Negative anomalies should be 2-8°C. This will keep temperatures generally below freezing for many higher elevations areas. Minimum temperature anomalies are likewise expected to be 2-8°C colder than average. Consequently minimum temperatures are forecasted to be -20 to -5°C in the Central Highlands and as cold as -30 to -20°C in the Northeast. The lower elevations of the North, West, and Southeast can expect freezing conditions. An abnormal cold hazard is placed over most of the country.

### Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, much of Afghanistan received precipitation – some of it heavy. The highest liquid equivalent totals (50-100 mm) were recorded in the East. Many other central northern and northeastern regions recorded between 10 and 50 mm. Based on USGS snow depth and snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, snow depth and SWE deficits remain over in most of the basins in Afghanistan. However, recent snow has improved conditions and a few basins now exhibit small surpluses. Rainfall estimates of 30-day precipitation depict 10-100 mm positive anomalies in central, eastern, and northeastern parts of Afghanistan. In the North and West, 10-50 mm deficits still exist and the abnormal dryness remains.

For the outlook period, a low pressure system will bring widespread moderate to locally heavy precipitation across the country. Models predict 5-50 mm liquid equivalent totals. much of this will fall as snow and could amount to 25-35 cm in parts of the Central Highlands.



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.

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