

## Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 07 March – 13 March 2024

### Temperature:

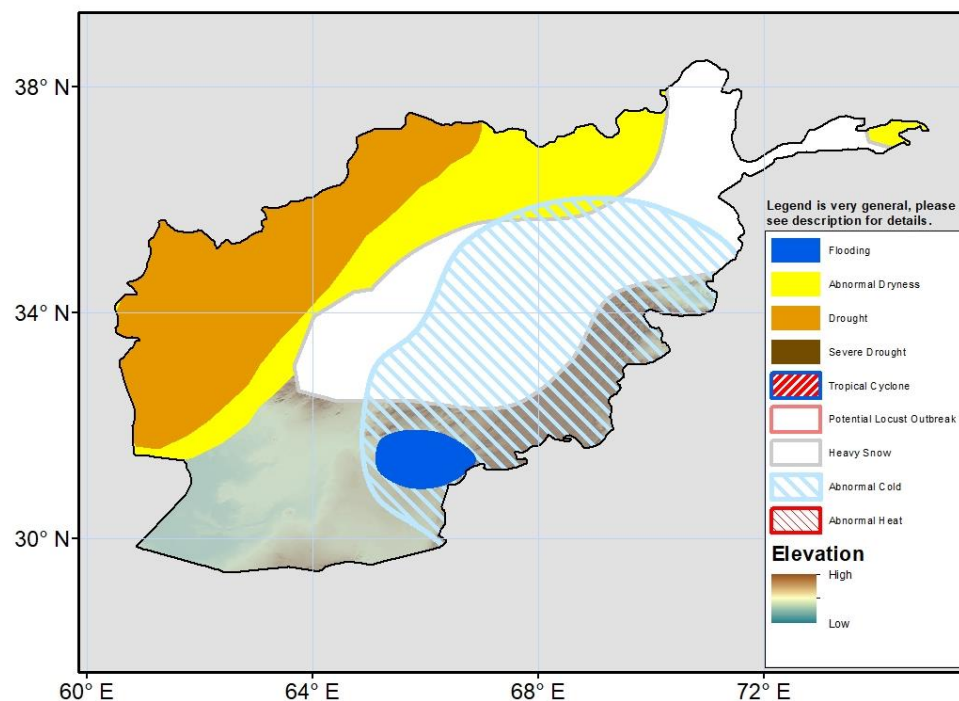
Mean maximum temperatures were below average across Afghanistan. Anomalies were very large (8-15°C) in the North and West. Smaller anomalies prevailed in the East. Weekly average minimum temperatures were well-below average (4-12°C anomalies) across much of the North, West, and South. Mean minimum temperatures ranged from -20°C to -5°C in the Northeast's mountains and the Central Highlands. Subfreezing temperatures occurred down to the lowest elevations in the Northeast, North, and West.

During the outlook period, a more moderate air mass is expected across the country. Negative mean maximum temperature anomalies of 1-4°C are forecasted in Central, Eastern, and southern regions, while provinces along the northern border can expect 1-2°C positive anomalies. Higher elevations are likely to remain below freezing. An abnormal cold hazard is placed in the South and east. Minimum temperature anomalies of 1-2°C are forecasted in Central, Eastern, and southern regions, while provinces along the northern and western borders can expect 1-4°C positive anomalies. Consequently, minimum temperatures are forecasted to be -15 to -5°C in the Central Highlands.

### Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, all of Afghanistan received significant precipitation. Liquid equivalent totals of 25-50 mm were widely recorded. The Northeast and East observed very high totals of 50-150 mm. Much of this fell as snow. Based on USGS snow depth and snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, snow depth and SWE have shifted towards positive anomalies after recent snowfall. However, despite recent snow, snowpack on higher mountains has yet to recover all the way to average. Rainfall estimates of 30-day precipitation depict 10-100 mm positive anomalies in many parts of the country with larger anomalies exceeding 100 mm in the East. Coverage of abnormal dryness was reduced.

For the outlook period, another low-pressure system will bring moderate to locally heavy precipitation across the country. Moderate precipitation between 10 mm and 25 mm is widely expected while several embed areas surrounding the highlands can expect 25-50 mm. A heavy snow polygon is posted in Central Highland and northeastern Afghanistan. A small flooding hazard is posted in southern Afghanistan where substantial rain will fall on already saturated soils.



**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](mailto: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](mailto:jverdin@usaid.gov)