

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

### Temperature:

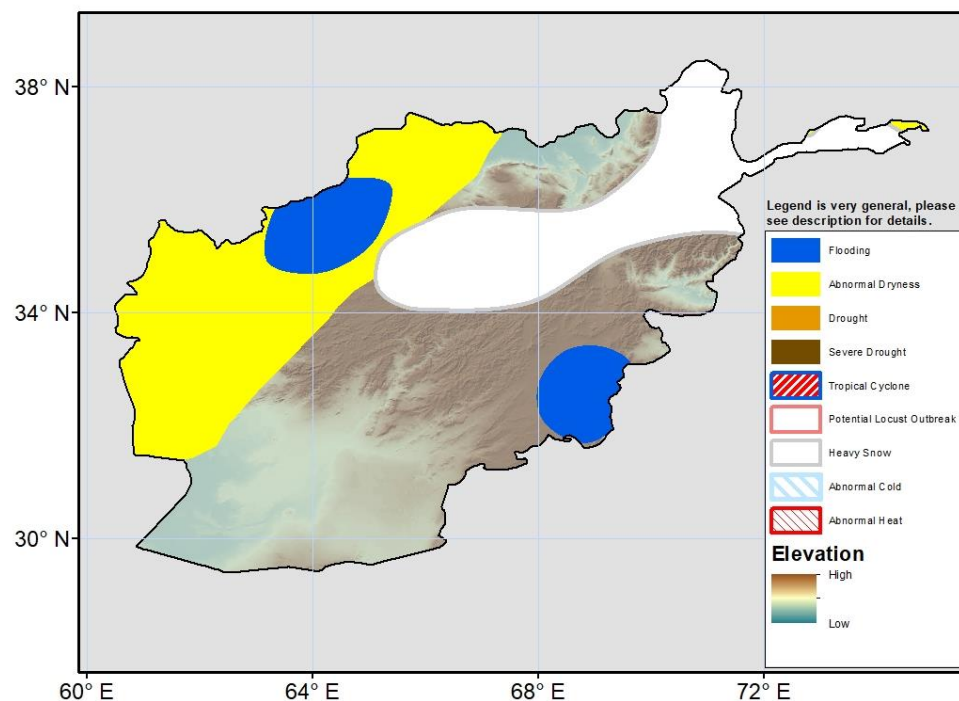
Mean maximum temperatures were above average by 2°C to 4°C in southeastern, central, and eastern parts of Afghanistan. The remainder of the country was near average. Maximum temperatures exceeded 25°C in parts of the South. 7-day mean minimum temperatures were near average across the country. Mean minimum temperatures ranged from -15°C to -5°C in the Northeast's mountains and -10°C to 0°C in the Central Highlands.

During the outlook period, warmer than average conditions will continue. Positive 7-day mean maximum temperature anomalies of 2-4°C are forecasted, while slightly lesser anomalies (1-2°C) are expected in the Northeast. Only the highest elevations (>4000m) in the Northeast will likely remain below freezing. Minimum temperatures of 4-6°C above average are forecasted in the South region and 2-4°C above average are forecasted elsewhere. Consequently, minimum temperatures are only forecasted to be -5 to 0°C in the Central Highlands. With 7-day average remaining above freezing for areas outside of the highest elevations.

### Precipitation:

During the last 7 days, much of Afghanistan received light to moderate precipitation. Liquid equivalent totals of 5-25 mm were widely recorded and more than 25 mm were recorded in parts of the West. Based on USGS snow depth and snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, snow depth and SWE show mixed anomalies after recent snowfall. 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. Long-term dryness in the North and West has improved in recent weeks.

For the outlook period, rain and snow are expected to continue across the country. Models forecast precipitation between 10 mm and 50 mm. The southern provinces may see less. A heavy snow polygon is posted in Central Highland and Northeastern Afghanistan where snowfall should exceed 20 cm. Two flooding hazards are posted in southern and northern Afghanistan where recent substantial precipitation coupled with mountain snowmelt is likely raising stream flows.



**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)