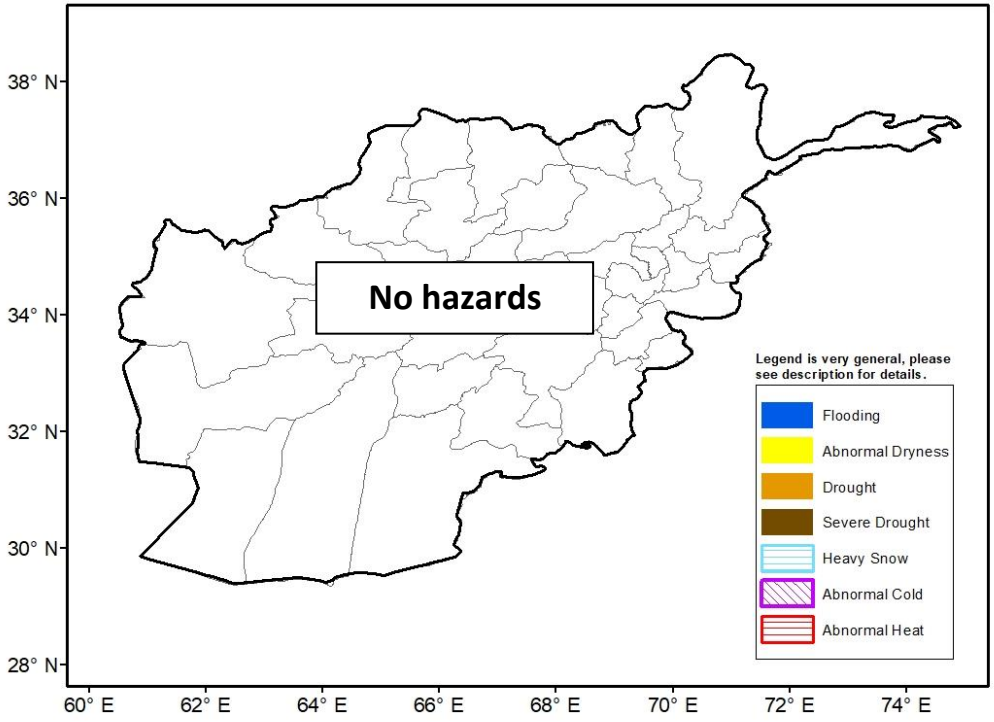
Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
December 24 – December 30, 2020

Temperatures:

During the past week, below-normal temperatures remained entrenched across Afghanistan. Subfreezing temperatures occurred across the entire country. Minimum temperatures reached more than 8°C below average in some places with minimum temperatures below -5°C for many of the lower elevations. During the first half of the outlook period, temperatures are forecast to moderate across the country. This is expected to be followed by another shot of below-average temperatures. As such, minimum temperatures for the period may again fall below freezing for many parts of the country's lower elevations.

Precipitation:

Last week, according to gauge observations, widespread light to moderate precipitation (25mm or less, liquid equivalent) occurred across central and northern Afghanistan. This mostly fell in the form of snow. After a generally cold pattern, positive snow depth anomalies currently exist across the central highlands of Afghanistan based on USGS snowfall analysis. Snow depth anomalies are more variable throughout the northeast mountains. A low pressure is forecast to traverse the country during the first half of the outlook period. Widespread snow is likely in the northern two thirds of the country. A heavy snow hazard is not posted since total snowfall amounts for the period are expected to remain generally below 30cm. The pattern dries later in the period.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.