

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 9 February - 15 February, 2023

Temperature:

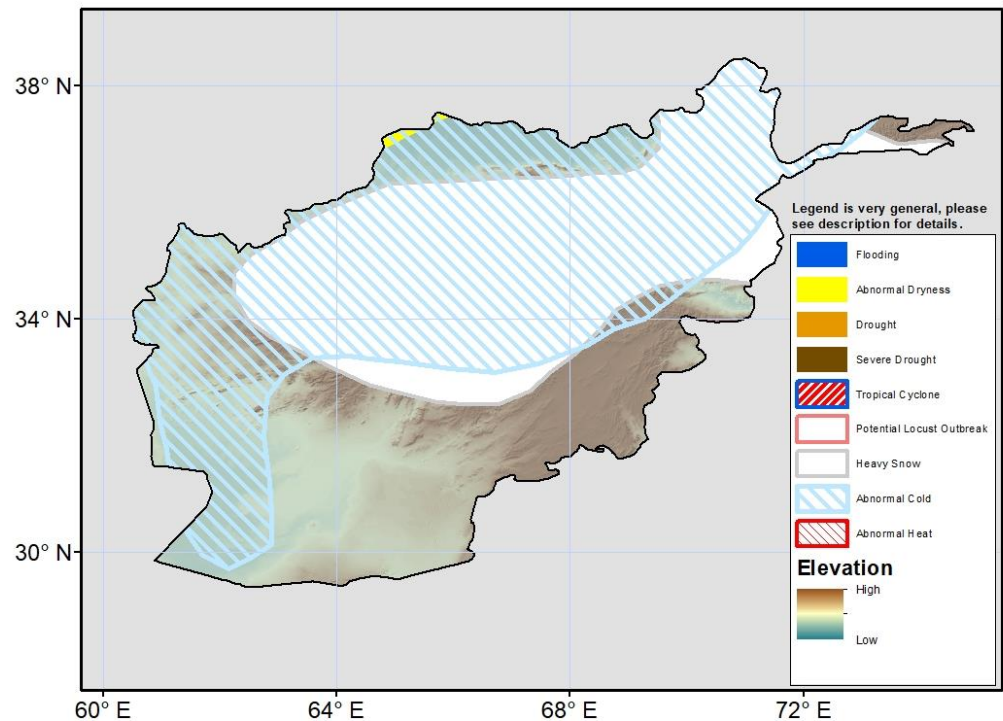
During this past week, temperatures were warmer than normal. Much of Afghanistan observed maximum temperature anomalies of 2-6°C and the northwestern portion observed 6-8°C anomalies. Southern and western areas observed temperatures between 15 and 25°C. Minimum temperatures were also warmer than average, mainly across the North, by 2-6°C. Higher elevations experienced subfreezing minimum temperatures, though many northern border provinces remained above 0°C.

Cooler air will make its return, especially in northern Afghanistan, for the outlook period. Mean temperatures will likely average 2-4°C cooler than normal across the Northern provinces. However, above-average temperatures should quickly rebound in the South with 1-4°C 7-day mean temperature anomalies there.

Precipitation:

During the past 7 days, rain and widespread snow occurred across central and northern portions of the country. Liquid equivalent totals of 5-25mm were observed according to gauge analysis. After recent precipitation, the past 30 days' precipitation performance is improved with many regions now experiencing surplus conditions. Snow water equivalent values have also improved, especially in the center and East of Afghanistan, but below-average conditions are still present to the north.

For the outlook period, a couple of low pressure systems will track across the region bringing more rain and snow. Significant liquid equivalent accumulations of 25-50mm are forecast across the northern half of the country. Much of this will fall in the form of snow and large snowfall accumulations, exceeding 25cm along the northern ranges, are expected. More moderate snows, between 10cm and 25cm, are anticipated over the remainder 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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