

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 16 February - 22 February, 2023

Temperature:

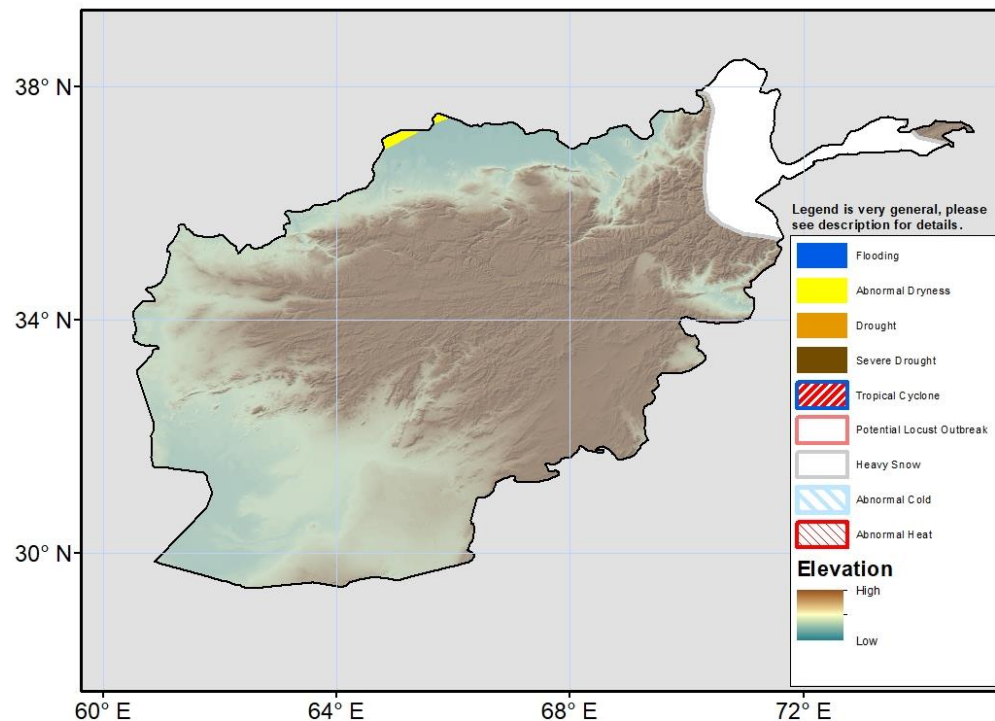
Temperatures averaged mostly near normal during this past week. Only southeastern Afghanistan observed maximum temperature anomalies of 1-4°C. Southern provinces observed temperatures between 20°C and 25°C. Seasonably cold minimum temperatures ranged from 0°C to as low as -15°C across the highlands.

Warmer air will make its return for the outlook period. Mean temperatures will likely average 4-8°C warmer than normal across the country with the largest anomalies to the east. Most areas, except for the country's highest elevations, should reach above freezing. This may result in significant snowmelt.

Precipitation:

During the past 7 days, rain and widespread snow occurred across central and northern portions of the country. Liquid equivalent totals of 10-50mm were observed according to gauge analysis. After recent precipitation, the past 30 days, as well as seasonal precipitation performance, is improved with many regions now experiencing surplus conditions. Snow water equivalent values have also improved, especially in central and eastern of Afghanistan, but below-average conditions are still present in the Northeast.

For the outlook period, rain and snow is forecasted to continue over northern portions of Afghanistan. Liquid equivalent accumulations of 10-25mm are forecast with higher amounts in the northeastern mountains. There, large snowfall accumulations, exceeding 50cm, are expected. More moderate snows, between 10cm and 25cm, are anticipated 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.

Questions or comments about the hazard's outlooks may be directed to Dr. Wassila Thiaw, Head, International Desks/NOAA, 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