

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook 5 January– 11 January, 2023

Temperature:

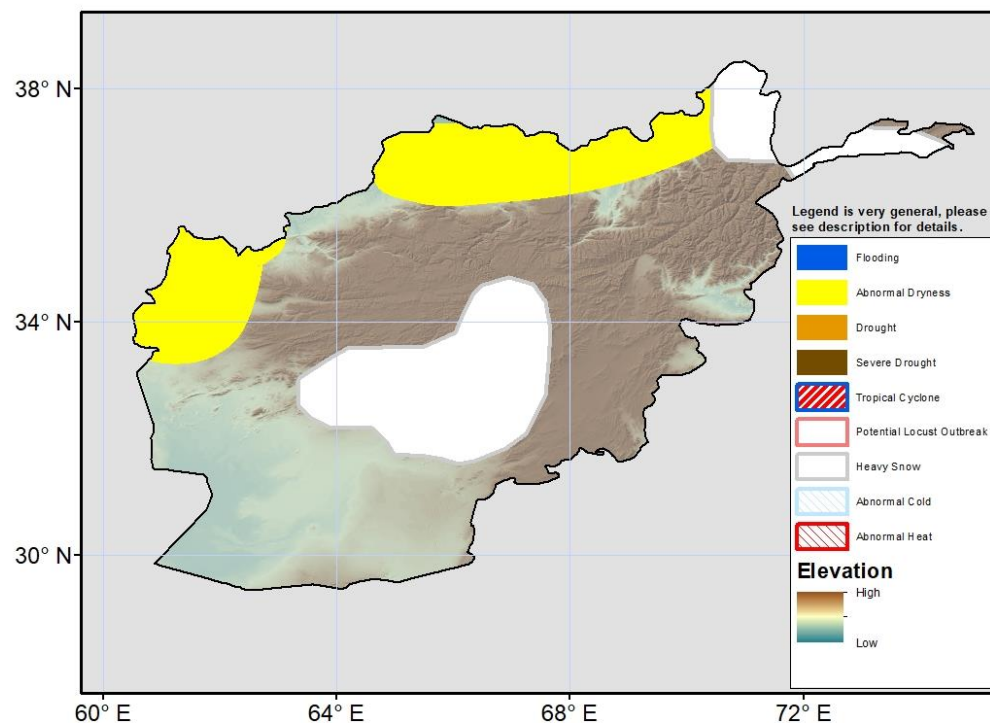
This past week, mean minimum temperatures were warmer than average by 4-6°C in Afghanistan. Even so, observed minimum temperatures were widely below freezing outside of the southern provinces. Mean maximum temperatures were slightly above average for central and eastern parts of the country. The coldest temperatures dipped below 10°C in the higher elevations, while maximum temperatures exceeded 15°C in the far-South.

Models forecast that temperatures will continue to be warmer than average during the outlook period. Mean temperature anomalies of 1-4°C are expected for many areas and 4-6°C anomalies are expected in the Northeast. With above-average temperatures, minimum temperatures in many lower elevations should remain above freezing on many mornings. Colder temperatures may sneak into the Northwest by the end of the outlook period.

Precipitation:

During the past 7 days, rain and snow was observed across the country. Liquid equivalent amounts of 5-25mm were widespread. Despite recent precipitation, past 30 days' precipitation performance has been below average. Following an above-average month of November, analysis of the previous 30 days now shows widespread deficits of 10-50mm across the country. Snow water equivalent is above average in parts of the far-north but below average over the rest of the country. Abnormal dryness is placed in parts of the North and West as a result of the 30-day moisture deficits.

For the outlook period, rain and mostly snow is expected to persist for the majority of Afghanistan. Total liquid equivalent accumulation is forecast to be moderate (10-25mm) to locally heavy (>25mm). Heavy snowfall in excess of 25cm is expected in the Northeast, and in the central and southern 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.