

Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET 16 January – 22 January 2025

Temperature:

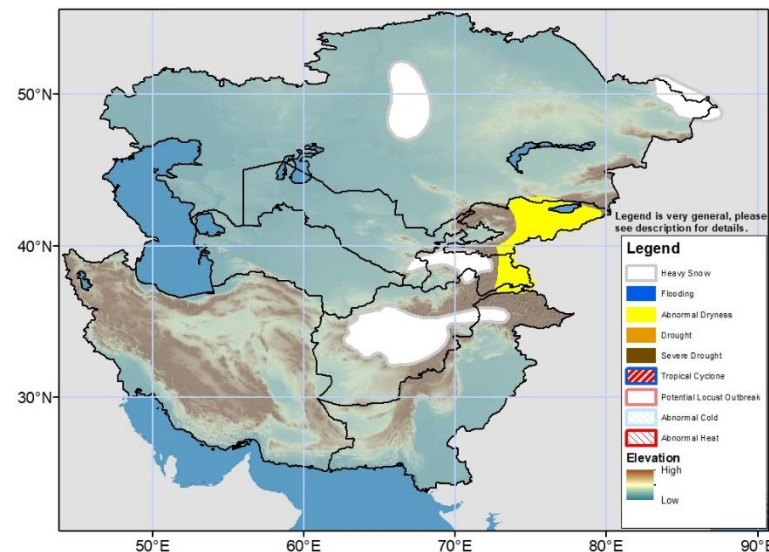
Weekly mean maximum temperatures were below average by 1-4°C in parts of northern Afghanistan and Tajikistan. In contrast, weekly mean maximum temperatures were above average across most of the remainder of the region. The largest positive anomalies (4-10°C) were observed across central and northern Kazakhstan. Weekly mean minimum temperatures were above-average in Kazakhstan and eastern Kyrgyzstan by 2°C to as much as 10°C in parts of northern Kazakhstan. Cooler than average minimum temperature was observed in Turkmenistan, eastern Uzbekistan, and much of Afghanistan. Weekly mean minimum temperatures were cooler than -10°C in northern, central and eastern parts of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, central and northeastern Afghanistan, and were subfreezing throughout almost the entire region, except for low elevation portions of Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan.

The GEFS model forecasts continuing warmer than average weather for the outlook period. Weekly mean maximum temperature will likely be more than 2°C above average across Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, northern Turkmenistan, parts of Kyrgyzstan, and western Tajikistan. Anomalies may reach 8°C in northeastern Kazakhstan. Minimum temperature patterns are expected to be similar to those of maximum temperatures, but with larger coverage positive anomalies across Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Weekly mean minimum temperature is forecasted to be as cold as -30°C in eastern Tajikistan and cooler than -10°C in Kyrgyzstan, northeastern and central Afghanistan, and northern Kazakhstan. The temperature pattern is expected to remain fairly steady through the period.

Precipitation:

Light precipitation was observed across the central and eastern thirds of Kazakhstan, northern Uzbekistan, and parts of Kyrgyzstan during the outlook period with liquid equivalent totals staying less than 10 mm. Over the past 30 days, rainfall was slightly below average in small parts of western and southern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and a few parts of Afghanistan, with above-average precipitation registered over northeastern and northwestern Afghanistan and pockets of eastern and north-central Kazakhstan. Based on USGS snow water equivalent (SWE) analysis, negative SWE anomalies currently exist in central and northeastern Afghanistan, eastern Tajikistan, and much of Kyrgyzstan and positive anomalies exist over pockets of Afghanistan, central Tajikistan and central/eastern Kazakhstan.

Weather models forecast widespread light to moderate precipitation across the region with heavier precipitation focused in portions of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and eastern Kazakhstan. This will fall in two rounds – during Jan 17-19 and another late in the period. Central, southern, and northwestern portions of Afghanistan can expect from 10mm to 50mm of liquid equivalent. With enough cold air, this will mostly fall as heavy snow, totaling as much as 50cm at higher elevation. Heavy snow is also probable in central and eastern Kazakhstan.



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 takes into account 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 a number of other national and regional organizations in the countries concerned. Questions or comments about this product 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, jverd@usaid.gov.