

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET December 12 - 18, 2019

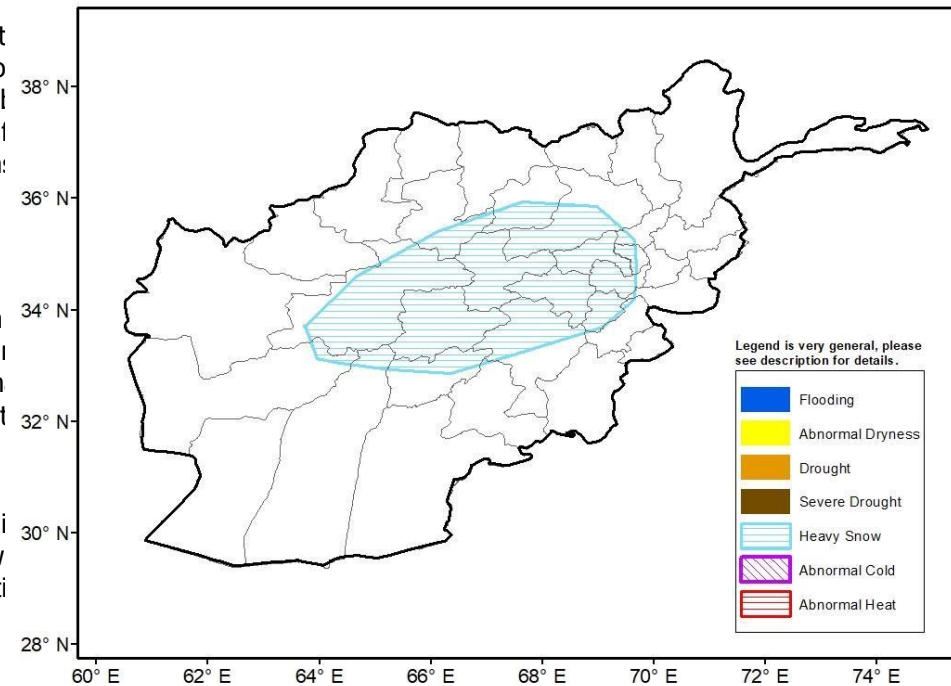
Temperatures:

In early December, Afghanistan saw widespread above-normal temperatures. Temperatures averaged about 4-8 degrees above normal for the week. Temperatures were still quite cool in northeastern Afghanistan, dipping below -15°C. Minimum temperatures remained at freezing in the lower elevations. Model guidance indicates that temperatures will vary 1 degree below normal to above normal through mid-December. Minimum temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing across the lower elevations of Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

Mostly dry weather prevailed across much of Afghanistan during the last week. Only a scattered light shower was observed. One rain gauge in Balkh province recorded 69mm of rain. Since November 1, some rainfall deficits have emerged in the north. Rainfall anomalies of 25-50mm are observed according to satellite rainfall analysis. Favorably wet conditions have been observed in the south and east.

Although the latest model solutions are indicating lower snowfall amounts across Afghanistan during the outlook period, a heavy snow hazard is posted for the central highlands where locally more than 15 cm could occur. The longwave pattern is expected to result in additional snowfall across Afghanistan during the latter half of December.



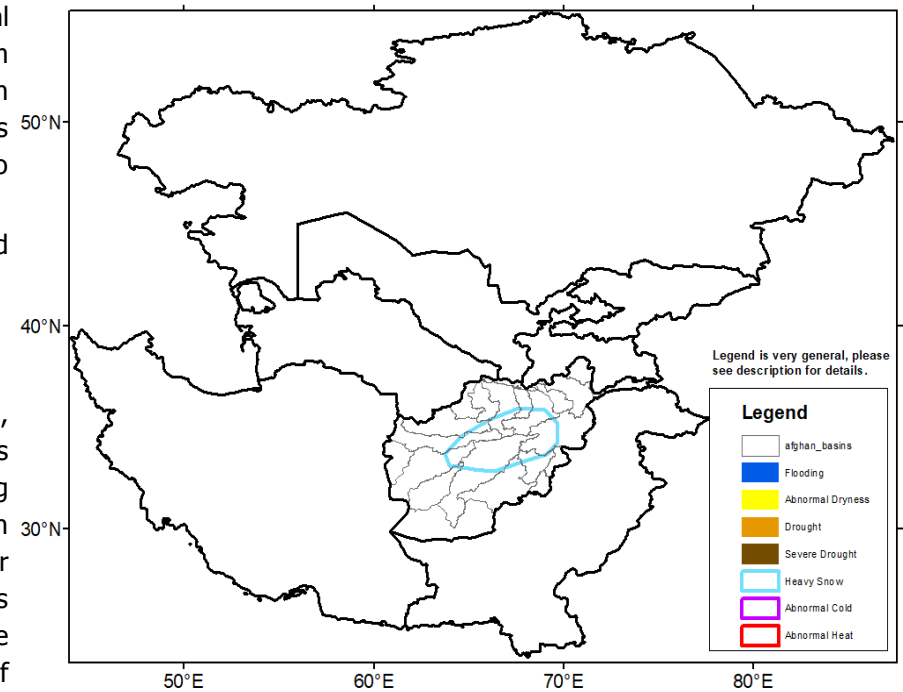
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook December 12 - 18, 2019

Temperatures:

Following much below normal temperatures during late November, above normal temperatures prevailed across the region through the first week of December. Minimum temperatures were around -25 degrees C in the coldest locations of northern and eastern Kazakhstan, while minimum temperatures remained above freezing in the lower elevations of Afghanistan. Model guidance indicates that above normal temperatures are likely to persist through mid-December. Minimum temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing across the lower elevations of Afghanistan along with much of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

Precipitation:

Mostly dry weather prevailed across much of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan during the first week of December. Light precipitation (less than 25 mm, liquid equivalent) was limited to the northern half of Kazakhstan. According to the RFE satellite estimates, 90-day precipitation deficits are now exceeding 50 mm in parts of southeast Kazakhstan. Although the latest model solutions are indicating lower snowfall amounts across Afghanistan during the outlook period, a heavy snow hazard is posted for the central highlands where locally more than 15 cm could occur. The longwave pattern is expected to result in additional snowfall across Afghanistan during the latter half of December.



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 for indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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