

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET December 19 - 25, 2019

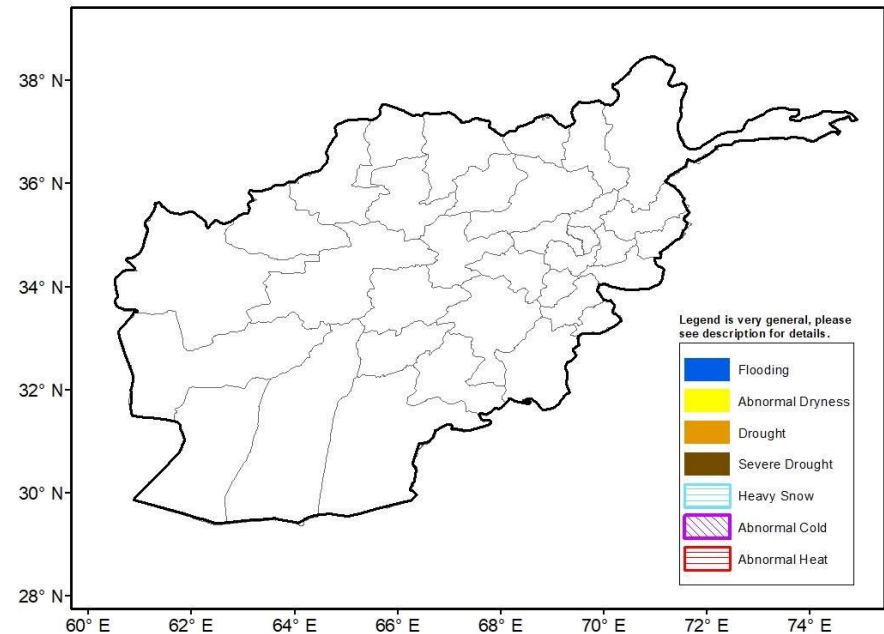
Temperatures:

During the last week, mean temperatures in Afghanistan were near or slightly warmer than average. A few areas in the south and west observed anomalies of 5- or 6-degrees C. Even so, minimum temperatures for the period were near freezing in the lower elevations. Temperatures were seasonably cold in northeastern Afghanistan, dipping below -10°C. Model guidance indicates that a front will bring a cold shot to central Asia over the weekend, but it will stay mostly to the north of the country. Temperatures should be near normal before warming at the end of the period. Minimum temperatures are forecast to remain above freezing across the lower elevations.

No Hazards

Precipitation:

Rain and high-elevation snow overspread much of Afghanistan during the past week. Local amounts exceeded 25 mm (liquid equivalent) in northern provinces with scattered lighter precipitation elsewhere. Since November 1, some rainfall deficits have emerged in the north. Rainfall anomalies of 25-50mm are observed according to satellite analysis and snow water equivalent anomalies are negative in parts of the northeast which will need to be closely monitored for developing abnormal dryness. Model guidance suggests a relatively dry pattern for the outlook period. Only scattered light precipitation is expected (less than 25 mm, liquid equivalent), mainly early in the period.



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook December 19 - 25, 2019

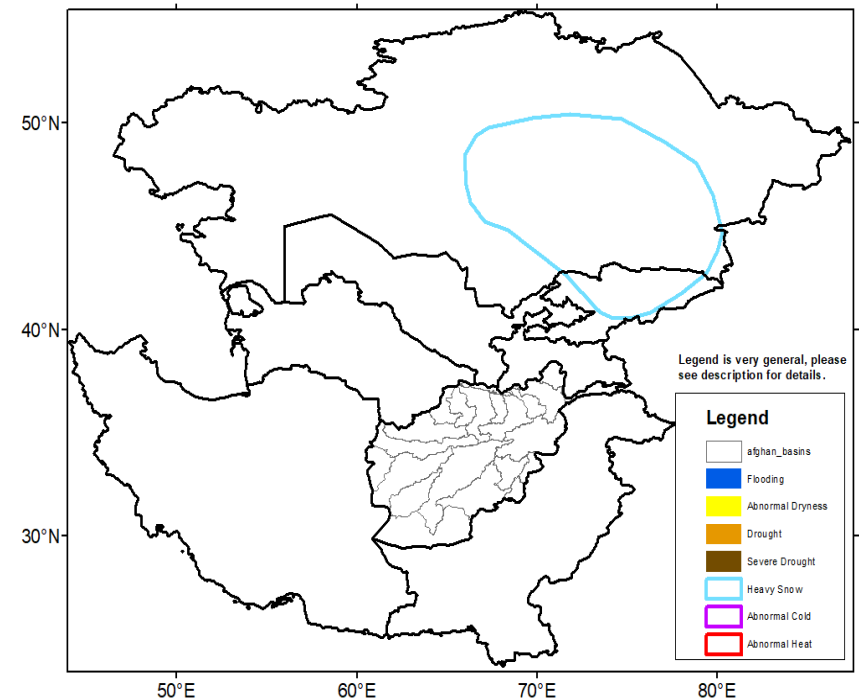
Temperatures:

Above normal temperatures prevailed for the second consecutive week with the largest positive anomalies (5 to 7 degrees C) observed across north-central Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures were around -25 degrees C in the coldest locations of northeast Kazakhstan, while minimum temperatures were near freezing in the lower elevations of Afghanistan. A strong cold front is forecast to result in a few days of below normal temperatures across Kazakhstan. Minimum temperatures are likely to fall below -20 degrees C across north-central Kazakhstan, but temperatures are expected to remain above freezing in the lower elevations of Afghanistan.

Precipitation

Rain and high-elevation snow overspread much of Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan during the second week of December. Local amounts exceeded 50 mm (liquid equivalent) in northern Afghanistan. According to the RFE satellite estimates, 90-day precipitation deficits are now exceeding 50 mm in parts of southeast Kazakhstan. Snow water equivalent anomalies are negative in parts of northeast Afghanistan which will need to be closely monitored for developing abnormal dryness.

The GFS model indicates widespread precipitation (10 to 75 mm, liquid equivalent) across southeast Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan during the next week. Since most of this precipitation will likely fall in the form of snow, a heavy snow hazard is posted for these areas. Much of Afghanistan is expected to receive lighter precipitation (less than 25 mm, liquid equivalent).



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.