

Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET January 2 - 8, 2019

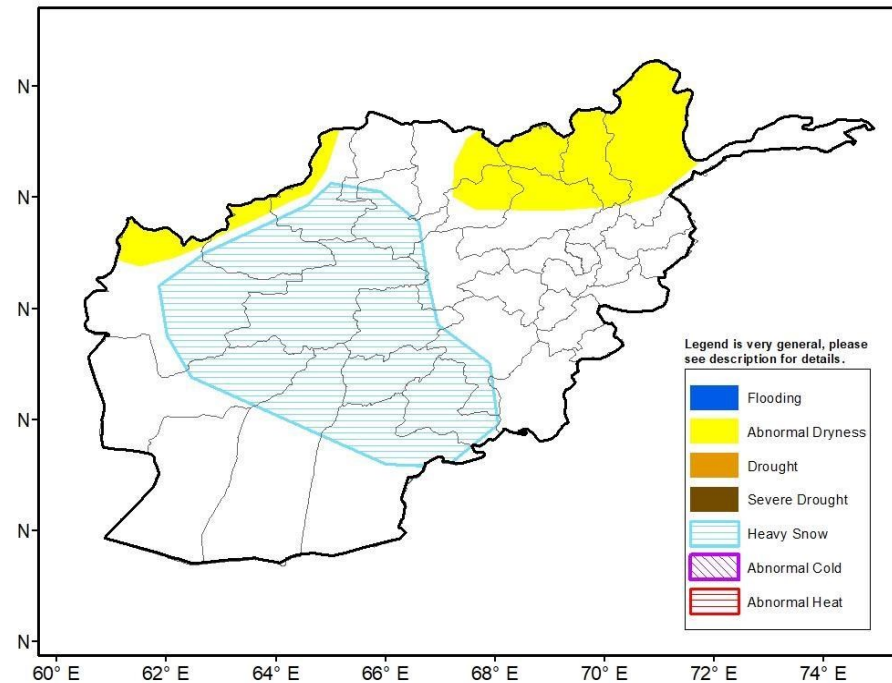
Temperatures:

During the last week, mean temperatures in Afghanistan were warmer than average. A few areas observed positive average temperature anomalies of as much as 7-9°C. As such, minimum temperatures for the period were above freezing in the lower elevations. Temperatures were seasonably cold in the higher elevations of the country, dipping below -10°C. Model guidance indicates that an upper level trough will move over the area for the second half of the period. As a result, temperatures are expected to be cooler than average, especially during the latter half of the outlook period and in the mountainous regions.

Precipitation:

Some scattered rain and high-elevation snow showers were observed over Afghanistan during the past week. Since November 1, 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. An abnormal dryness hazard polygon is posted where negative snow water equivalent anomaly also coincided with precipitation deficits.

Model guidance suggests a large increase in moisture across the region during the outlook period. A couple of low-pressure systems will bring widespread rain and snow. Heavy snow polygons are posted in central Afghanistan where total snowfall may exceed 30 cm.



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook January 2 - 8, 2019

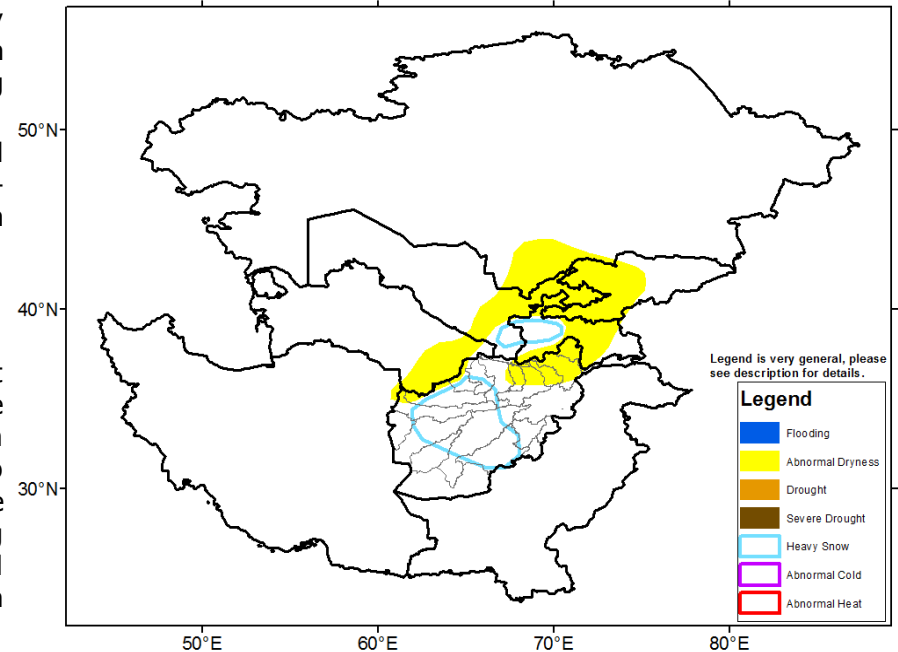
Temperatures:

During the last week of December 2019, slightly above-normal temperatures were mostly observed over Central Asia. Minimum temperature dropped below -20 degrees Celsius in northern Kazakhstan and parts of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. In contrast, above-freezing low temperature was registered across the low-lying areas of Afghanistan.

During the outlook period, near to below-average temperatures are forecast over central and northeast Afghanistan and the higher terrains of Tajikistan. In contrast, near to above-normal temperatures are expected farther north of the region, particularly southwestern Kazakhstan where temperatures could exceed 6 degrees Celsius above normal.

Precipitation:

During late December, suppressed precipitation dominated over Central Asia, except scattered little to light snowfall in northern and southern Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Since October, below-normal precipitation was observed over central Asia extending from southern Kazakhstan, parts of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, to northern and northeast Afghanistan. An abnormal dryness hazard polygon is posted where negative snow water equivalent anomaly also coincided with precipitation deficits. During the outlook period, widespread heavy snowfall is forecast over central Afghanistan and western Tajikistan. Heavy snow polygons are posted in central Afghanistan and western Tajikistan where total snowfall may exceed 30 cm.



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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