

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

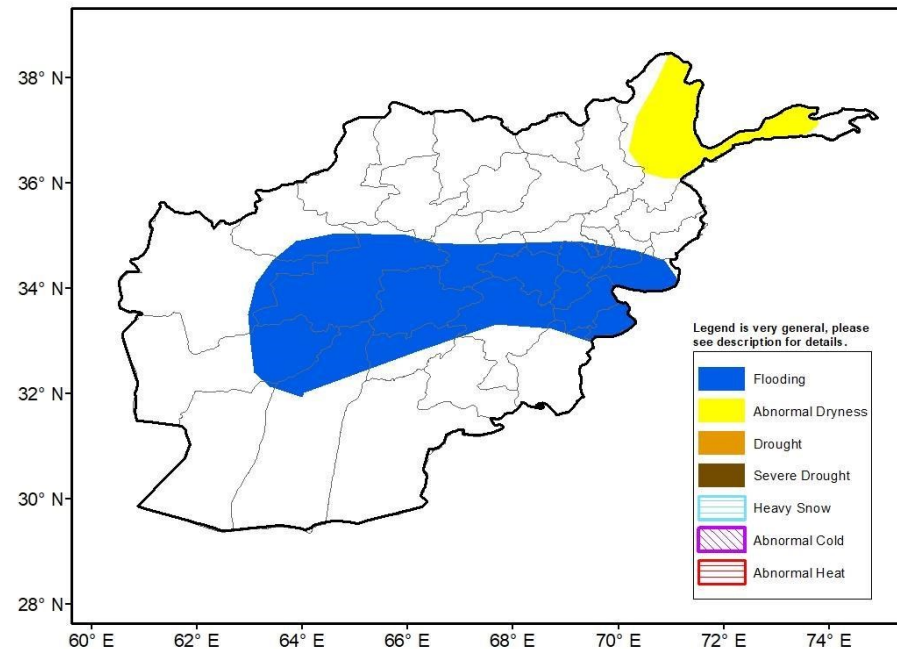
Temperatures:

During the last week, minimum temperatures have been near or slightly above average, while maximum temperatures have been mixed. Maximum temperatures reached the upper 20s (degrees C) in the country's lowest elevations. Additionally, weekly maximum temperatures were above freezing in most highland areas. During the next week, the GFS model indicates that an upper-level ridge will result in above-normal temperatures throughout the region. Temperatures are forecast average as much as 6-10°C above average. A cool down is possible by the very end of the outlook period.

Precipitation:

During the past week, moderate rain and high-elevation snow occurred across much of Afghanistan, especially in the east with local amounts exceeding 25mm (liquid equivalent). Snow water volume anomalies continue to indicate large negative anomalies across parts of northeast Afghanistan. Therefore, an abnormal dryness hazard is maintained for these areas.

A strong low-pressure system is forecast to track east into Afghanistan and result in heavy rainfall (locally more than 50 mm) across central parts of the country. This heavy rainfall coupled with snow melt increases the chances of flooding across central and eastern parts of the country.



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

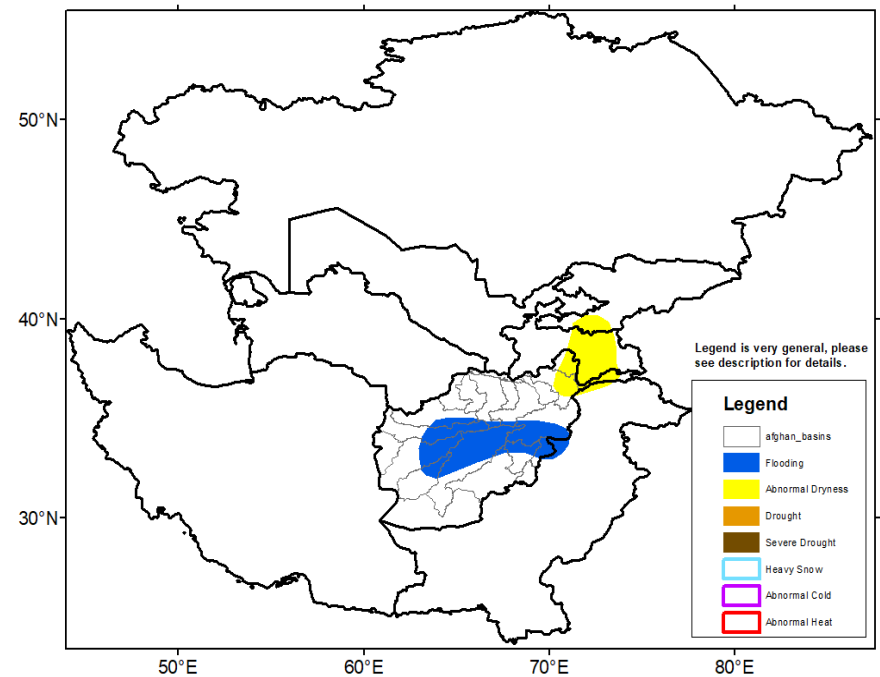
Temperatures:

Above normal temperatures persisted during the second week of March across Kazakhstan, while near to slightly normal temperatures prevailed farther to the south in Afghanistan. Maximum temperatures reached 25 degrees C as far north as Turkmenistan and the lower elevations of northwest Afghanistan. The GFS model indicates that above normal temperatures are likely throughout the region during late March.

Precipitation

Heavy rain (25 to 100 mm) fell across extreme eastern Afghanistan and much of Pakistan from March 10 to 12. As a low-pressure system tracked east, drier weather overspread Afghanistan and Pakistan. Dry weather prevailed across the remainder of the region from March 8 to 14. Snow water equivalent anomalies continue to indicate large negative anomalies across parts of northeast Afghanistan and eastern Tajikistan. Therefore, an abnormal dryness hazard is maintained for these areas.

A strong low-pressure system is forecast to track east into Afghanistan and result in heavy rainfall (locally more than 50 mm) across central parts of the country. This heavy rainfall coupled with snow melt increases the chances of flooding across parts of Afghanistan.



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.