

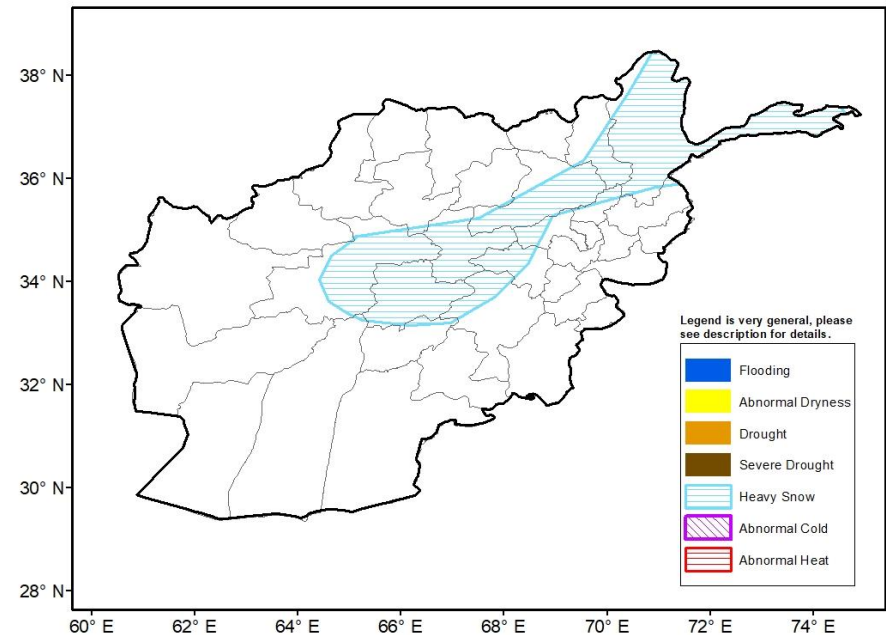
**Climate Prediction Center's Afghanistan Hazards Outlook
For USAID / FEWS-NET
December 3 - 9, 2020**

Temperatures:

During the past week, maximum temperatures averaged near or slightly cooler than normal across Afghanistan. However, with a cold air mass still in place early in the period, the week's minimum temperatures were well-below normal in the north and west. The northern two thirds of the country observed subfreezing temperatures as low as 10-15°C below zero. During the outlook period, above-average temperatures currently present in the region will give way to near-average conditions, and eventually colder than average temperatures are possible by the end. Minimum temperatures should remain above freezing throughout most of the lower elevations of Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

The pattern across Afghanistan was quiet during the past 7 days with little precipitation being observed. After beneficial early-season snow during November, positive snow depth anomalies currently exist across most of the northeast mountains and central highlands of Afghanistan based on USGS snowfall analysis. During early December, A couple of low-pressure systems are forecast to emerge from the Middle East and light to moderate precipitation is expected all across the country. The GFS model forecasts 5-25mm liquid equivalent with locally higher totals during the outlook period. Snowfall is expected in all the usual mountain regions, where a Heavy Snow hazard is posted.



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook December 3 - 9, 2020

Temperatures:

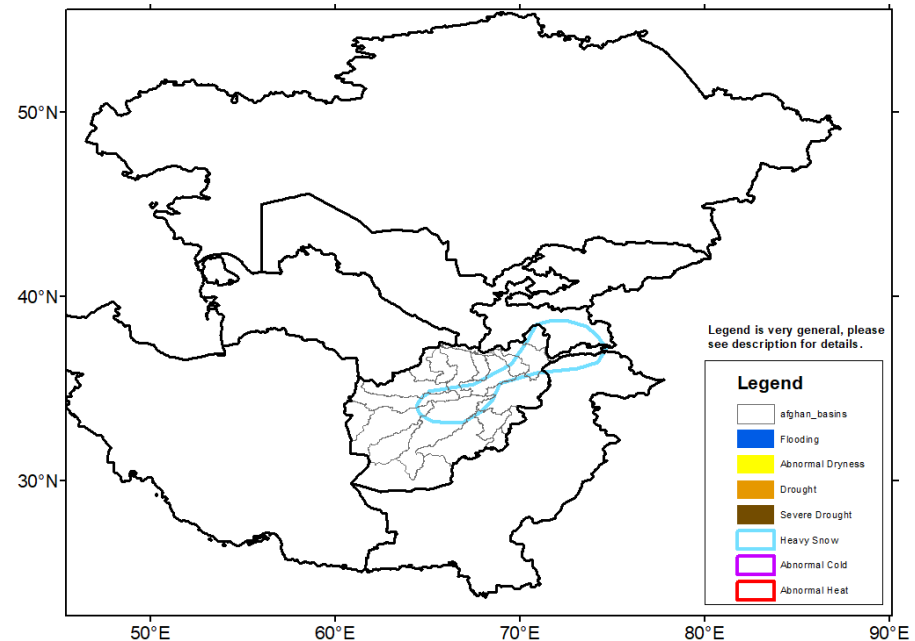
Near to below normal temperatures prevailed across Central Asia during the final week of November. Subfreezing temperatures occurred across northern and central Afghanistan with the coldest temperatures (below -20 degrees C) observed throughout northeast Kazakhstan.

The GFS model depicts that minimum temperatures are likely to remain below normal across Kazakhstan, while temperatures moderate from Turkmenistan south to Afghanistan. Minimum temperatures are forecast to remain below -20 degrees C across northeast Kazakhstan through early December. Due to the predicted moderating trend, minimum temperatures should remain above freezing throughout the lower elevations of Afghanistan.

Precipitation:

According to the RFE satellite estimates, widespread precipitation (10 to 50 mm, liquid equivalent) occurred across eastern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Little to no precipitation fell throughout Afghanistan. Based on USGS snowfall analysis, positive snow depth anomalies currently exist across most of the northeast mountains and central highlands of Afghanistan.

A couple of low-pressure systems are forecast to emerge from the Middle East and bring periods of snow, potentially heavy at times, to central and northeast Afghanistan along with Tajikistan. The GFS model indicates that total snowfall amounts could exceed 60 cm during the first ten days 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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