

Below-average precipitation and above-normal temperatures are forecast until the end of January 2026

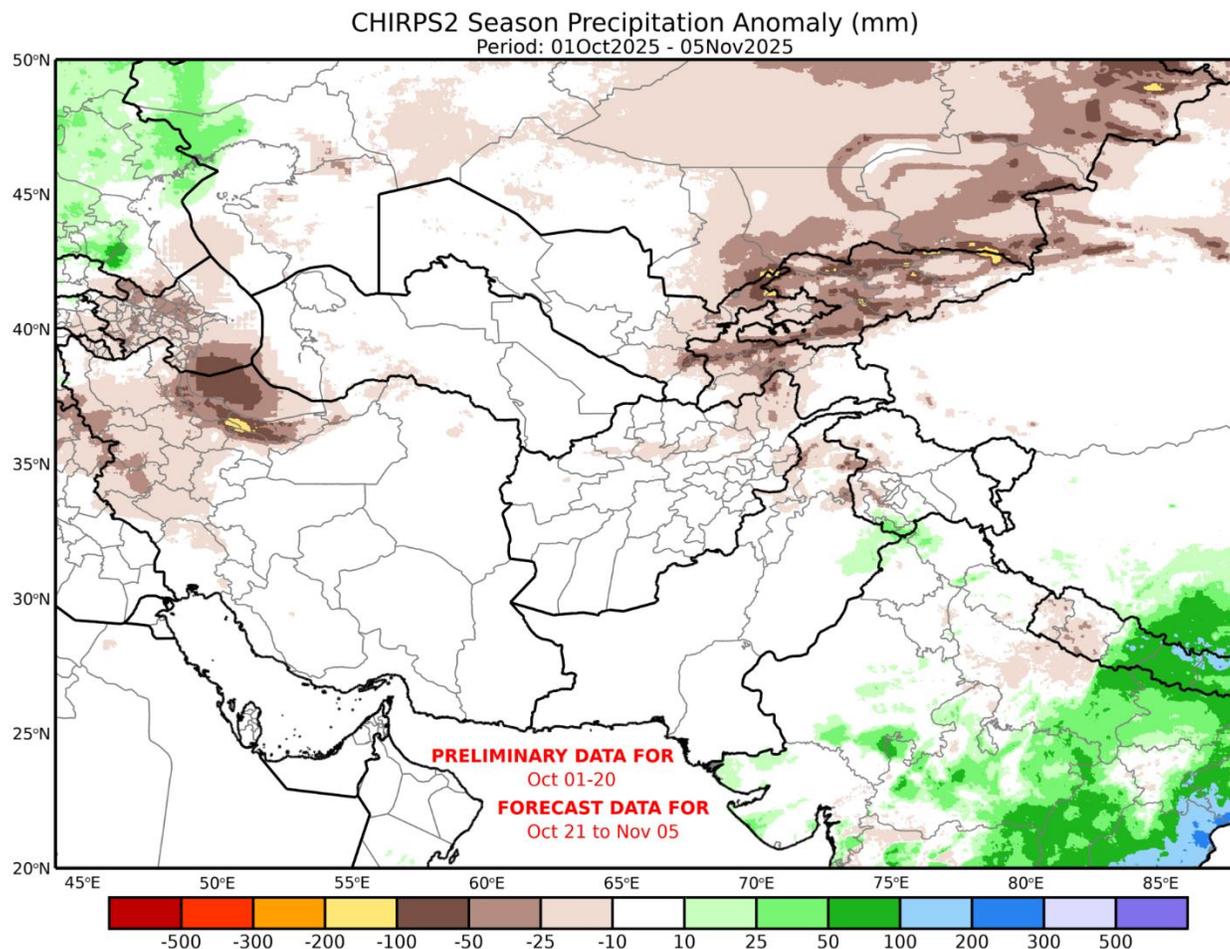
Key Messages

- **CHIRPS-GEFS** short-term forecast predicts average precipitation (+/- 10 mm) conditions in most parts of the country except in parts of northern, northeastern, and eastern provinces where deficit precipitation (10 to 25 mm below average) conditions may be present till November 5, 2025. Deficit precipitation conditions of the order of 25 to 50 mm below average may also be present over some isolated locations in Badakhshan by November 5, 2025.
- The ENSO diagnostic discussion predicts weak **La Niña** conditions during December 2025-February 2026. However, there is also a 55% chance of a transition to ENSO-neutral conditions during January-March 2026, with a 60% to 70% likelihood of the same to persist till May-July 2026.
- Below average precipitation conditions are expected during November 2025-January 2026 across the country. However, the Copernicus Climate Change Services (**C3S**) monthly precipitation forecast for January 2026 highlights an absence of tilt towards either above- or below- average precipitation, thus indicating average precipitation conditions during that period.
- Country-wide above average temperature conditions are expected during November 2025-January 2026.
- The forecasts for below average precipitation and above average temperatures till end of January 2026 may lead to poor start of snowpack and snow depth development resulting in less-than-average snow water volumes (SWV) in many basins in the country during the latter part of the 2025-26 season.
- As per field informants, record minimum SWV levels have been observed in the northeastern, southern, and western basins as of the reporting date. In view of the below average precipitation and limited surface water availability, it is expected that the farmers may increasingly rely on groundwater extractions for winter wheat planting in the coming months.
- For those lacking the ability to irrigate, the success of this winter wheat planting activity is highly dependent on regional storms that often provide the necessary moisture for germination and early growth. Reports indicate that land preparation activities are occurring at a slower pace because of the drier-than-normal conditions prevailing in the country. While predicted below average rainfall may slow down planting this season, it is highly likely that increased spring wheat sowing by the end of March 2026 will compensate for shortfalls in winter wheat planting.
- As of the reporting date, soil moisture conditions are worse compared to those during last season in most pastoral zones in the country. In this regard, the forecasts for below average precipitation and above average temperature conditions may lead to below average rangeland vegetation health, notably within the lowlands during November 2025-January 2026.



Images used

Figure 1. CHIRPS season precipitation anomaly (mm)



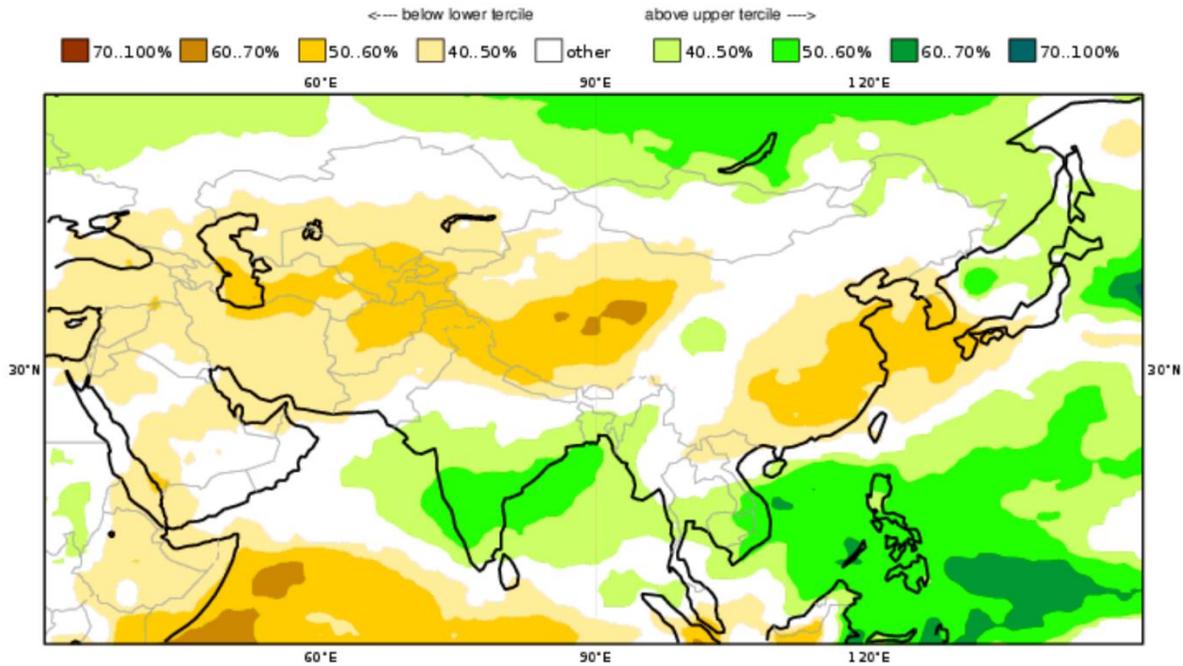
October 1 – November 5, 2025

Source: UCSB CHC

Light green to violet colors indicate cumulative October precipitation above normal (mm) while light brown to red colors indicate cumulative precipitation below normal (mm)

Figure 2. Climate Change Service (C3S) multi-system seasonal precipitation forecast probabilities for November 2025 through January 2026 as of October 1, 2025

C3S multi-system seasonal forecast ECMWF/Met Office/Météo-France/CMCC/DWD/NCEP/JMA/ECCC/BOM
Prob(most likely category of precipitation) NDJ 2025/26
Nominal forecast start: 01/10/25
Unweighted mean



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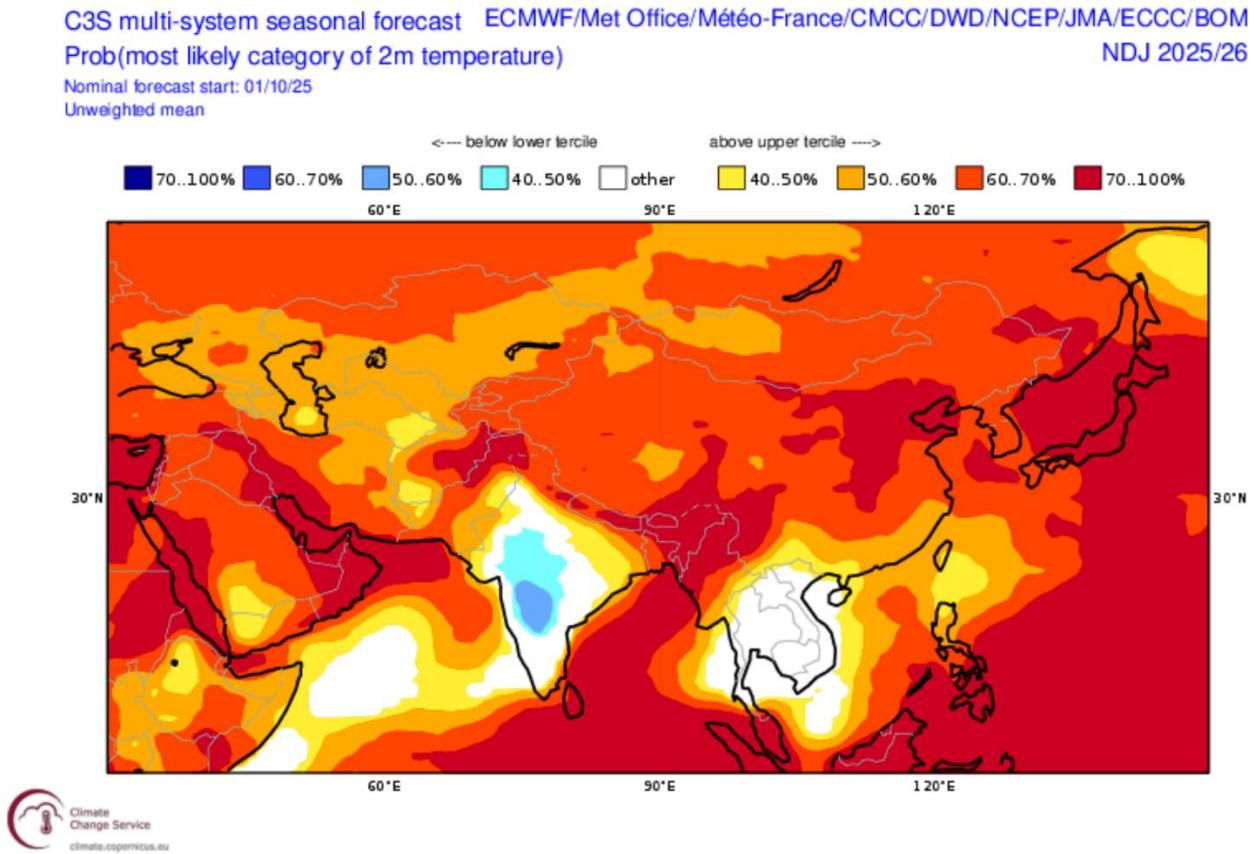


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Source: Copernicus Climate Change Service

Figure 3. Climate Change Service (C3S) multi-system seasonal temperature forecast probabilities (2 m temperature) for November 2025 through January 2026 as of October 1, 2025.



Source: Copernicus Climate Change Service

Light yellow to red indicates the likelihood of warmer than average temperatures in the upper tercile, while cyan to dark blue indicates the likelihood of cooler than average temperatures in the lower tercile

About Seasonal Monitor

FEWS NET's Seasonal Monitor reports are produced for Central America and the Caribbean, West Africa, East Africa, Central Asia, and Somalia every 10-to-30 days during the region's respective rainy season(s). Seasonal Monitors report updates on weather events (e.g., rainfall patterns) and associated impacts on ground conditions (e.g., cropping conditions, pasture, and water availability), as well as the short-term rainfall forecast. Find more remote sensing information [here](#).