

# CHASHMA-SAR

Afghanistan Multi-Hazard Climate & Water Intelligence Bulletin  
April 2026 | Issue #1 | Data: March 2026 | ECMWF Forecast: Apr 2-18, 2026



## Key Numbers — April 2, 2026

<b>51</b> Deaths since 26 March ANDMA official	<b>2,700+</b> Families affected 25 provinces	<b>568</b> Homes destroyed or damaged 93km roads gone	<b>34/34</b> Provinces with groundwater deficit NASA GRACE
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**TODAY:** Active rain and thunderstorms confirmed Kandahar, Helmand, Herat, Farah, Badghis, Baghlan, and northern provinces (Windy.com + AMD, Apr 2). ECMWF forecast alignment verified. EXTREME river gauge active in Kandahar - estimated 40-year record. Salang Pass closed: 9 northern provinces cut from Kabul, power off in 12 provinces.

## Multi-Hazard Status — All 34 Provinces

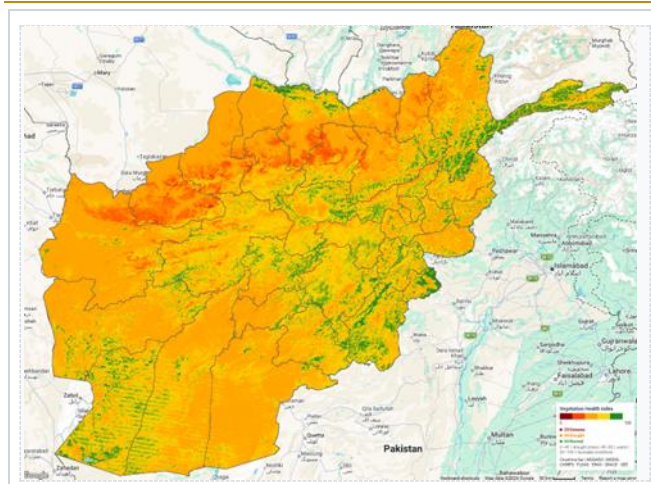
D=Drought (VHI March 2026) | F=Flood (ECMWF 15-day mm, Apr 2-18) | GW=Groundwater (GRACE cm anomaly)

Province	VHI	Drought	ECMWF (mm)	Flood	GRACE (cm)	GW	OVERALL
Badakhshan	69	NORM	53	WATC	-43.5	CRIS	WATCH
Badghis	45	ALER	61	WATC	-14.1	ALER	ALERT
Baghlan	60	WATC	94	ALER	-23.8	ALER	ALERT
Balkh	59	WATC	43	WATC	-18.8	ALER	WATCH
Bamyan	71	NORM	62	WATC	-17.9	ALER	WATCH
Daykundi	70	NORM	79	ALER	-13.7	ALER	ALERT
Farah	59	WATC	31	WATC	-20.4	ALER	WATCH
Faryab	48	ALER	71	ALER	-12.6	ALER	ALERT
Ghazni	65	WATC	116	ALER	-12.5	ALER	ALERT
Ghor	65	WATC	46	WATC	-16.3	ALER	WATCH
Helmand	61	WATC	22	NORM	-12.8	ALER	WATCH
Herat	52	ALER	44	WATC	-16.3	ALER	ALERT
Jowzjan	54	ALER	55	WATC	-12.1	ALER	ALERT
Kabul	66	WATC	130	ALER	-15.6	ALER	ALERT
Kandahar	56	ALER	44	WATC	-9.2	WATC	ALERT
Kapisa	67	WATC	148	ALER	-20.0	ALER	ALERT
Khost	76	NORM	192	CRIS	-5.1	WATC	CRISIS
Kunar	64	WATC	202	CRIS	-33.4	CRIS	CRISIS
Kunduz	54	ALER	37	WATC	-23.9	ALER	ALERT
Laghman	63	WATC	160	CRIS	-22.0	ALER	CRISIS
Logar	72	NORM	108	ALER	-10.9	ALER	ALERT
Maidan Wardak	70	NORM	104	ALER	-15.8	ALER	ALERT
Nangarhar	61	WATC	166	CRIS	-16.8	ALER	CRISIS
Nimroz	73	NORM	9	NORM	-16.6	ALER	NORMAL
Nuristan	64	WATC	197	CRIS	-37.4	CRIS	CRISIS
Paktika	76	NORM	126	ALER	-7.3	WATC	ALERT
Paktya	73	NORM	167	CRIS	-7.4	WATC	CRISIS
Panjshir	67	WATC	128	ALER	-26.4	ALER	ALERT

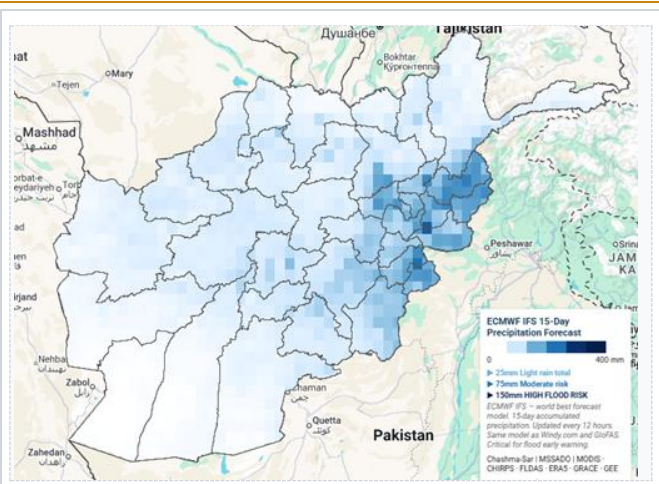
Province	VHI	Drought	ECMWF (mm)	Flood	GRACE (cm)	GW	OVERALL
Parwan	69	NORM	134	ALER	-19.4	ALER	ALERT
Samangan	53	ALER	65	WATC	-23.0	ALER	ALERT
Sar-e-Pul	56	ALER	62	WATC	-13.5	ALER	ALERT
Takhar	58	WATC	73	WATC	-29.8	ALER	WATCH
Uruzgan	59	WATC	80	ALER	-13.8	ALER	ALERT
Zabul	66	WATC	91	ALER	-11.4	ALER	ALERT

LEGEND | Drought VHI: NORM>65 | WATC 55-65 | ALRT 40-55 | CRIT<40 | Flood ECMWF mm: NORM<25 | WATC 25-75 | ALRT 75-150 | CRIT>150 | GW GRACE cm: WATC>-10 | ALRT -10 to -30 | CRIT<-30

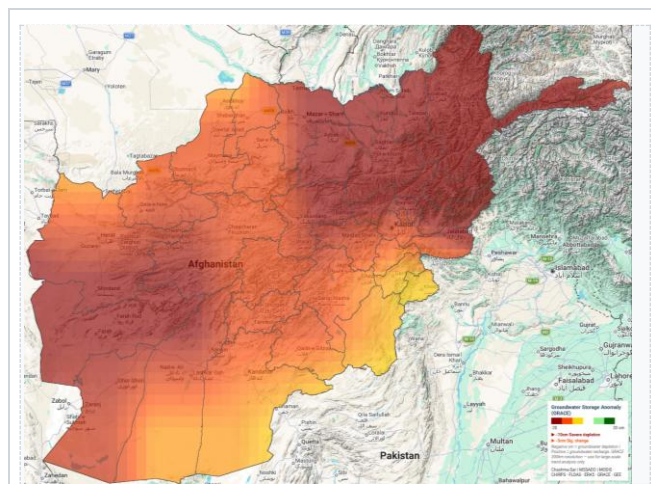
### Satellite Maps — March 2026 / April 2-18 Forecast



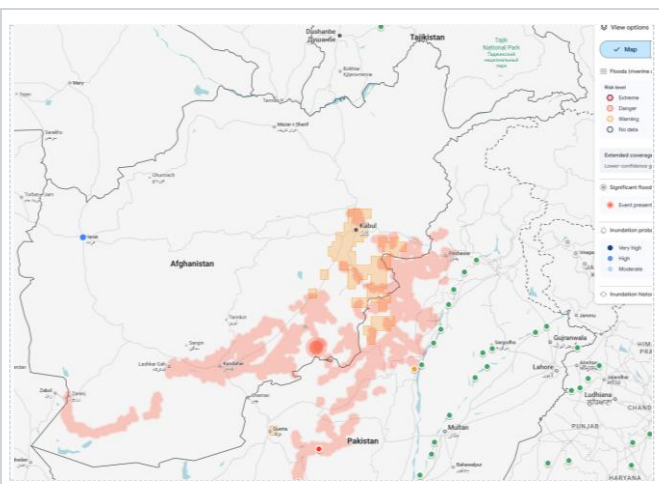
**Vegetation Health Index (VHI)**  
 8 provinces in ALERT (VHI 40-55). Badghis 45.3, Faryab 48.5, Herat 52.4 are the worst. No province in CRISIS. May wheat harvest is at risk in the west. VHI selected as primary drought indicator for March 2026 due to its integration of vegetation health and thermal stress. SPI-3 available in platform for meteorological comparison.  
 MODIS MOD13A3 | March 2026



**ECMWF IFS 15-Day Precipitation Forecast**  
 6 provinces CRISIS (above 150mm): Kunar 202, Nuristan 197, Khost 192, Paktya 167, Nangarhar 166, Laghman 160mm. TODAY verified on Windy.com.  
 ECMWF IFS NRT | Same model as GloFAS | Consistent with Windy.com ECMWF layer | Days 1-7 most reliable



**Groundwater Storage Anomaly (GRACE)**  
 34/34 Provinces with long-term groundwater deficit — NASA GRACE (Sept 2024, latest release)  
 NASA GRACE CRI RL06 V1.2 | ~6-month lag | Regional trend only



**Google Flood Hub — Active Alerts (April 2)**  
 EXTREME gauge classification active in Kandahar (Google Flood Hub AI — return period threshold exceeded) — drop "40-year record. Danger and Warning gauges across Helmand-Kandahar-Zabul corridor. Pink urban flash flood zones across south-central Afghanistan.  
 Google Flood Hub AI | flood.google.com | April 2, 2026

## Field Situation — Verified by Province

Sources: ANDMA (Afghanistan Natural Disaster Management Authority) | AP | Al Jazeera | KabulNow | Amu TV | Dawn | Afghanistan International | Field observation

Province	Status	Verified Field Situation (April 2, 2026)
Kandahar	CRIT	EXTREME gauge (40-yr record). 16 homes destroyed, 87 damaged, 180 families (ANDMA). 6 children killed by roof collapse (AP).
Helmand	CRIT	Sangin: 3 killed roof collapse incl. 2 children. Hundreds of homes were destroyed in the Kandahar-Helmand corridor (Rahmani).
Kunar	CRIT	202mm forecast. Extreme flash flood and landslide risk. Remote access limited.
Nuristan	CRIT	197mm forecast. 3 children killed in a landslide in Quraish village (29 Mar, Dawn).
Khost	CRIT	192mm forecast. Urban flooding. Khost-Paktia Road closed.
Nangarhar	CRIT	166mm forecast. Jalalabad city at risk.
Laghman	CRIT	160mm forecast. Compound drought and flood zone.
Herat	ALRT	Active rain and thunder today (Windy.com). 1 fatality Koh Zur/Shindand (Rahmani, unverified wire). Herat-Kandahar highway closed - truck overturned in floodwater (Al Jazeera video).
Balkh	ALRT	Amu Darya bank erosion active (Rahmani). ANDMA confirms Balkh in affected provinces. Highway closures confirmed (Amu TV).
Samangan	ALRT	3 killed (1 woman, 2 children) Feroz Nakhchir floods 31 Mar (KabulNow).
Logar	ALRT	Home destruction confirmed. In the ANDMA 25-province list.
Ghazni	ALRT	80cm snow 24h. Markets closed, roads blocked (Dawn).
Badghis	ALRT	Active floods AND drought simultaneously (VHI=45, ALERT).

## Road Closures — April 2, 2026

Route	Status	Impact
Salang Pass	CLOSED	Cuts 9 northern provinces from Kabul. 4m snow. Power off in 12 provinces.
Herat-Kandahar International	CLOSED	Flash floods near Dasht-e-Bakwa. Vehicles trapped (Al Jazeera confirmed).
Herat-Islam Qala + Herat-Torghundi	CLOSED	Heavy rain/snow. Hundreds of vehicles stranded.
Khost-Paktia routes	CLOSED	Flood damage to road surface.
Ghazni district roads	CLOSED	80cm of snow. Districts isolated.
Balkh-Sar-e-Pul (Balkhab)	DISRUPTED	Amu Darya flooding. MoPW teams deployed.

## Recommendations — By Sector

Sector	Priority Provinces	Recommended Action
<b>FLOOD EMERGENCY</b>	Kunar, Nuristan, Khost, Nangarhar, Laghman, Kandahar, Helmand	Pre-position supplies now. Days 1-7 ECMWF most reliable. Coordinate with ANDMA (2,700+ families affected).
<b>DROUGHT / FOOD</b>	Badghis, Faryab, Herat, Samangan, Kunduz	Activate EFSA. VHI Alert 3+ months = high crop failure probability. May harvest be at risk.
<b>WASH</b>	Badakhshan, Nuristan, Kunar, Balkh	multiple wells damaged nationally. Test water quality in flood zones. Assess hand pump status in GW depletion zones.
<b>ROADS / ACCESS</b>	Salang, Herat-Kandahar, Herat-Islam Qala	9+ northern provinces cut from Kabul supply. Pre-position east of Salang. Power cut to 12 provinces.


**30-Day Outlook:** ECMWF and Windy.com both confirm continued rain and thunderstorms through April 4 across western, eastern, central, and northern provinces. Snowmelt will sustain elevated river discharge through May. Western drought (Badghis, Faryab) will not recover before the May harvest. Afghanistan remains in a compound multi-hazard emergency through at least mid-May.

### Data Sources

VHI: MODIS MOD13A3 + MOD11A2 | March 2026 Forecast: ECMWF/NRT\_FORECAST/IFS/OPER | Apr 2-18, 2026 GW: NASA GRACE CRI RL06 V1.2 (~Sept 2025) Floods: Google Flood Hub | ANDMA | AP | Al Jazeera | Windy.com | CHASHMA-SAR TEAM(AFGHANISTAN)

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Field	Value	Quick Access to Platform
Platform	Chashma-Sar Multi-Hazard Climate & Water Intelligence	 <p>Scan to launch</p> <p>Chashma-Sar Afghanistan Multi-Hazard Climate &amp; Water Platform</p> <p>chashma-490208.projects.earthengine.app Scan to launch platform</p> <p>No login · Free</p>
Version	v1.0 (March 2026)	
Scale	National · 34 Provinces · 400+ Districts	
Indices	48 indices · 7 categories	
Access	Free · Browser-based · No login required	
Platform URL	<a href="https://chashma-490208.projects.earthengine.app/view/chashma-sar">https://chashma-490208.projects.earthengine.app/view/chashma-sar</a>	
Website	<a href="http://chashma-sar.com/platform">chashma-sar.com/platform</a>	
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Next bulletin: April 16, 2026 | Emergency brief within 24h if situation escalates | Platform: [chashma-sar.com/platform](http://chashma-sar.com/platform)