**CSA: Water Stress**

This is CSA map 2 entitled “Central and Southern Asia: Water Stress.” The data for this map is from 2020. The scale of this map is 1 to 25,000,000. The scale bar represents 500 kilometers and can be found above the top left corner of the map frame.

This map shows the level of water stress in the Central and Southern Asia region. The region is outlined by a solid line and the areas with different levels of water stress are distinguished by a distinct color and texture fill. The corresponding colors and textures representing each level of stress in this map can be found in the accompanying legend, CSA Legend 2.

The levels of water stress (none, low, medium, high, and critical) are determined by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The spacing between the lines of the textures used in this map serves to distinguish varying levels of water stress. Dashed and widely spaced lines indicate areas with lower water stress, while closely spaced lines signify areas with higher water stress. Areas that are outlined but not filled with a texture represent no stress.

Overall, the Central and Southern Asia region experiences a high level of water stress. The northernmost region of this map, which covers Kazakhstan, experiences a low water stress level. Across the central swath of the region, spanning from India to Afghanistan, and covering Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, water stress reaches a medium level. In the easternmost part of the region, which encompasses Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh, there is no water stress. The western part of the region has the highest level of water stress, including areas with both high and critical levels of water stress. This critical zone encompasses countries such as Pakistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, indicating an urgent need for water resource management and conservation efforts in these areas.