Met Office

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Asia: Monthly Climate Outlook
October to July

Issued: January 2025

Overview

Asia Current Status and Outlook – Temperature

Asia Current Status and Outlook – Rainfall

Global Outlook – Temperature

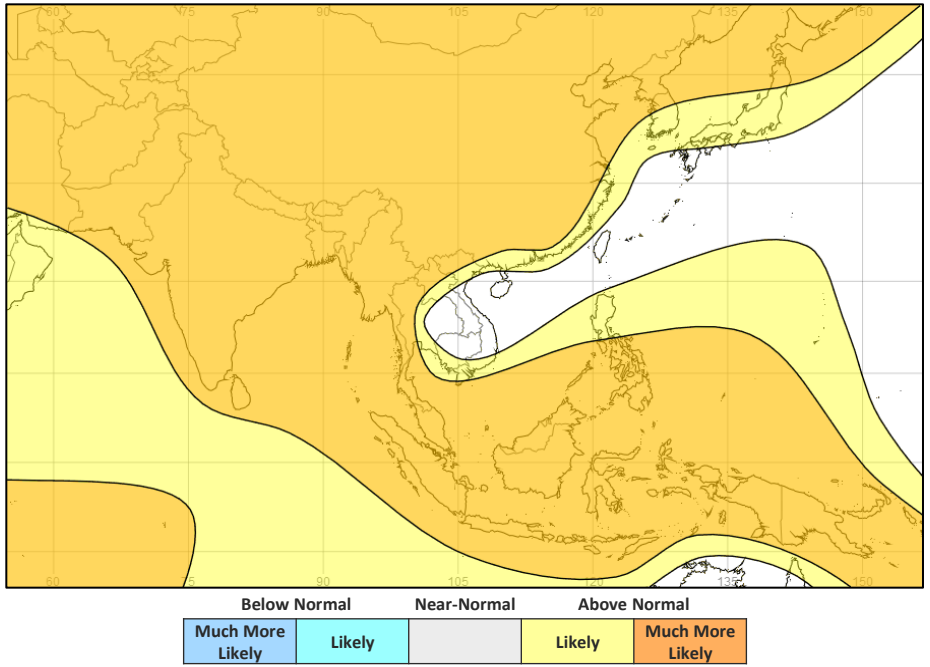
Global Outlook – Rainfall

Asia Current Status and Outlook - Temperature

Current Status: Warm or hot conditions dominated in October and November, although parts of India, Pakistan, China and mainland Southeast Asia have been near normal or cool at times. December was more mixed with many places near normal.

Outlook: Warmer than normal conditions are very likely across much of the continent over the next three months. The exception is across parts of the Southeast Asia Peninsular where predictions for temperature are more uncertain.

3-Month Outlook February to April - Temperature



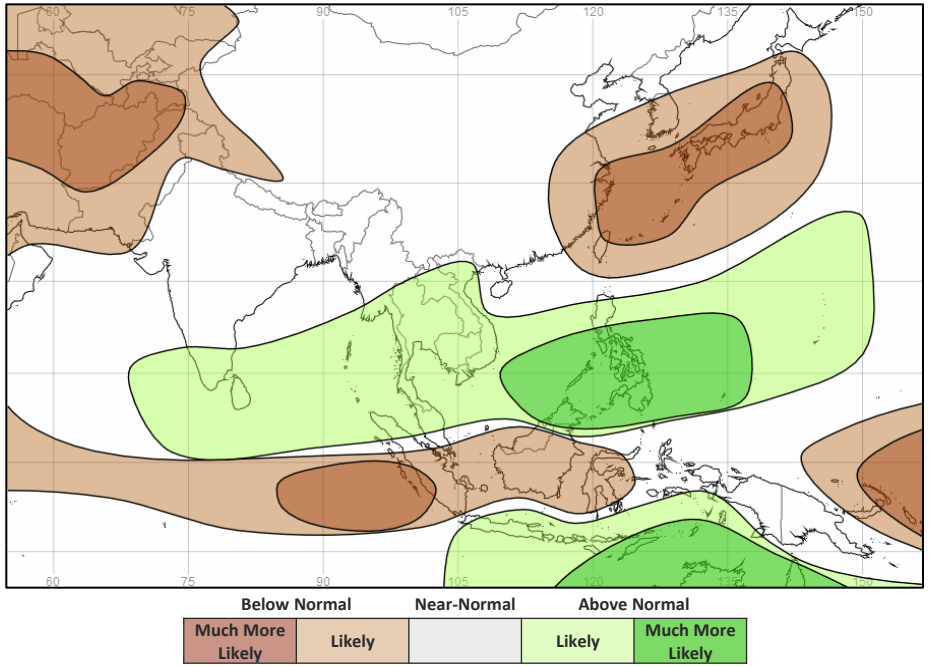
Asia Current Status and Outlook - Rainfall

Current Status: Many parts of Southern Asia were wet or very wet at times during September. Mixed conditions have been observed over Southeast Asia. Normal conditions were observed over much of Central Asia, though Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan were wet or very wet during October and November.

Outlook: Wetter than normal conditions are likely across Vietnam and much of the Southeast Asia Peninsular. For Indonesia, conditions are likely to be split with much of Sumatra, Borneo and Sulawesi being dry whilst wetter than normal conditions likely over southern Indonesia and Timor-Leste. Wetter conditions are also much more likely for the Philippines, Sri Lanka and southern parts of India. Rainfall, especially in Sri Lanka, is typically high at this time of year, so this increase in the chance of wetter conditions, could be impactful.
Afghanistan is more likely to be drier than normal. China is more finely balanced although in the far west, as well as the far east it is likely to be drier than normal.

Tropical cyclones – The tropical cyclone season has now past its peak in the North Indian Ocean. Tropical cyclones can form throughout the year in Northwest Pacific basin though activity tends to peak between May and October. Near average activity is forecast over the coming period. however prevailing tracks may be displaced further west than normal, with a greater risk of cyclones affecting the Phillipines and regions surrounding the South China Sea.

3-Month Outlook February to April - Rainfall

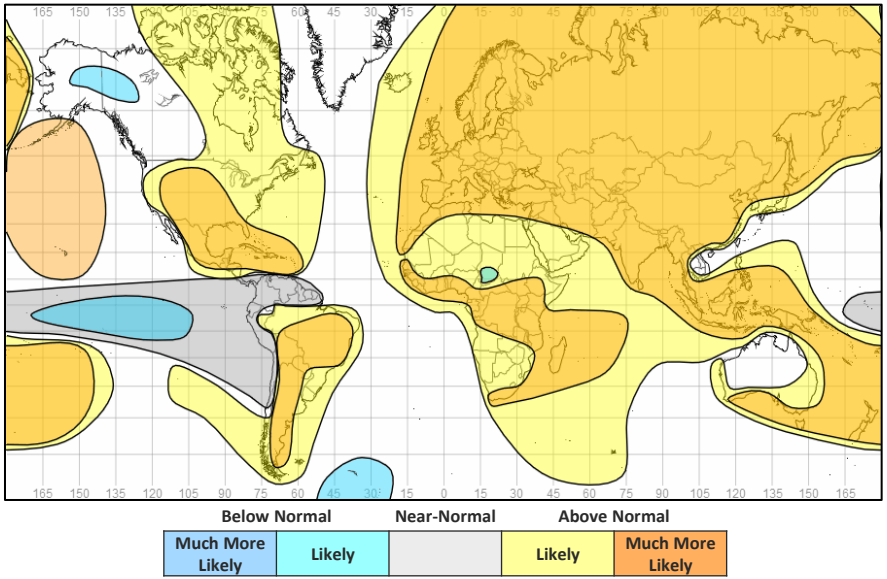


Global Outlook - Temperature

Outlook: La Niña-like conditions have now developed and are likely to persist over the next two or three months, transitioning back to ENSO-Neutral in the northern hemisphere spring. More details in the precipitation section.

Many parts of the globe are likely to see warmer than normal conditions through the next three months. However, consistent with known La Niña connections, parts of Alaska, western Canada, and the south Pacific are more likely to be colder than normal.

3-Month Outlook February to April - Temperature



Global Outlook - Rainfall

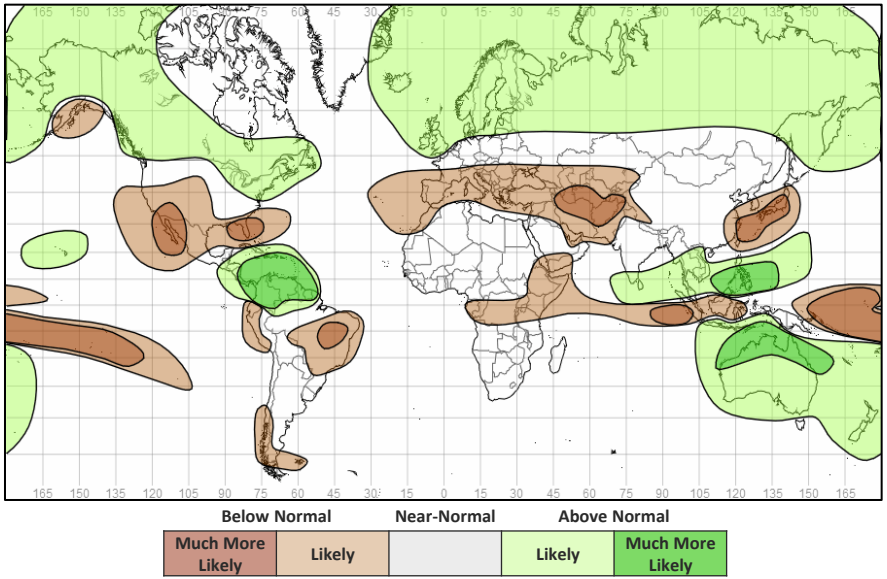
Outlook:

El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) – La Niña has been declared by some climate monitoring services whilst conditions do not quite meet the criteria for others. Nevertheless, La Niña-like conditions now exist and will affect the global climate over the next three months, with then a return to ENSO-neutral in the northern hemisphere spring. Equatorial sea surface temperatures across the central and eastern Pacific are slightly below average. Atmospheric indicators, such as the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI), trade wind strength and dateline cloudiness, are now indicating that some ocean-atmosphere coupling may now be underway. La Niña typically improves the predictability of global weather patterns on seasonal timescales, particularly in the tropics, though its influence may not be as strong as some La Niña events over recent years.

With a couple of notable exceptions (e.g., East Africa) La Niña, very broadly speaking, tends to increase the likelihood of wetter than normal conditions across many land areas of the tropics. More information on typical impacts can be found here https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/climate/seasonal-to-decadal/gpc-outlooks/el-nino-la-nina/enso-impacts

Indian Ocean Diploe (IOD) – Negative-like IOD conditions were observed through much of October and November. However, this event was never officially declared by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), falling short by just one week of the necessary 7 consecutive weeks of an IOD index below -0.4°C. The IOD is now at neutral levels and is expected to remain so throughout this period, offering little predictive value.

3-Month Outlook February to April - Rainfall



Current Status

Current Status maps

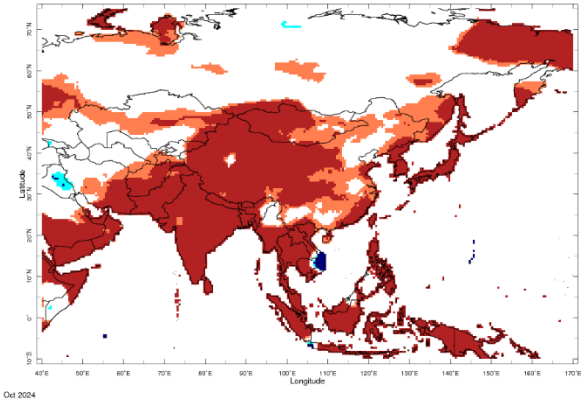
Central Asia

Southern Asia

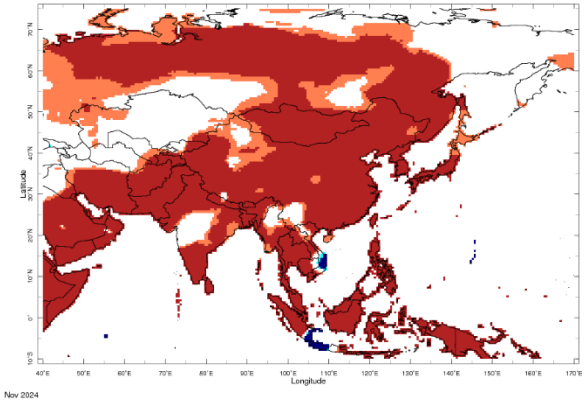
Southeast Asian Peninsula

Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

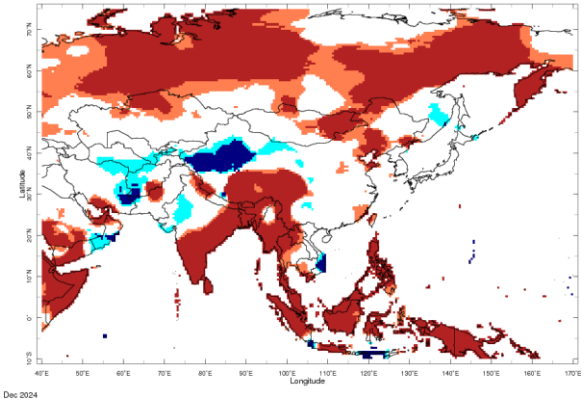
Current Status – Temperature percentiles



October



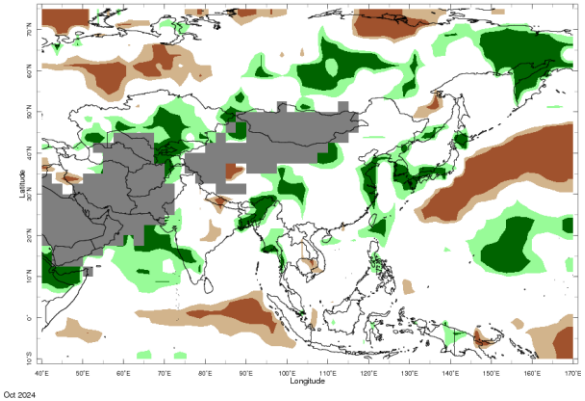
November



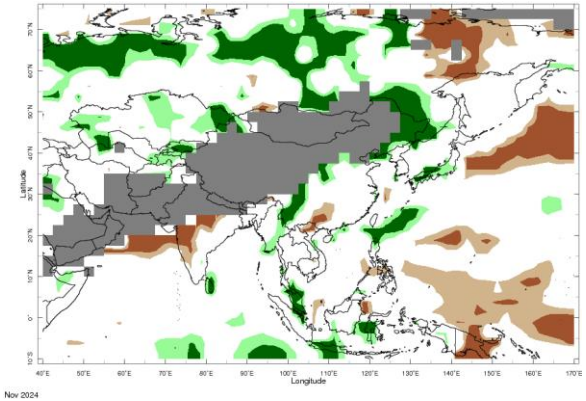
December

Notes: The percentiles shown in the map indicate a ranking of temperature, with the 0th percentile being the coolest and the 100th percentile being the warmest in the 1981-2010 climatology. Orange and red shading represent values above the 80th (Warm) and 90th (Hot) percentile, respectively; regions shaded in light and dark blue indicate values below the 20th (Cool) and 10th (Cold) percentile, with respect to the 1981-2010 climatology. The data used in this map are from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

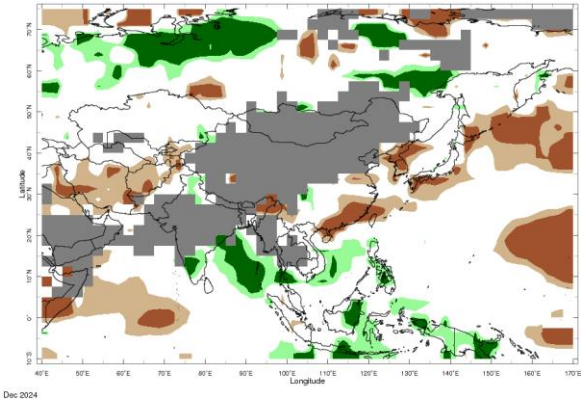
Current Status – Precipitation percentiles



October



November



December

Notes: The percentiles shown in the map indicate a ranking of rainfall, with the 0th percentile being the driest and the 100th percentile being the wettest in the 1981-2010 climatology. Green and dark green shading represent values above the 80th (Wet) and 90th (Very Wet) percentile, respectively; regions shaded in light and dark brown indicate rainfall below the 20th (Dry) and 10th (Very Dry) percentile, with respect to the 1981-2010 climatology. Grey areas on the map mask out regions that receive less than 10 mm/month of rainfall on normal in the 1981-2010 climatology for the month. The data used in this map are from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center.

Current Status – Central Asia

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	October	November	December	October	November	December
Afghanistan	Hot	Hot	Mixed (3)	Normal* (1)	Normal	Dry
Tajikistan	Warm	Hot	Normal	Very Wet	Wet	Dry
Kyrgyzstan	Normal	Normal	Normal	Mixed (2)	Very Wet	Dry

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Very wet in parts of the far east.
(2) Note: Very wet in the west, normal in the east
(3) Note: Mainly normal, but cool or cold in the west and hot in parts of the south

Current Status – Southern Asia

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	October	November	December	October	November	December
Pakistan	Hot	Hot	Normal (4)	Normal* (1)	Normal*	Normal*
India	Hot	Hot	Mixed (5)	Mixed (2)	Normal (3)	Normal* (7)
Nepal	Hot	Hot	Mixed (6)	Dry	Normal*	Normal*
Bangladesh	Hot	Hot	Hot	Very Wet	Normal	Normal*
Sri Lanka	Hot	Hot	Hot	Normal	Very Wet	Normal

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Wet in the northeast
(2) Note: Very wet in parts of the northeast and west, otherwise normal.
(3) Note: Very dry in the northwest
(4) Note: Normal, but hot in parts of the northwest
(5) Note: Hot in the south and east, normal or cool in the northwest
(6) Note: Normal in the west, hot in the east
(7) Note: Normal* but very wet in parts of the south and east

Current Status – Southeast Asian Peninsula

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	October	November	December	October	November	December
China	Hot (4)	Hot	Mixed (8)	Mixed (5)	Mixed (3)	Mixed (6)
Myanmar	Hot	Hot	Hot	Mixed (2)	Normal	Mixed (7)
Vietnam	Cool	Mixed (1)	Mixed (1)	Normal	Normal	Normal

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Cold in the south, normal or hot elsewhere
(2) Note: Very wet in the south and far north, normal elsewhere
(3) Note: Normal in central and eastern areas, otherwise wet or very wet
(4) Note: Normal in parts of the east
(5) Note: Wet or very wet in some central and eastern parts, otherwise normal
(6) Note: Normal, but very dry in the southeast
(7) Note: Normal*, but very dry in parts of the north
(8) Note: Normal, but hot in the south and cold in parts of the west.

Current Status – Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	October	November	December	October	November	December
Indonesia	Hot	Hot (3)	Mixed (4)	Normal	Normal (1)	Mixed (5)
Papua New Guinea	Hot	Hot	Hot	Normal (2)	Very Dry	Wet (6)
Timor-Leste	Hot	Hot	Cool	Normal	Normal	Wet

Notes:

The table gives an assessment of whether temperature and rainfall across each country have been above normal, normal or below normal over the past three months, using data from the NOAA Climate Prediction Center and the IRI Map Room: http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/.

* Region usually experiences less than 10mm/month rainfall during the month (dry season).

Additional Information:

(1) Note: Wet over much of Java
(2) Note: Dry in the far east
(3) Note: Cold in western Java.
(4) Note: Mainly hot, but cold in western Java / southern Sumatra and the Lesser Sunda Islands
(5) Note: Mainly normal but wet or very wet for many southern and eastern parts
(6) Note: Very wet in the east

Outlooks

Outlooks: Notes for use

Outlooks for months 4 to 6:

As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range.

Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Climatological odds:

A forecast is only provided in the outlooks where there is information in the model data about likely outcomes. Therefore, where the likelihoods for above-, near- and below- normal conditions are evenly balanced the phrase 'climatological odds' will be used. This means the outcome could fall anywhere within the possible climatological range. Near-normal conditions should not necessarily be assumed, and users should update with shorter-term forecasts when available.

Outlook: February to July – Central Asia

		Forecast summary		
		February	February to April	May to July
Afghanistan	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Much more likely to be drier than normal**	**Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Climatological odds
Tajikistan	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be drier than normal	**Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Likely to be drier than normal
Kyrgyzstan	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be drier than normal	Likely to be drier than normal	Likely to be drier than normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: February to July – Southern Asia (1)

		Forecast summary		
		February	February to April	May to July
Pakistan	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be near-normal, but Likely to be drier than normal in the northeast	Likely to be drier than normal	Climatological odds
India	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal, but **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the southwest	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Mainly Climatological odds, but Likely to be near-normal in the west and Likely to be drier than normal in the northeast	Mainly Climatological odds, but Likely to be drier than normal in the far north and **Likely to be wetter than normal** in the far south	Likely to be wetter than normal
Nepal	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be drier than normal	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: February to July – Southern Asia (2)

		Forecast summary		
		February	February to April	May to July
Bangladesh	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be drier than normal	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal
Sri Lanka	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be wetter than normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: February to July – SE Asian Peninsula

		Forecast summary		
		February	February to April	May to July
China	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal, and **Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the southwest and in the northeast	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Mainly Climatological odds, but Likely to be drier than normal in the west and southeast.	Mainly Climatological odds, but Likely to be drier than normal in the west and southeast.	Likely to be wetter than normal
Myanmar	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal
Vietnam	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be wetter than normal	Climatological odds

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Outlook: February to July – SE Asia / Indonesia

		Forecast summary		
		February	February to April	May to July
Indonesia	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be drier than normal or Much more likely to be drier than normal** in the north, **Likely to be wetter than normal** or **Much more likely to be wetter than normal in the south**	**Likely to be drier than normal for southern Sumatra, Borneo and Sulawesi. Likely to be wetter than normal** for northern Sumatra and **Likely to be wetter than normal** or **Much more likely to be wetter than normal in southern Indonesia.**	Likely to be near-normal in the north, but Likely to be wetter than normal in the south
Papua New Guinea	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal
Timor-Leste	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be wetter than normal**	**Much more likely to be wetter than normal**	Likely to be wetter than normal

Outlooks for months 4 to 6: As forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range **the 4-6-month outlook is less reliable than the 1-3 month outlook**. Outlook information will only be provided when the model data signals likely outcomes. Additionally, the longer range outlook utilises fewer models because not all seasonal models are available for the extended range. Information provided in this presentation should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards only and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

Annex 1 – Supplemental Information

For further information

WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME)
https://www.wmolc.org/

International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)
http://iridl.ldeo.columbia.edu/maproom/

NOAA El Niño technical info
https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/access/monitoring/enso/

Met Office
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/government/international-development

The South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF) http://www.imdpune.gov.in/Clim_RCC_LRF/Index.html
Latest Output (September 2022) - http://sahfhydromet.rimes.int/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Enhanced-SCOS-SASCOF-23-JJAS.pdf

Technical notes

The WMO lead centre for long-range forecast multi-model ensemble (LC-LRFMME) produce a probabilistic multi-model mean forecast product in which the multi-model mean is based on uncalibrated model output with a model weighting system that accounts for errors in both the forecast probability and ensemble mean. The method used by LC-LRFMME separately computes a probabilistic forecast and calculates tercile probabilities with respect to climatology for each individual model, before creating the weighted multi-model mean. In seasonal prediction, shifts in the tercile probabilities are always closely associated with the shifts in the probability of extremes, and we can use the probability of terciles to provide information on the likelihood of above- or below- normal conditions. The thresholds used in the forecast summaries are defined below.

Seasonal forecasts rely on the aspects of the global weather and climate system that are more predictable, such as tropical sea-surface temperatures or the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO). However, whilst such forecasts may be able to show what is more or less likely to occur, they acknowledge that other outcomes are possible.

In addition, forecast uncertainty generally increases with longer range so the 6-month outlook is less reliable. It is also based on less information, because not all models are available to this range. Therefore the information presented here should be used to raise early awareness of potential hazards, and should be updated with the 3-month outlook when available.

In the report and tables precipitation is referred to as rainfall but in fact encompasses any form of water, liquid or solid, falling from the sky. Temperatures are the (2 metre) near-surface temperature.

Description	Definition
Much more likely to be below normal	When probability of lower tercile > 70%
More likely to be below normal	When probability of lower tercile is 40-70%
Likely to be near-normal	When probability of middle tercile is 40-70%
Much more likely to be near-normal	When probability of middle tercile > 70%
Likely to be above normal	When probability of upper tercile is 40-70%
Much more likely to be above normal	When probability of upper tercile > 70%
Climatological odds	When probabilities for all categories are roughly 33%

Global Producing Centres (GPC) forecasts used by WMO LC-LRFMME:

- GPC CPTEC (INPE),
- GPC ECMWF,
- GPC Exeter (Met Office),
- GPC Melbourne (BOM),
- GPC Montreal (CMC),
- GPC Moscow (Hydromet Centre of Russia),
- GPC Offenbach (DWD),
- GPC Pretoria (SAWS),
- GPC Seoul (KMA),
- GPC Tokyo (JMA),
- GPC Toulouse (Meteo France),
- GPC Washington (NCEP)

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