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Asia: Monthly Climate Outlook January to October

Issued: April 2026

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Overview

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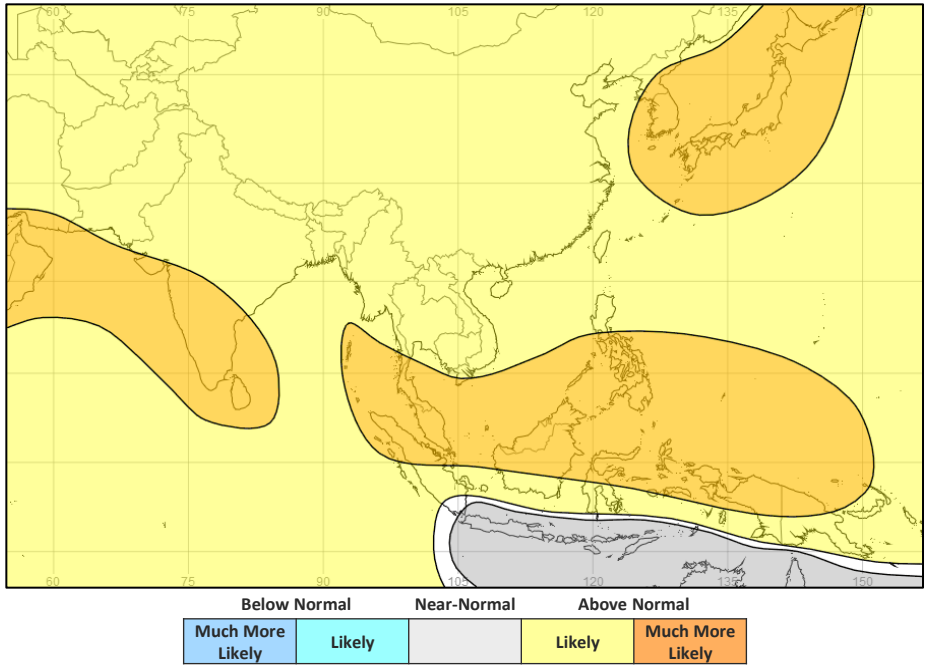
Global Outlook – Rainfall

Asia Current Status and Outlook - Temperature

Current Status: Across Southeast Asia, conditions were mixed but southern Vietnam was cool or cold and Indonesia was warm or hot. However, by February, the whole region was warm or hot. Much of Central Asia was warm or hot from January through to March. Conditions were mixed across South Asia, with hot conditions observed across Pakistan and northern India and Nepal during March. Across China, many parts have been warm or hot.

Outlook: Warmer than normal across much of the continent. The only exception is parts of southern Indonesia where temperatures are more likely to be closer to normal.

3-Month Outlook May to July - Temperature



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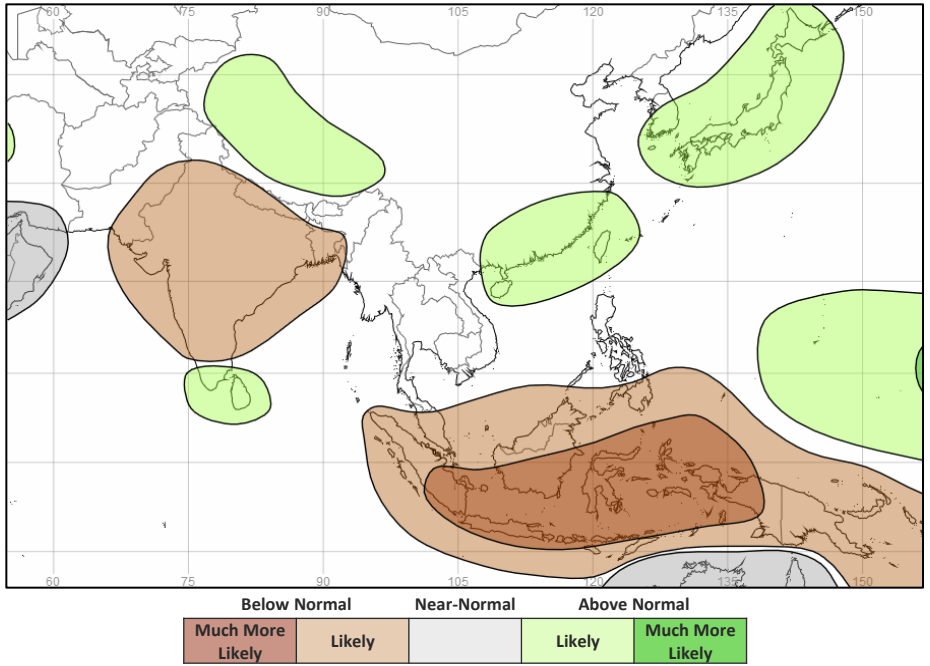
Asia Current Status and Outlook - Rainfall

Current Status: Rainfall conditions have been mostly normal across Southeast Asia, but parts of Vietnam and Myanmar were wet during February and March. In Central Asia many areas were wet or very wet in January, with more normal conditions in February. Mostly normal conditions have been observed over South Asia and China although southeast China was very dry in January. Pakistan, northern Indian, Nepal and Bangladesh were dry or very dry in February, before becoming wet or very wet in March.

Outlook: Ahead of the South Asian monsoon becoming established, wetter than normal conditions are slightly more likely across southwest China. This is the peak season for severe thunderstorms, these potentially more widespread and frequent than normal. Wetter than normal conditions are also most likely across southeast China. Early predictions for the Southwest Monsoon indicate drier than normal conditions are most likely for large parts of India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. Conversely, the far south of India and Sri Lanka are more likely to be wetter than normal, whilst the forecast for Myanmar remains uncertain. There is a strong indication for drier than normal conditions across Indonesia, increasing the likelihood of wildfires.

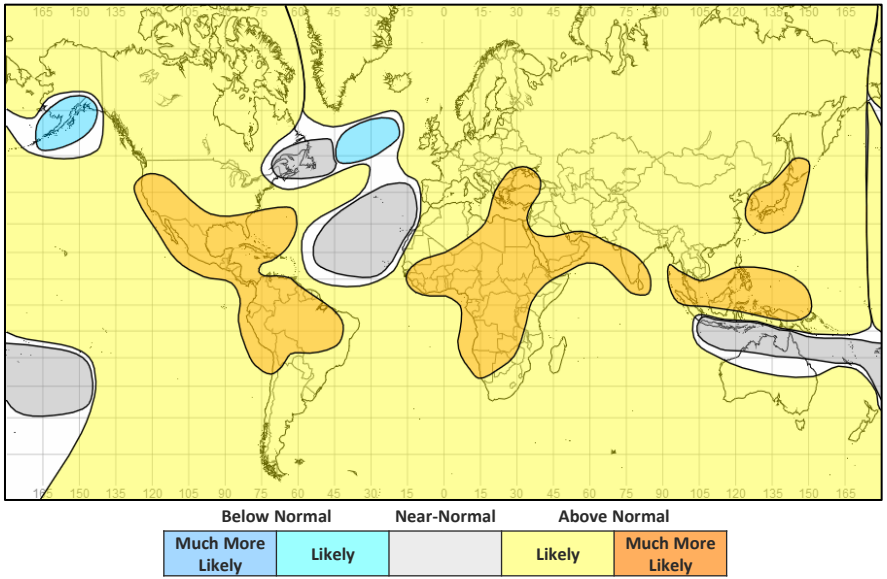
3-Month Outlook May to July - Rainfall



Global Outlook - Temperature

Outlook: With the backdrop of a warming climate and the increased chances of El Niño developing later this year, most land areas are likely to be warmer than normal with limited exceptions. These include southern parts of Indonesia, northern Australia and the South Pacific Islands where near normal temperature or colder than normal conditions are more likely.

3-Month Outlook May to July - Temperature



Global Outlook - Rainfall

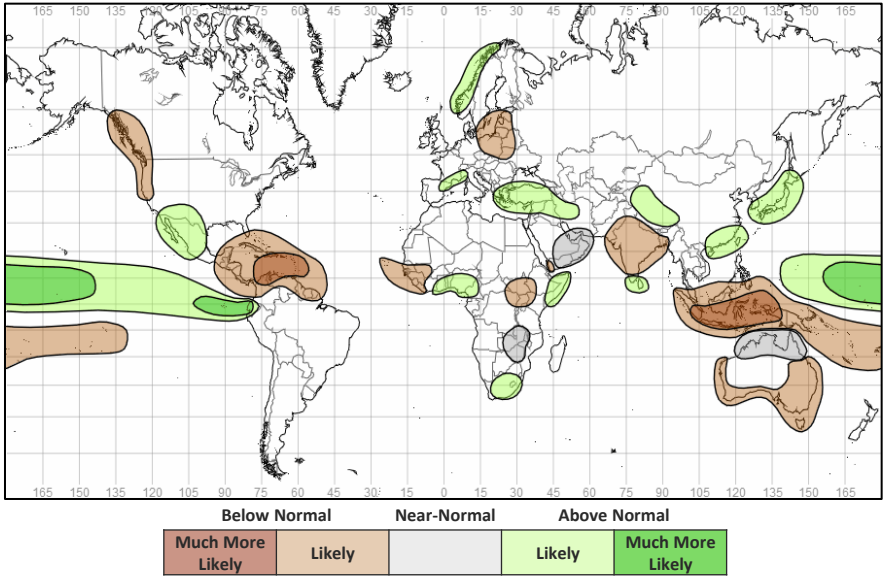
Outlook:

El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) – Both oceanic and atmospheric indicators are consistent with ENSO-neutral conditions. However, there is a high likelihood of El Niño developing over the next three months (over a 60% chance), with this predicted event then likely to persist throughout the rest of the year, well into the northern hemisphere autumn. In terms of strength, a moderate El Niño is most likely during the period May – July with a 20% chance of this El Niño becoming a strong event later in the year (October – December), rivalling the 1997-98 and 2015-16 events.

El Niño is highly likely to become the dominant factor driving global weather patterns on seasonal timescales. Wide reaching impacts are possible. Depending on the time of year, El Niño typically results in drier than normal conditions across Southern Africa, the Indian subcontinent, Southeast Asia, and northern South America, and wetter than normal conditions in parts of East Africa, southern Europe, southern USA, and parts of South America and East Asia. However, no two events are the same, as the effects of El Niño combine with other drivers of weather and climate variability (such as the Indian Ocean Dipole) and other local geophysical factors. It is also worth noting that a strong El Niño (as currently predicted by some long-range models) does not necessarily equate to strong El Niño impacts in any given location. It is therefore essential to closely monitor the latest seasonal and sub-seasonal forecasts to assess possible impacts. 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 Dipole (IOD) – The Indian Ocean Dipole is neutral and therefore won't provide any predictive value for this period.

3-Month Outlook May to July - Rainfall



Current Status

Current Status maps

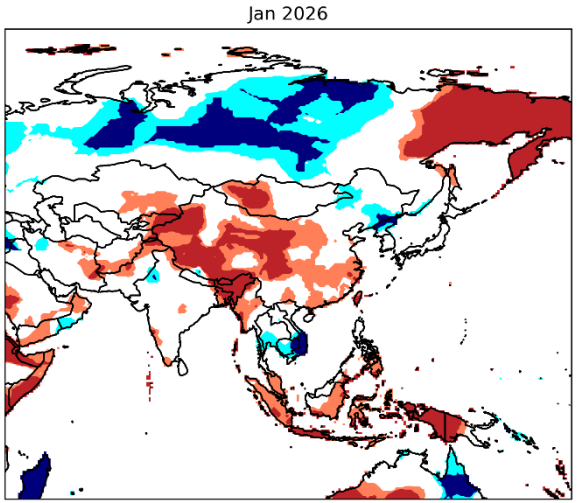
Central Asia

Southern Asia

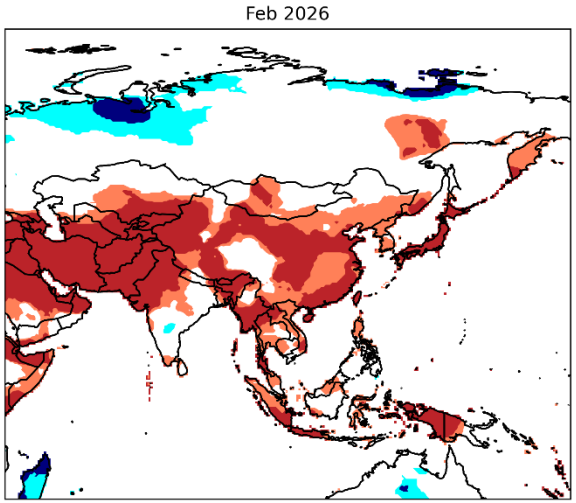
Southeast Asian Peninsula

Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

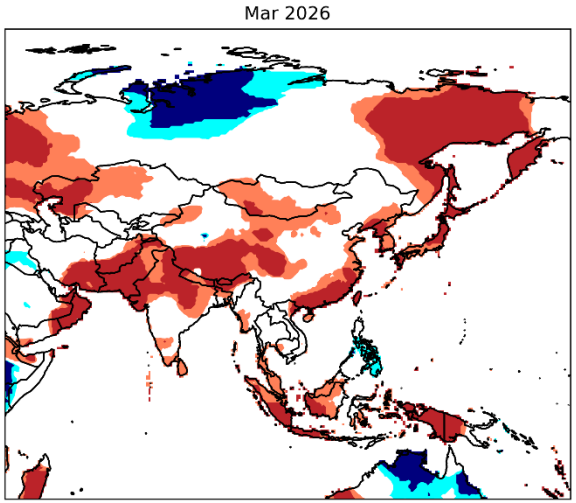
Current Status – Temperature percentiles



January



February



March

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.

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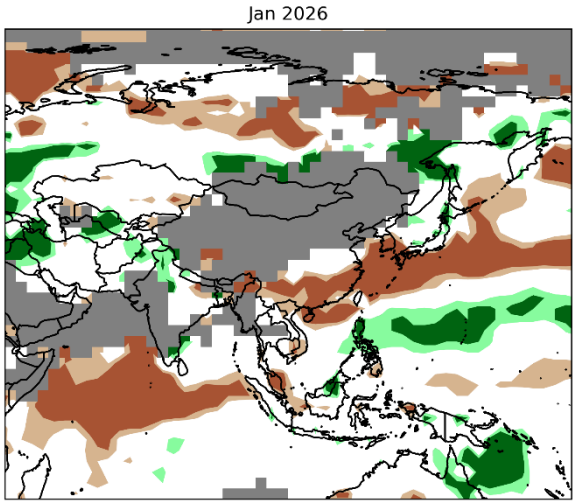
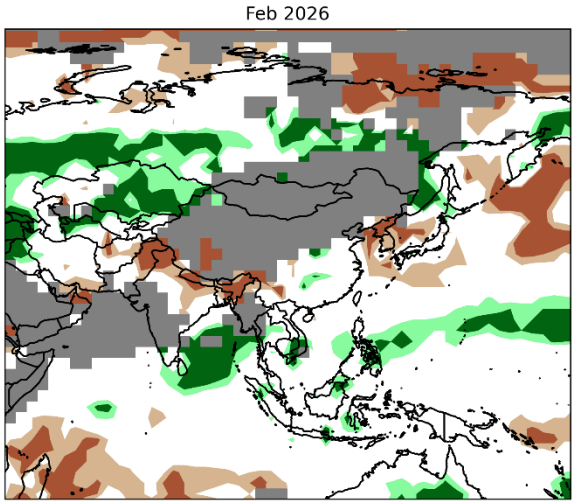
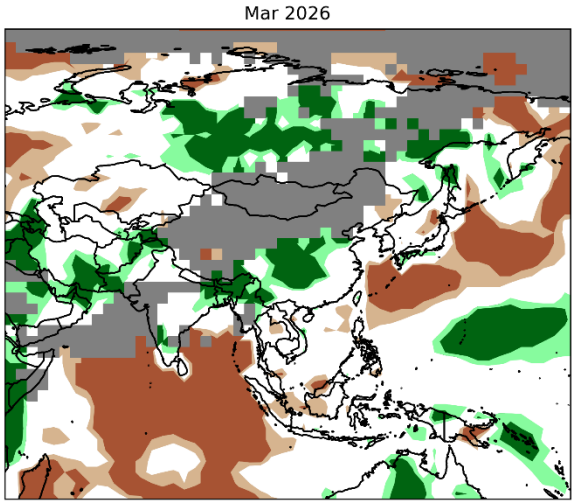
Current Status – Precipitation percentiles



January



February



March

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		
	January	February	March	January	February	March
Afghanistan	Normal	Hot	Mixed (2)	Mixed (1)	Dry	Wet
Tajikistan	Warm	Hot	Normal	Normal	Normal	Very Wet
Kyrgyzstan	Warm	Hot	Normal	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:

Note (1): Normal in the south but Wet or Very Wet in the north
Note (2): How in the south and east, Normal elsewhere

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Current Status – Southern Asia

	Current Status: Temperature		
	January	February	March
Pakistan	Normal	Hot	Hot
India	Normal	Mixed (1)	Mixed (4)
Nepal	Normal	Warm	Warm
Bangladesh	Hot	Hot	Warm
Sri Lanka	Normal	Warm	Warm

	Current Status: Rainfall		
	January	February	March
Pakistan	Normal (2)	Very Dry	Wet
India	Normal (2)	Normal (3)	Normal (5)
Nepal	Normal	Very Dry	Normal
Bangladesh	Normal*	Dry	Wet
Sri Lanka	Normal	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:

Note (1): Cold in western and central parts, Hot in the northeast and northwest, otherwise Normal
Note (2): Wet or Very Wet in parts of the north
Note (3): Very Dry in the north
Note (4): Hot in the north, Normal or Warm in the south
Note (5): Very Wet in the northeast.

Current Status – Southeast Asian Peninsula

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	January	February	March	January	February	March
China	Warm	Warm	Mixed (4)	Very Dry (2)	Normal	Mixed (5)
Myanmar	Warm	Hot	Normal	Normal*	Normal*	Normal
Vietnam	Mixed (1)	Warm	Normal	Normal	Normal (3)	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:

Note (1): Cold in the south, Normal in the north
Note (2): Very Dry in the southeast, Normal* elsewhere
Note (3): Very Wet in the south
Note (4): Warm or Hot in many regions
Note (5): Very Wet in central regions, otherwise Normal
Note (6): Very Wet in the far north

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Current Status – Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

	Current Status: Temperature		
	January	February	March
Indonesia	Warm	Hot	Hot
Papua New Guinea	Mixed (1)	Hot	Hot
Timor-Leste	Hot	Warm	Normal

	Current Status: Rainfall		
	January	February	March
Indonesia	Normal	Normal	Normal
Papua New Guinea	Mixed (2)	Normal	Mixed (3)
Timor-Leste	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:

Note (1): Hot in the west, Normal in the east
Note (2): Very Wet in parts of the east, Normal elsewhere
Note (3): Mostly Normal but Very Dry in the east

Outlooks

Outlooks – Notes for use

Central Asia

Southern Asia

Southeast Asian Peninsula

Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

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: May to October – Central Asia

		Forecast summary		
		May	May to July	August to October
Afghanistan	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Climatological odds
Tajikistan	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Climatological odds
Kyrgyzstan	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	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: May to October – Southern Asia (1)

		Forecast summary		
		May	May to July	August to October
Pakistan	*Temperature*	Likely to be colder than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be wetter than normal	Likely to be drier than normal in the far east, otherwise Climatological odds	Climatological odds
India	*Temperature*	Likely to be colder than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal in the far south, otherwise Likely to be drier than normal	Likely to be drier than normal
Nepal	*Temperature*	Likely to be colder than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be wetter 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: May to October – Southern Asia (2)

		Forecast summary		
		May	May to July	August to October
Bangladesh	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be drier than normal	Likely to be drier than normal
Sri Lanka	*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 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: May to October – SE Asian Peninsula

		Forecast summary		
		May	May to July	August to October
China	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal in the southeast and Tibet, Climatological odds elsewhere	Climatological odds
Myanmar	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	Climatological odds
Vietnam	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	Climatological odds	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.

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Outlook: May to October – SE Asia / Indonesia

		Forecast summary		
		May	May to July	August to October
Indonesia	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be near-normal across Java, otherwise Much more likely to be warmer than normal	Likely to be near-normal across Java, otherwise 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
Papua New Guinea	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be warmer than normal	Climatological odds
	Rainfall	Likely to be drier than normal	Likely to be drier than normal	Likely to be drier than normal
Timor-Leste	*Temperature*	Climatological odds	Likely to be near-normal	Likely to be near-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.

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

Climate Outlook Fora (WMO Factsheet), including:

SASCOF and ASEANCOF events are upcoming in May 2026.

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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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