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Asia: Monthly Climate Outlook
May to February

Issued: August 2026

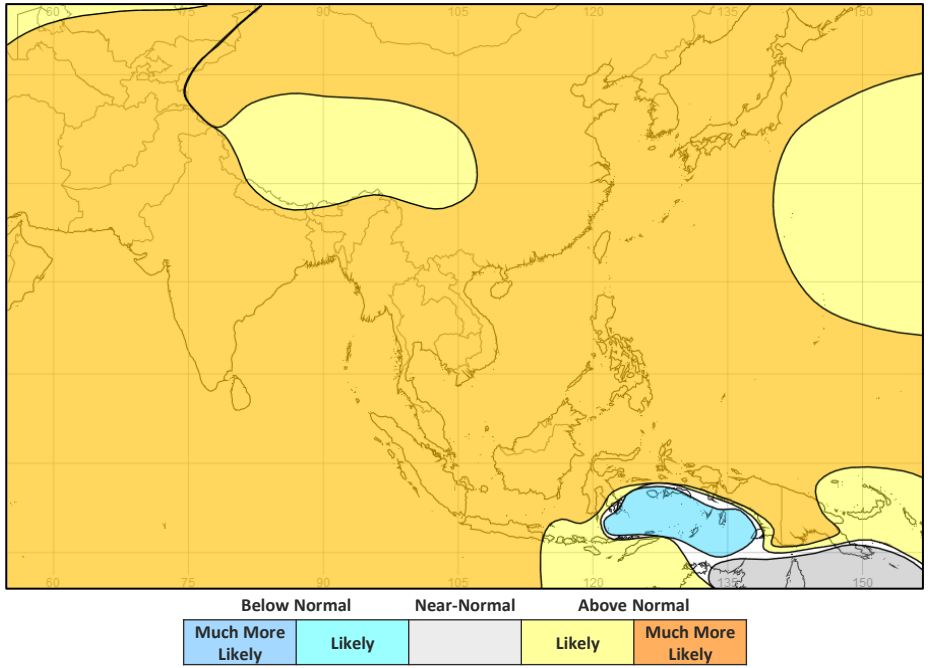
Overview

Asia Current Status and Outlook - Temperature

Current Status: In May, temperature patterns were quite mixed across Asia. Much of Indonesia and East Asia experienced warm or hot conditions, as did parts of western China, Central Asia, southern Afghanistan, southern Pakistan, and western India. In contrast, areas of eastern India, Nepal, and southern Vietnam were cooler than normal, with some locations experiencing notably cold conditions. Conditions remained mixed in June. Parts of northeast China were very cold, while many other regions, particularly those outside central China and northern India, were generally warm or hot. By July, warm or hot conditions prevailed across most areas. The main exceptions were southern China, northern Myanmar, and parts of northern India, where temperatures were generally near normal, and northern Vietnam, where conditions were colder than normal.

Outlook: Warmer than normal conditions are very likely across much of continent. Areas around the central and eastern Himalayas, the Tibetan Plateau, and parts of western China, are likely to be warmer than normal. In contrast, parts of southeast Indonesia adjoining the Banda Sea are likely to be cooler than normal.

3-Month Outlook September to November - Temperature

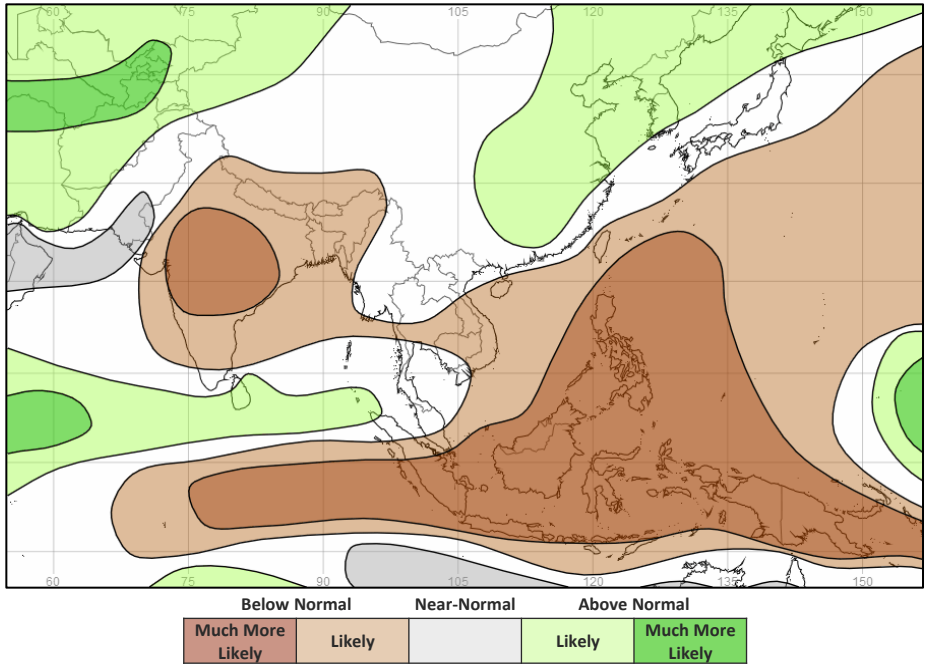


Asia Current Status and Outlook - Rainfall

Current Status: The South Asian monsoon reached its northernmost extent around 9 July, according to the Indian Meteorological Department. Overall, the monsoon has delivered below normal rainfall so far this year. However, parts of northern India, Nepal, and southwest China experienced much wetter than normal conditions in May, as did central and eastern China. Many other areas recorded near normal rainfall during the month. Much of Southeast Asia was dry or very dry in June, although parts of Myanmar and western and eastern China were wet or very wet. A similar rainfall pattern persisted into July, with northeast India also experiencing wetter than normal conditions. In contrast, much of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan remained very dry during July.

Outlook: Much of mainland South and Southeast Asia are likely to be drier than normal, as is typical during El Niño and, for the latter region, possible positive Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event. Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are likely or much more likely to be wetter than normal. Eastern China is also likely to be wetter than normal.

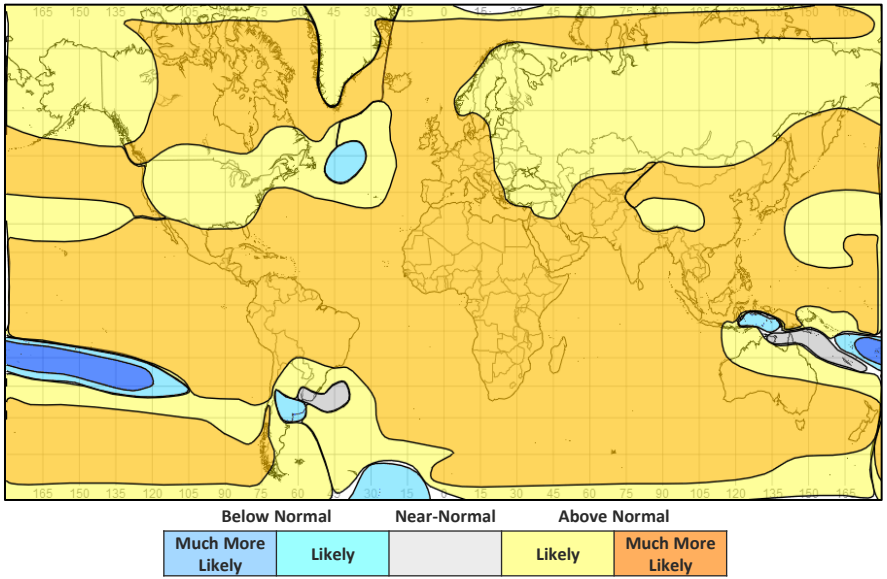
3-Month Outlook September to November - Rainfall



Global Outlook - Temperature

Outlook: Against the backdrop of a warming climate and a **Strong to Very Strong** and quite possibly historic El Niño now firmly established and likely to persist into early 2027, almost all land areas are likely or very likely to be warmer than normal. The limited exceptions to this are in parts of eastern Indonesia, the far north of Australia and many of the South Pacific islands. The latter are very likely to see below normal temperatures. Parts of Argentina may also be cooler than normal.

3-Month Outlook September to November - Temperature

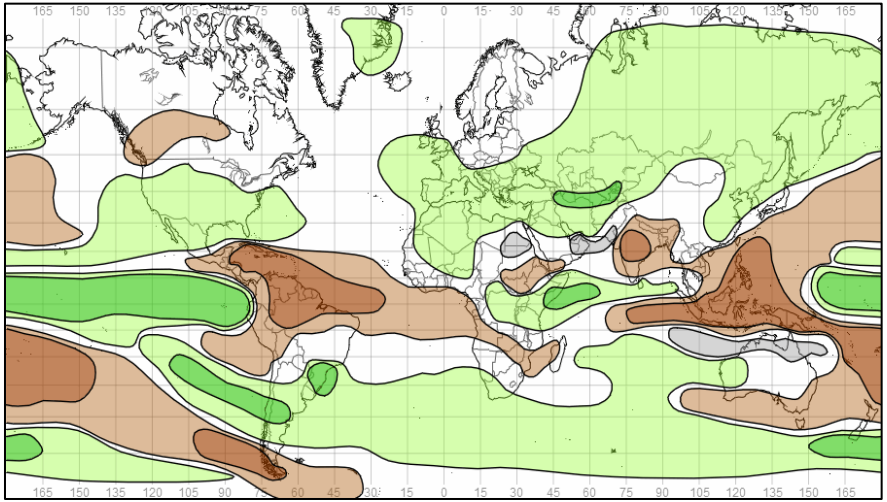


Global Outlook - Rainfall

Outlook: El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) – A **Strong to Very Strong El Niño** is now firmly established and will continue to strengthen over the coming months. This event is forecast to become the largest El Niño in living memory and what is probably the largest such event since the 19th century. El Niño has now become the dominant factor driving global weather patterns on seasonal timescales. Wide reaching and possibly severe impacts are likely. Depending on the time of year, El Niño typically results in drier than normal conditions across much of southern Africa, the Indian Subcontinent, Indonesia, mainland Southeast Asia, eastern and southern Australia, northern South America and the Caribbean. Wetter than normal conditions tend to occur in parts of East Africa, southern and western Europe, parts of the southern and western USA, parts of southern and western South America and parts of Central 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 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 IOD remains neutral, but a positive IOD is likely to develop through the northern hemisphere autumn and winter, though the timing and magnitude are rather more uncertain. Development of a positive IOD would contribute to enhanced rainfall over parts of East Africa and drier than normal conditions on the eastern side of the tropical Indian Ocean.

3-Month Outlook September to November - Rainfall



Current Status

Current Status maps

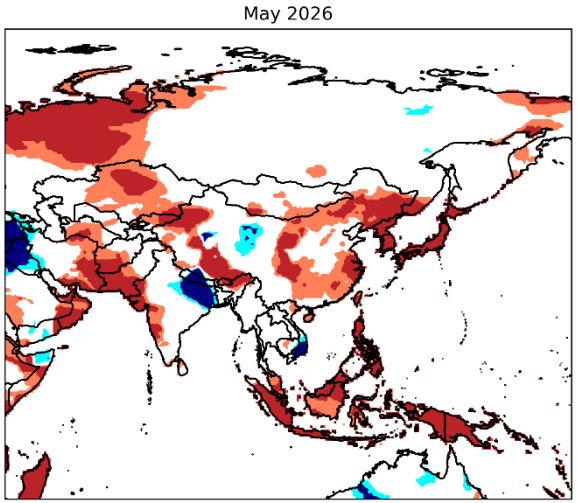
Central Asia

Southern Asia

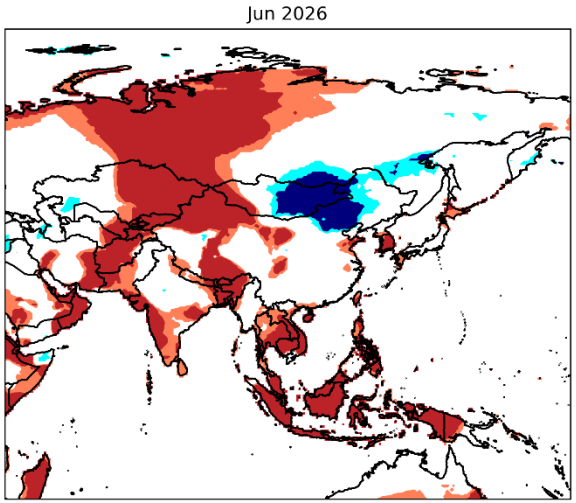
Southeast Asian Peninsula

Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

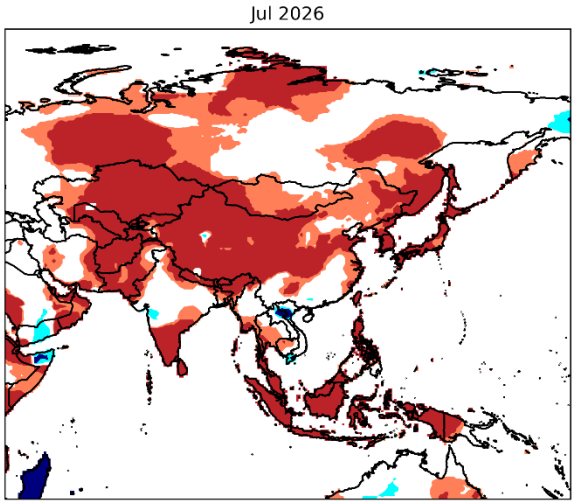
Current Status – Temperature percentiles



May



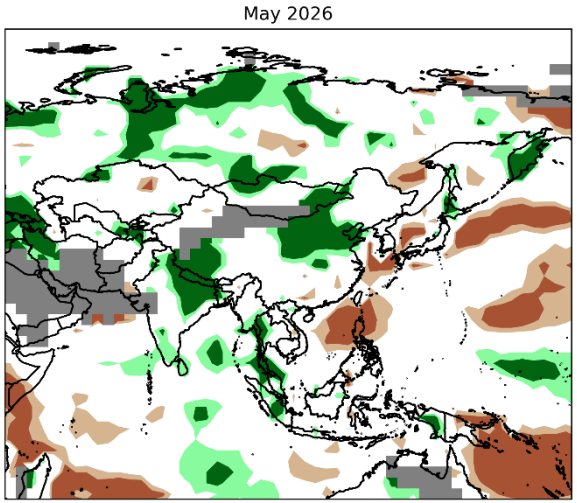
June



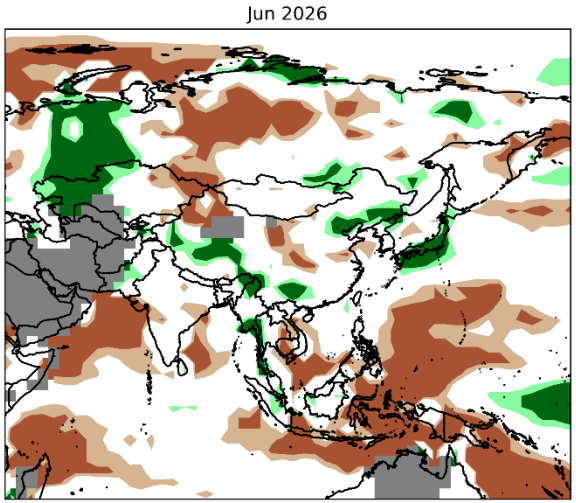
July

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.

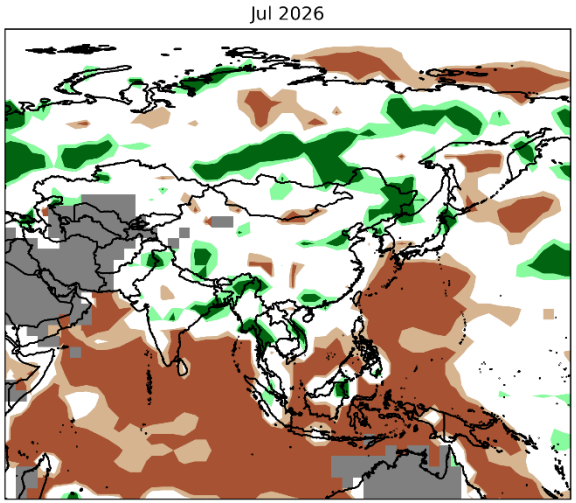
Current Status – Precipitation percentiles



May



June



July

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		
	May	June	July	May	June	July
Afghanistan	Mixed (2)	Hot	Hot	Normal (1)	Normal*	Normal*
Tajikistan	Normal	Hot	Hot	Very Wet	Wet	Normal*
Kyrgyzstan	Warm	Hot	Hot	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): Mainly normal, but wet in the northeast
Note (2): Hot in the south, Normal elsewhere

Current Status – Southern Asia

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	May	June	July	May	June	July
Pakistan	Mixed (2)	Mixed (4)	Mixed (9)	Normal	Normal (7)	Mixed (11)
India	Mixed (3)	Mixed (5)	Mixed (10)	Mixed (1)	Mixed (8)	Mixed (12)
Nepal	Cold	Warm (6)	Hot	Very Wet	Normal	Normal
Bangladesh	Normal	Hot	Warm	Wet	Normal	Wet
Sri Lanka	Normal	Warm	Hot	Wet	Normal	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:

Note (1): Very Wet in the northeast
Note (2): Hot in the southwest, Normal elsewhere
Note (3): Hot in the far west and far northeast, cold in the east, Normal elsewhere
Note (4): Normal in the northeast, warm or hot in the southwest
Note (5): Normal in the north, warm or hot in the south, west and far northeast
Note (6): Hot in the east
Note (7): Wet in parts of the south
Note (8): Very wet in the far northeast, otherwise normal or dry
Note (9): Normal in far northeast, otherwise warm or hot
Note (10): Hot in the south and far north, otherwise normal
Note (11): Very wet in the far northeast, otherwise mostly normal
Note (12): Very wet in northeast, very dry in southeast, otherwise normal

Current Status – Southeast Asian Peninsula

	Current Status: Temperature			Current Status: Rainfall		
	May	June	July	May	June	July
China	Mixed (2)	Mixed (4)	Mixed (8)	Normal (3)	Mixed (5)	Mixed (11)
Myanmar	Normal	Normal	Mixed (9)	Mixed (1)	Mixed (6)	Mixed (12)
Vietnam	Mixed (14)	Hot	Mixed (10)	Normal	Mixed (7)	Mixed (13)

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): Mainly Normal but Very Wet in parts of the south
Note (2): Mainly Normal but hot in the west, Warm in the east and Cool in some central parts.
Note (3): Mainly Normal but Very Wet in parts of the west and east.
Note (4): Hot in parts of the west, cold in parts of the northeast, otherwise normal
Note (5): Very wet in parts of the west and northeast, dry in some central areas, otherwise normal
Note (6): Very wet in the south and far north, otherwise normal
Note (7): Dry in some central and southern areas, otherwise normal
Note (8): Normal in south, otherwise warm or hot
Note (9): Normal in north, warm or hot in south
Note (10): Very cold in parts of the north, otherwise normal or cool
Note (11): Very wet in parts of the northeast and south, otherwise normal
Note (12): Very wet in south and far north, otherwise normal
Note (13): Very wet in central areas, otherwise normal
Note (14): Very cold in the south, otherwise normal

Current Status – Southeastern Asia / Indonesia

	Current Status: Temperature		
	May	June	July
Indonesia	Hot	Hot	Hot
Papua New Guinea	Hot	Hot (2)	Mixed (4)
Timor-Leste	Hot	Hot	Hot

	Current Status: Rainfall		
	May	June	July
Indonesia	Mixed (1)	Mixed (3)	Mixed (5)
Papua New Guinea	Dry	Very Dry	Very Dry
Timor-Leste	Normal	Very Dry	Very 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:

Note (1): Many places Wet or Very Wet, but normal for Borneo, Sulawesi and parts of the east
Note (2): Normal in the east
Note (3): Mostly dry or very dry, but wet in parts of Sumatra
Note (4): Hot in west, normal in east
Note (5): Wet in parts of Sumatra and Kalimantan, otherwise dry or very dry

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: September to February – Central Asia

		Forecast summary		
		September	September to November	December to February
Afghanistan	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in west, **Likely to be warmer than normal** in east	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be near-normal	**Much more likely to be wetter than normal** in far north, otherwise **Likely to be wetter than normal**	Likely to be wetter than normal
Tajikistan	*Temperature*	**Likely to be warmer than normal**	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Climatological odds	**Much more likely to be wetter than normal** in west, **Likely to be wetter than normal** in east	Likely to be wetter 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 wetter than normal**	**Much more likely to be wetter than normal** in west, **Likely to be wetter than normal** in east	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: September to February – Southern Asia (1)

		Forecast summary		
		September	September to November	December to February
Pakistan	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal in north, Likely to be near-normal in south	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal**	Likely to be warmer than normal in northwest, Much more likely to be warmer than normal in southeast
	Rainfall	Likely to be drier than normal in north, Likely to be near-normal in south	Likely to be wetter than normal in far northwest, Likely to be near-normal in far southeast, otherwise Climatological odds	Climatological odds
India	*Temperature*	Likely to be warmer than normal in far northwest, otherwise **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 in far northeast, Likely to be drier than normal in east and far northwest, **Much more likely to be drier than normal** elsewhere	Climatological odds in far northwest and far south, **Much more likely to be drier than normal** in central areas, otherwise Likely to be drier than normal	Climatological odds in northwest, otherwise Likely to be wetter than normal
Nepal	*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	Likely to be drier 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: September to February – Southern Asia (2)

		Forecast summary		
		September	September to November	December to February
Bangladesh	*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	Likely to be drier than normal	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 drier 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: September to February – SE Asian Peninsula

		Forecast summary		
		September	September to November	December to February
China	*Temperature*	mainly Likely to be warmer than normal, but Climatological odds in the southwest	Likely to be warmer than normal in Himalayan areas and far northeast, otherwise Much more likely to be warmer than normal	Much more likely to be warmer than normal in parts of the south and west, otherwise Likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	Likely to be wetter than normal in far west, Likely to be drier than normal in south and east, otherwise Climatological odds	Likely to be wetter than normal in east and far northwest, Likely to be drier than normal in southwest, Climatological odds elsewhere	Much more likely to be wetter than normal in far east, otherwise Likely to be wetter than normal
Myanmar	*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 in north, Likely to be drier than normal in south	Likely to be drier than normal in parts of the south and far west, Climatological odds elsewhere	Climatological odds in north, Likely to be drier than normal in south
Vietnam	*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 in south, Likely to be drier than normal in north	Climatological odds in north, Likely to be drier than normal in south	Likely to be wetter than normal in north, Likely to be drier than normal in south

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: September to February – SE Asia / Indonesia

		Forecast summary		
		September	September to November	December to February
Indonesia	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in north, **Likely to be near-normal** in south and **Likely to be colder than normal** around the Banda Sea	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the west and north, **Likely to be warmer than normal** in the south and **Likely to be colder than normal** around the Banda Sea	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be drier than normal** in northern Sumatra and in far south, otherwise **Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Climatological odds in northern Sumatra, **Likely to be drier than normal** in far south, otherwise **Much more likely to be drier than normal**	Likely to be drier than normal in parts of Kalimantan, Likely to be wetter than normal elsewhere
Papua New Guinea	*Temperature*	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in north, **Likely to be near-normal** in south	**Much more likely to be warmer than normal** in the north, **Likely to be near-normal** in the south	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**	Likely to be drier than normal in south, Likely to be wetter than normal in north
Timor-Leste	*Temperature*	**Likely to be near-normal**	**Likely to be colder than normal**	Much more likely to be warmer than normal
	Rainfall	**Likely to be near-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), : No recent output available

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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