



Republic of the Philippines

**DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services**

**Administration (PAGASA)**

## **SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK JULY – DECEMBER 2020**

### **Overview**

Cool ENSO-neutral conditions are present in the tropical Pacific. Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific (CEEP) became cooler than average during the past months. However, near to slightly warmer SSTs were still observed in the western Pacific. The atmospheric indicators also show values within neutral levels. Most international climate models show that cool ENSO-neutral conditions will likely continue until the July -August-September 2020 season and ~50% to 55% probability for La Niña to develop before the end of the year.

### **July to September 2020**

The season suggests a continuation of cool ENSO-neutral conditions with SSTs decreasing toward weak La Niña levels.

The normal climate pattern during these months are characterized by widespread and heavy rainfall affecting the western sections of Luzon and Visayas since this is the peak of the Southwest (SW) monsoon season or “Habagat”. However, monsoon activity is predicted to be weaker than normal. Tropical cyclones (TCs) are also more active during this period with average tracks mostly located over the northern part of the country which could enhance the SW monsoon. Rain-causing weather systems that may affect the country include the SW monsoon, localized thunderstorms, inter-tropical convergence zone (ITCZ), low pressure areas (LPAs) and six (6) to eight (8) TCs that are likely to develop/enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). Monsoon breaks are also expected to occur as the ridge of the North Pacific high pressure area (HPA) extends towards the country, giving warm and sunny weather in some affected areas.

The average rainfall condition throughout the period is predicted to be near normal in most parts of the country, however in July, below normal condition is expected in most areas of Luzon, Bicol region and some parts of Visayas. Likewise, most areas of the country in general may experience near to above average surface air temperatures.

SW monsoon rains may gradually recede during the latter part of September when the start of the transition period from the SW monsoon to the Northeast (NE) monsoon season is expected.

### **October to December 2020**

Cool ENSO-neutral to weak La Nina conditions are expected during the last quarter of the year.

The period covers the first half of the Northeast (NE) monsoon season. The weather systems likely to influence the climate condition of the country are the easterlies, ITCZ, easterly wave, LPA, ridge of HPA, tail end of the cold front, NE monsoon and four (4) to six (6) TCs. Furthermore, TCs originating from the northwestern Pacific Ocean tend to move in a westerly direction, with average tracks across the central and southern Luzon and secondary tracks over Visayas and Northern Mindanao.

Generally, rainfall forecast for this season will likely be near normal over most provinces in Luzon while above normal in most areas of Visayas and Mindanao. Furthermore, surface air temperatures are predicted to be near to warmer than average in most parts of the country.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the possible development of La Niña and updates shall be issued as appropriate. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone numbers 8284-0800 local 906.

  
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