



ENSO ADVISORY
La Niña Advisory No. 16

Equatorial sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remain below average across most of the Pacific Ocean and the atmospheric condition is consistent with La Niña level. Most of the climate models suggest that La Niña is weakening and is expected to persist until Dec- Jan-Feb (DJF) 2023, then transition to ENSO-neutral afterwards.

La Niña increases the likelihood of having above-normal rainfall conditions that could lead to potential adverse impacts (such as heavy rainfall, floods, flash floods, and rain-induced landslides) over highly vulnerable areas.

Assessment in December 2022

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Northeast (NE) monsoon, localized thunderstorms, low pressure areas (LPAs), easterlies, intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), shearline, and the occurrence of Tropical Storm (TS) Rosal with international name “PAKHAR” (Dec 10-12). TS Rosal did not cross the country but brought heavy rains which caused flooding in some areas in Region V & CARAGA as contained in the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) Situational Report (SitRep 2) dated 13 December 2022.

Flooding and landslide incidents were also recorded in Regions IV-B, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, X1 and BARMM due to the effect of shearline. Other hazards associated with shearline such as strong winds and heavy rains also resulted to loss of lives and damage to agriculture and infrastructures. Thousand of families were evacuated and twenty two (22) cities and municipalities were declared under State of Calamity (NDRRMC SitRep dated 04 January 2023).

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that most parts of Luzon received way below to below normal rainfall except for Bicol Region and the provinces of Apayao, Batanes, Cagayan, Quezon, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan where near to above normal rainfall was observed. Meanwhile, most areas in Visayas and Mindanao experienced near to above normal rainfall conditions.

Generally, near average surface air temperatures were felt in most parts of the country except for slightly cooler than average surface temperatures that were observed in Tayabas, Daet, Coron, Romblon and General Santos City. The temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 12.0°C – 25.4°C; rest of Luzon: 13.2°C – 35.3°C; Visayas: 21.3°C – 35.0°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 17.3°C – 32.5°C; rest of Mindanao: 20.5°C – 35.3°C and 20.5°C – 33.6°C in Metro Manila. Surges of cold temperatures were also felt over most parts of Luzon.

Meanwhile, two (2) stations have surpassed their historical extreme maximum temperatures for the month, namely; Masbate (34.5°C on 17 December) and Catbalogan (35.0°C on 15 December).

Outlook for January 2023

The weather systems that will likely affect the country in January are the NE monsoon, localized thunderstorms, shearlines, LPAs, ITCZ, easterlies and zero (0) or one (1) tropical cyclone that may enter/develop in the PAR. The NE Monsoon may still be enhanced by other prevailing weather systems that could trigger floods, flashfloods and rain-induced landslides over susceptible areas. Moreover, surges of cold temperatures will still be likely.

“tracking the sky...helping the country”

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Rainfall forecast for the month shows that most parts of country will likely experience near to above normal rainfall conditions except in Abra, Region I, and most parts of Central Luzon that may receive below normal rainfall. However, the probability for above normal rainfall conditions are still high.

Generally, near average to warmer than average air temperatures are forecasted in most parts of the country, except Batanes, Romblon, Masbate, Cuyo, Palawan, Bohol and Leyte where slightly cooler to cooler than average surface air temperatures are expected. The forecast temperature ranges are as follows: 9.4°C to 27.9°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 13.0°C to 35.5.°C over rest of Luzon, 19.9°C to 34.50°C in Visayas, 13.4°C to 33.3°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao, 18.6°C to 36.5°C over rest of Mindanao and 18.2°C to 34.2°C for Metro Manila.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the climate conditions that may affect the country. Meanwhile, all concerned government agencies and the general public are advised to take precautionary measures, especially on the ongoing La Niña and updates shall be issued as appropriate. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone number 8284-0800 local 906.

Original Signed:

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Date Issued: 05 January 2023