



ENSO ADVISORY
La Niña Advisory No. 17

Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) continue to decrease, hence, La Nina is weakening across the tropical Pacific Ocean. Most of the climate models suggest that La Niña will persist until January-February-March (JFM) 2023 season and then a transition to ENSO-neutral conditions is likely afterward.

La Niña increases the probability 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 January 2023

The weather systems that affected the country in January were the Northeast (NE) monsoon, localized thunderstorms, low-pressure areas (LPAs), intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ) and shear line. Several LPAs were developed during the month but did not form into a tropical cyclone (TC). However, the effects of LPAs, NE monsoon, and shear lines brought continuous heavy rains that caused several flooding incidents and rain-induced landslides in Cagayan Region, Central Luzon, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Region 5 to Region 12, CARAGA and BARMM. These hazards resulted in forty-four (44) casualties and damage to agriculture and infrastructures, as the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reported in its Situational Report dated 02 February 2023.

Assessment of rainfall conditions for the month showed that almost 90% of the country received above to way above normal rainfall, significantly in areas with more than 200% surplus in its normal monthly rainfall. However, Davao Region and Ilocos provinces received near-normal rainfall while the province of Batanes observed below-normal rainfall.

Generally, near average to slightly warmer than average mean surface air temperatures were felt in most parts of the country except for Tayabas, Daet, Coron, Romblon, Masbate, Guiuan, Surigao, Cotabato, and General Santos City where slightly cooler than average temperatures were observed. Moreover, the observed maximum (daytime) temperatures were mostly cooler than average while the minimum (nighttime) temperatures were mostly warmer than average. The temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 12.2°C – 25.2°C; rest of Luzon: 13.0°C – 34.9°C; Visayas: 21.2°C – 33.2°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 18.0°C – 32.5°C; rest of Mindanao: 21.0°C – 35.3°C and 20.7°C – 33.0°C in Metro Manila. Surges of cold temperatures were also felt in many parts of the country during the month.

Outlook for February 2023

The weather systems that will likely affect the country for the month 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 and the weakening La Nina may still enhance the other prevailing weather systems that could trigger floods, flash floods, and rain-induced landslides over susceptible areas. Moreover, surges of cold temperatures may still be felt in most parts of the country.

Rainfall forecast for the month shows that most parts of the country will likely experience near to above-normal rainfall conditions except for some provinces over the western sections of northern and central Luzon that may receive below-normal rainfall. The probability of near to above-normal rainfall conditions is also higher during the month.

Near to slightly cooler than average mean surface air temperatures are forecasted in most parts of the country, except for some areas that may experience slightly warmer than average temperatures. The forecast temperature ranges are as follows: 9.1°C to 28.1°C in the mountainous areas of Luzon, 12.1°C to 36.3.°C over the rest of Luzon, 18.8°C to 35.8°C in Visayas, 12.6°C to 33.8°C in the mountainous areas of Mindanao, 18.2°C to 37.1°C over rest of Mindanao and 18.7°C to 35.0°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 with La Niña still ongoing 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.

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