



El Niño Advisory No. 2

The warmer than average sea surface temperature anomalies across most of the central and eastern equatorial Pacific signified that a weak El Niño is present and may strengthen into moderate to strong towards the latter part of the year. Most climate models predict that this El Niño will likely persist until at least the first quarter of 2024.

El Niño increases the likelihood of below-normal rainfall conditions, which could bring negative impacts (such as dry spells and droughts) in some areas of the country which may adversely impact the different climate-sensitive sectors such as water resources, agriculture, energy, health, and public safety. However, enhanced Southwest monsoon season (Habagat) is still expected, which may result in above-normal rainfall conditions over the western part of the country.

Assessment in July 2023

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Southwest (SW) monsoon, localized thunderstorms, low-pressure areas (LPAs), ridge of high-pressure areas (HPAs), intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), and the passage of three (3) tropical cyclones namely: Tropical Storm (TS) “DODONG”, (July 13-15), Super Typhoon (STY) “EGAY”, international name “DOKSURI” (July 21-27), and Typhoon (TY) “FALCON”, international name “KHANUN” (July 29-August 1). TS “DODONG” and (STY) “EGAY” made landfall in Dinapigue, Isabela and in Fuga Island in Aparri, Cagayan and Dalupiri Island respectively, while TY “FALCON” did not make landfall and traversed over extreme Northern Luzon. These three TCs have enhanced the SW monsoon that brought heavy to torrential rains in areas along its path, as well as over the western sections of Luzon and Visayas that led to flooding, flashfloods, and rain-induced landslides. Moreover, STY “EGAY” brought strong winds and torrential rains that caused tremendous damages to infrastructure and agriculture over Regions I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V, VI, VIII, XII and BARMM, including 25 casualties, 52 injured and 13 missing, archived from the Situational Report No. 12 of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) dated 1 August 2023. Likewise, rainfall accumulated from these TCs and enhanced SW monsoon have significantly contributed to the rise in the water level of most dams in Luzon.

Analysis of rainfall for the month showed that near to above normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts Luzon, except for Nueva Viscaya and Quirino which received below normal rainfall conditions. Meanwhile, Visayas and Mindanao received below to near normal rainfall except for the provinces of Guimaras, Davao del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Dinagat Islands and Surigao del Sur where above normal rainfall was observed.

Furthermore, rainfall assessment over the past four months indicated that eleven (11) provinces have experienced meteorological dry condition (2 consecutive months of below normal rainfall condition). These were as follows: Aklan, Capiz, Zamboanga Del Sur, Davao Del Sur, Davao Occidental, South Cotabato, Cotabato, Sarangani, Sultan Kudarat, Basilan and Maguindanao.

Generally, mean surface air temperatures observed throughout the country were near-average to above-average. Actual temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 14.8°C – 27.0°C; rest of Luzon: 21.8°C – 38.0°C; Visayas: 23.0°C – 36.5°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 19.0°C – 33.5°C; rest of Mindanao: 21.8°C – 36.3°C and 23.0°C – 37.0°C in Metro Manila.

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Moreover, six stations had surpassed their highest recorded extreme temperature for July. These were observed in Clark, Port Area, Sangley Point, Daet, Malaybalay and Zamboanga City stations.

Outlook for August 2023

The weather systems that will likely affect the country during the month are the enhanced SW monsoon, localized thunderstorms, ITCZ, LPAs, and two (2) or three (3) tropical cyclones that may enter/develop inside the PAR.

Rainfall forecast for the month shows that generally near normal condition is expected in most parts of the country with some areas in the western part of Luzon likely to receive above normal rainfall. The probabilistic forecast also suggests higher chances for above normal rainfall conditions in Luzon, while near to above normal in the Visayas and Mindanao.

Generally, near average to above average surface air temperatures are predicted in most parts of Luzon (except for some areas in Southern Luzon) and Mindanao, however, Visayas will likely experience below to near average temperatures. The predicted ranges of temperature are as follows: 14.5°C to 26.5°C over the mountainous areas of Luzon, 18.0°C to 38.0°C for the rest of Luzon, 20.5°C to 36.5°C in the Visayas, 15.5°C to 33.5°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao; 21.0°C to 37.0°C over the rest of Mindanao and 23.0°C to 36.5°C over Metro Manila.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the enhanced SW monsoon activity with the ongoing El Niño. Areas potential for meteorological dry spell and drought will be made available at PAGASA website. Meanwhile, all government agencies and the general public are encouraged to take precautionary measures to mitigate the adverse impacts of the said climate phenomenon. For more information, please call the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at 8284-0800, extension 4920 or 4921.

Original signed:

NATHANIEL T. SERVANDO, Ph.D.

Officer-in-Charge, PAGASA

Date Issued: 03 August 2023