



Issued: 02 December 2020

LA NIÑA ADVISORY NO.3

La Niña further strengthened across the tropical Pacific Ocean. Most climate models suggest a strong La Niña will reach its peak during November-December-January 2021 season and is expected to continue through March-April-May 2021 season.

La Niña increases the likelihood of having above normal rainfall conditions across most areas of the country during the last quarter of the year and early months of the following year. Adverse impacts are likely over vulnerable areas and sectors of the country.

Assessment in November 2020

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Northeast Monsoon (NE), inter-tropical convergence zone (ITCZ), low pressure areas (LPAs), localized thunderstorms, easterlies, tail-end of frontal system (shearline) and the passage of three (3) tropical cyclones (TCs), namely: Severe Tropical Storm (STS) "Siony" (November 1-7), Tropical Storm "Tonyo" (November 7-9), and Typhoon "Ulysses" (November 8-13). Meanwhile, the trough of STS "Siony" and TS "Tonyo" brought moderate to occasionally heavy rains over the eastern part of Luzon. Moreover, the passage of Typhoon Ulysses also brought heavy to intense rainfall which caused dam spillage, massive flooding, mudflow and landslides particularly in Regions I, II, III, CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, Region V, CAR and NCR, resulting to extensive damages to infrastructure, agriculture and a number of casualties according to the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) situational reports.

Rainfall assessment for the month of November showed that most parts of Luzon received above normal rainfall, while below to near normal rainfall were observed in Visayas and Mindanao.

Generally, near to slightly above average surface air temperatures were recorded over most parts of the country. The temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 12.0°C – 26.2°C; rest of Luzon: 18.6°C – 35.6°C; Visayas: 21.6°C – 34.4°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 15.5°C – 33.0°C; rest of Mindanao: 21.3°C – 36.2°C and 20.9°C – 33.7°C in Metro Manila.

Furthermore, two stations have surpassed their historical extreme maximum temperatures for November, namely Clark, Pampanga (34.0°C on 20 November) and Zamboanga City (36.0°C on 15 November).

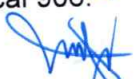
Outlook for December 2020

The weather systems that will likely affect the country in December are the NE monsoon, localized thunderstorms, tail-end of frontal system (shearline), LPAs, ITCZ, enhanced easterlies and the occurrence of one (1) or two (2) tropical cyclones that may enter/develop in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). These TCs may further enhance the NE Monsoon that could trigger floods, flashfloods and rain-induced landslides over susceptible areas.

Rainfall forecast for the month shows that most parts of country will generally experience above normal rainfall conditions, while some parts of Mindanao will likely receive near normal rainfall.

Slightly above to near average surface temperatures are predicted in most parts of the country. Forecast ranges of temperature are as follows: 9.0°C – 27.5°C over the mountainous areas of Luzon; 12.0°C – 36.0°C for rest of Luzon; 19.5°C – 34.5°C in the Visayas; 15.0°C – 33.5°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao; 18.5°C – 37.5°C for the rest of Mindanao and 18.0°C – 34.5°C in Metro Manila. Occasional surges of cold temperature will be prevalent over the northern portions of Luzon.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the strengthening La Niña and regular updates/advisories shall be issued as appropriate. Meanwhile, all concerned government agencies and the public are advised to take precautionary measures to mitigate the potential impacts of this event. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone number 8284-0800, local 906.


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