



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical
Services Administration (PAGASA)

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LA NIÑA ADVISORY NO.1

La Niña is present in the tropical Pacific. Since June 2020, the sea surface temperatures (SSTs) at the central and equatorial Pacific (CEEP) started to cool and further strengthened in September 2020 reaching La Niña threshold. Based on the latest forecast, weak to moderate La Niña is likely to persist until the first quarter of 2021.

La Niña is usually associated with 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 the vulnerable areas and sectors of the country.

Assessment in September 2020

The weather systems that affected the country during the month were the Southwest (SW) monsoon, Intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), easterlies, low pressure areas (LPAs), localized thunderstorms and the passage of three (3) tropical cyclones (TCs), namely: Typhoon (TY) "Kristine" (Sep 4-5), Tropical Storm (TS) "Leon" (Sep 15-17), and Tropical Storm (TS) "Marce" (Sep 20-21). All these TCs did not make landfall however, TS "Leon" slightly enhanced the Southwest monsoon which brought heavy precipitation in MIMAROPA and parts of eastern Luzon.

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that below to way below normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts of Luzon except Quirino, Nueva Ecija, Aurora, Catanduanes, Masbate and MIMAROPA where near to above normal rainfall conditions were experienced. Furthermore, near to above rainfall conditions were also experienced in most parts of Visayas and Mindanao except Bohol, Siquijor, Southern Leyte, Zamboanga del Norte and Sibugay, Misamis Occidental, Davao region, SOCSARGEN, Dinagat Island, Maguindano and Tawi-tawi that experienced below normal rainfall condition.

Generally, near to slightly above average surface air temperatures were observed over most parts of the country. The temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: 14.0°C – 24.5°C; rest of Luzon: 20.2°C – 35.3°C; Visayas: 22.9°C – 36.5°C; mountainous areas of Mindanao: 17.5°C – 33.5°C; rest of Mindanao: 21.3°C – 35.9°C and 23.1°C – 33.8°C in Metro Manila.

Outlook for October 2020

The weather systems that will likely affect the country for the month are the SW Monsoon, ITCZ, trough of low-pressure areas (LPAs), easterlies, high-pressure areas (HPAs), localized thunderstorms and two (2) or three (3) TCs that may enter/develop inside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). These TCs may further enhance the Northeast Monsoon and could trigger floods, flashfloods and rain-induced landslides over susceptible areas. Moreover, transition from SW monsoon to Northeast (NE) monsoon will be imminent during the latter part of October.

Generally, near normal rainfall conditions will be likely over Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR), Ilocos Region, Cagayan Region, most parts of Visayas and Mindanao, while above normal rainfall conditions are expected in major portions of Central and Southern Luzon, Bicol Region including Metro Manila.

Near to above average surface temperatures are predicted in most parts of the country. Forecast ranges of temperature are as follows: 14.5°C – 27.0°C over the mountainous areas of Luzon; 20.0°C – 36.5°C for rest of Luzon; 20.0°C – 35.5°C in the Visayas; 17.0°C – 33.0°C over the mountainous areas of Mindanao; 18.5°C – 33.0°C for the rest of Mindanao and 22.0°C – 35.0°C in Metro Manila.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the ongoing 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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