

Monthly Climate Assessment and Outlook

La Niña Watch

Cool El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) - neutral condition persists, as sea surface temperatures (SSTs) remain near to below average across the central and eastern equatorial Pacific (CEEP), while atmospheric indicator rests in ENSO-neutral threshold. Most climate models suggest ENSO-neutral conditions will likely continue until the July to September 2020 season and ~50% probability for La Niña to develop before the end of the year.

Assessment in July 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 two (2) tropical cyclones (TCs), namely: Tropical Depression (TD) "Carina" (July 13-14) and Severe Tropical Storm (STS) "Dindo" (July 31- Aug 3). Both TCs did not cross the landmass, however, TD "Carina" brought heavy precipitation over Northern Luzon that caused flooding and landslides.

Rainfall assessment for the month showed that below to near normal rainfall conditions were experienced in most parts of northern and central Luzon except for Bataan that experienced way below normal rainfall condition. Meanwhile, generally near to above normal rainfall conditions were observed over most portions of Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao with some exception to some provinces in Bicol Region, eastern Visayas, northern Mindanao and SOCCSKSARGEN which received way below to below normal rainfall.

Generally, near to above average surface air temperatures were observed over most parts of the country. The temperature ranges were as follows: mountainous areas of Luzon: $15.0^{\circ}\text{C} - 27.4^{\circ}\text{C}$; rest of Luzon: $20.0^{\circ}\text{C} - 37.3^{\circ}\text{C}$; Visayas: $22.2^{\circ}\text{C} - 36.0^{\circ}\text{C}$; mountainous areas of Mindanao: $14.8^{\circ}\text{C} - 32.6^{\circ}\text{C}$; rest of Mindanao: $21.0.0^{\circ}\text{C} - 36.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 23.5°C to 35.7°C in Metro Manila. Moreover, two (2) stations surpassed their highest recorded maximum temperature: Clark, Pampanga (36.0°C / July 9) and Cotabato City, Maguindanao (36.5°C / July 18).

Outlook for August 2020

The weather systems that may affect the country for the month are the SW monsoon, ITCZ, trough of LPAs, easterlies, localized thunderstorms and two (2) to three (3) TCs that may enter/develop inside the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR).

Generally, near normal rainfall conditions are expected in most parts of the country, except in some areas in eastern Visayas, Davao Region, Misamis Oriental, Sarangani and Basilan which may experience above normal rainfall conditions, and Tarlac that may receive below normal rainfall.

Near to above average surface temperatures are predicted in most parts of the country. Forecast ranges of temperature are as follows: $15.0^{\circ}\text{C} - 27.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ over the mountainous areas of Luzon; $18.5^{\circ}\text{C} - 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ for rest of Luzon; $20.5^{\circ}\text{C} - 36.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ in the Visayas; $15.5^{\circ}\text{C} - 33.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ over the mountainous areas of Mindanao; $18.0^{\circ}\text{C} - 36.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ for the rest of Mindanao and 22.0°C to 35.0°C in Metro Manila.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the climate conditions that may affect the country especially on the developing 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.

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