



Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services

Administration (PAGASA)

SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK JANUARY - JUNE 2023

La Niña which re-emerged starting in Jul-Aug-Sep (JAS) season of 2021 has continued to persist across the tropical Pacific Ocean, as manifested by cooler than average sea surface temperatures (SSTs) with consistent atmospheric features. Although signs of weakening were already observed lately, this event will likely prevail until Dec-Jan-Feb (DJF) 2022/2023, then transition to ENSO-neutral afterwards.

La Niña increases the likelihood of having above normal rainfall conditions that could lead to potential adverse impacts (such as heavy rainfall, floods, flashfloods and landslides) over highly vulnerable areas.

January to March 2023 Outlook

The period marks the transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral condition as equal chances are predicted during the season. However, a higher chance (71%) of ENSO-neutral condition is expected in February-April 2023 season.

The climate for this period is still influenced by the continuing La Niña in the tropical Pacific. Surges of the Northeast Monsoon (NEM) are still expected to affect the country, where colder surface air temperatures are likely to be felt in most areas of the country. The weather systems that may affect the climate for this season are the NEM, shear lines, easterlies, intertropical convergence zone (ITCZ), localized thunderstorms, low pressure areas (LPAs), ridge of high-pressure areas (HPAs) and zero (0) to two (2) tropical cyclones (TCs) that may develop/enter in the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). TCs are generally less frequent at this time of the year with tracks mostly dissipating before landfall, recurving or passing through the Visayas towards Palawan area.

Rainfall forecast for the Jan-Feb-Mar (JFM) season is expected that most parts of the country will likely receive near to above normal rainfall. Likewise, probabilistic forecast for the season also suggests a higher chance for above normal rainfall conditions in most areas of the country.

Surface air temperatures are expected to be generally slightly below to slightly above average in most parts of the country except for a few areas that may experience cooler than average (Coron, Romblon and Maasin) and warmer than average (Iba, Dipolog and Misamis Oriental) temperatures. Cold surges are still expected to affect the country during the period, especially January and February.

Gradual weakening of the NE monsoon is expected in March. This may signal the start of the dry and warm season in the country as surface air temperatures will slowly begin to rise.

April to June 2023 Outlook

ENSO-neutral condition will likely prevail during the April – June season, however, there is an increasing probability for the development of El Nino in the coming seasons.

The period is characterized by warm and humid weather conditions, especially during the months of April and May, where the transition or shifting of the winds toward the southwest monsoon season also occurs. The onset of the rainy season over the western sections of

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Luzon and Visayas (areas under Climate Type I) is expected to be normal, which may happen during the second half of May until the first half of June.

The weather systems that may influence the country's climate are the easterlies, LPAs, HPAs, ITCZ, localized thunderstorms, southwest monsoon and two (2) to four (4) TCs that may develop/enter in the PAR. During the period, the average tracks of TCs are generally from eastern Visayas moving towards the west with its approach to the central and northern Luzon areas in April and May and mostly from Bicol Region that may traverse the central and northern Luzon in June.

Predicted rainfall conditions for this season are generally near normal throughout the country, but probability forecast shows that near to above normal rainfall conditions are expected. Surface air temperatures in most parts of the country will likely be near to above average except for Calayan, Laoag, Daet, San Jose, Coron, Romblon, Tacloban and Bohol where below average temperatures are expected to be felt.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor the weakening La Niña and the possible development of El Niño in the coming months which can influence the climate conditions of the country. Regular updates and advisories shall be issued as appropriate. Meanwhile, all concerned government agencies and the public are advised to take precautionary measures to mitigate the potential adverse impacts of this event. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone numbers 8284-0800 local 906.

Original Signed:

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