



SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK
JULY-DECEMBER 2015

Overview:

Moderate El Niño has prevailed and shown signs of strengthening. Since late May 2015, sea surface temperature anomalies (SSTAs) in the central and eastern equatorial pacific (CEEP) ocean were observed to have reached more than 1.0°C. Analyses suggest that moderate El Niño will continue and likely to intensify in the next coming months and may last until early 2016.

July to September 2015

Moderate El Niño will still persist with signs of further strengthening, as collectively reflected by both atmospheric and oceanic indicators.

The period is the peak of the Southwest (SW) monsoon season or “Habagat” and tropical cyclone activity is likewise at its maximum. Rain causing weather systems such as thunderstorms, inter-tropical convergence zone (ITCZ), low pressure areas (LPAs), tropical cyclones and enhanced SW monsoon will dominate the season bringing widespread and heavy rainfall in many places of the country. This normally results to occurrences of floods and strong winds particularly in the western part of the Philippines. Seven (7) to ten (10) tropical cyclones are likely to develop/enter the Philippine Area of Responsibility (PAR). Most tropical cyclones generally move in westward and northwestward directions. Monsoon breaks are also expected to occur during the period.

Rainfall condition is predicted to be near normal to above normal in most parts of Luzon, Western Visayas, Samar provinces, Northern Mindanao, Compostela Valley, Davao City, Davao Oriental and Lanao del Sur. The rest of the country will likely experience below normal rainfall conditions. Gradual recession of rains, associated with the SW monsoon, is expected during the latter part of September up to early October.

October to December 2015


Most climate models suggest a moderate to strong El Niño will be likely during the season. Also, there is a greater chance it will last into February-March-April 2016 season.

The period covers the first half of the Northeast (NE) monsoon. Weather systems likely to influence the country are the tail of the cold front, ITCZ, easterly wave, ridge of high pressure area (HPA), the easterlies and three (3) to five (5) tropical cyclone occurrences. Tropical cyclones originating from northwestern pacific ocean tend to move in a westerly direction during the season; their most likely tracks are expected between Visayas and Central Luzon with secondary tracks (less expected) over Northern Mindanao.

For October-November-December season, generally below normal to way below normal rainfall conditions are likely over the entire Philippines except for some patches of near normal rainfall condition over Batanes and Agusan del Norte.

Several areas are expected to experience dry spell and drought conditions. These are clear signs and manifestations of impacts due to El Niño. Dry spell is described as three (3) consecutive months of below normal (21%-60% reduction from average) rainfall conditions or two (2) consecutive months of way below normal (more than 60% reduction from the average) rainfall conditions. Drought on the other hand, is defined as three (3) consecutive months of way below normal (>60% reduction from average) or five (5) consecutive months of below normal (21%-60% reduction from average) rainfall condition.

PAGASA will continue to closely monitor these climate conditions and regular updates and advisories shall be issued as appropriate. Concerned agencies are advised to take precautionary measures to mitigate the potential adverse impacts of El Niño. For further information, please contact the Climatology and Agrometeorology Division (CAD) at telephone numbers 434-0955 or 435-1675.


VICENTE B. MALANO, Ph.D.
Acting Administrator