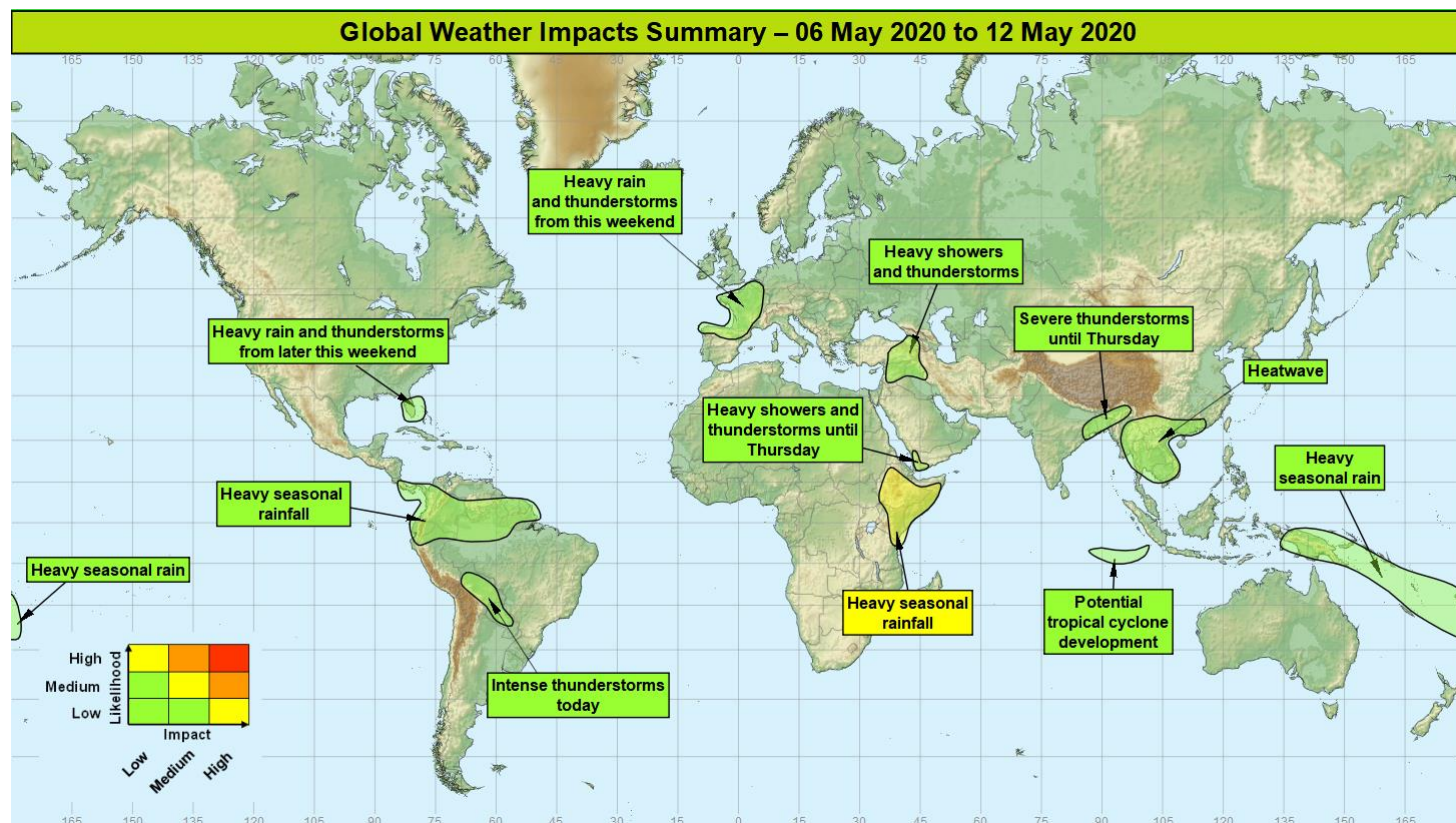


Global Weather Impacts – Wednesday 6th to Tuesday 12th May 2020

Issued on Wednesday 6th May 2020

HEADLINES

- Heavy seasonal rainfall continues across parts of eastern Africa and parts of South America, exacerbating ongoing flooding.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

There are currently no active tropical cyclones. The following area is being monitored for possible development:

Southeast Indian Ocean

Weather

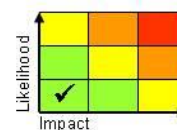
There is a low probability that a weak tropical cyclone could develop to the southwest of Indonesia near the Cocos Islands over the next couple of days.

Discussion

The southern portion of a Rossby Wave couplet has spawned a tropical low. This is expected to move further west-southwest away from Indonesia over the coming days and there is a low chance of this developing into a weak tropical cyclone for a time, before larger wind shear weaken the system later this week.

Expected Impacts

Nil, other than rough seas in the vicinity of the developing tropical cyclone.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Europe

Northern Spain, France, Alpine region, southern Germany and Benelux

Weather

Spells of heavy rain and some thunderstorms will affect parts of western and southern Europe over the weekend and into early next week. Currently, the most intense storms are most likely to be across France and the Alpine region where 50-75 mm of rain could fall in a relatively short period (less than 6 hrs), with up to 125 mm over a couple of days in a few locations. This represents close to a month's worth of rain. In addition to torrential rainfall, large hail and frequent lightning strikes are also possible.

Discussion

The upper pattern is likely to turn increasingly cyclonic across western and southern Europe as an upper vortex drifts erratically N/NE across Iberia and a major trough extension takes place down the North Sea. The vortex over Iberia backs the flow over the region and allows a high WBPT plume to be drawn N, which becomes a focus for severe convection. At the same time, a frontogenetic cold front is likely to be moving S generating areas of heavy dynamic rainfall.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is probable, especially across France and the Alpine region where there may be some disruption to travel.



North America

Florida and the Gulf of Mexico

Weather

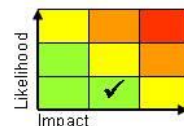
Heavy rain and thunderstorms are likely to affect Florida later this weekend and into next week with the potential for up to 100 mm of rainfall in just 24 hours (which is around 65% of the average May rainfall for Florida).

Discussion

An upper trough will move east from northern Mexico to engage a frontal plume. The result will be a frontogenic zone and a slack area of low pressure across the Gulf of Mexico, extending into Florida.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding looks like the most likely impact, with some impacts from frequent lightning possible too.



Central America

Costa Rica and Panama – see *South America* section.

South America

Northern South America along with Costa Rica and Panama

Weather

Rainfall will continue to be heavier and more widespread than usual for the time of year across the northern Andes and much of the north of the South American continent. Generally 100-150 mm of rain will fall widely, with local precipitation accumulations exceeding 200-300 mm. The highest rainfall accumulations are expected to be west of the Andes where population densities are generally lower.

Discussion

As has been the case for several months, the ITCZ is expected to remain south-shifted and active over the next week or so, feeding further heavy rainfall into the region.

Expected Impacts

Further isolated flash flood and landslides likely within the mountainous terrain of the region.



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Bolivia and Paraguay**Weather**

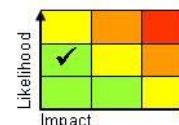
Intense thunderstorms are likely to break out widely across the region during Wednesday. Around 50-100 mm of rain could fall in a short period of time (3 to 6 hours). Large hail and strong winds are possible in places too.

Discussion

A sharp upper trough will drive an active cold front NE across the region, with intense thunderstorms breaking out in the high WBPT airmass ahead of the front. Abundant deep layer moisture will lead to some torrential downpours. More organised storms are possible over parts of Bolivia with hail, strong winds and frequent lightning strikes possible here.

Expected Impacts

Main hazard will be sudden and possibly significant flash flooding.

**Africa****Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda and Tanzania****Weather**

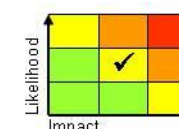
Following a recently active period in the Long Rains season, rainfall will return back to nearer normal over the next week across parts of the region. However, daily heavy showers and thunderstorms will still develop, especially along the coastal fringe from southern Somalia to northeast Tanzania and the Kenyan and Ethiopian Highlands. Locally 50-100mm of rain may still fall in places each day (often within a few hours). Through the next week the Kenyan and Ethiopian Highlands along with coastal fringes from southern Somalia to northeast Tanzania will be wettest with 100-150 mm building up in these areas.

Discussion

Above-average SSTs in the western Indian Ocean will maintain enhanced convection across the region, although this is not expected to be as heavy or as widespread as recently now the MJO has moved further east into phase 5/6 (Maritime continent/western Pacific), and this downward trend is expected to continue.

Expected Impacts

An ongoing enhanced risk of both flash flooding and some riverine flooding is likely, with the additional risk of landslides in mountainous terrain. Due to recent and ongoing flooding these areas will be particularly sensitive to further heavy rainfall.

**Middle East****Turkey northeast Syria and northern Iraq** – see *Europe* section.**Yemen****Weather**

The heavier and more widespread showers of recent days are expected to ease somewhat through the rest of the week. However, further thunderstorms are likely across the Sarawat mountains, with 5-15mm likely each afternoon, and locally a few times this very locally.

Discussion

Forcing from a distance of the upper trough is expected to wane in the next few days, leaving shower extent closer to climatology. However, with ongoing sensitivities for much of Yemen, any additional rainfall may be impactful.

Expected Impacts

A risk of flash flooding as well as landslides in areas where terrain is steep.



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Asia

Turkey, Georgia, southern Russia, northeast Syria and northern Iraq

Weather

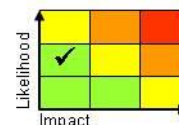
Further widespread heavy showers and thunderstorms are likely across the region through today (Wednesday), before gradually easing through the rest of the week. A further 20-40mm is likely widely, with some spots seeing as much as 60-80mm. Large hail and frequent lightning are also likely.

Discussion

A cut-off upper vortex is expected to transfer ENE through today, clearing NE Iraq through the early part of Thursday. Warm air drawn N on the vortex's forward flank will combine with forcing, diurnal input and orographic enhancement to trigger frequent CB. Large CAPE and PWAT will combine to produce some significant storms.

Expected Impacts

Low risk of flash flooding in a few places. Hail could damage crops. Potential impacts on transport. Away from areas of precipitation, lifted and blowing dust are likely, reducing air quality.



Bangladesh and northeast India

Weather

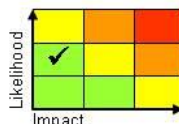
Severe thunderstorms look likely to affect this region today (Wednesday) and Thursday, producing up to 50-75 mm of rain in a few hours, with the threat of large hail, frequent lightning and even tornadoes.

Discussion

An upper trough will transfer east across the region during this period, engaging the warm plume to produce forecast profiles that show large CAPE and strong wind shear.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is the most likely impact, but with a threat of hail and lightning damage and a lower likelihood of tornado damage.



Southern China, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar

Weather

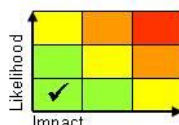
A heatwave is expected to develop widely across the region through this week. Temperatures will be 8 to 12°C above-average. Maximum temperatures will widely reach the mid-30s°C and exceed 40°C in places. Pre-monsoon heatwaves are not uncommon at this time of year, but this could potentially be more intense and widespread than usual.

Discussion

The ITCZ remain well to the south of the region and with an upper ridge aloft, subsidence will lead to predominately dry conditions and heat to build up.

Expected Impacts

Initially main impacts will be heat health related, but over time the risk of other hazards, such as wildfires and poor air quality increase.



Eastern Indonesia, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu

Weather

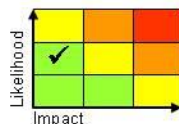
Shower and thunderstorm activity is expected to be more frequent than usual over the next week. The heaviest rainfall is expected to fall across Papua New Guinea where between 200-300 mm of rain could fall by the end of this week.

Discussion

With the MJO currently in the vicinity, it will drive more active than usual convection through the coming days. Even as the MJO continues to propagate away to the east, tropical waves which form in its wake such as Equatorial Rossby Waves (ERW) will continue to enhance deep convection across the region.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding causing damage to property and infrastructure, as well as an increased likelihood of landslides in more mountainous areas.



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Australasia**Vanuatu** – see *Asia* section.**Additional Information:**

A late-season polar-continental outbreak is signalled for much of central and eastern North America. Whilst this outbreak will be characterised by a lot of dry weather, some record low overnight temperatures are possible for areas from the Ohio Valley north-east into New England.

Issued at: 060720 UTC **Meteorologists:** Jason Kelly/Tony Wardle**Global Guidance Unit**

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