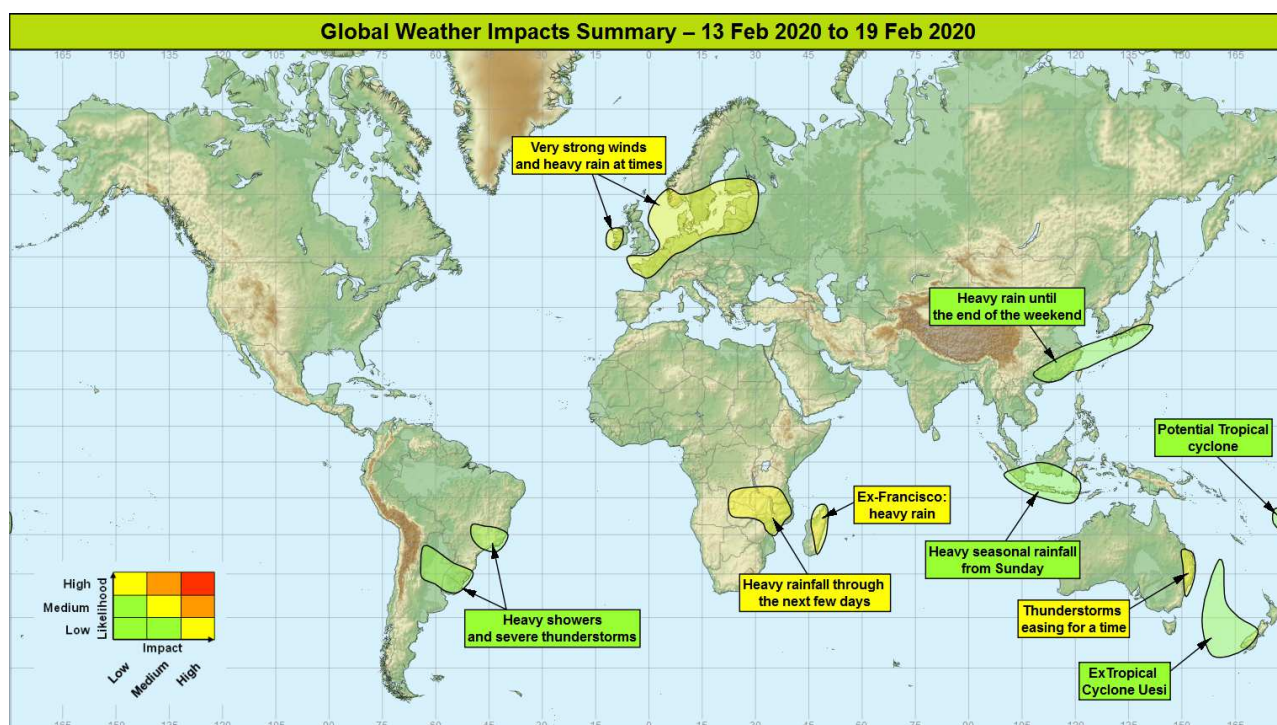


Global Weather Impacts – Thursday 13th to Wednesday 19th February 2020

Issued on Thursday 13th February 2020

HEADLINES

- Potentially disruptive winds across much of northern Europe until early next week.
- Further potential for significant flooding for parts of southeast Africa, especially Madagascar.
- Thunderstorms across eastern Australia look likely to be less intense than in recent days.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

Southwest Pacific – Tropical Low Uesi

Weather

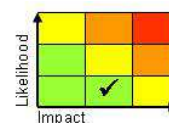
Ex Tropical Cyclone Uesi has now cleared well to the south of New Caledonia and weakened to become a tropical low overnight. The most likely track of Uesi sees it continuing south offshore of Australia over the Tasman Sea to reach the South Island of New Zealand over the weekend. This will bring some heavy rain and the possibility of strong winds.

Discussion

The centre of Uesi is now well to the southwest of New Caledonia and tracking south across the open waters of the Tasman Sea in the coming days. This system is continuing to lose its tropical characteristics and will weaken further as vertical wind shear increases and it moves across cooler waters. Its exact track is still uncertain but there is a growing consensus that ex-Uesi will reach the South Island of New Zealand over the weekend.

Expected Impacts

Rough seas could impact marine travel in the Tasman Sea. Flash flooding and/or damaging winds possible for New Zealand over the weekend although much of the rainfall probably falling in resilient areas.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Southwest Pacific – Fiji**Weather**

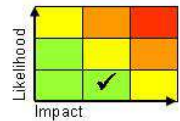
There is the potential for a tropical cyclone or cyclones to develop across the southwest Pacific early next week, possibly forming close to Fiji. Confidence in this particular development is currently very low, but would bring the potential for damaging winds, torrential rain and rough seas to the islands.

Discussion

There is a very low probability for the development of a tropical cyclone close to Fiji early next week. Currently only the GM has this signal, but with little support from its ensemble output.

Expected Impacts

Risk of damaging winds, torrential rain and rough seas that may impact travel and local infrastructure.

**Europe****Parts of northern Europe****Weather**

A combination of very strong winds and high spring tides through the English Channel, including the Channel Islands prompted Météo-France to name Storm Ines as it crosses the UK today. This brings the risk of coastal flooding, including to the Channel Islands.

Following this there another significant and widespread wind storm is expected over the weekend and into early next week. Very strong winds and heavy rain will initially arrive into the British Isles during Saturday and then extend quickly east across other parts of northern Europe through Sunday and Monday. This has been named Storm Dennis by the UK Met Office.

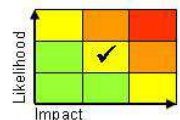
Discussion

An energetic, NAO+ pattern is expected to continue into next week. A major trough brings an Atlantic weather system across the UK today (Storm Ines). The main impact from this system is from the very strong winds along its southern flank that will run through the English Channel. Gale force winds, combined with high spring tides today could lead to disruption on coastal roads. A red tide warning has been issued for Jersey's south coast and a red flood warning is in place on Guernsey's west coast, at high tide today.

A similar event to last weekend looks very likely this weekend (Storm Dennis), although perhaps a little less severe generally. The strong baroclinicity and jet stream will generate a widespread swathe of strong winds. The confluent nature of the broad troughing and associated frontal system bring the potential for significantly gusty/squally fronts.

Expected Impacts

Coastal flooding may be caused by Storm Ines today and potentially some disruption to travel. Much more widespread impacts associated with Storm Dennis from wind, including potential damage to homes and businesses, and significant disruption to road, rail, sea and air transport is possible. Flooding from heavy rain also possible.

**North America**

Nil significant.

Central America

Nil significant.

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South America Southeast Brazil **Weather**

Further heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected over southeast Brazil during the next day or so. This brings the potential for 50-100 mm in places each day, with some locations seeing as much as 200 mm by later this week, following recent heavy rain in the last week. Rio de Janeiro typically sees around 100 mm through the whole of February.

Discussion

The SACZ will remain active in the next day or so, with a cyclonic upper pattern favouring it to become a focus for widespread deep convection. The slow moving nature of this system means that similar areas will be affected by heavy showers. Forecast profiles show deep instability with PWAT of 50-60 mm, allowing for some torrential downpours. The upper trough will weaken with the SACZ becoming less active by the weekend.

Expected Impacts

Threat of flash flooding and landslides leading to transport disruption.



Northern Argentina and Uruguay **Weather**

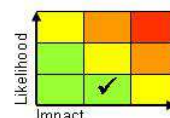
Increasing shower and thunderstorm activity is likely to develop during the next few days, bringing a risk of torrential downpours by the weekend and through into the early part of next week. 50-100 mm per day is possible in the heaviest showers, with a risk of hail, frequent lightning and localised damaging wind gusts.

Discussion

A renewed pulse of the SACZ is forecast affect the region, engaged by renewed troughing in the sub-tropical jet. High PWAT, accompanied by strong vertical shear and CAPE, should lead to the development of heavy thunderstorms, with the potential to organise into severe thunderstorms/MCS structures.

Expected Impacts

Increased threat of flash flooding and landslides, particularly in mountainous terrain. Hail, lightning, and strong winds will be localised disruptors to transport, as well as to homes and businesses.



Africa

Tanzania, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Zambia **Weather**

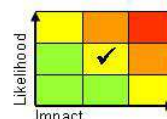
Torrential, thundery rain is forecast to continue across this region through the next few days. Many places will continue to see 25-50 mm rain each day, with a few places likely to see 75-150 mm in the heaviest, most frequent showers. There is gradually trend for the heaviest showers to become less frequent across the region as a whole by the weekend.

Discussion

The resident plume of warm tropical air across the area will continue to interact with small scale PV anomalies through the next few days, allowing the formation of heavy diurnal showers and thunderstorms each day. Activity will tend to be concentrated along a combination of the ITCZ. The rainfall will ease by the weekend as the upper forcing weakens with the decay of the PV anomalies.

Expected Impacts

Although much of the rainfall will be welcome across areas that have experienced rainfall deficits in recent times, significant flash and river flooding is possible.



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Madagascar

Weather

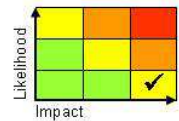
The remnants of a tropical cyclone (ex-Francisco) will produce a focus for frequent heavy showers and thunderstorms across the east and north of Madagascar through much of the next week. 100-200 mm is likely quite widely, with some places in the east perhaps seeing 500-800 mm of rain over the course of the next week (average rainfall 200-500 mm for February). This may impact the capital Antananarivo over the weekend.

Discussion

The remnants of tropical cyclone Francisco and its associated low-level moisture plume, is expected to be enhanced by an Equatorial Rossby Wave leading to the development of frequent heavy showers and thunderstorms, then heavy rain. Some significant totals are expected across the favourable topography across the east of the island.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding and landslides look likely, this on top of what has been a wet few weeks with numerous flooding and landslide impacts already reported.



Middle East

Nil significant

Asia

Southern China, Southern Japan

Weather

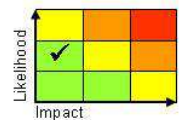
Areas of heavy rain and showers are expected across southern China and southern Japan through the next 2 or 3 days. 100-150 mm of rain per day is expected within the rain band, with some places across southern China, with rain turning to snow as it clears south.

Discussion

Broad troughing in the sub-tropical jet over China will generate heavy rain along the quasi-stationary frontal zone here. A wave depressions breaking forward across Japan over the weekend bring heavy rain and stronger winds across southern Japan on Saturday and Sunday, and will be accompanied by strong winds. Within the warm air significant deep instability is present, with potential for organised, heavy showers and thunderstorms in a high PWAT airmass.

Expected Impacts

Localised flash flooding, landslides, and potential for some rivers to flood too given the duration of the event. Disruption to transport.



Parts of Indonesia

Weather

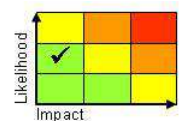
An increase in the frequency and intensity of heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected from Sunday, continuing through next week, across parts of Indonesia, including Java. Up to 100 mm of rain could fall in a 6-12 hour period in association with these thunderstorms.

Discussion

The ITCZ looks likely to become more intense later this weekend due to a surge in NE'ly monsoon to the north and more of a southerly flow from the south. This enhanced low level convergence will increase the potential for more widespread and intense convection.

Expected Impacts

Increased threat of flash flooding and landslides.



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Australasia
Southeast Australia
Weather

Further heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected across the coastal parts of eastern Australia today, then again from later this weekend, but these are not expected to be as intense as they have been in the past week.

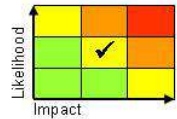
Thunderstorms will be capable of producing up to 50-75 mm of rain in places within a few hours. In addition to the rainfall there is the potential for damaging gusts of wind, large hail and frequent lightning. Brisbane looks most prone to seeing the heaviest and most frequent showers.

Discussion

An upper vortex that has contributed to the severe convection in the past week will relax and clears east as Ex-Uesi tracks south. Later this weekend a high WBPT plume will extend southwards towards the eastern coast and is expected to be engaged by shortwave upper troughs in the flow. Profiles highlight the risk of heavy showers and thunderstorms along the coast with very moist, but skinny CAPE indicative of efficient rain producers.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding, especially in the populated coastal areas and a high risk of river flooding. Aviation and power networks could be disrupted by lightning damage.



Additional Information

Nil.

Issued at: 130800 UTC **Meteorologists:** Tony Wardle / Paul Hutcheon

Global Guidance Unit

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