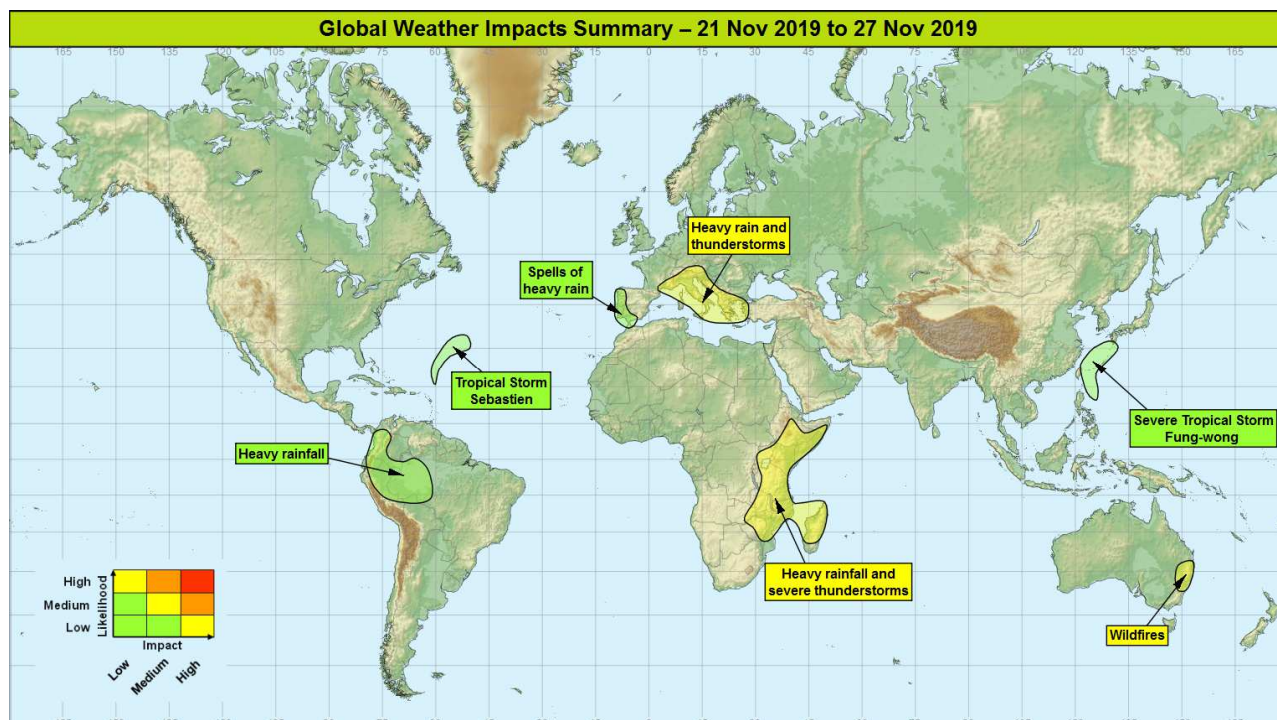


Global Weather Impacts – Thursday 21st to Wednesday 27th November 2019

Issued on Thursday 21st November 2019

HEADLINES

- Very unsettled in parts of southern and south-east Europe.
- Increasing rainfall in East Africa leading to elevated flood threat.
- Wildfires continue in South-east Australia, and conditions remain conducive to further fires.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

Tropical Storm Sebastien
Weather

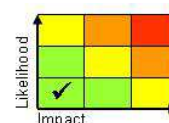
Tropical Storm Sebastien, with 1-minute sustained winds of around 60mph will continue north-northeast through the tropical Atlantic over the next few days. The system is likely to be subsumed by an advancing cold front into the weekend, but is expected to briefly attain hurricane strength (1-minute sustained winds of 75mph) for a time before this happens.

Discussion

Sebastien is signalled to meander north-northeast over open water, before being subsumed/destroyed by an approaching cold front and its associated driving upper trough. However, some output, notably the 20/12Z GM maintains the resultant low as a potent feature which accelerates ENE toward Iberia, and later the UK, by the end of the weekend. This is considered a low probability outcome for now.

Expected Impacts

Nil – the system will remain over open water.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Severe Tropical storm Fung-wong

Weather

Fung-wong is currently to the north-east of Luzon with 10-minute sustained winds of around 65 mph. There is increasing confidence in the track now, which takes it towards, but not into, Taiwan (whilst perhaps strengthening slightly), before heading over the Yaeyama islands and eventually towards the far south of Japan this coming weekend as a decaying feature. 50-100mm is likely over some parts of the Ryukyu archipelago, with the potential for locally damaging winds too.

Discussion

There is increasing model and ensemble consensus now in the track, which sees Fung-wong gradually curving towards the east as it tracks northwards around the sub-tropical ridge, eventually decaying and accelerating NE'wards in response to subsumption into the mid-latitude westerlies and declining SSTs.

Expected Impacts

Whilst the potential remains for heavy rain/flash flooding in Taiwan, it now looks more likely that islands in the Ryukyu archipelago of south Japan will be most affected by heavy rain (bringing an elevated flooding risk), and locally strong winds too.



Europe

Italy, SE France, the southern Alps (into Switzerland and Austria), Greece/western Turkey, western/southern Balkans and parts of the central/western Mediterranean

Weather

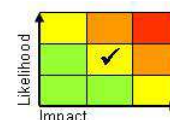
Very unsettled conditions continue across the area, these likely lasting well into next week. The heaviest rain is likely to continue to be focused on south-facing high ground of Italy and southeast France, along with the southern Alps (fringing into Switzerland and Austria) and Greece. Some locations could see as much as 200-300 mm of precipitation over the coming week (around twice the average November rainfall), with this rain falling in a region that has already seen a very wet autumn. The precipitation will fall as snow above 1000-1500 metres, resulting in further very heavy falls here, and maintaining a high avalanche threat. Some severe thunderstorms are likely in the south and south-east of the area, bringing the threat of large hail, tornadoes and waterspouts.

Discussion

A strongly cyclonic upper pattern will dominate through the next week at least, leading to a continuation of very unsettled conditions as significant upper forcing engages warm plumes drawn northwards across the region. Upscale growth of thunderstorms into MCSs is expected. In addition, precipitation will be modulated by orography to act as a focus for the heaviest ppn accumulations, although above 1000-1500 metres this will fall as snow.

Expected Impacts

Increased likelihood of flash flooding causing damage to property and infrastructure. Frequent lightning strikes, large hail and tornadoes/waterspouts could also produce localised significant damage. Further significant mountain snowfall is expected which will maintain a high avalanche threat, especially in the Alps.



Western and southern Iberia, northern Morocco

Weather

A series of low pressure systems are expected to affect this area through the rest of the week and into the weekend. Coastal gales are likely, but heavy rain will be the main hazard, with 60-100, locally 150 mm likely by the start of next week.

Discussion

South-shifted mobility is expected to continue on the S'ern flank of the developing cyclonic block across NW Europe. This is likely to lead to a succession of low pressures/frontal systems affecting Iberia. Model agreement in timing and extent rainfall is good, with rainfall totals sufficient to generate some issues.

Expected Impacts

Flash-flooding would be the main hazard.



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North America

Nil sig.

Central America and Caribbean

Nil sig.

South America**Western Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, western Brazil and northern Bolivia****Weather**

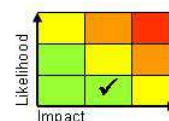
Continued enhanced shower and thunderstorm activity is likely across this region through much of the coming week. Up to 100 mm of rainfall is possible each day, with some places seeing as much as 200-400 mm in total this week (equivalent to the average November rainfall), although these totals are likely to be very localised. Conditions should ease later this week/into the weekend.

Discussion

The progression of the MJO has allowed an uptick in convection across equatorial South America. Each day, diurnal heating is able to release deep and energetic convection, leading to slow and locally severe storms each day. Marked upper level divergence is evident across tropical regions of South America, which will aid the longevity of severe convection across the region.

Expected Impacts

Some flash and river flooding with landslides likely in mountainous areas. This follows on from a recent wet period across the region with significant river flooding reported over the last couple of weeks.

**Africa****Much of eastern Africa, including Madagascar****Weather**

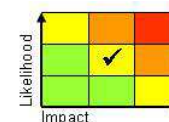
Showers and thunderstorms will be heavier and more widespread than normal through this week. The heaviest rainfall is expected to be across the Kenyan Highlands, western Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and eastern DRC. 200-300 mm of rain could accumulate through the next week (over a month's worth of rain). Elsewhere, rainfall accumulations will be lower, but still above average.

Discussion

A combination of the MJO moving across Africa and the positive IOD phase continuing, will promote above-average rainfall across this region in the coming week. Across the south of the region, a warm plume will be the focus for further deep convection through the next week, with engagement from an upper trough crossing South Africa around midweek likely to result in a peak in activity. Serious multi-year droughts have affected parts of this region, and to a degree this rain will be welcome; however the short duration over which large amounts of precipitation are likely to accumulate may well cause some serious localised issues.

Expected Impacts

An increased risk of flash flooding and landslides in the region, with further river flooding possible in Somalia. This is also true of regions in the south of the area which have been experiencing drought conditions. Frequent lightning is also likely, along with large hail and strong wind gusts.



Northern Morocco – See *Europe* section.

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Asia

Taiwan – See *Tropical Cyclones* section.

Australasia

Parts of eastern Australia

Weather

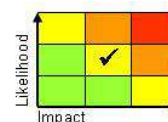
Numerous wildfires continue for parts of New South Wales and Queensland, between Sydney and Brisbane. With no significant rainfall expected in the next few days, along with likely strong wind events at times, the wildfire threat will remain very high in the region. There is the potential for some rain later this week and into the weekend which could help the situation, but the associated thunderstorms and strong winds could also spark new wildfires or spread existing wildfires due to dry lightning events.

Discussion

This early season wildfire event has already claimed a number of lives, with good model agreement for predominantly dry and at times windy conditions to continue this week. Transient upper troughs could bring thunderstorms to the affected areas from late week, but it is unclear whether these storms will bring much needed rainfall or just dry lightning events.

Expected Impacts

Fires will bring a danger to life and environmental damage across a wide area. Smoke could bring poor air quality to densely populated urban centres, with a risk of some impacts in the Sydney and Brisbane region possible.



Additional Information

Nil.

Issued at: 210820 UTC **Meteorologists:** Jason Kelly/D J Harris

Global Guidance Unit

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