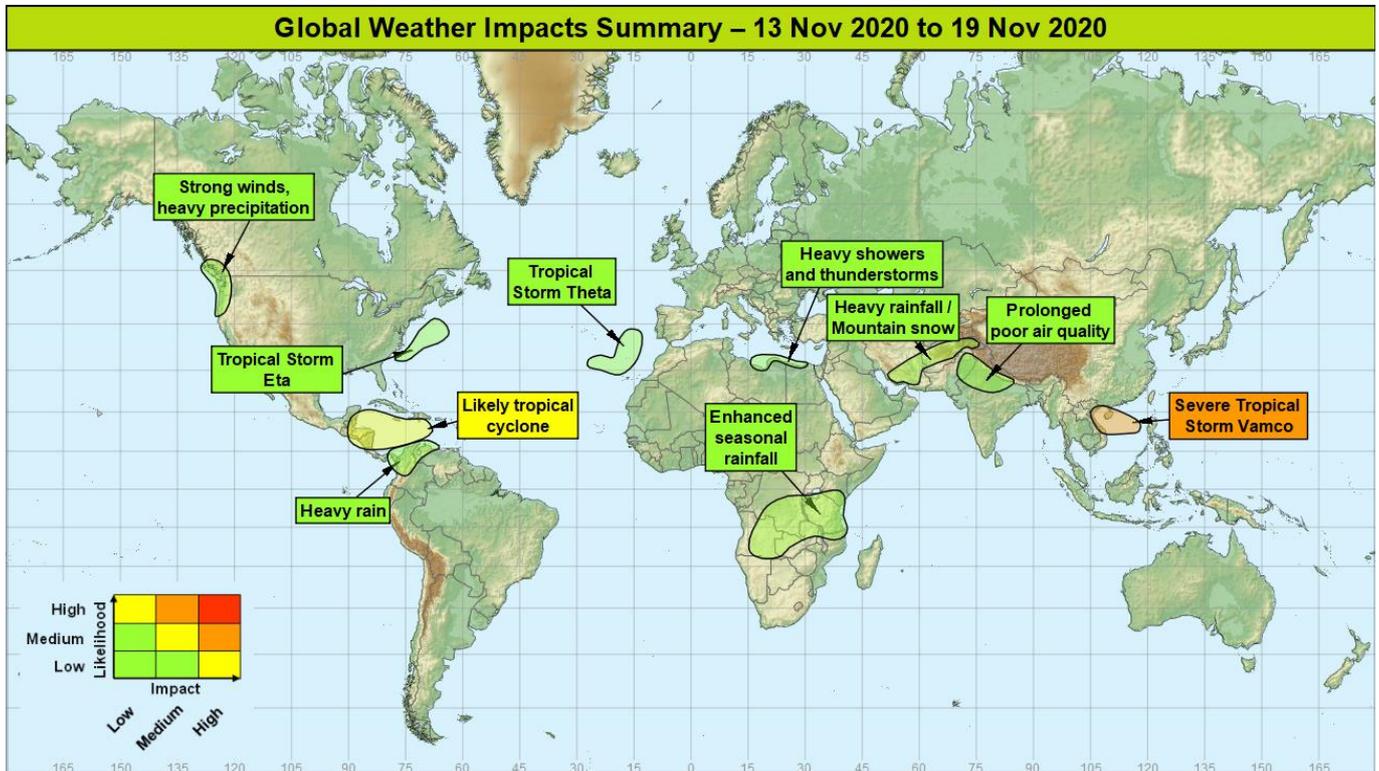


Global Weather Impacts – Friday 13th to Thursday 19th November 2020

Issued on Friday 13th November 2020

HEADLINES

- Severe Tropical Storm Vamco likely to reach central or northern Vietnam this weekend.
- Potential for another tropical storm to form in the Caribbean Sea over the coming days.



Tropical Cyclones

Severe Tropical Storm Vamco – South China Sea, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia

Weather

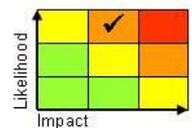
Severe Tropical Storm Vamco has now reached the South China Sea after tracking across the Philippines. Vamco is expected to continue west towards Vietnam and south China (Hainan) over the next couple of days. Its exact track uncertain but most likely reach central or northern Vietnam on Sunday bringing destructive winds along its track. This is also likely to lead to yet another spell of torrential rain to parts of Vietnam. At this stage it looks like the heaviest rain will probably be to the north of the areas that have been worst affected over the last couple of weeks.

Discussion

There is good agreement that the system will continue west as a severe tropical storm through Friday. As it approaches Vietnam there is increased uncertainty as to whether it will curve north into the Gulf of Tonkin or head due west into Vietnam. The majority of NWP currently favours the former which will mean the worst impacts are steered away from the most sensitive areas. Little change in intensity is expected through Friday, although as it gets to closer to Vietnam it will encounter lowering SSTs and with some dry air entrainment also possible this will probably lead to some modest weakening ahead of landfall.

Expected Impacts

Further severe impacts possible for parts of Vietnam and Hainan this weekend. Flooding, destructive winds and dangerous storm surge all possible.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Tropical Storm Eta – Gulf of Mexico/Florida

Weather

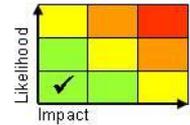
Eta made final landfall over Florida (north of Tampa) on Thursday and has now moved out into the Atlantic Ocean to lie just off The Carolinas. Eta will now accelerate away to the north-east into the cooler waters of the Atlantic, where it will undergo its extratropical transition through today. However it is still likely to produce some heavy rainfall and gusty winds along the Carolinas coasts for the next few hours.

Discussion

Good model agreement for Eta to now remain offshore and move quickly away to the NE as it is picked up by the mid-latitude flow. This and ever cooler sea surface temperatures should see Eta quickly become extratropical.

Expected Impacts

No further significant impacts to land are expected from this system.



Tropical Storm Theta - North Atlantic

Weather

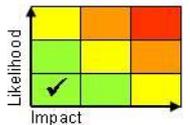
Theta (the record breaking 29th named storm of the season) continues to slowly track east-northeast over the open Atlantic towards Madeira. Theta looks unlikely to strengthen beyond its current tropical storm status, and is likely to weaken as it approaches Madeira. Theta is likely to take a turn toward the north later this weekend, with the threat to the Canary Islands from this system reducing.

Discussion

Theta continues east-northeast steered by the mid-latitude flow. Relatively low SSTs and strong wind shear will hamper any further development as a typical tropical system. However, the upper environment will promote deep convection which will help maintain the system. Confidence in its track lowers over the weekend, the upper flow likely to turn N'ly for a time before eventually being swept NE ahead of an extending trough early next week.

Expected Impacts

Low risk of flash flooding and wind damage with the most likely track to be close to Madeira.



The following area is being monitored for tropical cyclone development that has the potential to impact land:

Caribbean Sea, and parts of Central America

Weather

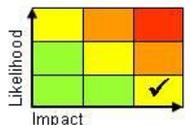
An area of enhanced showers and thunderstorms will continue west over the Caribbean Sea over the coming days bringing heavy rain (50-100 mm) to southern parts of Hispaniola and possibly Jamaica. It looks likely that a tropical storm will be spawned out of this area, probably over the weekend, then most likely continuing west into Central America. This brings the threat of damaging winds and storm surge, but even if a tropical storm doesn't form parts of Central America are likely to see torrential rain early next week. At this stage, Nicaragua and Honduras look to have the highest threat of severe impacts, especially considering that some of these areas were only recently hit by Eta.

Discussion

An African easterly wave (AEW) continues west across the Caribbean. Underlying SSTs remain high (28-29°C) and it is likely to enter an area of decreasing and favourable vertical wind shear over the next few days. This makes tropical cyclongenesis a high likelihood (NHC rate it a 90% chance over the next 5 days). The latest available intensity guidance shows significant spread. However a sizeable number suggest that this could develop into a hurricane.

Expected Impacts

Risk of flash flooding, wind damage and storm surge.



The following areas are being monitored for tropical cyclone development that will remain over open ocean:

Southwest Indian Ocean - There are clusters of showers and thunderstorms in the area which have the potential to develop into one, or perhaps two tropical cyclones in the region, both would likely be steered south or southeastwards and remain well away from land.

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Europe

Madeira, Azores and Canary Islands – See *Tropical Cyclones section (Theta)*

North America

Southeast USA - See *Tropical Cyclones section (Eta)*

Northwest USA and southwest Canada

Weather

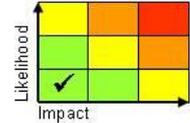
An active frontal system looks likely affect parts of British Columbia, Washington State and Oregon during Friday and Saturday. Heavy rain is likely at low levels (25-50 mm widely, perhaps 100-150 mm in places) with heavy snow, mainly over high ground. Winds associated with this system now look likely to be less strong than previously feared, but could still cause some minor damage. A further system may affect a similar area early next week.

Discussion

Models have backed away from the more developed solutions previously offered. However there is still some uncertainty in peak wind strength, but there is the potential for a spell of gusts as high as 60-70 mph for a time on the S'ern flank of the system. WBFLs look unlikely to fall significantly below 800m, so snow should be restricted to high ground.

Expected Impacts

Disruption to transport likely. Winds may be strong enough to cause some minor damage. Dangerous coastal conditions with large waves potentially leading to coastal overtopping/flooding.



Central America and Caribbean

Caribbean Sea and parts of Central America - See *Tropical Cyclones section*

Panama, Colombia and Venezuela

Weather

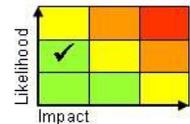
Daily heavy shower and thunderstorms activity is expected to be heavier than usual across these areas over the coming days. Each day there is the potential for 50-100mm of rain to fall in places although most areas will miss the heaviest rain. This is typically one of the wettest times of the year for these areas so forecast totals aren't exceptional but could still lead to impacts.

Discussion

An AEW running west across these areas over the coming days will help lead to enhanced convective activity. This also looks likely to trigger a tropical storm over the Caribbean Sea. Should this form, this would lead to strengthen SW'ly flow into Panama and the Pacific coast of Columbia later this week and over the weekend helping to focus heavy rainfall here.

Expected Impacts

Increased risk of flash flooding in places. Landslides possible in more mountainous areas.



South America

Colombia and Venezuela - See *Central America and Caribbean section*

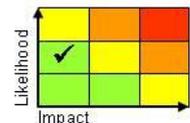
Africa

Coastal Libya and Egypt

Weather

Heavy showers and thunderstorm activity is likely to increase for a time again on Friday and Saturday. Exactly where the heaviest downpours will occur is uncertain but these could bring 25-50mm in a short period (a couple of hours). The typical monthly rainfall in these areas is just 20-40mm.

Discussion



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Another upper trough running E across the area on Thursday and more especially Friday will engage the in-situ high WBPT plume leading to convective activity again before clearing E over the weekend. A northerly steering flow will focus showers into the coasts of Libya and Egypt.

Expected Impacts

Impacts largely confined to populated urban areas where this unusual and short duration rainfall could will cause flash flooding.

Central parts of Africa

Weather

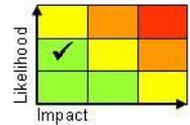
The East African Short Rains season is well underway and above average rainfall looks likely through the coming week across an area encompassing large parts of East Africa an extending west to Angola. Rainfall accumulations will vary significantly from place to place with the majority of the highlighted region seeing 25-50mm during this time. However, a few places could see 100-150 mm building up. Typical November rainfall totals in this region are 50-100 mm.

Discussion

The passage of the MJO is leading to increased convective activity over a swathe of central Africa. Above average rainfall looks set to increase until the MJO moves out over the Indian Ocean next week.

Expected Impacts

Some flash flooding is likely in places, especially in some of the region's larger and more poorly planned urban centres. Also an increased risk of landslides in regions where terrain is steep.



Middle East

Nil.

Asia

Vietnam and southern China - See *Tropical Cyclones* section

Northern India, Pakistan and Nepal

Weather

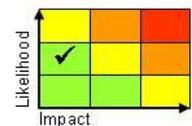
Very poor air quality is being reported and is likely to continue as light winds, increased particulate emissions, and seasonal crop burning combine to bring hazardous conditions, particularly by night. There could be a temporary improvement across the north of this area over the weekend with a spell of stronger winds and showers (heavy mountain snow) likely.

Discussion

Particulate emissions are increasing due to an increase in fires/heating/lighting and ongoing seasonal crop burning. As the post-monsoon dry season progresses light winds and overnight inversions will trap particulates near to the ground fairly widely in this area. Only minimal improvements in air quality are now occurring by day.

Expected Impacts

Human health issues (both short and long term) are likely, and not only be limited to those more susceptible to poor air quality.

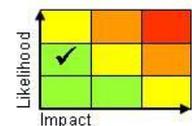


Afghanistan, Iran and Northern Pakistan

Weather

An active frontal zone will bring heavy rainfall and mountain snowfall the eastern Iran, Afghanistan and northern Pakistan this weekend and into the early part of next week. Amounts will vary, but 30 to 50 mm of rainfall per day is possible, with 80 to 100 mm in total for some locations. Across mountainous areas of northern Pakistan totals could be significantly higher, with some locations here seeing up to 200 mm, with very heavy snowfall likely above around 2000 m. The average November rainfall in Kabul is only around 15 mm.

Discussion



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A baroclinic zone will become slow moving across this region, and will be engaged by an upper trough allowing locally high rainfall amounts to build. Where the zone encounters the high ground of N Pakistan a significant early season snowfall is likely.

Expected Impacts

The main impacts are likely to be from flash flooding. In mountainous areas there will be an enhanced avalanche risk.

Australasia

Nil.

Additional Information**Cox's Bazar, southeast Bangladesh**

As is typical for the time of year, dry conditions will prevail. Temperatures look set to remain slightly above average.

Yemen

Predominantly dry conditions are expected inland. A few showers are possible each day for coastal districts and also over western parts of the Western Highlands but rainfall amounts expected to be small.

Sudan/South Sudan

Dry for much of Sudan and South Sudan. A few showers possible each day for the Sudan Red Sea coast and across the south of south Sudan but look unlikely to be heavy enough to be impactful. Temperatures are signalled to be well above average across the north of South Sudan over the next week.

Issued at: 130820 UTC **Meteorologists:** Mark Sidaway / Brent Walker

Global Guidance Unit

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