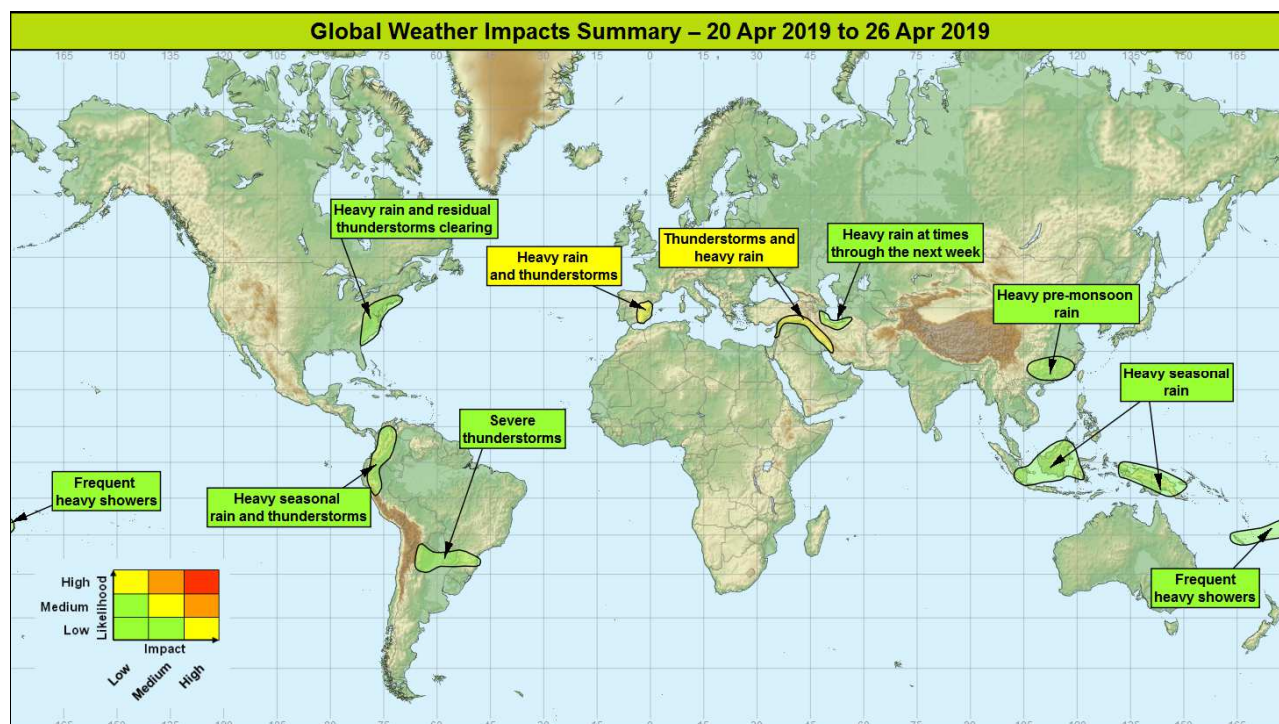


Global Weather Impacts – Saturday 20th April to Friday 26th April 2019

Issued on Saturday 20th April 2019

HEADLINES

- Heavy rain and locally strong winds over southern and eastern Spain until early next week.
- Further heavy showers and thunderstorms over parts of the Middle East and southwest Asia.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

There are currently no tropical cyclones and no developments are expected over the coming days.

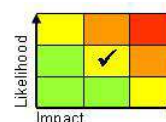
Europe

Southeast Spain Weather

Periods of persistent, heavy, and at times thundery rain are likely to affect this part of Iberia until at least the end of the weekend, and perhaps into next week. Total rainfall for the event is likely to be widely 50-75mm, though in some more mountainous areas, totals of 150-250mm could be achieved, which is many times more than the average for April of 20-40mm.

Discussion

A cut-off upper low will slowly sink S across Iberia over the next few days, the accompanying cyclogenesis and backing flow through depth drawing a PS14 WBPT plume from North Africa. Strong shortwave forcing, isentropic ascent, orographic enhancement and convective destabilisation will all aid to generate heavy rain. As would be expected when convective and orographic components are main drivers of rainfall totals, models continue to offer slight differences in coverage and intensity, though sufficient commonality exists for confidence in the event to be high.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Expected Impacts

Localised flash flooding is likely, possibly affecting areas popular with tourists. Strong winds at the coast could lead to some minor coastal flood impacts, whilst there is also a low risk of localised damage to buildings and infrastructure due to lightning. Impacts on aviation could also be significant.

North America

Eastern Seaboard

Weather

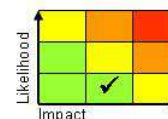
Further spells of heavy rain and isolated thunderstorms will begin to clear from the area through Saturday. A further 15-30 mm, locally 50 mm of rain is possible in some areas. Extensive low cloud and coastal fog will also develop.

Discussion

A major squall line with severe embedded thunderstorms has made rapid progress east across the central and eastern US over the last 24 hours. The main forcing for the most severe convection has eased as the driving upper trough disrupts. This will mean heavy rain, rather than severe convection (and associated hazards) will be the main impact across the region.

Expected Impacts

Some further flash-flooding as well as impacts on aviation at some of North America's busiest airports is likely.



Central America and Caribbean

Nil significant

South America

Western Colombia, Ecuador and far northwest of Peru

Weather

Further heavy seasonal rain is expected this week, following what has already been a very wet rainy season. The rains will come in the form of thunderstorm activity that could produce intense rainfall (up to 75 mm in a few hours). Through the next 7 days up to 250 mm of rain could fall in places along the Andes. This equates to over 50% of the average April rainfall falling within a week.

Discussion

There continues to be a strong model signal for enhanced rain through the next week in this region. Weak tropical waves may well help enhance the deep convection as they pass through the region over the coming week, whilst the weak El Nino conditions may also be driving this. This will come on top of what has already been an impactful start to this current rainy season in Colombia.

Expected Impacts

Potential for further flooding and risk of landslides.



North Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, south Brazil

Weather

Enhanced showers and thunderstorms, locally severe, are expected to develop over the weekend, with frequent lightning and the risk of tornadic activity. 50-80 mm, locally 100 mm could fall in some places per day, with 100-150 mm in areas most affected through the course of the event.

Discussion

A gradual southward migration of tropical air is expected lead to an increasingly unstable atmosphere, prone to release of deep convection, with torrential showers as a result. Later in the weekend, and early next week, a sharp trough/cut-off vortex on the northern periphery of the sub-tropical jet will engage this warm plume, allowing more organised storms to develop. Forecast profiles depict large CAPE, PWAT, and strong low-level helicity with increasing potential for supercells by the end of the weekend.



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Expected Impacts

Localised flash flooding, increased chance of landslides in mountainous areas, and localised risk to life and property through frequent lightning strikes and/or strong winds.

Africa

Nil significant

Middle East

Lebanon, western and northern Syria, northern Iraq and western Iran

Weather

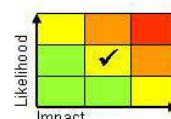
Increased shower and thunderstorm activity is expected across this region into early next week. Up to 25-50 mm of rain in 24 hours is likely in some places, with up to 100 mm of rain accumulating in places over the next 4 or 5 days, especially in northern Iraq and the Levant coastal mountains. This is 2 to 3 times the average rainfall for the whole of April.

Discussion

A succession of upper troughs will transfer east across the region at times through the next week, leading to deep convection, especially across northern Iraq and the Levant coastal mountains, that could result in intense rainfall.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding, hail, strong winds and dense lifted dust plumes (away from rain areas) are all likely in parts of this region. The heavy rain is likely to produce a threat of river flooding too, especially into the Tigris catchment in northern Iraq. The areas likely to be affected have already seen flooding over the last few weeks, with further impacts likely as a result.



Asia

Western Iran – see Middle East section

Northern Iran

Weather

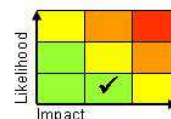
Periods of heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected across the far north of Iran, along the Caspian Sea coastline and across the Alborz mountain range. Up to 150 mm of rain could fall through the next week which is 3 times the average April rainfall.

Discussion

A succession of upper troughs will combine with the northern edge of a warm plume, aided by convergence across the Alborz mountains and moisture from the Caspian Sea to produce periods of thunderstorms and heavy rainfall through the next week.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is likely to be the biggest threat with this event. Northern Iran has suffered from severe flooding during the last month, although much of the impacts from this event should be just to the north of Tehran.



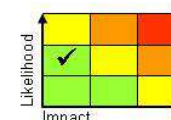
Southeast China

Weather

Further heavy pre-monsoonal rain is expected over the next few days, with many places seeing the average April rainfall (150-250 mm). In addition, thunderstorms are likely at times which could produce intense rain (100 mm in 6 hours).

Discussion

Forecast profiles show the potential for embedded high based thunderstorms within the plume. The heaviest rain and greatest risk of thunderstorms are likely within the PS24°C 850hPa WBPT that gradually pushes north through the next few days whilst being engaged by short wave upper troughs within the sub-tropical jet.



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Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is the most likely impact, with an increasing threat of river flooding and landslides.

Western Indonesia, Papua New Guinea

Weather

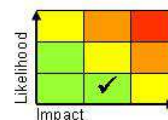
The usual shower and thunderstorm activity is likely to become more frequent and intense with more places than usual likely to see 50-100 mm of rain in a 24 hour period (mostly falling in a 6 hour period).

Discussion

The emerging MJO is likely to assist in maintaining larger scale deep convection in the eastern Indian Ocean and western part of Indonesia. Across Papua New Guinea a persistent feed of showers/thunderstorms arriving from the west and developing in situ may realise locally large totals.

Expected Impacts

Increasing threat of flash flooding and landslides.



Australasia

Fiji, south Vanuatu, New Caledonia

Weather

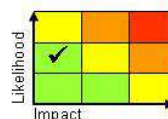
More frequent showers and thunderstorms than normal with 50-80mm, locally 100mm falling in 12-18 hours, and some locations could receive 250-350 mm over the next several days.

Discussion

The SPCZ will become slow moving over the next few days, leading to a persistent train of heavy showers and thunderstorms affecting the area. Small N/S oscillations in the zone will lead to sig variations in detail for the local islands, but the broad envelope of heavy showers is well agreed upon by the main models.

Expected Impacts

An increased flash flood and landslide risk given the persistent nature of the showers, the event spanning a number of days.



Additional information

Nil.

Issued at: 200600 UTC **Meteorologists:** Jason Kelly / Nick Silkstone

Global Guidance Unit

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