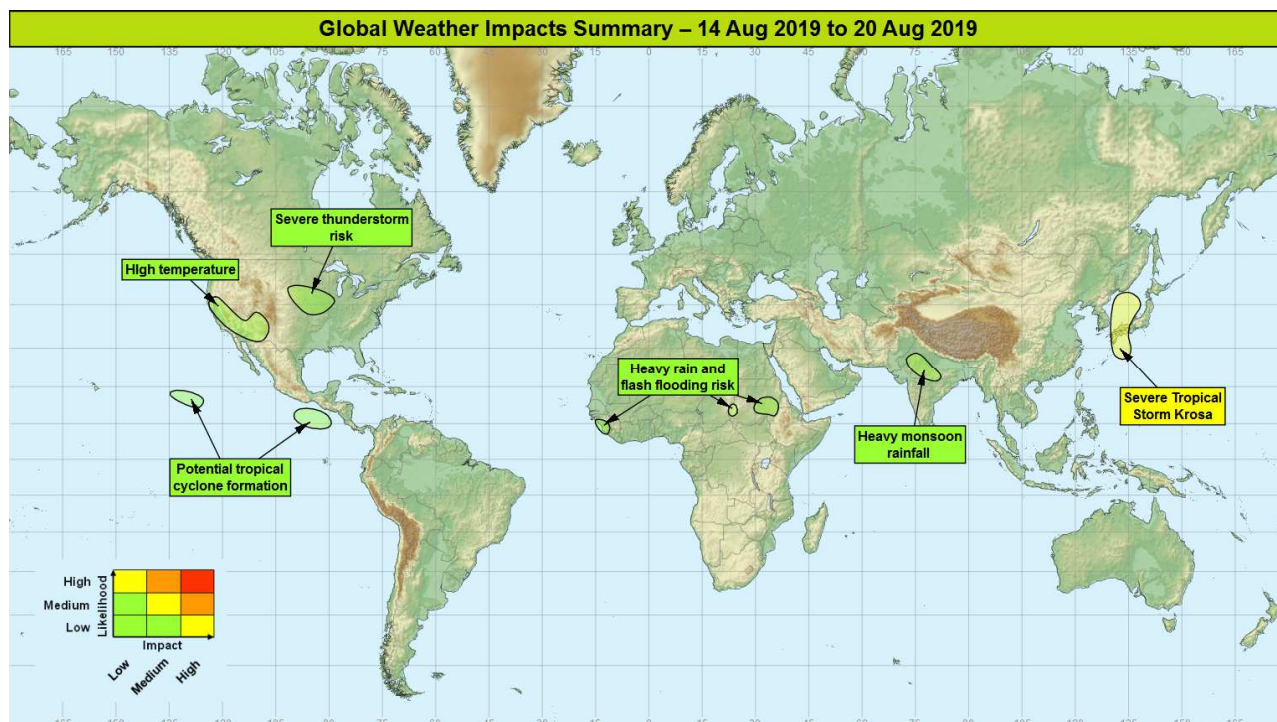


Global Weather Impacts – Wednesday 14th to Tuesday 20th August 2019

Issued on Wednesday 14th August 2019

HEADLINES

- Severe Tropical Storm Krosa likely to make landfall in southern Japan on Wednesday night.
- Monsoon low pressure system to bring heavy rainfall to central India; drier in Kerala.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

Severe Tropical Storm Krosa (Western North Pacific)

Weather

Krosa was located around 300 miles south of Kochi in Japan on Wednesday morning, tracking northward with estimated sustained winds of around 65 mph. It is expected to make landfall across the far west of Shikoku Island late Wednesday or early Thursday, with a low likelihood that Krosa may briefly strengthen to a weak typhoon (sustained wind speed of 75-80 mph). Krosa is likely to bring a combination of heavy rain (300-600mm), damaging winds and modest storm surge to a similar area recently affected by Typhoon Francisco.

Discussion

Vertical wind shear is likely to remain low enough for Krosa to stay close to typhoon strength as it approaches the Japan coast through Wednesday. As the system tracks across Japan the arrival of an upper trough running across the East China Sea will result in extra-tropical transition as it continues northeastwards out over the Sea of Japan.

Expected Impacts

Damaging winds are likely to affect coastal parts of southern Japan on landfall of Krosa, accompanied by a modest storm surge which combined with large waves may allow some coastal flooding. Heavy rainfall inland is likely to lead to both flash and fluvial flooding and an enhanced risk of landslides, with both being exacerbated by the passage of Typhoon Francisco and Tropical Storm Nari across a similar area in the last few weeks.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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The following areas are being monitored for potential tropical cyclone development:

Eastern North Pacific

Weather

An area of disorganised showers and thunderstorms currently around 1100 miles southwest of Baja California is expected to move slowly north then northwestwards. Over the next few days this will move into a region more favourable for development, with a 60% chance of a named tropical cyclone occurring.

Discussion

The showers and thunderstorms are associated with an area of low pressure, and as this moves into an increasingly favourable region for development (high SSTs and low vertical wind shear) there is thought to be a moderate chance (NHC assess 60%) of a tropical cyclone developing. Any such development is expected to remain over open ocean through this period.

Expected Impacts

Nil.



Eastern North Pacific

Weather

An area of low pressure is expected to form to the south or southeast of the southeastern coast of Mexico later this week. Over the weekend it will move into a region more favourable for development, with a 30% chance of a named tropical cyclone forming during this period.

Discussion

The area of low pressure is expected to move into an increasingly favourable region for development (lower vertical wind shear) during the weekend, when there is thought to be a low chance (NHC assess 30%) of a tropical cyclone developing. Although it could track parallel to the coast of Mexico, any such development is expected to remain over open ocean through this period.

Expected Impacts

Nil.



Europe

Nil.

North America

California and Desert Southwest USA

Weather

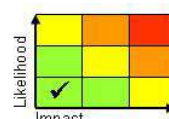
Intense heat will build across the Desert Southwest into California and the Great Basin over the next 2-3 days before temperatures likely ease over the weekend.

Discussion

An area of high pressure will maintain dry, sunny conditions and allow temperatures to continue rising ahead of a trough which will likely bring temperatures back to nearer normal by the weekend. These above average temperatures have been in part driven by an absence of monsoon moisture that would otherwise lead to increased cloudiness and scattered thunderstorm activity that suppress temperatures.

Expected Impacts

Heat related illnesses such as heat exhaustion and heat stroke will be possible. People most vulnerable to heat illnesses include those who spend lots of time outdoors, those without air conditioning, young children, the elderly, and those with pre-existing health conditions.



Midwest USA

Weather

There will be a severe thunderstorm threat across the Midwest on Wednesday, with this threat then transferring eastwards through the rest of the week and into the weekend. Up to 150 mm of rain could fall in a six-hour period, with the potential for large hail and damaging winds.

Discussion



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Several short wave upper troughs will run east, engaging the northern edge of a high WBPT plume to produce the severe storm threat.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is the highest threat, but with damaging winds and hail along with power and transport disruption possible.

Central America and Caribbean

Nil.

South America

Nil.

Africa

Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia

Weather

Tropical waves will bring enhanced shower and thunderstorm activity to this region over the period, particularly later this week and then again early next week. Thunderstorms are likely to produce locally 50 to 100mm of rain in a short period, with up to around 400 mm possible in places during this period.

Discussion

At least two African Easterly Waves are expected to transfer westwards across the region during the next week, enhancing the seasonal rainfall. This follows a spell of slightly wetter than average conditions over the past week or so.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is likely, together with an increased risk of landslides.



Southeast Sudan and Darfur

Weather

Further scattered heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected to affect southeast Sudan in the next week or so. This gives the potential for 50-75 mm of rain to fall in a couple of hours in a few locations. This follows heavy rain that has already fallen over the past week affecting the southern half of the country. There were reports of 155 mm of rainfall falling around Khartoum last week, equivalent to three times the August rainfall.

Discussion

With the ITCZ approaching its northern limit, rainfall from scattered thunderstorms across southern Sudan is not unusual in August with it being the wettest month of the year in Khartoum (48 mm). However, numerous states have reported flash flooding and related human health impacts over the past week.

Expected Impacts

Localised flash flooding may lead to property and infrastructure damage in the region.



Middle East

Nil.

Asia

Japan – See *Tropical Cyclones* section.

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Central India

Weather

A further spell of frequent torrential downpours and thunderstorms will gradually transfer west-northwestwards across central and northern India through the remainder of the week. Intense rainfall is likely to produce locally 150 to 300 mm of rain in a 24-hour period, with up to 600 mm in places during this event (close to the average rainfall for the whole of August in parts of this region).

Discussion

A monsoon low pressure system that developed across the northwest Bay of Bengal will gradually transfer west-northwest across central and northern India through the next five days.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is likely in this region, with a threat of river flooding in places. This may result in further travel disruption, displaced populations as well as some damage to property and infrastructure.



Australasia

Nil.

Additional information

Kerala, India

The rains are expected to ease through the rest of the week as the region goes into a monsoon break period. However ongoing reports of flooding are likely in this region over the next day or so, as a result of the lag time between the heaviest rainfall falling and peak river levels in the lower parts of larger catchments.

Issued at: 140715 UTC

Meteorologist: Laura Ellam and Matthew Lehnert

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