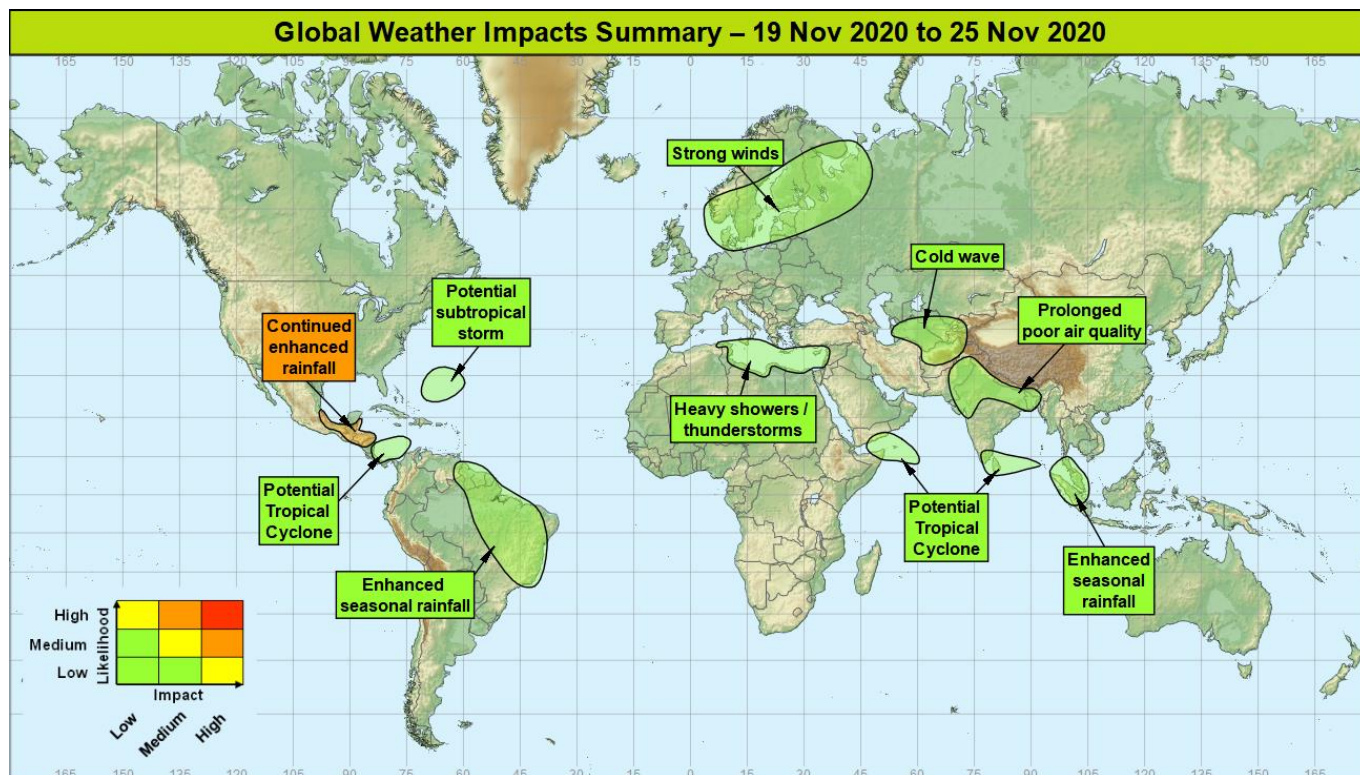


Global Weather Impacts – Thursday 19th to Wednesday 25th November 2020

Issued on Thursday 19th November 2020

HEADLINES

- Following recent extreme rainfall across Central America, very heavy rainfall remains across the region until the weekend or early next week.



Tropical Cyclones

There are currently no ongoing tropical cyclones which pose a threat to land in the next 7 days, however the following tropical cyclones are active but will remain over open ocean:

Northeastern tropical Pacific – Tropical Storm Polo formed in the past 24 hours, and will continue west over open ocean and decay in the next day or so.

The following areas are being monitored for tropical cyclone development that may impact land:

Arabian Sea – Somalia and Socotra Island (Yemen)

Weather

A cluster of showers and thunderstorms moving northwestwards across the Arabian Sea has a moderate chance of developing into a tropical cyclone this weekend as the area approaches the Horn of Africa. Unseasonal rainfall is expected across the highlighted region regardless of development, however if this cyclone forms this could bring heavy rainfall across the usually dry northeast of the Somalia and Socotra Island, with 100-200mm possible, and then unseasonably heavy rainfall to parts of Yemen and Oman next week.

Discussion

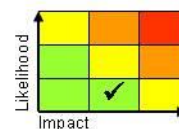
An Equatorial Rossby Wave in the northwest Indian Ocean will likely continue to progress slowly northwestwards. As it does so it will move through a marginally favourable environment for the development of a tropical cyclone with reasonable warm underlying SSTs (26-28°C), and fairly good other environmental factors. Regardless of the degree of development some enhanced rainfall is expected across the region this coming weekend.

This forecast may be amended at any time

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Expected Impacts

Increased risk of minor riverine and potentially more significant flash flooding. A small chance of some disruption to travel and damage to poorly built structures from strong winds.

Southwestern Caribbean

Weather

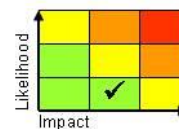
There is a low likelihood of the development of a further tropical cyclone across the western Caribbean in the next few days. The environment in this region looks relatively favourable for at least some development, however not as favourable as it was for Iota in part due to slightly cooler SSTs in the wake of Iota crossing the region – so even though this is in a similar area to which has been affected by Iota (probably slightly to the south), there are no indications that this will be anywhere near as significant, if a cyclone even forms at all.

Discussion

On the eastern edge of a fairly broad gyre there is signalled to be a zone of enhanced low level vorticity where the southwesterly flow circulating around the gyre meets the easterly trade winds of the Caribbean. This is leading to a zone of enhanced shower and thunderstorm activity, with the potential that this could consolidate into a tropical cyclone in the coming days. As this system has yet to form confidence in its evolution is low, however anything which did form would be steered westwards towards the coast of Central America once again.

Expected Impacts

A risk of further most likely rainfall related impacts with flash and riverine flooding across parts of Central America, probably just south of the region most impacted by Hurricane Iota.



Southern Bay of Bengal – Sri Lanka and southern India

Weather

There is the possibility of a tropical cyclone developing in the southern Bay of Bengal later this weekend that could track west to affect Sri Lanka and southern India during the early or middle part of next week. Even if a tropical cyclone does not form heavy rainfall is expected to affect this region, with up to 200mm possible in just 24 hours. This would not be exceptional since this is the wettest month of the year in this region with typical monthly rainfall of 300-400mm.

Discussion

All models show a westward transfer of an area of deep convection this weekend and into next week. There are some timing and development differences, but there is enough model evidence to suggest a moderate likelihood of a named storm developing. The cause of this potential development is likely to be an Equatorial Rossby Wave.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is probable, with impacts from wind and storm surge flooding much less likely at this stage.



Northwest tropical Atlantic – Southwest of Bermuda

Weather

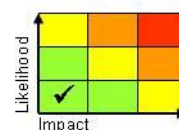
Following a weekend of heavy rainfall when 50-100mm could fall across Bermuda, there is then a small chance of a subtropical storm developing to the southwest of the island early next week, and this could bring additional rainfall, gusty winds and rough seas to the island.

Discussion

An area of low pressure from non-tropical origins is likely to become slow moving to the southwest of Bermuda over the weekend into early next week. This may then begin to develop some organised shower and thunderstorm activity around it and there is a low chance it could acquire subtropical storm characteristics.

Expected Impacts

Minimal risk of some minor flash flooding.



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Europe

Central and Eastern Mediterranean and adjacent coasts

Weather

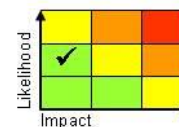
An unsettled week ahead across the central and eastern Mediterranean with enhanced shower and thunderstorm activity across much of the basin, and some periods of strong winds too. Although there are always marked localised variations with showers, daily totals of 25-50mm could fall fairly widely, with peaks over 100mm in some spots. The greatest impacts from this are more likely across the usually drier areas of North Africa, for example northern Libya typically only sees 15-30mm of rainfall in November.

Discussion

A markedly amplified pattern across Europe will see a series of troughs (and associated upper cold pools) extend and disrupt across the Central Mediterranean, with these features then relaxing eastwards across the eastern Med. As couple a cyclogenesis events are expected across the Med, bringing precipitation from both dynamic and convective means and some strong winds. The impact from this rainfall most likely across the usually drier parts of North Africa, especially if enhanced rainfall affects an urban area.

Expected Impacts

Enhanced risk of flash flooding, especially across urban areas. Strong winds will lead to some rough seas, which will be hazardous small craft.



Scandinavia, Baltic States and northwestern Russia

Weather

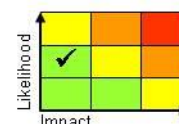
Strong winds will move across this region today with gusts of 50-60mph likely. Across the pine forests in the north of this region the ground currently remains unfrozen, and wetter than usual, meaning a greater than usual likelihood of trees being blown over.

Discussion

A deep low will move northeast along the northern part of the highlighted region with strong winds extending well south of this low across a broad warm sector. Usually by this point in the year the ground is frozen in the, which makes the trees more resistant to strong winds. In addition wetter than average conditions across Scandinavia are also likely to increase the risk of tree falls here.

Expected Impacts

Strong winds via the mostly indirect route of falling trees are likely to disrupt travel and utilities across the region.



North America

Nil.

Central America and Caribbean

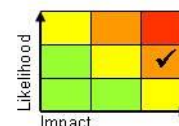
Panama, Costa Rica and Nicaragua - See Tropical Cyclones section

An area from Nicaragua to southern Mexico, including Belize

Weather

In the wake of the extreme rainfall associated with Hurricane Iota further enhanced showers and thunderstorm activity is expected across the region through the next 4 or 5 days. During that time a further 50-100mm of rainfall is expected widely, with a further 300-500 mm expected across part of northern Honduras and Guatemala, Belize and southern Mexico. The is likely to prolong the ongoing severe flooding currently ongoing across the region associated with the passage of both Hurricane Eta and Iota in the past 2 weeks. The heavy shower and thunderstorm activity is expected to become less widespread through the weekend and early next week.

Discussion



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A slow moving cold front extends from the Florida Strait to the northern Bay of Campeche, which a moist tropical airmass to the south of this, with an enhanced northeasterly flow across the region (partly associated with the decaying remnants of Iota) driving frequent showers and thunderstorms onto the coastlines, with further orographic enhancement heavily modulating precipitation distribution. Through the weekend the cold front is expected to weaken, but tropical waves are likely to maintain heavy shower and thunderstorm activity, but in a smaller geographic area.

Expected Impacts

Due to recent extreme rainfall in the region this rainfall will maintain extreme riverine flooding, and continue to raise the risk of landslides. In addition across the west of the area there is a small risk that rainfall may mobilise some lahars.

South America

Northern Colombia - See *Tropical Cyclones* section

Northern and eastern Brazil

Weather

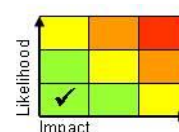
Showers and thunderstorms across this region will be more widespread and intense through the next 3 or 4 days. Daily accumulation of 50-75mm are likely and in some locations 100 to 200mm of rain could build up over the course of the week.

Discussion

Signal for enhanced seasonal rainfall to develop during this week, probably due to a favourable MJO phase and the background La Niña state, which increases the chance of wetter than normal conditions in this region. Some reduction in rainfall is probable next week as the MJO weakens and moves into the Maritime Continent next week.

Expected Impacts

Increased risk of flash flooding.



Africa

Somalia - See *Tropical Cyclones* section

Mediterranean coastline from Algeria to Egypt - See *Europe* section

Middle East

Mediterranean coastline of Turkey, Syria and Lebanon - See *Europe* section

Socotra Island, Yemen - See *Tropical Cyclones* section

Asia

Southern Bay of Bengal, Sri Lanka and southern India - See *Tropical Cyclones* section

Northern India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal

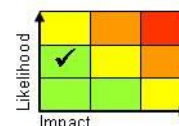
Weather

Very poor air quality is likely to continue as light winds, increased particulate emissions, and seasonal crop burning combine to bring hazardous conditions, particularly by night.

Discussion

Particulate emissions remain elevated 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



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

Northeast Iran, Afghanistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan

Weather

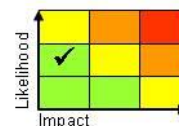
A marked cold wave is ongoing and will continue over the next few days, bringing temperatures 10-15°C below average. This represents maximum temperatures failing to exceed 0°C particularly in the north of the region highlighted and very low overnight minimums. These temperatures are more typical of those experienced in the colder spells in December and January.

Discussion

A marked pattern amplification sees cold air of originating from central/northern Russia being drawn southwards across this region. The peak in the cold is likely to be today and Friday with a gradual recovery in temperatures beginning as the cold airmass begins to warm out over the weekend.

Expected Impacts

Some cold weather health related impacts likely for vulnerable or exposed people.



Western Indonesia, southern Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore

Weather

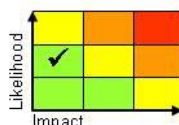
Enhanced shower and thunderstorm activity is expected across this region over the coming days with much of the area expected to see over 50mm of rain and peaks of 150-250mm. Typical monthly rainfall in the region is of the order of 350-450mm in November (the wettest month of the year), recent weeks have been slightly drier than average.

Discussion

The passage of a marked Kelvin Wave and the MJO is expected across this region over the coming week bringing enhanced precipitation. Given that this is following a recently drier than average spell impacts are expected to overall be less than would usually be the case given such high rainfall totals.

Expected Impacts

Increased risk of flash flooding, and an enhanced risk of landslides for mountainous areas.



Australasia

Nil.

Additional Information

Nil.

Issued at: 190800 UTC

Meteorologists: Nick Silkstone / Paul Hutcheon

Global Guidance Unit

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