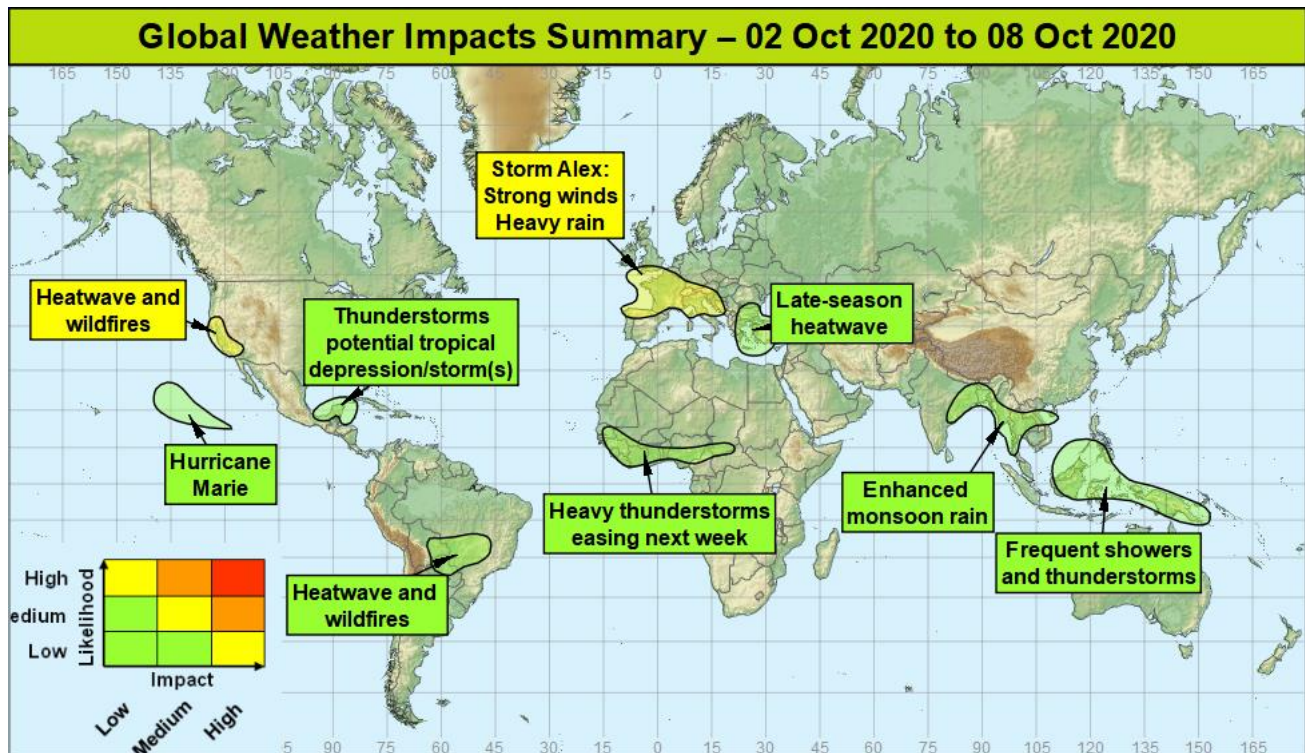


Global Weather Impacts – Friday 2nd to Thursday 8th October 2020

Issued on Friday 2nd October 2020

HEADLINES

- Storm “Alex” bringing damaging winds and heavy rain to parts of western and central Europe.
- Heatwave and wildfire conditions continuing across California and parts of South America.
- Enhanced activity in the monsoon over parts of south Asia.



Tropical Cyclones

Eastern Pacific Ocean

Hurricane Marie will continue to track westwards in the coming days, with the environment favourable for this storm to strengthen into a major hurricane for a time, before beginning to weaken again through the weekend. This system will not affect land.

The following area is being monitored for development:

A tropical wave located over the west-central Caribbean Sea is producing a large area of disorganised showers and thunderstorms. Conditions are expected to be conducive for development of this system, and a tropical depression is likely to form over the northwestern Caribbean Sea or the south-central Gulf of Mexico, possibly before the system reaches the east coast of the Yucatan Peninsula on Saturday.

A second area over the eastern Caribbean Sea is also being monitored for possible development, although this is presently considered a low risk.

Also see [Central America and Caribbean](#) section for full details.

This forecast may be amended at any time

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Europe

Parts of western and central Europe

Weather

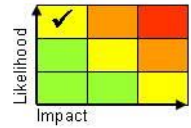
Very wet and windy conditions are expected across some western and then parts of central Europe today and over the weekend. Repeated heavy rainfall events will allow some large accumulations to build up, with 75 -150 mm of rain falling widely, especially over parts of France, the higher ground of northern Spain and Portugal, and perhaps later the Dinaric Alps. Across the Alps potentially in excess of 300mm is possible by the end of the weekend (so locally very significant snowfall likely on mountain tops). Gales, severe gales or storm-force winds could develop in places, with the strongest winds probably across northern and western France, and the English Channel where there could be gusts of 60 to 70 mph, and more especially in the Bay of Biscay where winds could reach hurricane force for a time very near to the low centre and this will create very large waves.

Discussion

An intense low pressure centre currently over northwest France will linger over or near the English Channel today, then drift slowly south over the Bay of Biscay at the weekend, as the driving upper trough disrupts in-situ. The slow-moving nature of the system will exacerbate rainfall totals in some places with some long periods of heavy rain expected as a series of active fronts eastwards across many parts of western and central Europe. There will be some very strong winds around the low centre. Although it is Autumn, it is still early in the season and while these conditions aren't unprecedented, they certainly have the potential to cause some disruption given the intensity and duration of rainfall, and the strength of the winds near the low, combined with trees which are presently in full-leaf and some very densely populated towns and cities in the area.

Expected Impacts

Increased risk of flash flooding today, with riverine flooding more likely over the weekend. Disruption to travel and interruptions to power supplies are possible due to strong winds as trees (which are presently in full-leaf) are especially susceptible, and there are some very densely populated towns and cities in the area as well. Large waves are expected at sea and near some coasts, particularly in the Bay of Biscay and English Channel, so some disruption to marine traffic is likely too as well as some damage to sea defences.



South-east Europe, including Crete and western Turkey

Weather

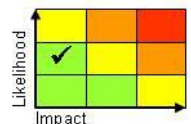
A developing heatwave is likely across these areas through the weekend, then lasting into next week. Temperatures some 10-15°C above normal are likely. This would bring maximum temps well into the 30s°C, with the potential for record high temperatures to be threatened through the period.

Discussion

A developing S'ly flow on the forward side of the synoptic-scale low, responsible for bringing widespread unsettled conditions to much of western Europe, will tap into very warm air over Libya and Egypt, drawing this N across the region. Whilst high temperatures at this time of year in this region are not unusual, the longevity, and potential record-setting nature of the event are notable.

Expected Impacts

Impacts on vulnerable populations in the area, with possible stress on infrastructure.



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North America

Western USA (especially California)

Weather

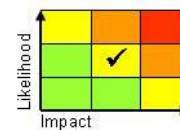
Heatwave conditions are expected to continue, with daily maxima exceeding 40°C, this in conjunction with strong, gusty winds and dry air. Numerous wildfires continue across the west of the US, the most significant of these across California – with conditions remaining conducive to spread and further generation of fire in the coming days.

Discussion

Little change to the weather pattern with a strong upper ridge and strongly subsided, warm and very dry air mass across the region. Temperatures are likely to continue around 8-10°C above the seasonal norm, and encouraging the redevelopment and/or spread of fires in the region.

Expected Impacts

Continued poor air quality is likely, especially for California, and continuing critical fire weather conditions. Heat health impacts likely in conjunction with the prolonged period of heat in the Central California Valley.



Central America and Caribbean

Southeast Mexico, Belize, Guatemala, and western Cuba

Weather

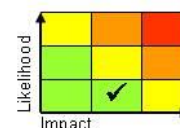
Heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected to be more frequent and intense with 75 to 150 mm of rain falling quite widely in the coming days, perhaps up to 400 mm across parts of southeast Mexico as a tropical wave located over the west-central Caribbean Sea produces a large area of disorganised showers and thunderstorms. Conditions are expected to be conducive for development of this system, and a tropical depression is likely to form over the northwestern Caribbean Sea or the south-central Gulf of Mexico, possibly before the system reaches the east coast of the Yucatan Peninsula on Saturday.

Discussion

High SSTs, low-level convergence and abundant deep layer moisture will lead to deep convection across the region over the coming days. A pronounced northerly flow will bring an orographic element to rainfall totals, especially across the hills of south-east Mexico. Several easterly waves are also likely to move across the Caribbean, and these are likely to contribute to the potential development over a tropical depression here over the coming days.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding increasingly probable along with landslides in mountainous regions.



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**South America****Bolivia, central & southern Brazil and Paraguay****Weather**

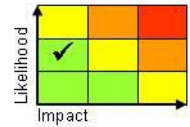
Heatwave conditions, coupled with strong winds continue this week. Temperatures widely mid to high 30's Celsius, locally into the low 40s Celsius, which is 10°C or more above average. Some national all-time records have already been broken in Paraguay recently, and further records could be challenged. Conditions will become increasingly conducive to the spread of wildfires, of which there are numerous within this region.

Discussion

Sustained warm advection combined with ridging aloft continues to promote some very high temperatures across the region. A strengthening wind in the south of this area will lead to conditions more conducive to wildfires for a time. A cold front arriving from the S will start to displace the heat northwards briefly this weekend, but the hot conditions will return and look like lasting for a while yet.

Expected Impacts

Heat health impacts on vulnerable demographics, particularly in the south of the region, where all-time temperature records could be challenged. Increased likelihood of wildfire generation, bringing increasingly poor air quality and threat to communities.

**Africa****Much of West Africa as well as parts of central Africa****Weather**

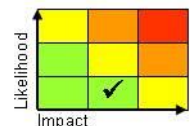
Further periods of heavy showers and thunderstorms will affect the region at times in the coming week. Whilst not all areas will see heavy rain, each day 50-75mm could fall in places within a few hours, and over this period the wettest areas may see 150mm build up. If anything activity looks to be rather less than we have seen in recent weeks.

Discussion

Many parts of this area have experienced floods and flooding impacts in what has been an active period for African Easterly Waves. Further AEWs are expected in the coming days, though there remains some model differences as to detail of the severe convection associated with these features. There are signs that activity could ease further in to next week.

Expected Impacts

The potential for further flash and riverine flooding across much of the region, although not as widespread and severe as in the recent past.

**Middle East**

Nil.

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Asia

Eastern India, parts of Bangladesh, Myanmar, western and southern Thailand, Laos and Vietnam

Weather

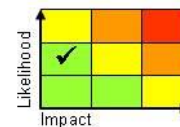
Enhanced shower and thunderstorms activity is likely in this area over the next week, with many parts seeing 100-150mm of rain. The wettest parts of the region are likely to be northeast India as well as western Thailand. Here, some 200-300mm is possible, this almost twice the October average for the area (though well short of record values for the region).

Discussion

A broad monsoon trough now exists across the Bay of Bengal, with strong SW'ly flow on its southern periphery. This is expected to drive frequent showers across the Andaman Islands and particularly for Myanmar and southern Thailand, where topography will help to concentrate the showers. A monsoon depression may form across the northern Bay of Bengal bringing enhanced rainfall across parts of coastal eastern India, as well as Bangladesh, in the next few days.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding, and landslides will be the primary hazard, although impacts are likely to be lower than recent weeks.



Parts of Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Brunei and Papua New Guinea

Weather

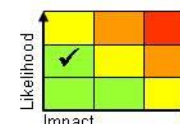
Heavy showers and thunderstorms will continue to be more frequent, intense and widespread than normal in the next day or two. Within the broad area highlighted some spots in most of these countries will be at risk of seeing 150-250 mm of rainfall. Thereafter more normal rainfall patterns should prevail by the end of the weekend and in to next week.

Discussion

Higher than normal SSTs in the region and enhanced easterly trade winds, in part due to the developing La Niña-like conditions, is fuelling deep convection with showers and thunderstorms in the next few days. A slight reduction in the trade winds over the weekend is expected to lead to more normal rainfall patterns thereafter.

Expected Impacts

Increase in the risk of flash flooding, and landslides in mountainous areas.



Australasia

Nil.

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Additional Information

Cox's Bazar, southeast Bangladesh

Although monsoon activity in the wider region is expected to be enhanced, Cox's Bazar should avoid the heaviest rain for most of the time. That said – some showers and thunderstorms are still likely to be driven onshore by southwesterly winds from the Bay of Bengal, interspersed with periods of dry weather. Some 10-15mm of rain are likely with these showers, with a lower risk of seeing double this in any more prolonged, or heavier showers. This is around normal for the time of year.

Yemen

The development of isolated, daily heavy showers is likely to remain focused over the Western Highlands. Activity is expected to be around average for this time of year with a good deal of dry weather elsewhere.

Sudan/South Sudan

The bulk of the shower activity will be seen in South Sudan through the next 7 days. 25-50mm of rain per day possible from daily showers and thunderstorms, and perhaps as much as 75-100mm at any one location over the course of the coming week. This is fairly typical for the season. Much of central and northern Sudan will be mainly dry, although the South Sudan border region will see heavy showers most days, but with rainfall totals less than further south.

Issued at: 020715 UTC

Meteorologists: Chris Almond / Mark Sidaway

Global Guidance Unit

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