

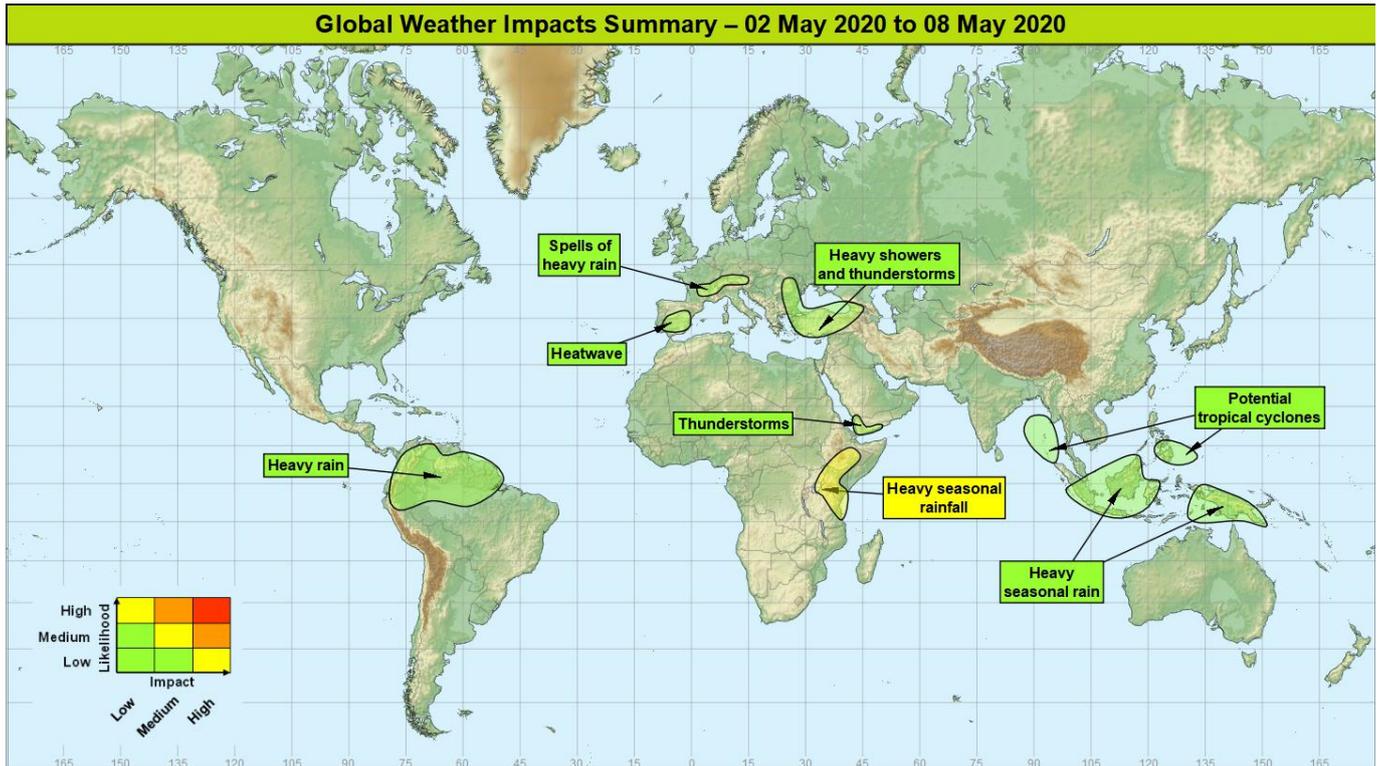
Global Weather Impacts – Saturday 2nd to Friday 8th May 2020

Issued on Saturday 2nd May 2020

HEADLINES

- Heavy seasonal rainfall continues across parts of eastern Africa, exacerbating ongoing flooding.
- Low risk of a tropical cyclone developing in the Bay of Bengal later in the period, and close to the southern Philippines this weekend.

DISCUSSION

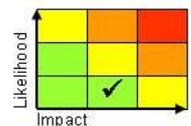


Tropical Cyclones

There are currently no active tropical cyclones. The following areas are being monitored for possible development:

Bay of Bengal Weather

There is a low but increasing likelihood of tropical cyclone development across the eastern Bay of Bengal next week. Should a tropical cyclone form the greatest risk is early next week in the vicinity of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands (i.e. mostly over the sea). Irrespective of development, well above average rainfall is expected to affect the highlighted region.



Discussion

With the MJO now in the Maritime Continent, there is an increased likelihood that it will spawn a Rossby wave couplet in its wake. The combination of a developing low shear environment and warm SSTs would support tropical cyclone development next week although the signal from NWP for a depression of tropical cyclone strength remains mixed. ECMWF has more of a feature than GM which has little sign, and ensemble signals are also weak. The Indian Met Service are watching a low which has formed over the South Andaman Sea and adjacent Bay of Bengal, and are giving an increasing likelihood of cyclone formation from early next week.

Expected Impacts

Should a tropical cyclone develop, strong winds could cause damage to property and infrastructure, as well as lead to large waves and coastal flooding. Heavy rain would likely cause some surface water and riverine flooding.

This forecast may be amended at any time

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West Pacific**Weather**

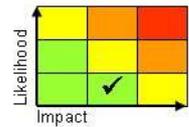
There is a very low likelihood of tropical cyclone development between Palau and the Philippines this weekend. A significant system is not currently signalled to develop, but irrespective of this above average rainfall is expected to affect the highlighted region especially this weekend.

Discussion

With the MJO now in the Maritime Continent, there is an increased likelihood that it will spawn a Rossby wave couplet in its wake. The combination of low shear and high SSTs would support cyclone development although the model signal is mixed. GFS is the keenest whilst EC and GM are not, and ensemble signals are also weak.

Expected Impacts

Should a tropical cyclone develop, strong winds could cause damage to property and infrastructure, as well as lead to large waves and coastal flooding. Heavy rain would likely cause some surface water and riverine flooding.

**Europe & Turkey****Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Georgia****Weather**

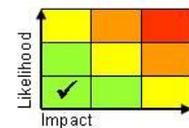
Whilst scattered daily heavy showers and thunderstorms are fairly typical at this time of year, there are signs that thunderstorms could become heavier and more organised, especially around the start/middle of next week. This could result in torrential downpours of rain with 50-75mm falling within a few hours in places, and perhaps in excess of 100mm overall. Lightning and strong gusts of wind are also potential hazards.

Discussion

A large upper-trough will end up over the area by next week. The amplitude of an upper trough remains uncertain but this brings an increased chance of severe, depth convection developing in response to diabatic heating. Moderate to high vertical wind shear in GM profiles suggests the potential for organisation and upscaling. In addition, tall, skinny CAPE would favour torrential downpours.

Expected Impacts

Low risk of flash flooding in a few places. Potential impacts on transport.

**Spain****Weather**

Temperatures will rise this weekend, becoming very warm for the time of year with temperatures around or a little above the mid-30s Celsius. Peak temperatures are likely on Monday, before returning to more normal values later next week.

Discussion

Southerly winds will drag some very warm air northwards from northwest Africa later this weekend. Temperatures peaking on Monday, before the wind direction changes, ushering in more seasonal values by the end of next week.

Expected Impacts

Although not a sustained period of heat, these above average temperatures may temporarily further impact on the health of the local population and put a strain on utilities.

North America

Nil.

Central America

Nil.

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South America

Northern parts of Peru and Brazil, French Guiana, Surinam, Guyana, Venezuela, Colombia and Ecuador

Weather

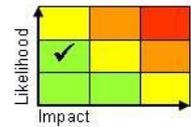
Rainfall will continue to be heavier and more widespread than usual for the time of year across the northern Andes and much of the north of the South American continent. Generally 100-150mm of rain will fall widely, with locally precipitation accumulations exceeding 300-400mm. The highest rainfall accumulations are expected to be west of the Andes where population densities are generally lower.

Discussion

As has been the case for several months, the ITCZ is expected to remain south-shifted and active over the next week or so, feeding further heavy rainfall into the region.

Expected Impacts

Further isolated flash flood and landslides likely within the mountainous terrain of the region.



Africa

Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda and Tanzania

Weather

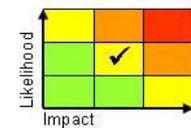
Following a recently exceptionally active period in the Long Rains season, there continues to be a trend for rainfall returning back to nearer normal. However, daily heavy showers and thunderstorms will still develop. Locally 50-100mm of rain may still fall in places each day (often within a few hours). Through the next 5 or 6 days the Kenyan and Ethiopian Highlands along with coastal fringes of both Tanzania and Kenya will be wettest with 100-150 mm building up widely in these areas, and a few locations could see around 200 mm in this period.

Discussion

Above-average SSTs in the western Indian Ocean will maintain enhanced convection across the region, although this is not expected to be as heavy or as widespread as recently now the MJO has moved further east into phase 4 (Maritime continent), and this downward trend is expected to continue.

Expected Impacts

An ongoing enhanced risk of both flash flooding and some riverine flooding is likely, with the additional risk of landslides in mountainous terrain, e.g. in the Kenyan Highlands. Due to recent and ongoing flooding these areas will be particularly sensitive to further heavy rainfall.



Middle East

Turkey – see *Europe* section.

Yemen

Weather

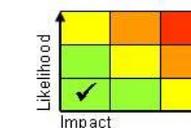
Heavy, thundery showers are not unusual in Yemen at this time of year, especially in the more mountainous regions. However daily totals of 25-50mm may add up to 100-150mm over the next week or so. Given the flooding that has occurred in this country this spring, this may well lead to further disruption.

Discussion

High WBPT and PWAT values and strong insolation now will allow daily thunderstorms to develop over the high ground of Yemen especially. Given that these thunderstorms develop daily in similar regions, totals may well build up substantially over the next week or so.

Expected Impacts

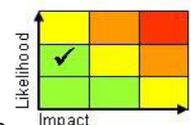
Flash flooding, landslides in the steep terrain, transport disruption.



Asia

Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea

Weather



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Shower and thunderstorm activity is expected to be more frequent than usual over the next week. The heaviest rainfall is expected to fall along the western Sumatra coast as well as southern Papua New Guinea where between 300-400 mm of rain could fall by the middle of next week.

Discussion

An active phase of the MJO is expected to be located in the Maritime Continent over the next week, driving an increase in deep convection across the region.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding causing damage to property and infrastructure, as well as an increased likelihood of landslides in more mountainous areas.

Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal – see *Tropical Cyclones* section.

Australasia

Nil.

Additional Information:

Nil.

Issued at: 020300 UTC **Meteorologists:** Laura Ellam / Chris Tubbs

Global Guidance Unit

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