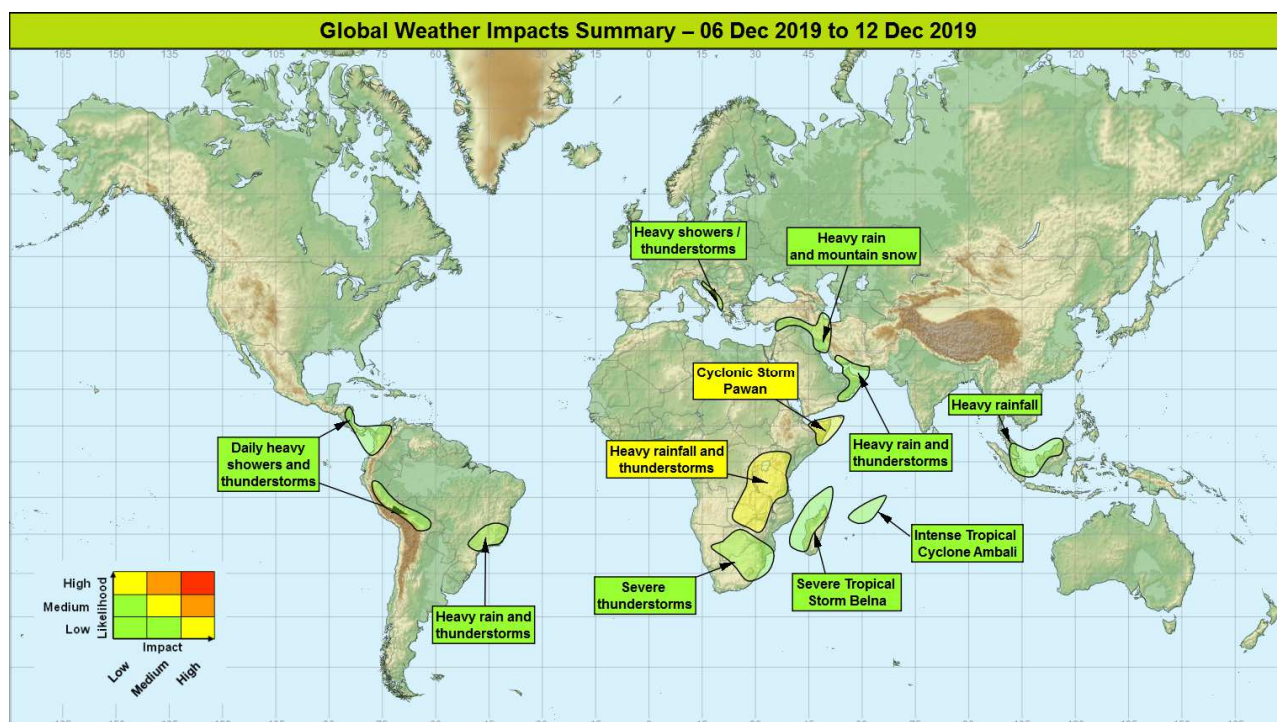


Global Weather Impacts – Friday 6th to Thursday 12th December 2019

Issued on Friday 6th December 2019

HEADLINES

- Heavy rain from Cyclonic Storm Pawan impacting Somalia over the next few days.
- Further heavy rain and showers for parts of eastern Africa – much wetter than normal here.
- West Indian Ocean experiencing high levels of tropical cyclone activity.



DISCUSSION

Tropical Cyclones

Cyclonic Storm Pawan

Weather

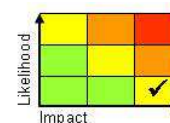
Cyclonic Storm Pawan (pronounced 'Pavan') has shown little change in strength through the past 24 hours as it drifted slowly north then west over the SE Arabian Sea. Pawan is likely to maintain this course toward the coast of north-eastern Somalia, where landfall is likely late Friday or early Saturday. By this time winds associated with the system are expected to have eased. However this system will bring torrential rain (100-200, locally 250-300mm) in a 24-48 hour period through Friday and the weekend.

Discussion

Pawan's likely track toward the Somali coast will take it into an increasingly hostile shear environment, and so the storm is likely to weaken significantly prior to landfall. There is high confidence in a period of heavy rainfall for parts of E/NE Somalia through Friday and Saturday. There is the potential for this to have high impacts; a similar event in November 2013 required an international response.

Expected Impacts

Potential for flooding rains leading to threat to life, destruction of homes, displacement of populations, disruption to transport and utilities.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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Severe Tropical Storm Belna

Weather

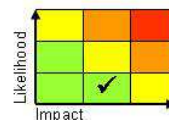
The area of convection west of The Seychelles continues develop, and has now been named Tropical Storm Belna by RSMC La Reunion. The system is expected to move south toward Madagascar, continuing to strengthen and likely becoming a Cyclone (sustained winds in excess of 73 mph), where it looks likely to bring heavy rain (of order 100-200, locally 300mm) over the weekend. There is still some uncertainty in the track, although landfall in western Madagascar looks likely.

Discussion

Developments have been slow, but marginally favourable wind shear conditions and SSTs of 28-29°C along the system's most likely track should see a steady strengthening. Ensemble output shows a wide spread in tracks, but there is currently little evidence to suggest it will affect anywhere other than Madagascar later this week or early next week.

Expected Impacts

Potential for torrential rainfall to bring flash floods to northern parts of Madagascar, along with destructive winds and an enhanced landslide risk.



Intense Tropical Cyclone Ambali

Weather

Ambali is a significant system with sustained winds of around 85 mph, but Ambali will remain well away from land and is expected to steadily weaken through the next few days.

Discussion

Good consistent model signal for this system weakening through the next few days due to increasing vertical wind shear, with the system remaining well away from land.

Expected Impacts

Nil.



Europe

Western Balkans Coast

Weather

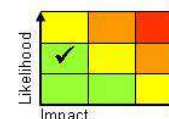
The disturbed weather which has affected large parts of the Mediterranean in recent days will largely become confined to the western coast of the Balkans through today before conditions ease here too this weekend. The rainfall will be in the form of showers and thunderstorms, and so totals are likely to vary significantly. However a few locations could see 30-50 mm, perhaps isolated totals of 80 mm. It is possible that further disturbed weather will develop in a similar area early next week.

Discussion

A pulse of forcing associated with a decaying upper vortex will transfer NE into the Adriatic today, forcing showers and thunderstorms within the warm plume. Although less organised and intense than previously, these could still produce some locally large totals along with some large hail.

Expected Impacts

Flash flooding is likely with a possibility of landslides.



North America

Nil.

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South America

Ecuador, western Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica, Peru, Bolivia and eastern Nicaragua

Weather

Frequent heavy showers and thunderstorms will affect these regions through the weekend, with the showers each day bringing 50-80 mm in just a few hours, with some locations receiving over 200 mm. As is the nature of showers, spatial coverage on any one day will be highly variable. There are signs that activity will decrease early next week.

Discussion

With the South American Monsoon extending well south now, daily rounds of showers and thunderstorms are expected to form to the west of the Andes of Colombia and Ecuador, and to the east of the Andes further south. The region highlighted has seen above average rainfall during the past week, and is also forecast to receive the highest rainfall totals.

Expected Impacts

Flash and river flooding likely, with increased likelihood of landslides.



Parts of eastern Brazil

Weather

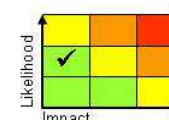
Several pulses of heavy rain and thunderstorms are expected to affect parts of eastern Brazil through the next week, bringing up to 50-75 mm in a few hours and as much as 150-200 mm through the next week. Frequent lightning is likely, and a risk of localised large hail.

Discussion

Pulses of the SACZ are expected through the next week. CAPE and PWAT are high, with localised flash flooding likely where they occur.

Expected Impacts

Localised flash flooding, and low risk of lightning damage affecting cities such as Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro.



Africa

Parts of East Africa

Weather

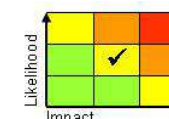
Showers and thunderstorms associated with the seasonal rains are expected to continue to be heavier than normal over the next week, with a further 100-200 mm of rain falling in places from frequent heavy, thundery, afternoon downpours. This area has also seen 200-400% of the usual rainfall over the past week.

Discussion

Enhanced seasonal rainfall in association with the strong positive Indian Ocean Dipole event which, although declining, is still influencing the large scale shower distribution. Large tracts of eastern Africa have seen well above average rainfall over the past 3-6 months. The combination of all these factors dramatically increases the likelihood of further flash and river flooding. Most recently south-east Uganda suffered flooding and landslides early this month, leaving at least 2 people dead.

Expected Impacts

An increased risk of flash flooding and landslides in the region, with further river flooding likely. Frequent lightning is also likely, along with large hail and strong wind gusts.

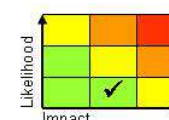


Southern Africa

Weather

Widespread heavy showers and thunderstorms will affect the region through much of this period, especially from Sunday. Around 30-50 mm of rain will fall quite widely each day, with some locations receiving up to 100 mm daily. By the end of the next 7 days, accumulations of up to 250 mm are possible, which would be around twice the monthly average in many parts of the region.

Discussion



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A succession of upper troughs will engage the warm southern African plume to produce very high PWAT, high CAPE profiles that suggest some very intense downpours are likely at times, with the possibility of some long-lasting severe storms, especially from Sunday.

Expected Impacts

Rainfall will be largely welcome as this region of Africa has suffered droughts in the recent past. However, such intense downpours will generate flash flooding and landslides, potentially damaging infrastructure and crops.

Madagascar and Somalia – see *Tropical Cyclones* section

Middle East

Northern Syria, Iraq and western Iran

Weather

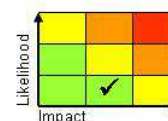
Heavy rain, with snow over the mountains, will affect this region over the next few days. The heaviest and most widespread precipitation will fall across northern Iraq and western Iran. Here 75-100mm of rain is probable, and perhaps 125-150mm in 36-48hrs in a few prone spots.

Discussion

An active cold front, driven SE by a disrupting upper trough will bring heavy rain and mountain snow to W and N Syria through Friday, before heading SE towards the Persian Gulf. The resultant cut-off upper vortex and cold pool will maintain the risk of heavy showers into the weekend across northern Iraq and Iran, particularly in the vicinity of the northern Persian Gulf where a separate plume of warmth/moisture from Saudi Arabia will provide the ingredients for a spell of intense but localised thunderstorms.

Expected Impacts

Flash and river flooding, landslides, and disruption to transport and travel are possible



Southern Iran, UAE, Oman

Weather

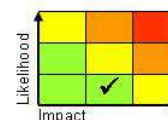
Heavy showers and thunderstorms are likely in this region this weekend and again towards the middle of next week. Up to 100-150 mm of rain could fall in a few days across a region that usually sees no more than 25 mm of rain through December.

Discussion

The same upper trough/vortex bringing heavy rain/showers to areas further north looks likely to engage the plume of tropical moisture coming northwestwards towards the Gulf of Oman over the weekend. This is associated with the tropical depression currently west of India, though it is not currently expected to develop further. Nevertheless, a day or two of heavy showers and thunderstorms is likely, although there is a large spread in model solutions currently particularly with respect to the location of the heaviest rain.

Expected Impacts

An increased risk of flash flooding and landslides.



Asia

Malaysia, Borneo, Brunei and Sumatra

Weather

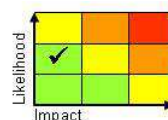
Even though it is the rainy season in this region, heavy rainfall is expected through the next week, with some places seeing up to 300 mm (equivalent of 50-75% of the average monthly rainfall at this time of year).

Discussion

A combination of a weak MJO moving across the Maritime Continent and a surge in the Northeast Monsoon are likely to enhance convection through this week.

Expected Impacts

Increased threat of flash flooding and landslides.



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Daily Global Weather Impacts Assessment

Australasia

Nil.

Additional Information

Eastern Australia – Wildfire: Numerous bushfires continue in parts of eastern New South Wales, Queensland and Australian Capital Territory with continued mostly dry weather expected through the next 4 or 5 days at least.

Issued at: 060810 UTC **Meteorologists:** Mark Sidaway / Paul Hutcheon

Global Guidance Unit

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