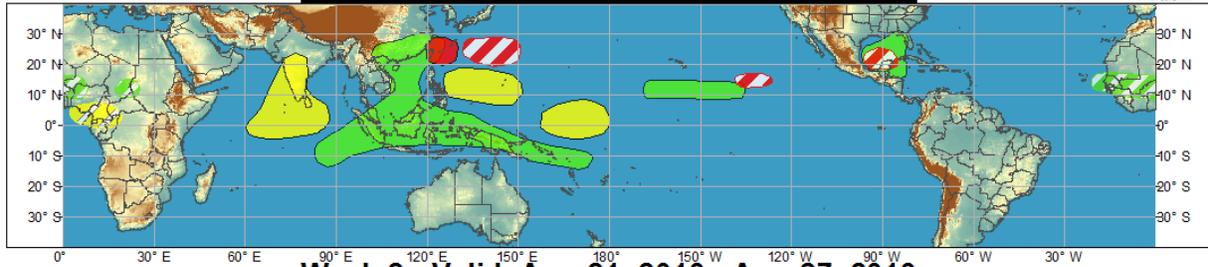




Global Tropics Hazards and Benefits Outlook - Climate Prediction Center



Week 1 - Valid: Aug 14, 2013 - Aug 20, 2013



Week 2 - Valid: Aug 21, 2013 - Aug 27, 2013



Produced: 08/13/2013

Forecaster: Baxter

	Confidence		
	High	Moderate	
Tropical Cyclone Formation			Development of a tropical cyclone that eventually reaches tropical storm/cyclone strength.
Above-average rainfall			Weekly total rainfall in the upper third of the historical range.
Below-average rainfall			Weekly total rainfall in the lower third of the historical range.
Above-normal temperatures			7-day mean temperatures in the upper third of the historical range.
Below-normal temperatures			7-day mean temperatures in the lower third of the historical range.

Product is updated once per week. The product targets broad scale conditions integrated over a 7-day period for US interests only. Consult your local responsible forecast agency.



The MJO has remained weak for the past few weeks. Other modes of tropical variability continue to impact anomalous convection, though there is fairly little influence from canonical atmospheric Kelvin and equatorial Rossby waves. The observed structure of anomalous convection has been fairly stationary over the past couple of weeks, with convection over the Maritime Continent and suppressed convection across parts of the central Pacific and Western Hemisphere. Additionally, there has been a distinct weakening of the Asian Monsoon over the past several days resulting in drier-than-average rainfall across parts of India and the central Indian Ocean. The consensus among dynamical models is for a weak MJO during Week-1, with large scale ascent developing over the Western Hemisphere during Week-2, projecting onto Phase 8 of the Wheeler and Hendon index. The long-range CFSv2 and ECMWF MJO forecasts indicate eastward propagation of velocity potential anomalies by weeks two and three, suggesting renewed MJO activity may be on the horizon. However, uncertainty is high given the absence of any coherent observed structure and large differences between the raw model forecasts and the associated bias-corrected outlooks for both the GEFS and ECMWF. Statistical tools maintain a weak signal throughout the two-week period.

Typhoon Utor formed over the northern West Pacific, east of the Philippines, during the past week. Utor tracked westward over the Philippines and is forecast to make landfall over southeastern China at the very beginning of this forecast period. During Week-1, tropical cyclone (TC) formation chances remain elevated for parts of the West Pacific, mainly north of 20N. The greatest threat is just east of Taiwan, while lower probabilities of TC formation are forecast just to the east of that region where a second vorticity center could develop into a tropical storm. Tropical cyclone formation is possible between the central Pacific region and the East Pacific where there are multiple tropical disturbances, though probabilities are fairly low. Regardless, chances of above-average rainfall are elevated in parts of the central and eastern Pacific near 10N. An active tropical disturbance in the Caribbean is forecast to move northwestward into the Gulf of Mexico and could develop into a TC. The greatest threat from this system would be heavy rain. The system could also enhance heavy rainfall along a frontal boundary over the Southeast CONUS.

Large scale ascent is forecast to develop over the Western Hemisphere during Week-2, resulting in enhanced odds of TC formation across the East Pacific and Atlantic basins. There is some chance of TC development in the Main Development Region (MDR) late in Week-1 as a weak Kelvin wave propagates east across the Atlantic. Climatologically, the Atlantic hurricane basin becomes more active by the end of August.

During Week-1, above-average rainfall is forecast to persist across the Maritime Continent which is supported by model guidance and persistence of the low-frequency state. Above-average rainfall is favored across parts of the South China Sea and southeastern China associated with TC activity and the low-frequency state. Below-average rainfall is expected across the central equatorial Indian Ocean and parts of India where the monsoonal circulation is forecast to be weaker than normal. Rainfall across parts of western Africa is expected to be elevated due to anomalous low-level westerlies, while anomalous low-level divergence suppresses rainfall over southern Nigeria and parts of Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea. Below-average rainfall is favored over parts of the northern West Pacific in the wake of TC activity and supported by model guidance. Suppressed convection is also favored across parts of the equatorial West Pacific where low-frequency drying, forecast anomalous low-level divergence, and model guidance suggest reduced rainfall.

During Week-2, model guidance indicates above-average rainfall persisting across the Maritime Continent. Below-average rainfall is expected to persist across the central equatorial Indian Ocean and part of India, while suppressed convection is forecast to expand in converge across parts of the western Pacific as the large scale circulation becomes less favorable for convection. Anomalous low-level westerly flow from the Atlantic with its convergence across the Sahel is expected to prolong above-average rainfall across parts of western Africa.

