

During the last 10 days, convection was enhanced over the central and eastern Pacific, as well as Africa and the western Indian Ocean, while suppressed convection was measured over the Maritime Continent and western Pacific. These areas of convection are consistent with the ongoing El Nino and an ongoing MJO event with the enhanced convective phase moving through Phase 8. The MJO is likely to play a role in convection during the next 2 weeks, although uncertainty about the influence of the MJO is higher than during the previous couple of weeks, as some of the dynamical models are decaying the current event, while other models indicate a weakening during Week-1 followed by a resurgence in Week-2.

No tropical cyclones formed during the past week. During the next week, the highest odds for tropical cyclone formation are over the South-Central Pacific, and are associated with El Nino and the combined impacts of a Kelvin Wave and an equatorial Rossby Wave, as indicated in statistical model outputs for the region. For Week-2, the highest threat of tropical cyclone formation is near the northern coast of Australia, associated with the likelihood of the convectively active phase of the MJO impacting that region.

Above average rainfall is likely over the central and southern Pacific, consistent with the ongoing El Nino and potential emergence of an equatorial Rossby wave near the Date Line, which also favors below average rains over the Maritime Continent and portions of the western Pacific. The ongoing MJO event and weak Kelvin wave activity favor enhanced rainfall over the equatorial Indian Ocean. Uncertainty about the interplay of a Kelvin wave and the suppressed phase of the MJO with the background El Nino reduce the certainty over the Maritime Continent. Dynamical models have very noisy outputs over that portion of the globe for Week-1.

Into Week-2, the MJO is expected to destructively interfere with El Nino, resulting in lowered confidence of impacts over the Maritime Continent and Indian Ocean. Given that uncertainty, below average convection over the northern portions of the Maritime Continent is favored, while above average rains are likely over Northern Australia. Over the Central Pacific and South America, conditions should reflect canonical El Nino impacts.

Forecasts over Africa are made in consultation with CPCs international desk, and can represent local conditions in addition to global-scale variability.