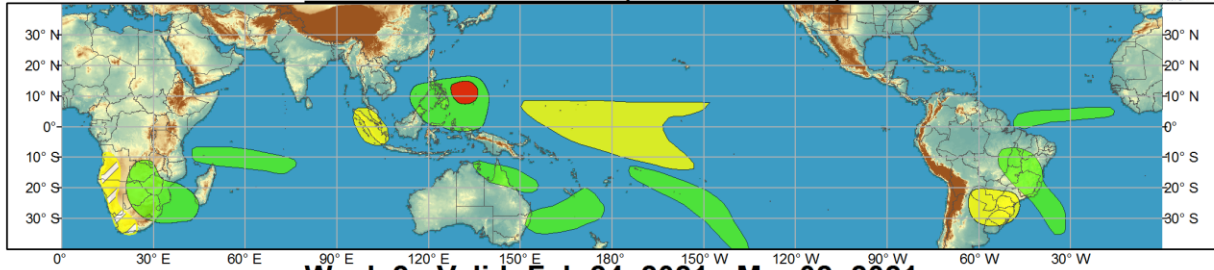




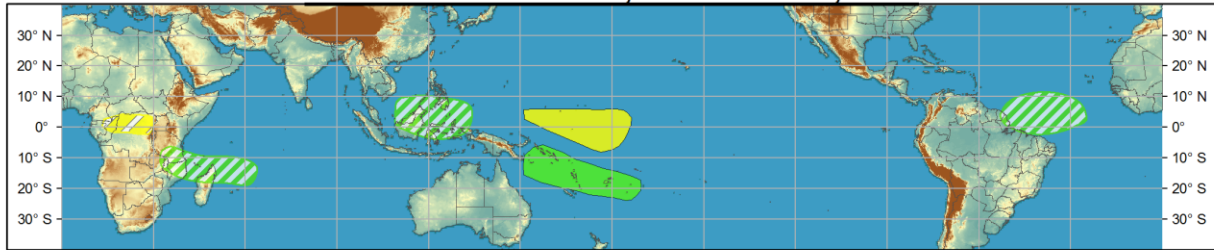
Global Tropics Hazards and Benefits Outlook - Climate Prediction Center



Week 1 - Valid: Feb 17, 2021 - Feb 23, 2021



Week 2 - Valid: Feb 24, 2021 - Mar 02, 2021



Confidence
High Moderate

Tropical Cyclone Formation

Above-average rainfall

Below-average rainfall

Above-normal temperatures

Below-normal temperatures

Development of a tropical cyclone (tropical depression - TD, or greater strength).

Weekly total rainfall in the upper third of the historical range.

Weekly total rainfall in the lower third of the historical range.

7-day mean temperatures in the upper third of the historical range.

7-day mean temperatures in the lower third of the historical range.

Product is updated once per week, except from 6/1 - 11/30 for the region from 120E to 0, 0 to 40N. The product targets broad scale conditions integrated over a 7-day period for US interests only. Consult your local responsible forecast agency.

Produced: 02/16/2021

Forecaster: MacRitchie



Since late January, the tropical patterns of anomalous convection and wind have projected strongly onto the Western Pacific phases of the RMM index. However, this projection lacks the eastward propagation normally expected from an active Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) event and is likely an artifact of the current La Nina state, along with equatorial Rossby wave activity, instead of a bona fide MJO. Dynamical model forecasts of the RMM index have consistently predicted this projection to weaken, but so far these forecasts have failed to verify. This week's model runs are no exception as the ECMWF, GEFS, and CFS continue to forecast the RMM index to weaken. Regardless of the likelihood of their predictions verifying, the overall tropical pattern is likely to be modulated primarily by the La Nina state.

There is a potential for tropical cyclone reformation in the Mozambique Channel, currently labeled as Invest 93S by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC). Most guidance indicates that formation will occur before the forecast period begins on Feb. 17, but the storm's precipitation and wind are likely to affect Africa during Week-1. Additionally, the JTWC is monitoring an area east of the Philippines, Invest 91W. Model guidance suggests that there is a high probability that this area will develop into a tropical cyclone during the first few days of Week-1. Such a storm would likely track over the southern Philippines and into the Sulu, and eventually, South China Seas.

The rainfall forecasts that are not related to expected tropical cyclone activity are largely based on high frequency tropical variability such as equatorial Rossby waves, as well as the low-frequency La Nina state. There is a high probability that above normal precipitation over the Maritime Continent will continue throughout Week-1, but the La Nina-based sea surface temperatures are forecast to weaken during Week-2, which reduces the likelihood of enhanced convection throughout this region.

For hazardous weather concerns during the upcoming two weeks across the U.S. please refer to your local NWS Forecast Office, the Weather Prediction Center's Medium Range Hazards Forecast, and CPC's Week-2 U.S. Hazards Outlook. Forecasts over Africa are made in consultation with the International Desk at CPC and can represent local-scale conditions in addition to global-scale variability.