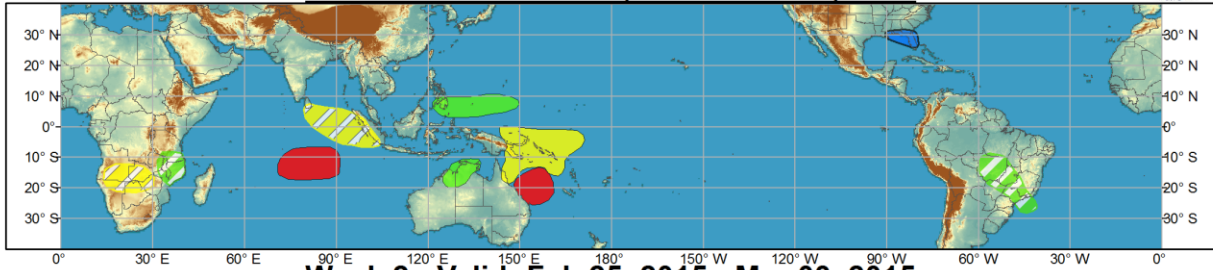




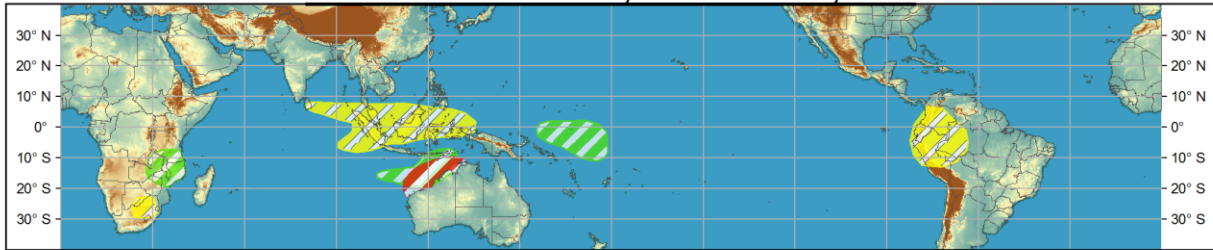
Global Tropics Hazards and Benefits Outlook - Climate Prediction Center



Week 1 - Valid: Feb 18, 2015 - Feb 24, 2015



Week 2 - Valid: Feb 25, 2015 - Mar 03, 2015



Produced: 02/17/2015
Forecaster: Rosencrans

| Confidence | | |
|------------|----------|---|
| High | Moderate | |
| | | Tropical Cyclone Formation Development of a tropical cyclone (tropical depression - TD, or greater 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, 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.



During the past week, the MJO remained weak. The CPC Velocity Potential based MJO index indicates some signal over the Americas that is most likely related to Kelvin Wave activity. Globally, OLR, zonal wind anomaly, and velocity potential anomaly patterns are not consistent with MJO activity. Time-Longitude plots of OLR indicate significant influence from an Equatorial Rossby Wave (ERW) near the Maritime Continent, which appears to be the most dominant signal.

Dynamical model forecasts of the MJO indicate little to no signal through Week-2. The various models indicate little to no signal in RMM phase space, with some models strengthening the signal over the Maritime Continent and others over the Western Pacific, or not at all. Statistical models are generally unreliable when seeded with a weak initial signal. Based on the observational evidence and model output, the MJO is not forecast to contribute significantly to the pattern of tropical convection during the next two weeks.

Tropical Cyclone Lam formed over the Gulf of Carpentaria late last week. During the next week, tropical cyclone formation chances are increased over the central South Indian Ocean and over the Coral Sea.

Some models have weak signals for tropical cyclone formation near the southern Philippines, with a low confidence outlook. During Week-2, the emphasis for potential tropical cyclone formation shifts to the Timor Sea and southeastern Indian Ocean. Early in Week-2, the GEFS shows low potential for tropical cyclone formation over the Mozambique Channel.

During Week-1, the ERW will likely be over the Maritime Continent, so enhanced convection is likely near the Philippines, while suppressed convection is likely over the Indian Ocean and West Pacific. The potential for enhanced convection over southeast Brazil is noted in a few of the models. During the middle of Week-1, much below normal temperatures are likely over the Gulf Coast and much of Florida.

During Week-2, the model solutions vary considerably on where enhanced convection is likely to be located. Currently, the strongest signals are for enhanced convection near the Kimberly Coast, over the Timor Sea, and near the Date Line, just south of the equator. Suppressed convection, likely associated with the suppressed portion of the ERW, is likely over the Maritime Continent. Portions of southeastern Africa are likely to continue experiencing above average rainfall through Week-2.