

The pattern of anomalous convection over the past 2 weeks more closely resembles a pattern associated with El Nino, where as for much of November, the pattern was disrupted. Recently, ehnanced convection was measured over the Indian Ocean and from near the Date Line to near 120W, and along the SPCZ. Suppressed convection was measured over the Maritime Continent and over portions of Brazil.

The MJO was weak during the past week while other modes of variability are more influentual on the pattern of tropical convection. Analysis tools indicate an packet of Equatorial Rossby waves are influencing the area from the Maritime Continent to the Date Line, while an atmospheric Kelvin wave is likely to traverse the East Pacific. Many model solutions depict a strengthening MJO over the eastern Indian Ocean, with an eastward propagation across the Maritime Continent. That scenario is not likely, for a couple of reasons. First, that scenario would directly compete with the ongoing El Nino. Second, the observations of OLR and winds are only locally consistent with a MJO in Phase-3, but over the Maritime Continent and Pacific, those parameters are much more consistent with the ongoing El Nino, Equatorial Rossby waves, and Kelvin wave activity, as mentioned above.

No new tropical cyclone formed the during the past week. During Week-1, the most likely areas for tropical cyclone formation are over the South Indian Ocean and over the western North Pacific. Both models and statistical tools support enhanced convection in those regions.

During Week-1, the ongoing El Nino is likely to constructively interfere with Equatorial Rossby waves and a Kelvin wave over the central and eastern Pacific, enhancing convection there. Suppressed convection is likely for much of the Maritime Continent, except the Philippines, where a tropical cyclone could track.

Tropical convective patterns during Week-2 are likely to resemble El Nino conditions, although there is some uncertainty nera the Maritime Continent as some models want to propagate intraseasonal scale convection to that region.

Forecast over Africa are made by CPCs International Desk, and sometimes are more reflective of local conditions.