

The MJO remains active as monitored by both the RMM index and CPC Velocity Potential (VP) index. The enhanced phase is currently over the Pacific and the Americas after a rapid eastward propagation from phase 5 (eastern Maritime Continent region) over the past week. This was due in part to an atmospheric Kelvin wave. Dynamical and statistical models continue to forecast eastward propagation of a coherent wave-1 signal over the next week or so. Thereafter, uncertainty increases as the dynamical guidance weakens the signal over Africa and the western Indian Ocean.

Tina was a short-lived tropical system that developed over the eastern Pacific on November 13, and briefly attained minimal tropical storm intensity (35 knots). In the western North Pacific, Tropical Depressions 27 and 28, and minimal Tropical Storm Ma_On briefly developed during the past week. During the week-1 forecast period, a tropical depression is expected to form over the southwestern Caribbean Sea with high confidence (NHC has an 80-percent chance of development during the next 5days). This potential system is predicted to slowly move towards the northeast, with enhanced precipitation and potential wind impacts affecting the southwestern and central Caribbean region. The only tropical cyclone development predicted during the week-2 forecast period is just east of the Philippines, indicated by the GFS model and Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau. The embryonic low pressure center that is thought to be the seedling for this tropical cyclone is expected to continue westward across the Philippines and into the South China Sea.

Areas of above-average rainfall are anticipated during week-1 across the tropical Northern Indian Ocean (related to a fast-moving intraseasonal signal), from portions of Micronesia southeastward across the Solomon Islands to Vanuatu and New Caledonia (related to the evolving La Nina base state), the central South Pacific, and over Brazil. All these predicted areas of above-average rainfall are of moderate confidence, and are forecast by the latest CFS and ECMWF precipitation predictions for week-1. The anticipated area of above-average rainfall over the southwestern and central Caribbean Sea is due to potential tropical cyclone activity as discussed above. Below-average rainfall is expected over portions of the Bay of Bengal and Maritime Continent.

In week-2, areas of above-average rainfall are predicted just northeast of Papua New Guinea, and in a narrow band from just north of the Marshall Islands in the tropical North Pacific eastward to near 125W. A fairly small area of below-average rainfall is possible southeast of Hawaii, from about 150W-130W, 4N-7N. These areas reflect a consensus between the CFS and ECMWF model predictions, the evolving La Nina base state, and potentially fast-moving Kelvin Wave activity.

Forecast shapes over Africa are made in consultation with the Africa Desk at CPC, and often reflect more regional scale variability in addition to large-scale climate factors.