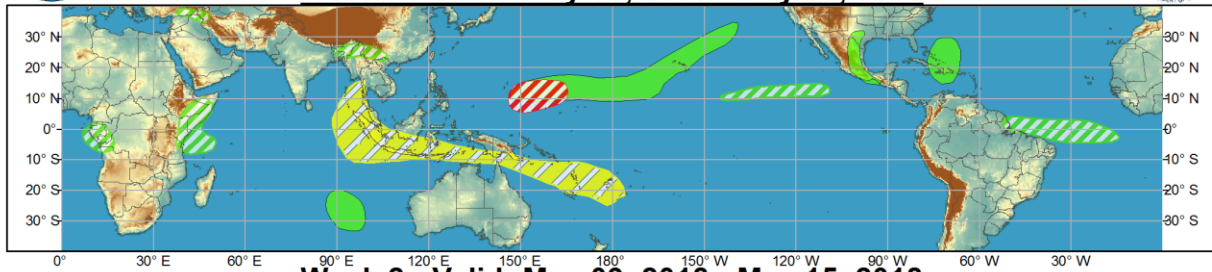




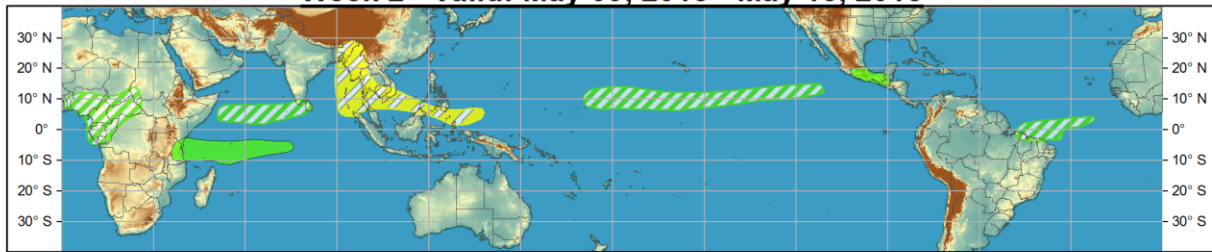
Global Tropics Hazards and Benefits Outlook - Climate Prediction Center



Week 1 - Valid: May 02, 2018 - May 08, 2018



Week 2 - Valid: May 09, 2018 - May 15, 2018



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: 05/01/2018

Forecaster: Allgood



The RMM-based MJO index continues to depict weak activity, with the amplitude of the index well within the unit circle. The CPC upper-level velocity potential based MJO index depicts a faster moving low-amplitude signal now over the Pacific. Interference between the intraseasonal enhanced phase and a suppressed convective feature propagating slowly westward over the Pacific may partly explain the collapse of the MJO signal. Kelvin wave activity over the Western Hemisphere is also contributing to an overall noisy and low-amplitude pattern across the global tropics. Over the next two weeks, dynamical model MJO index forecasts broadly support a re-emergence of the MJO signal over the Western Hemisphere, with the signal reaching the far western Indian Ocean by the end of the period. Based on the dynamical model guidance the MJO may contribute to the evolution of the global tropical convective pattern, including a drier pattern over the Maritime Continent and a wetter pattern over the tropical Americas and Africa, but confidence in this forecast is low due to the weak incipient signals.

Cyclone Flamboyant formed on 28 April and is currently the only active tropical cyclone. The cyclone briefly attained Category-1 intensity on the Saffir-Simpson scale while moving southwestward over the southeastern Indian Ocean, but has recently weakened to tropical storm intensity and begun to recurve to the south-southeast. Further weakening is anticipated, and Cyclone Flamboyant is not anticipated to

bring hazardous conditions to land. The tropics are anticipated to remain relatively mild during the outlook period. There is low to moderate confidence for the formation of a tropical cyclone during Week-1 over the northwestern Pacific between Guam and the Marshall Islands. Should a tropical cyclone form in this region, it is likely to remain weak and quickly recurve to the north or northeast. Elsewhere, no tropical cyclones are anticipated to form during the period, although some GEFS ensemble members over the past few days have depicted formations in the Arabian Sea and far East Pacific during late Week-2.

Forecasts for above- and below-median precipitation were made using dynamical model consensus between the CFS and ECMWF, with some consideration given to the potential for renewed MJO activity over the Western Hemisphere. During Week-1, a broad swath of enhanced precipitation is forecast across the central and eastern Pacific, generally north of 10N, with a plume of moisture continuing to extend over the Hawaiian Islands. Dynamical models generally support near to below-normal precipitation across the Maritime Continent, which is consistent with the idea of the MJO propagating to the Western Hemisphere. The driest regions indicated by the CFS and ECMWF were highlighted on the outlook map with moderate confidence. Small areas of enhanced rainfall are forecast poleward of this region, including parts of Southeast Asia just south of the Himalayas, and the Southeast Indian Ocean in association with Tropical Storm Flamboyant. Over the Western Hemisphere, areas of enhanced rainfall are forecast across central Mexico, south-central Texas, the north-central Caribbean Islands, and the equatorial Atlantic including the state of Amapa, Brazil.

During Week-2, a northward shift in the area of suppressed rainfall over the Maritime Continent is anticipated, with enhanced rainfall persisting near 10N across the central and eastern Pacific, over southern Mexico and Guatemala, and parts of northern Brazil and the adjacent equatorial Atlantic. A potential developing MJO event over Africa and the far western Indian Ocean lends support to dynamical model forecasts for enhanced rainfall across parts of Africa and the western Indian Ocean, although there is some weakness depicted along the equator.

Forecast areas favoring above- or below-average rainfall over Africa during Week-2 were drawn in consultation with CPC's Africa Desk and may depict mesoscale to synoptic scale variability.