

Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – August 2024

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PACIFIC SEAS STATE

August 19, 2024

As of mid-August 2024, ENSO-neutral conditions persist in the western equatorial Pacific, and oceanic and atmospheric indicators also align with an ENSO-neutral state. The IRI ENSO prediction plume forecasts ENSO-neutral conditions for Aug-Oct, and Sep-Nov, 2024. Borderline La Niña conditions are forecasted during Oct-Dec, and Nov-Jan, but with very weakly elevated probabilities. ENSO-neutral conditions subsequently re-emerge as the most likely during the boreal winter and spring of 2025. (Text Courtesy IRI)

INDIAN OCEAN STATE

6 – 12 August, 2024

Between 0.5°C - 1°C above average SST was observed around the Maldives.

Highlights

Monitored:

In July, the northern and central islands received up to 10 mm of rainfall; while remaining islands received less. North-westerly winds prevailed for the northern and central Maldives during the month of July.

Predictions:

ENSO-neutral conditions are present and it is expected to continue for the next several months, with La Niña favored to emerge during September-November 2024.

Summary

CLIMATOLOGY

Monthly Climatology:

In September, islands in the northern half of the country receive up to 150 mm rainfall while the southern half receives up to 200 mm rainfall. The same rainfall pattern continues in October and in November the entire country usually receives up to 150 mm rainfall. The wind pattern is usually westerly during these three months.

MONITORING

Fortnightly Rainfall Monitoring:

Date	Rainfall		
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
12 th August	130 mm	40 mm	20 mm
13 th August	130 mm	60 mm	40 mm
14 th August	10 mm	20 mm	10 mm
15 th August	40 mm	40 mm	10 mm
16 th August	80 mm	30 mm	10 mm
17 th August	60 mm	20 mm	TR
18 th August	20 mm	20 mm	10 mm
19 th August	10 mm	20 mm	10 mm
20 th August	130 mm	50 mm	20 mm
21 st August	10 mm	TR	TR
22 nd August	TR	-	-
23 rd August	TR	-	-
24 th August	-	-	5 mm
25 th August	-	TR	5 mm
26 th August	-	-	TR

TR - Trace Value

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Monitoring: In July, the northern and central islands received up to 10 mm of rainfall, while other islands received up to 5 mm.

Monthly Temperature Monitoring:

	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
T Max	32.9°C	33.0°C	32.0°C
T Min	23.0°C	23.5°C	22.0°C

Dekadal Rainfall Estimates

1-10 August, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 60 mm rainfall

Central Islands: 100 mm rainfall

Southern Islands: 80 mm rainfall

11-20 August, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 250 mm rainfall

Central Islands: 250 mm rainfall

Southern Islands: 160 mm rainfall

PREDICTIONS

Daily Rainfall Forecast:

Date	Rainfall		
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
29th August	10 mm	TR	TR
30th August	20 mm	TR	10 mm
31st August	20 mm	40 mm	TR
1st September	TR	10 mm	40 mm
2nd September	10 mm	-	20 mm
3rd September	TR	-	20 mm
4th September	TR	-	10 mm

Biweekly Rainfall Forecast:

NOAA/NCEP GFS model predicts higher probability of below-normal tercile by 40% for the northern islands and neutral tercile for the central and southern islands between 31th August -13th September.

Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast:

Above-normal tercile is 40% probable in the northern islands; and below-normal tercile is 50% probable in the southern islands and central islands from September-October-November 2024 and seasonal rainfall forecast is higher likelihood of near-normal range for the Maldives.

MJO Index:

The MJO is predicted by NOAA CPC to be in phases 4 and 5 respectively in the next two weeks (27 August – 10 September 2024). MJO in phases 4 & 5 usually suppress the rainfall over the Maldives.

Figures in Annexure

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 - Monthly Rainfall derived from Satellite Rainfall Estimate
 - Monthly and Seasonal Monitoring
- **Ocean Surface Monitoring**
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 - Weekly Predictions from NOAA/NCEP
 - Seasonal Predictions from IRI¹

