

# Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – August 2021

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## PACIFIC SEAS STATE

August 18, 2021

In mid-Aug 2021, the tropical Pacific remained in an ENSO-neutral state, although SSTs in the east-central and central Pacific have cooled to the threshold for La Niña while the atmosphere continues to maintain largely ENSO-neutral patterns. The collection of latest ENSO prediction models indicates ENSO-neutral or weak El Niño as two possible scenarios during Northern Hemisphere summer 2021. The official CPC/IRI outlook likely persist ENSO-neutral condition through the summer. (Text Courtesy IRI)

## INDIAN OCEAN STATE

August 18, 2021

0.5 °C above average SST was observed around Maldives.

## Highlights

### Monitored:

During July, the southern islands received above normal rainfall while the central and northern islands received less. Over the 365 days, rainfall exceeded climatology by 10% in the Northern islands; 20% in the Southern islands and deficit by 15% in the Central islands.

### Predictions:

With ENSO-neutral conditions established; dry conditions are set to prevail across Maldives from September-November 2021. The seasonal temperature remains climatological.

## 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 |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> Aug                     | 20 mm            | 10 mm           | -                |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> Aug                     | 40 mm            | -               | -                |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 20 mm            | -               | 40 mm            |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 60 mm            | 30 mm           | 5 mm             |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 60 mm            | 5 mm            | 10 mm            |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 10 mm            | -               | -                |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | -                | 10 mm           | 5 mm             |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | -                | -               | -                |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 10 mm            | -               | -                |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 40 mm            | -               | -                |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | 10 mm            | -               | -                |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> Aug                    | -                | 5 mm            | -                |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug | -                | -               | -                |

**Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Monitoring:** In July, Southern islands received up to 15 mm above average rainfall while remaining islands received less.

The cumulative rainfall during the last 365 days,

shows for: Northern islands: Excess of 150 mm from an average of 1500 mm average

Central islands: Deficit of 350 mm from an average of 1750 mm average

Southern islands: Excess of 275 mm from an average of 1800 mm average

## Decadal Rainfall Estimates:

1-10 August, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 80 mm rainfall  
Central Islands: 80 mm rainfall  
Southern Islands: 100 mm rainfall

11-20 August, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 60 mm rainfall  
Central Islands: 40 mm rainfall  
Southern Islands: 100 mm rainfall

## PREDICTIONS

### Daily Rainfall Forecast:

NOAA GFS model predicts up to 70 mm of rainfall in the northern islands; up to 40 mm in central islands; and up to 10 mm in southern islands on 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Aug; Up to 70 mm of rainfall in the northern and central islands; and up to 20 mm in southern islands on 27<sup>th</sup> Aug; Up to 70 mm of rainfall in the northern islands; and up to 20 mm in central and southern islands on 28<sup>th</sup> Aug; Up to 40 mm of rainfall in the central islands; and up to 20 mm in northern and southern islands on 29<sup>th</sup> Aug; Up to 40 mm of rainfall in the northern and central islands; and up to 20 mm in southern islands on 30<sup>th</sup> Aug; and up to 20 mm of rainfall in the northern islands; and up to 10 mm in central and southern islands on 31<sup>st</sup> Aug.

### Weekly Rainfall Forecast:

NOAA/NCEP GFS model predicts higher probability of neutral tercile in the entire islands between 25<sup>th</sup>- 27<sup>th</sup> August.

### Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast:

Below-normal temperature tercile is 60% probable in the central islands; 50% probable in the northern islands; and normal temperature tercile is probable in the southern islands from September-October-November 2021 and seasonal rainfall forecast is climatological.

### MJO Index:

The MJO is predicted by NOAA CPC to be in phases 1 & 2 and it remains weak in the next two weeks (25 August – 6 September 2021). MJO shall enhance the rainfall over the Maldives during this period.

## Figures in Annexure

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  - Monthly Rainfall derived from Satellite Rainfall Estimate
  - Monthly and Seasonal Monitoring
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  - Seasonal Predictions from IRI<sup>1</sup>

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