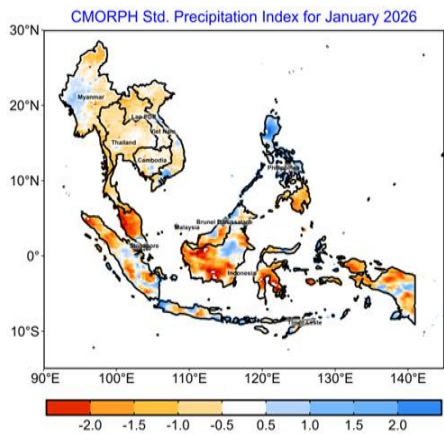


CLIMATE WATCH:

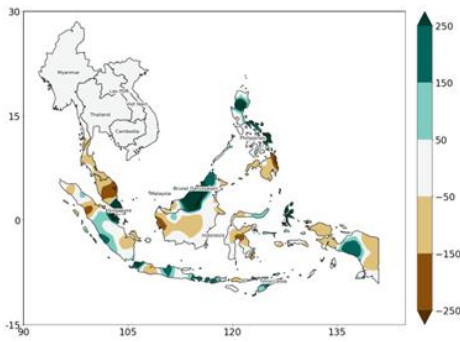
LA NIÑA AND RAINFALL SURPLUS

AREAS OF CONCERN:

most parts of northern to central Philippines, northeastern Borneo, Brunei Darussalam



1-month SPI for January 2026 (reference period, 1991-2020)



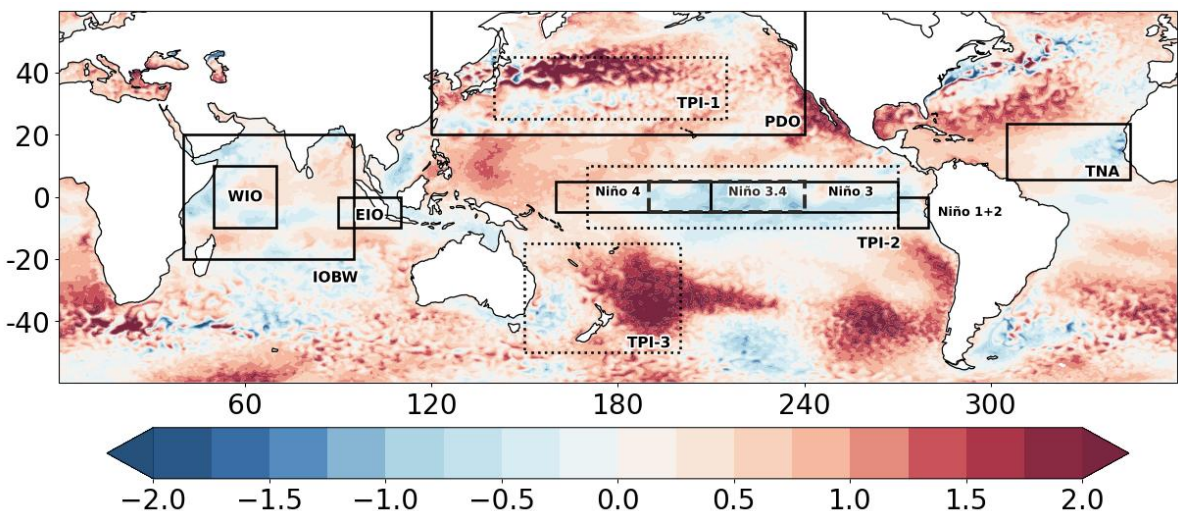
Rainfall Anomaly for January 2026 (reference period, 1991-2020)

Areas of **rainfall surplus** were observed in **most parts of northern to central Philippines, northern Borneo including Brunei Darussalam, eastern Papua, and portions of southern Indonesia**. In contrast, several portions of Southeast Asia (SEA) experienced **mild to significant rainfall deficits** in January 2026, particularly over **northern Peninsular Malaysia and southern Thailand, southern Borneo, Sulawesi, and southern Philippines**. The remaining parts of the SEA region experienced near average rainfall conditions.

Over the **tropical Pacific**, **sea surface temperature anomalies (SSTAs)** indicate **weak La Niña** during January 2026, but with a weakening trend observed in recent weeks. **Sea surface temperatures** in the **western Pacific** and across much of the **eastern Maritime Continent** were generally near to **slightly above average**.

In the Indian Ocean, **mix of slightly warmer and cooler SST anomalies** are observed in the **tropical eastern Indian Ocean (i.e., EIO)** and the **western Indian Ocean (i.e., WIO)**, reflecting a neutral dipole pattern. In general, there is **no prominent tropical Indian Ocean-wide SST anomaly (i.e., IOBW)**. Lastly, the **tropical North Atlantic (i.e., TNA)** indicates **average to slightly cooler SST anomalies**.

Lastly, the **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** was observed generally **inactive** in Week 1 of January, and over the Western Pacific (Phases 6 and 7) for the rest of January 2026. The MJO signal in Phase 6 typically enhances convective activity and increases the likelihood of rainfall over eastern parts of the Southeast Asia (SEA) region, whereas a Phase 7 signal is commonly associated with suppressed rainfall over western portions of SEA.



SSTA across the Pacific and Indian Ocean for January 2026 (reference climatology, 1991-2020, JMA-iTacs)