



CLIMATE BULLETIN FOR SEA

Climate Monitoring Node – WMO-RCC-SEA – DOST-PAGASA

Issued: April 2024

CLIMATE WATCH FOR RAINFALL DEFICIENCY – EL NIÑO

Areas of Concern:

Cambodia, Brunei Darussalam, most of Malaysia and the Philippines and parts of Myanmar, Thailand, Lao PDR, Viet Nam and Indonesia

Area of moderate rainfall deficiencies have been observed in some parts of Southeast Asia region, particularly over Cambodia, Brunei Darussalam, most parts of Malaysia, northern and southern parts of Thailand, southern Myanmar, central and southern parts of the Philippines. Parts of Indonesia, Lao PDR and Viet Nam also recorded mild to moderate rainfall deficiencies, while the remaining parts of region received adequate rainfall for the month of March.

Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) across the tropical Pacific have started to weaken during the month, however anomalies $>1.0^{\circ}\text{C}$ are still evident in the Niño 3.4 region for March 2024. Likewise, the SST anomalies in the western Pacific and over most of the Maritime Continent were near to above average.

Positive value of IOD was observed during the month as SSTs over the western equatorial Indian Ocean is warmer than the eastern equatorial Indian Ocean.

A Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) signal was active through most of March, with the active phase over the Maritime Continent and Western Pacific (characterized by active convection and precipitation over some areas of the region) up to the third week of the month, followed by a weakening MJO activity towards the Western Hemisphere.

CMORPH Std. Precipitation Index for March 2024

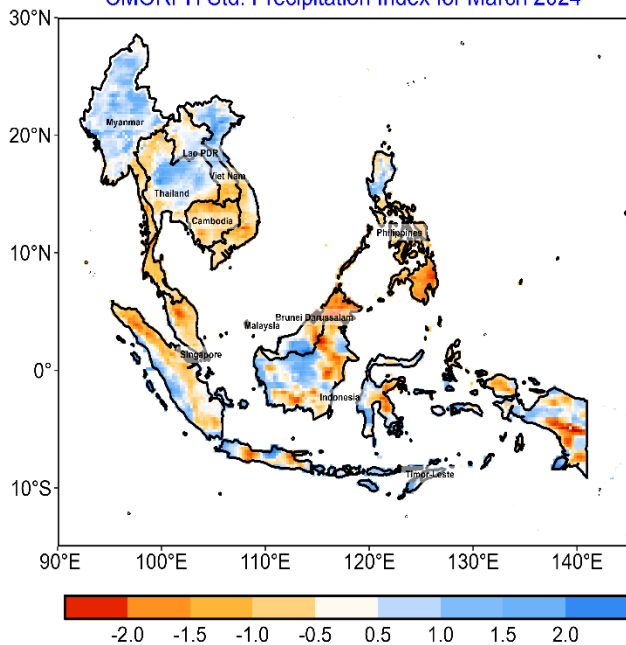


Figure 1: 1-month SPI for March 2024 (reference period, 1991-2020)

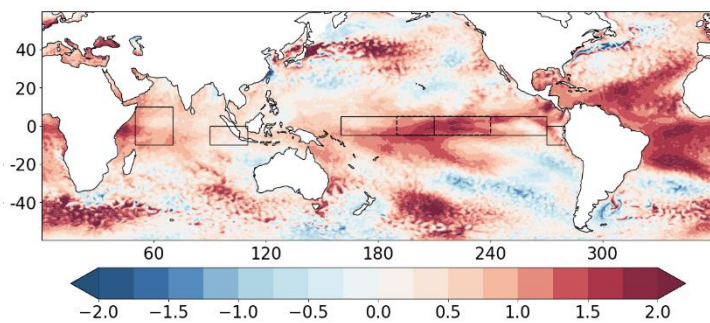


Figure 2: SSTA across the Pacific and Indian Ocean for March 2024 (reference period, 1991-2020)

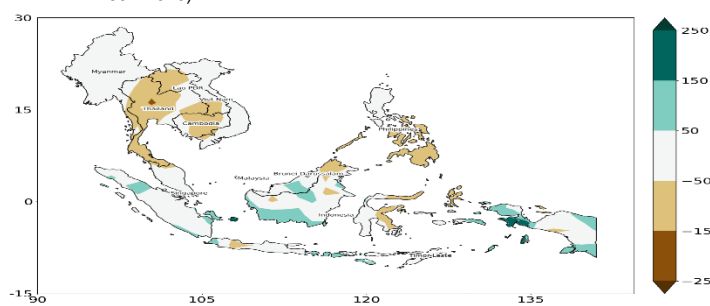


Figure 3: Rainfall Anomaly for March 2024 (reference period, 1991-2020)



Attachment:

CMORPH Std. Precipitation Index for 3-Month Ending March 2024

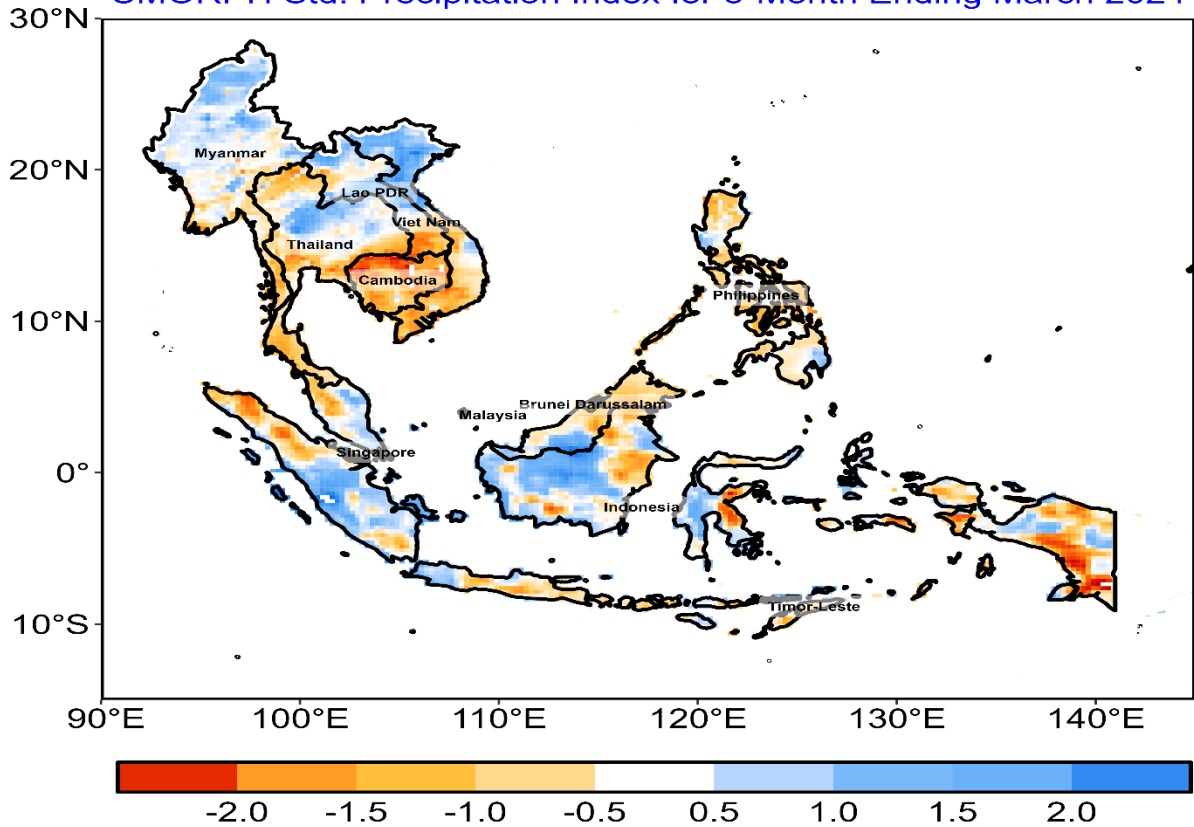


Figure 4: 3-month SPI for January - March 2024 (reference period, 1991-2020)

Table 1: McKee and others (1993) SPI value-classification table as recommended in World Meteorological Organization, 2012: Standardized Precipitation Index User Guide (M. Svoboda, M. Hayes and D. Wood). (WMO-No. 1090), Geneva.

Table 1. SPI values

2.0+	extremely wet
1.5 to 1.99	very wet
1.0 to 1.49	moderately wet
-.99 to .99	near normal
-1.0 to -1.49	moderately dry
-1.5 to -1.99	severely dry
-2 and less	extremely dry

Next issuance will be in May 2024.

