Monthly Regional Focus Group Session

Wednesday 25 January 2022 at 15 UTC

RFG Website: https://rammb2.cira.colostate.edu/training/rmtc/focusgroup/
Sea Surface Temperatures (SST)

January 23

NOAA OSPO
https://www.ospo.noaa.gov/data/sst/contour/global_small.c.gif

NOAA Coral Reef Watch
https://coralreefwatch.noaa.gov/product/5km/index_5km_ssta.php
Deep anomalies last longer, which makes them useful for subseasonal forecasting.

**Surface Anomaly**: NOAA Coral Reef Watch
https://coralreefwatch.noaa.gov/product/5km/index_5km_ssta.php

**Top 300m-Layer Anomaly (GODAS)**: NOAA CPC
**Status: La Niña**
(no changes since April ’22)

- La Niña is present.*
- Equatorial SSTs are below average across most of the Pacific Ocean.
- The tropical Pacific atmosphere is consistent with La Niña.

**TAKEAWAY:** La Niña is still present but a general warming of the surface is evident.
 Fisheries Stream Temperature Anomaly Section in Equatorial Oceans

**Temperature Anomaly Section in Equatorial Oceans**

GODAS Temperature Anomaly (0°N), 2022 Oct 25

**TAKEAWAYS:**

- Large area of important warm sub-superficial anomalies continues building in the western Pacific, but not propagating yet.

- A cool Kelvin Wave appears to be propagating along 120W while a warm one is arriving in South America.

Source: CPC
Zonal wind anomalies can trigger Oceanic Kelvin Waves that propagate into the South American coast.

Westerlies can trigger warm waves, easterlies cool waves.
A transition from La Niña to ENSO-neutral is anticipated during the February-April 2023 season. By Northern Hemisphere spring (March-May 2023), the chance for ENSO-neutral is 82%.*
Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)

**Current Observations:**

- Wave-1 Pattern and coherent propagation continue. Upper convergent phase (brown) moving into the Americas.
- Speed: Slower than average (1.5 Months to traverse the globe)
- Last wet phase in the Americas: Early January. This means higher chances for the next wet phase during the second half of February.
MJO and Upper Tropospheric Waves

Outlook for the next week:

- Large scale upper convergent MJO dominant through the entire week.
- Embedded in this, a wet Kelvin is forecast across the basin today through Friday, but impacts will be limited.
- Looks very dry again this weekend and all next week.

5-day CHI200 with CFS forecasts

Contours at -2, -6 x10^6 m2 s^-1
Carl Schreck
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Favors rain storms
Favors limited rainfall

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MJO Forecasts for the Americas

**Empirical Wave Propagation (EWP)**
CHI 200 hPa 40-DAY forecast (00z24Jan2023–05Mar2023) (based on EWP zonal harmonics)

**Global Forecast System (GFS)**
CHI 200 hPa 15-DAY forecast (00z24Jan2023–08Feb2023) (based on NCEP GFS)

**Climate forecast System (CFS)**
CHI 200 hPa 40-DAY forecast (00z24Jan2023–05Mar2023) (18-memb GPR CFSv2 IC = 2023012400)

**TAKEAWAYS**
- Upper convergence dominant through at least February 10.
- Strongly convergent (dry) through February 5.
- Wetter on the second half of February.
South America, Last 7 Days

200 hPa Flow

Average

Anomaly

850 hPa Flow

Average

Anomaly

Gauge Rainfall

Satellite – Estimated Rainfall (CMORPH)
Caribbean/Central America, Last 7 Days

200 hPa Flow

Rainfall from Gauges (CPC)

850 hPa Flow

Satellite – Estimated Rainfall (CMORPH)
¡Gracias! Thank you! ¡Obrigado!

Next RFG Session: Wed 8 February 2023, 15 UTC

Recorded sessions and more information available at: https://rammb2.cira.colostate.edu/training/rmtc/focusgroup/

For enrolling in the distribution list for RFG announcements, please send an email to jose.galvez@noaa.gov or bernie.connell@colostate.edu