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Maldives Meteorological Service

Rainfall and Temperature Outlook over Maldives

For January 2022

Summary

Rainfall is likely to be above normal over northern atolls and below normal over rest of the country.

Temperature is expected to be above normal in all areas during the month.

Introduction

This consensus outlook on rainfall and temperature for Maldives has been prepared through assessments including prevailing regional and global climate condition and prediction of various climate models, seasonal forecast of WMO Lead Centre for Long-Range Forecast Multi-Model Ensemble (LC-LRFMME), North American Multi-Model Ensemble (NMME) Forecasts of Monthly Climate Anomalies, and monthly forecasts of European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF).

Current status of major climate drivers.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO): La Niña conditions are present with below average equatorial sea surface temperatures across central and east-central Pacific Ocean. Models indicate the same condition during January 2022.

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD): Current global models indicate neutral IOD value and that it would remain in same condition during January 2022.

Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO): MJO is expected to be enhanced over Western Pacific (Phase 7) at the beginning of this month. Some models indicate an eastward propagation to Phase 8 during the 1st week and a re-emergence during the 2nd week. Thereafter, the signal is expected to weaken and likely to move over Indian Ocean towards end of the month.



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Calibration of climate models

Climate Predictability Tool (CPT) was used to downscale global model outputs to local scale. These results indicate above normal rainfall over northern and below normal rainfall over rest of the country.

Global Producing Centres and WMO Lead Centre Forecasts

Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO LC-LRFMME indicates normal rainfall over part of southern atolls and climatological probability over rest of the country during January 2022.

Probabilistic Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO LC-LRFMME indicates above-normal Temperature across the country for January 2022.

Climatic condition during the month of January

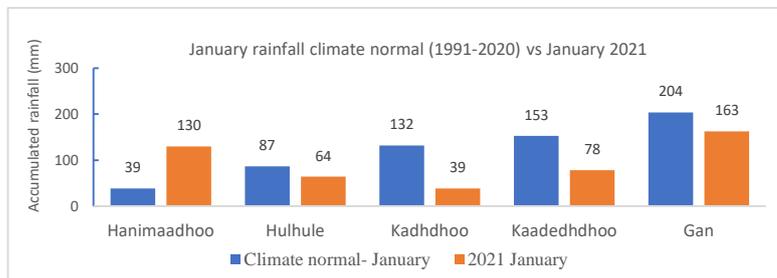


Figure 1- In January 2021, northern atolls received relatively high amount of rainfall while central and southern atolls received less rainfall than climate normal for the month.

Conclusion

By considering the La Niña condition, neutral IOD, weak MJO signal over Indian Ocean towards end of the month, Multi-Model Ensemble of WMO Lead Centres, NMME Forecasts and climate data of Maldives, rainfall is likely to be above normal over northern atolls and below normal over rest of the country during January 2022.

Temperature is expected to be above normal in all areas during the month.

Note:

Normal: Amount of rainfall between 90% - 110% of the average for the period.

Above normal: Amount of rainfall more than 110% of the average for the period.

Below Normal: Amount of rainfall less than 90% of the average for the period