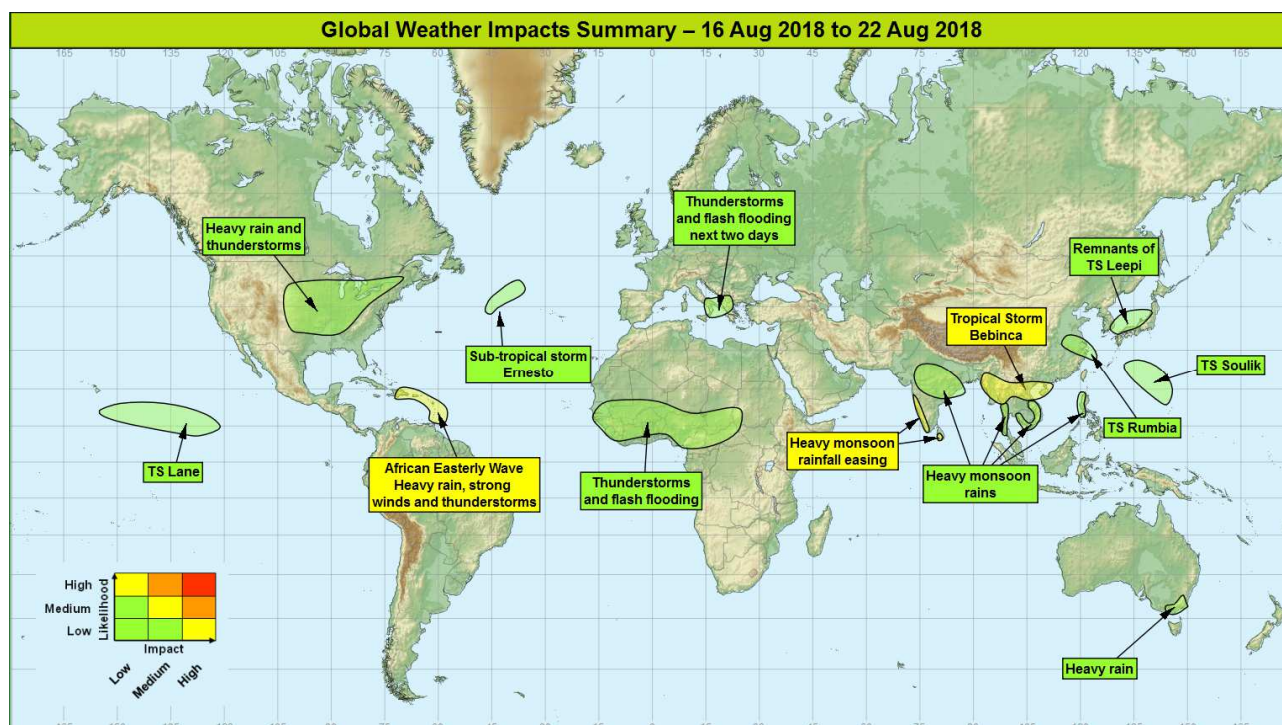


Global Weather Impacts – Thursday 16th to Wednesday 22nd August 2018

Issued on Thursday 16th August 2018

HEADLINES

- Potential for heavy showers across parts of the Windward and Leeward Islands in the Caribbean.
- Heavy monsoon rainfall continues across parts of southern Asia, particularly SW India.
- Several tropical storms to affect parts of eastern Asia over the next week.



DISCUSSION

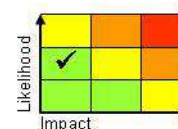
Tropical Cyclones

Ex-Tropical Storm Leepi (Western Japan / Korean Peninsula)

Leepi weakened on Wednesday as it crossed southern Japan.

Leepi weakened on Wednesday as it crossed southern Japan. Its remnants are likely to bring heavy rainfall to parts of south Korea and western Japan with some places perhaps seeing 75-100mm of rainfall on Thursday.

Flash flooding and an increased risk of landslides are possible across parts of western Japan on Thursday.

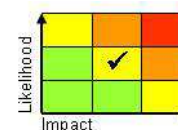


Tropical Storm Bebinca

Bebinca formed on Wednesday over the south China Sea and is expected to move slowly westwards across the Gulf of Tonkin over the next 48hrs. There is good model consistency over its forecast track, with GM similar to the official track from JMA.

Tropical Storm Bebinca formed on Wednesday over the South China Sea just to the east of Hainan. Bebinca moved slowly westwards and was just to the west of Hainan at 0000 UTC and is expected to move slowly westwards over the next 48hrs across the Gulf of Tonkin. Due to the slow moving nature of Bebinca, very large rainfall accumulations are possible.

The main impacts are expected to come from heavy rainfall with southern China and particularly northern Vietnam and Laos likely to see the worst impacts. Some places may see 300-400mm of rain over the next two days, which will likely lead to flooding and an increased risk of landslides.



This forecast may be amended at any time

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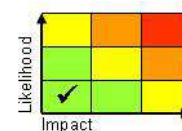
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Tropical Storm Soulik (West Pacific)

Soulik will move northwards around the sub-tropical ridge over the next 3-4 days, and is expected to move into an area favourable for further deepening. GM forecast tracks are broadly supported by other centres, and is similar to the official JMA track.

Tropical Storm Soulik formed around 150 miles to the NW of Guam on Wednesday and is currently moving northwards over open-water. Some intensification is possible over the next few days, and there is a chance that Soulik could develop into a tropical cyclone.

Soulik is expected to remain over water at this stage, and as a result the impacts will be low.

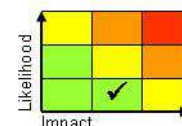


Tropical Storm Rumbia (East China Sea)

There is a good signal from all models for Rumbia to move westwards to make landfall over East China on Thursday, probably just south of Shanghai. Rumbia is expected to quickly weaken as it continues inland and it entrains drier air around its western flank and is cut-off from its moisture source.

Rumbia was over the East China Sea, around 140 miles east of Shanghai at 0000UTC and moving steadily westwards towards East China Sea. Rumbia is expected to make landfall near Shanghai on Thursday and then quickly weaken as it moves inland.

The main impacts are likely to come from heavy rainfall with areas of East China, near Shanghai, likely to see 100-150mm of rainfall on Thursday and Friday which may lead to some localised flash flooding. Near the coasts, severe gales and high waves may lead to some localised coastal flooding and wind damage.

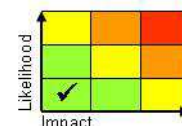


Tropical Storm Lane (eastern Pacific)

Tropical Storm Lane developed over the western Pacific on Thursday from an area of enhanced convection associated with an African Easterly Wave. Lane is expected to be steered broadly westwards by the mid-level ridge. Rapid intensification is likely over the next 48hrs with Lane expected to reach hurricane strength.

Tropical Storm Lane was around 1300 miles southwest of Baja California at 0300UTC, moving westwards at around 13mph. Lane is expected to remain over open water over the next 5 days, with rapid intensification to hurricane strength likely during Thursday and Friday.

Impacts are expected to be low while Lane remains over open water.



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Sub-Tropical Storm Ernesto (North Atlantic)

The low level circulation associated with sub-tropical storm Ernesto was co-located with a weak cut-off upper vortex, and this resulted in a warm cored low pressure system. Ernesto is expected to move north-northeastwards and may strengthen for a time over the next 24hrs as it enters a region of high SST and favourable low level wind shear. However, Ernesto is unlikely to develop anticyclonic outflow aloft and is therefore unlikely to be considered a fully fledged tropical storm. Ernesto is likely to accelerate northeastwards on Friday and begin extra-tropical transition into a mid-latitude storm. Ernesto was around 630 miles southeast of Newfoundland at 0300UTC and was moving north-northeast over the North Atlantic. Ernesto is expected to continue NE over the next few days and remain over open water. Some slight intensification is possible on Thursday, before Ernesto decays into a mid-latitude weather system on Friday. Impacts will be low while Ernesto remains over open water.



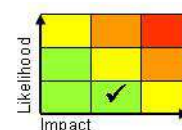
Europe

Italy, southwestern Balkans, mainland Greece

The upper trough will gradually overrun the seasonal warm plume resident across Italy on Thursday. Marked subsidence in the wake of the upper trough will help to suppress deep convection on subsequent days.

Further slow-moving heavy showers and thunderstorms are expected again over southern Italy on Thursday with a risk of severe thunderstorms producing a combination of heavy rain, large hail and strong winds. 30-50mm/hour of rain is possible in a few hours. Further storms are expected on Friday and Saturday, especially across Greece and SW Balkans, but these are expected to be less widespread and less intense than the less few days.

As seen with recent severe thunderstorm episodes in Europe, flash flooding is likely to be the main impact. Wind, hail and lightning damage are also possible whilst some minor delays to aviation are possible to and through the region.



North America

Central USA and far southeastern Canada

Various short wave upper troughs will engage a very warm plume to produce areas of severe thunderstorms from the Central Plains of the USA into the Great Lakes region through the next few days.

Further scattered showers and thunderstorms are expected across this region over the next 4-5 days, which are likely to produce 75-100mm of rain over a few hours in some locations. The focus for the heaviest rainfall is expected to transfer northeast from the Central Plains of the USA into the Great Lakes through the next day or two. However, further areas of storms look likely to develop further west on Sunday and Monday.

Flash flooding is expected to be the main impact, although strong winds and large hail could be seen too. These conditions will adversely impact the power and transport networks, and could affect some large cities such as Chicago and Toronto.

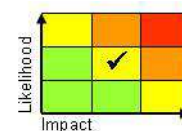


Central America and Caribbean

Windward & Leeward Islands

An African Easterly Wave over the tropical Atlantic will continue westwards over the next few days and is likely to affect the Windward and Leeward Islands of the Caribbean. Some models show the potential for a tropical storm to develop with NHC suggesting a 20% probability of formation within the next five days.

An area of heavy rain, thunderstorms and strong winds is expected to move westwards across the Windward Island and then the Leeward Islands over the weekend and early next week. While these systems are not unusual at this time of the year, they could lead to significant impacts if they affect communities still recovering from last year's hurricanes. There is a low probability (~10%) that this could develop into a tropical storm over the next five days.



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The main impacts will come from heavy rainfall and thunderstorms. Some places may see 50-75mm of rain which may lead to localised flooding. Thunderstorms and strong winds could lead to power outages and disruption to vulnerable infrastructure.

South America

Nil significant.

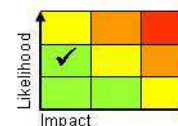
Africa

Equatorial West Africa

African Easterly Waves continue to move west and contribute to above average rainfall across the region over the next week.

Further areas of frequent thunderstorms are expected to affect parts of West Africa over the next week. These thunderstorms are likely to produce 75-100 mm of rain in just a few hours. Whilst thunderstorms are not uncommon at this time of the year, they are expected to be slightly more numerous than normal.

Heavy rainfall, often falling in a very short period, will result in an increased likelihood of flash flooding and landslides. Strong winds from thunderstorms can also cause damage to crops and properties, and lift dense dust storms across the Sahel region.



Middle East

Nil significant.

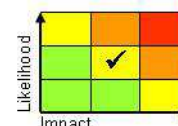
Asia

Western India and southwest Sri Lanka

An enhanced southwest monsoon flow will persist across W India and SW Sri Lanka through the next two days, bringing high rainfall accumulations over hills that face into the prevailing wind. Towards the weekend the flow will weaken, with the rains easing.

Persistent heavy monsoon rain and thunderstorms are expected to continue through the next two days, and then decrease in intensity over the weekend. Around 50-100 mm, locally 200 mm of rainfall may occur in places each day within this region on Thursday and Friday, with some locations likely to record totals approaching 300 mm over the next 7 days.

A high likelihood of further flooding and landslides, posing a danger to life, as well as damage to property and infrastructure. However, this is the wet season, and so these impacts are expected in the region at this time of year. The most significant flooding impacts are likely to be across Kerala, where it is reported to have been the worst floods in almost 100 years. On Tuesday Kozhikode reported around 200 mm of rainfall.

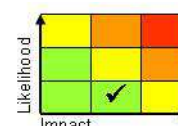


Central India, SW Myanmar, Northern Philippines, parts of Cambodia and Laos

A persistent south-westerly monsoon flow will maintain moist, deep convection to parts of Cambodia, Laos and Luzon in the Philippines. Meanwhile, a marked monsoon low pressure system is currently transferring westwards across Central India.

Enhanced monsoon rains will affect these southern Asian regions through much of the next week. Rainfall totals will be quite variable owing to the nature of showers, but there is the likelihood of as much as 250 mm in a 24 hour period, and up to 600 mm through the next week.

Flash and river flooding likely, along with an enhanced likelihood of landslides in mountainous areas.

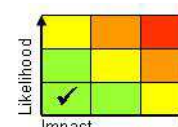


Australasia

Queensland & New South Wales

An active cold front is expected to sweep southeast across southeastern Australia on Friday and Saturday.

A band of heavy rain and strong winds will sweep southeast across Victoria on Friday, and then parts of New South Wales on Saturday. This will bring some welcome rainfall to parts of southern New South Wales, but will do little to relieve the ongoing drought.



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Some localised flash flooding is possible where localised heavy rainfall falls on parched ground but on the whole rainfall will be welcome. In addition, dry thunderstorms could lead to wildfires across parts of New South Wales (eg Blue Mountains).

Additional Information

Nil significant.

Issued at: 160720 UTC

Meteorologist: D J Harris

Global Guidance Unit

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