



El Niño 2026- 2027

IFRC network: saving
and changing lives
around the world

#CountOnUs

Asia Pacific Region



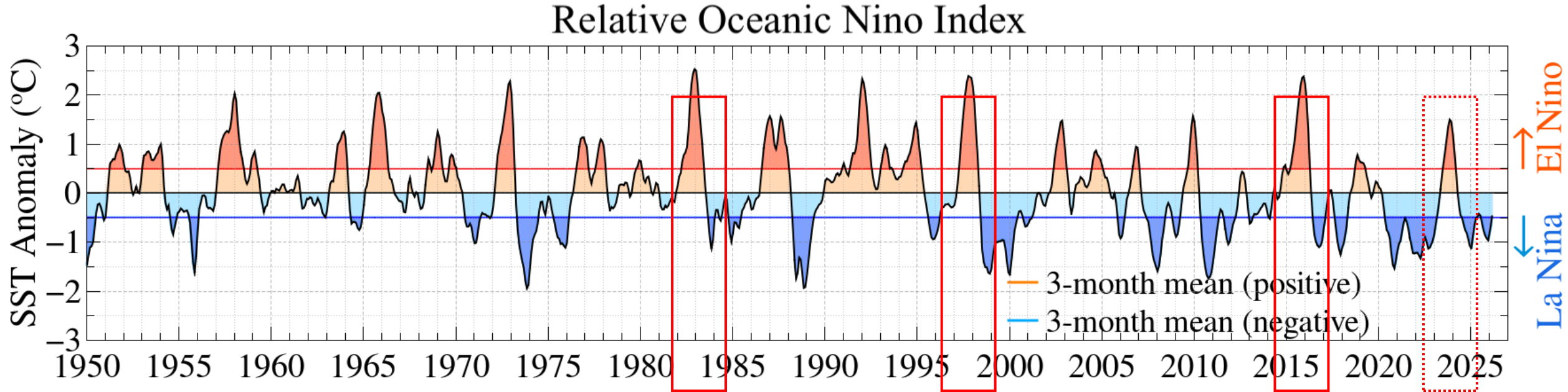
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RCRC Climate Centre

El Niño forecast

Historical Strong (Super El Nino) in the Past



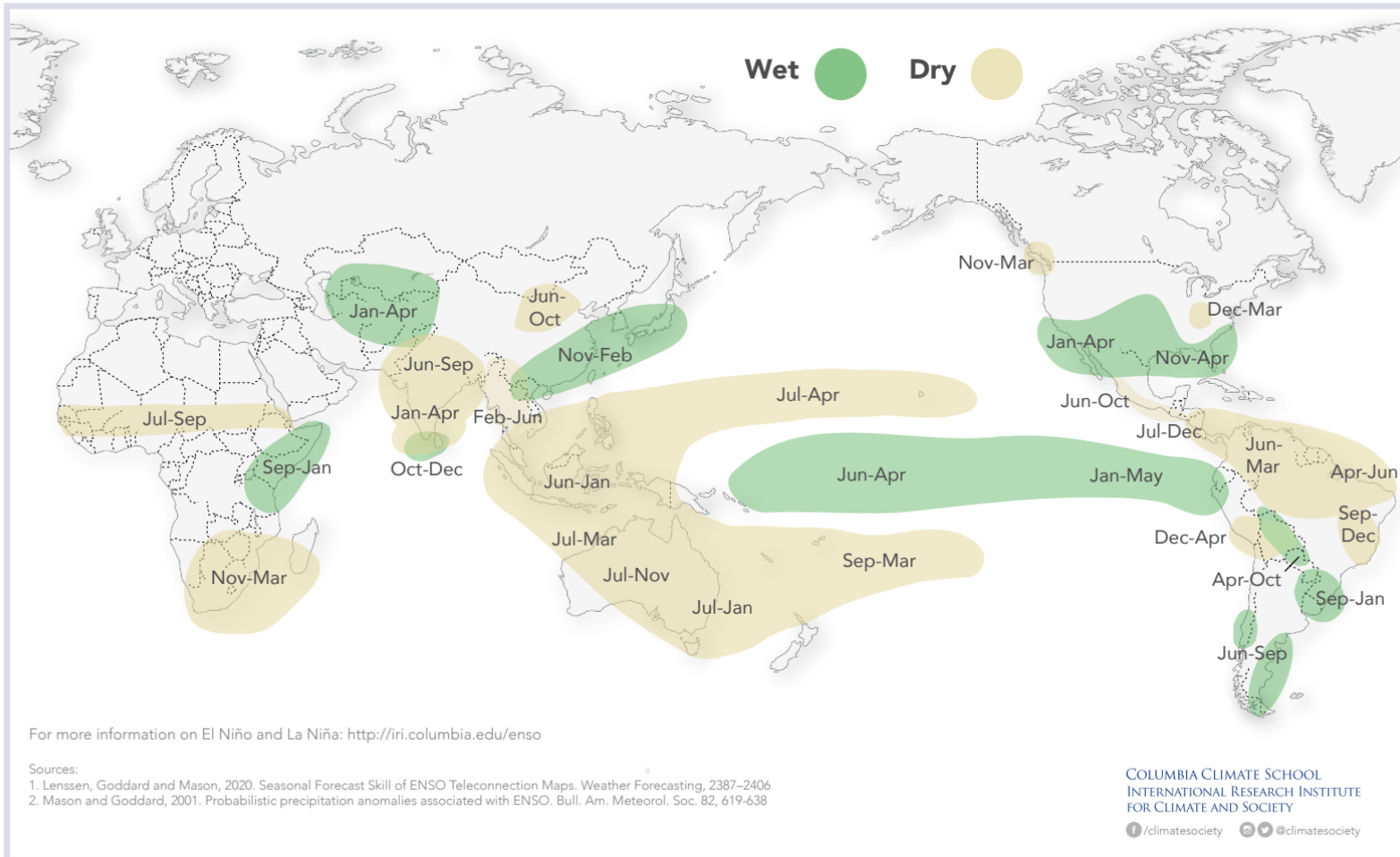
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso/roni/

- Very Strong (Super El Nino) were recorded 1982–83, 1997–98, and 2015–16.
- **El Nino 2026/27 is already here** and very likely that it will be a **strong El Nino event**.

El Niño has different impacts around the world

EL NIÑO AND RAINFALL

El Niño conditions in the tropical Pacific are known to shift rainfall patterns in many different parts of the world. The regions and seasons shown on the map below indicate **typical** but not guaranteed impacts of El Niño.



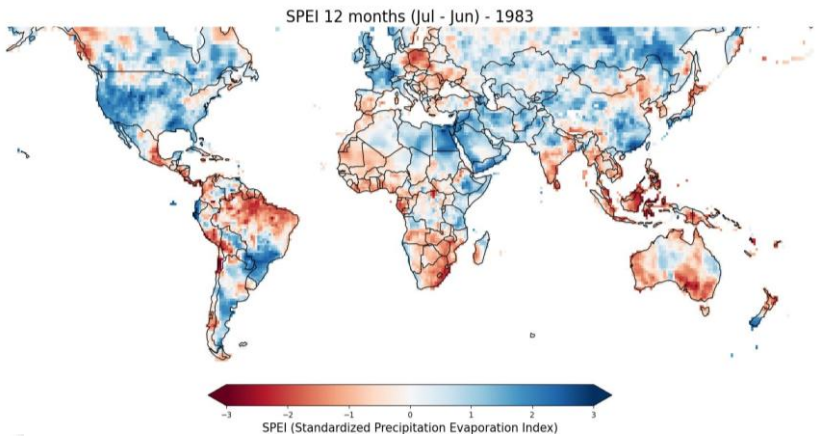
Drier and warmer conditions across most parts of Asia Pacific

While Coastal China, Japan and Central Asia may experience wetter winter and spring

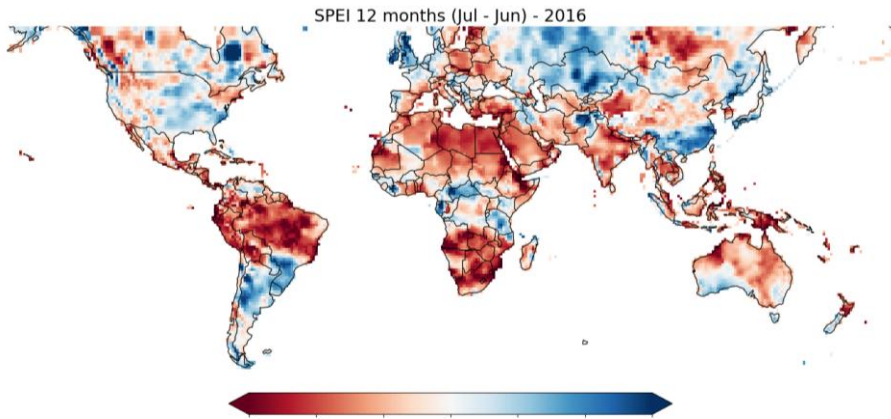
Every El Niño event is different, Previous events are useful to learn from, but we shouldn't assume the same outcomes

Past El Niño Events and its impact in Asia Pacific [

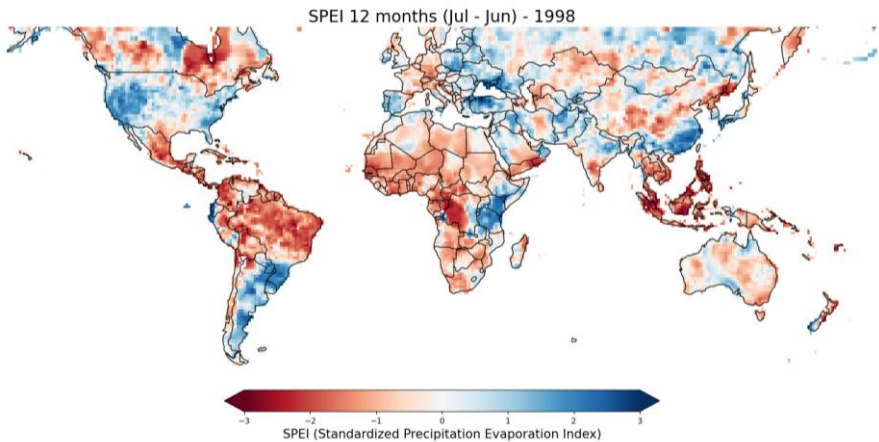
1982-1983



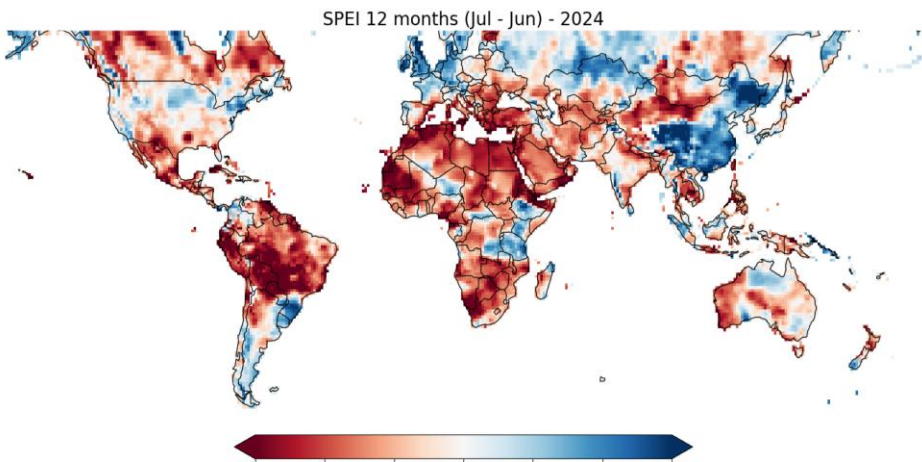
2015-2016



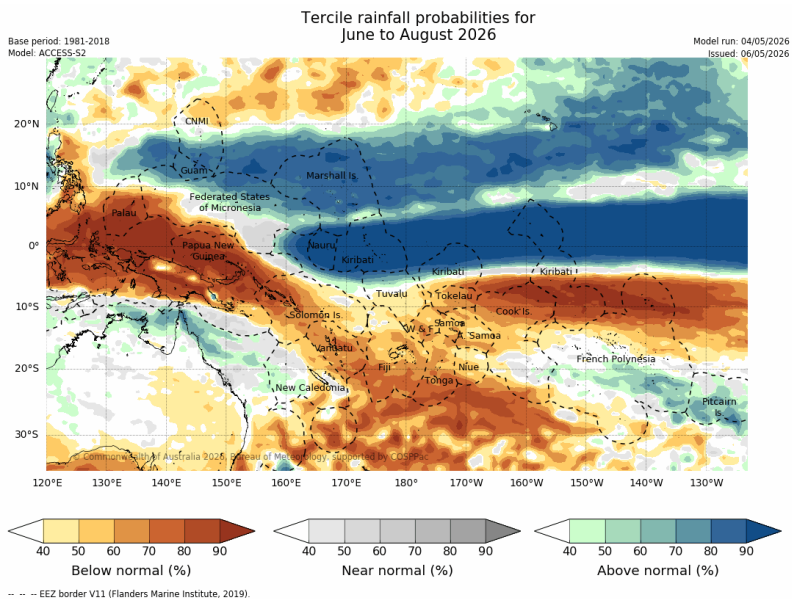
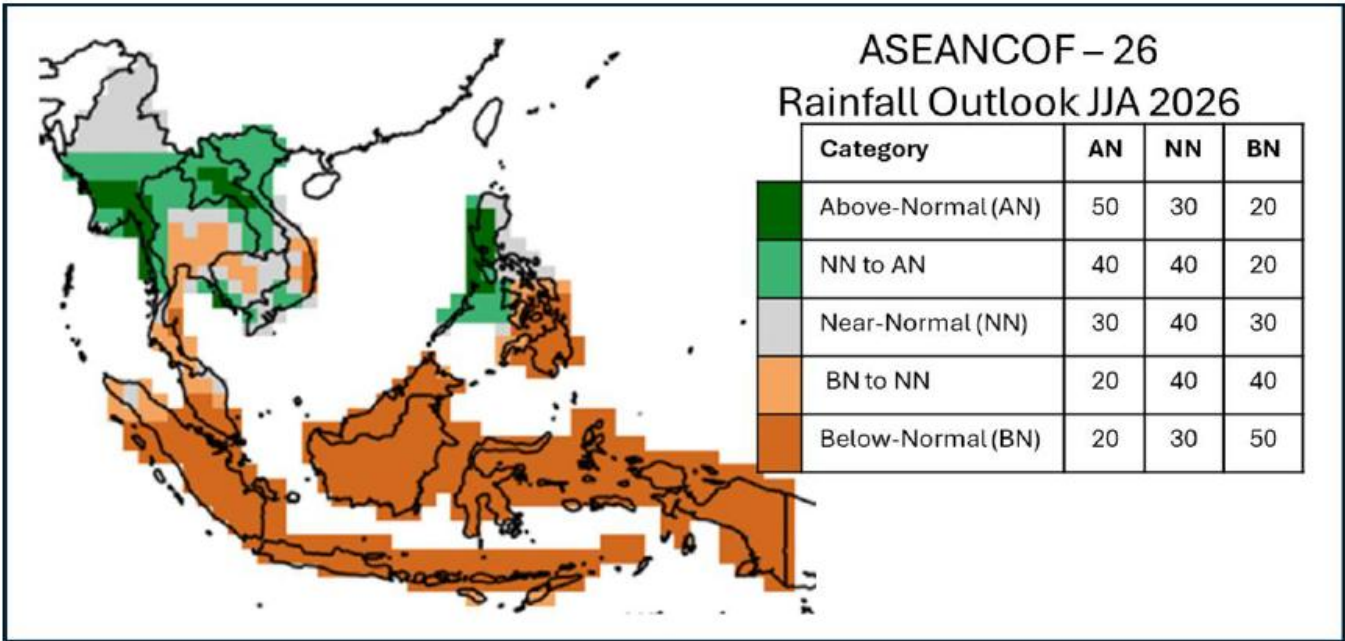
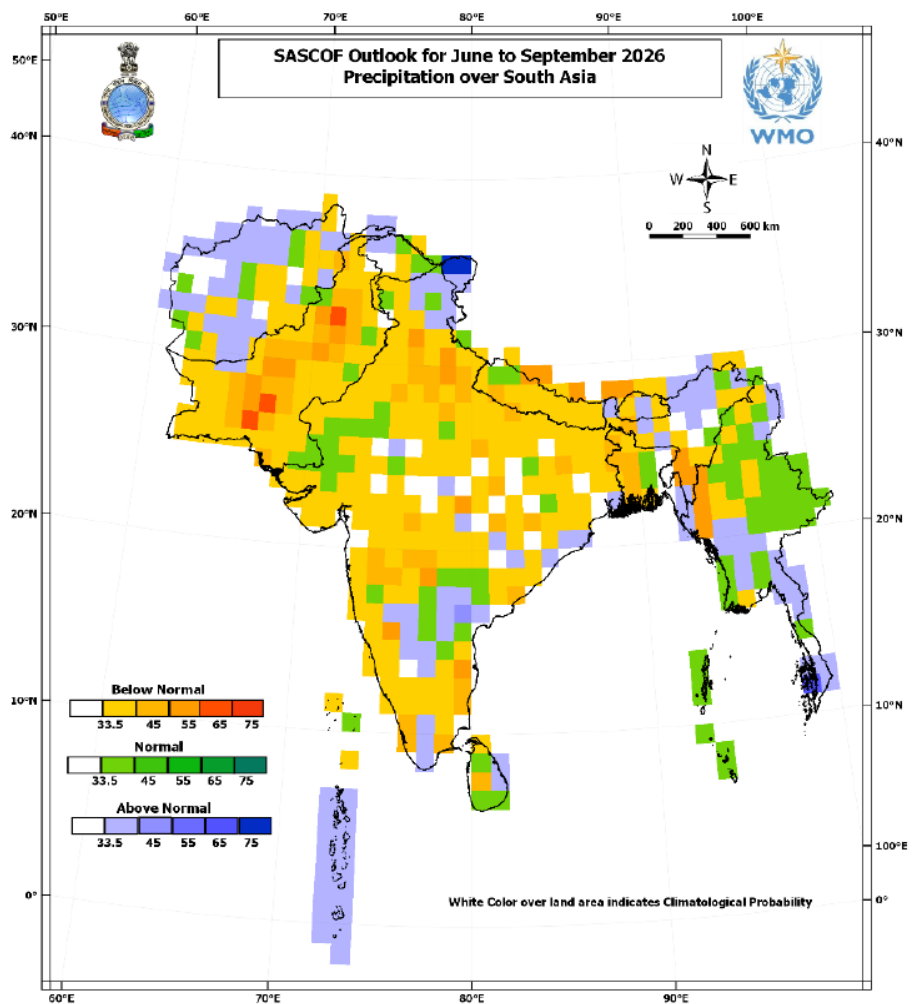
1997-1998



2023-2024

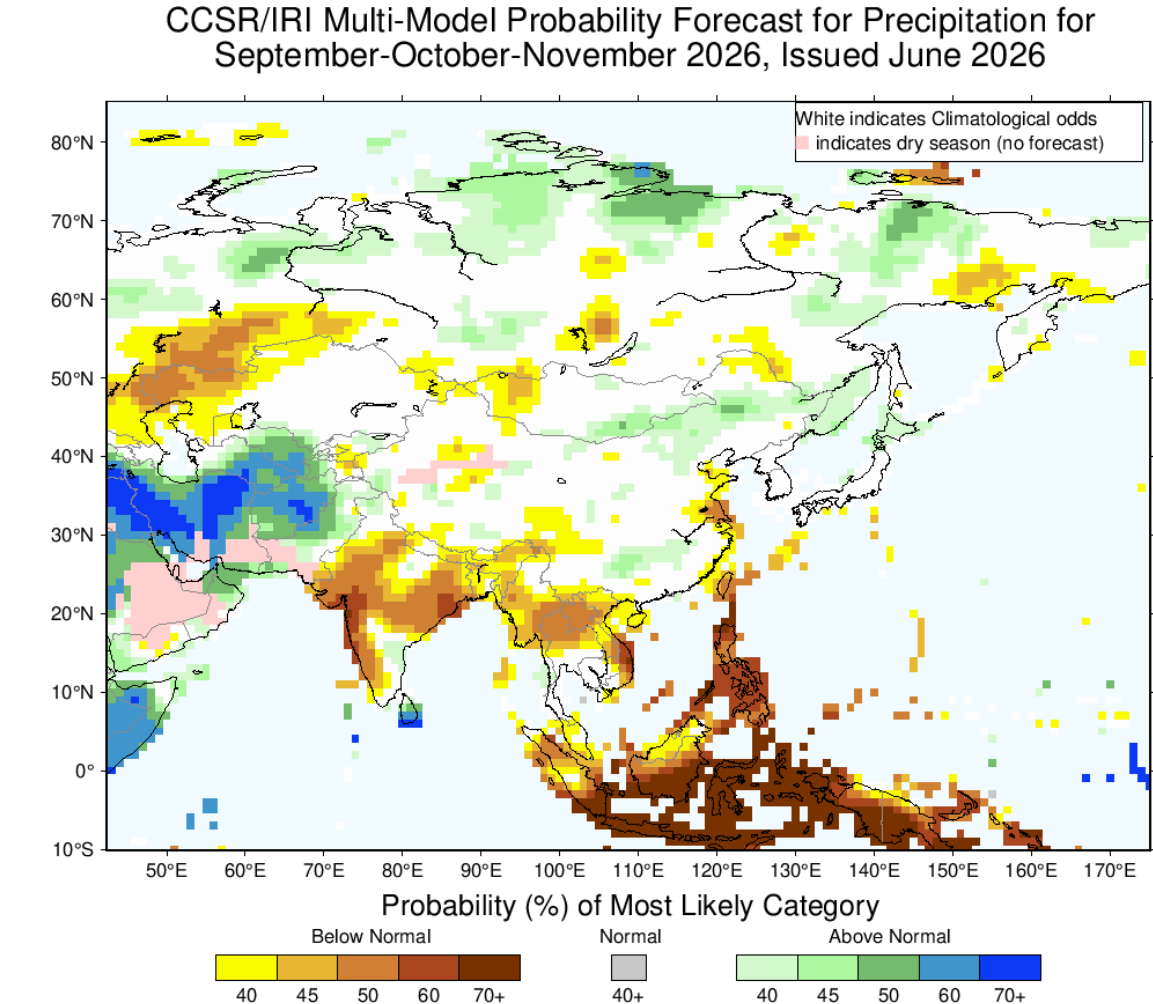
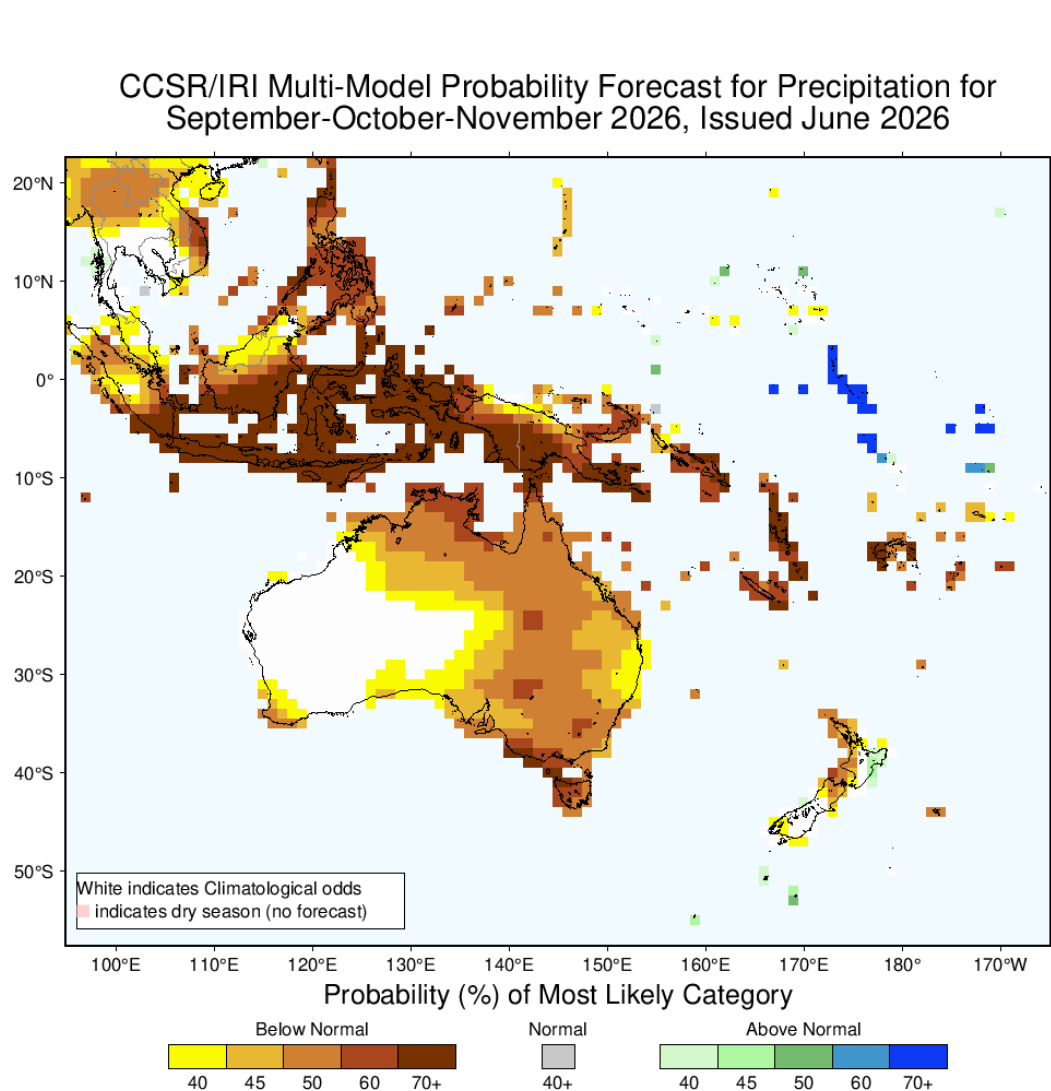


Seasonal Forecast/Climate Outlook Signals for 2026



Drier (below average rainfall) during the months of June – July and August across most parts of Asia Pacific

Looking further ahead (Sep – Nov)



Drier conditions (below average rainfall) continues across much part of Asia/Australasia)

Key Regional Threats in Asia Pacific (El Nino 2026/27)

- **Drought and below-average rainfall is very likely across Southeast Asia:** Lao PDR, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand Philippines, **Indonesia and Malaysia**, and **Melanesia** (Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Fiji)
- **Delayed and suppressed summer monsoon** with prolonged **drier or drought-like** conditions across most parts of **South Asia**, such as India, Nepal and Pakistan. (Although close monitoring of IOD in Indian Ocean is also needed)
- **Above-average rainfall with a wetter winter and spring** risks heavy rainfall events and floods along the Hindu Kush Mountain range particularly in **Afghanistan**, during late 2026 and early 2027.
- **Wetter conditions** might be expected in Nauru, Tuvalu, Kiribati during 2027.
- Mix signals, with more inter-seasonal variability expected (Sri Lanka, most parts of China and East Asia) - Close monitoring of forecasts
- Potential increase in the number of **tropical storms** in the Central and South Pacific.
- **Pprolonged, intense heatwaves** across South and Southeast Asia.



HUMANITARIAN IMPACT

El Niño 2026-2027

Compounding Risks for Asia-Pacific



Monsoon Season

Seasonality: timing of monsoon



El Niño Impact / Seasonal Outlook

Exposure to El Niño

Droughts

Water scarcity



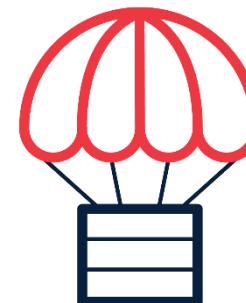
Middle East Crisis

Diesel Price Increase

Food Price Increase

Fertilizer Shortage

Change Economic Growth Outlook



Supply Chain Fragility

Procurement Delays

Rising costs

Remote locations



Heat

Health System Strain

Water stress

Heat waves



Food Insecurity

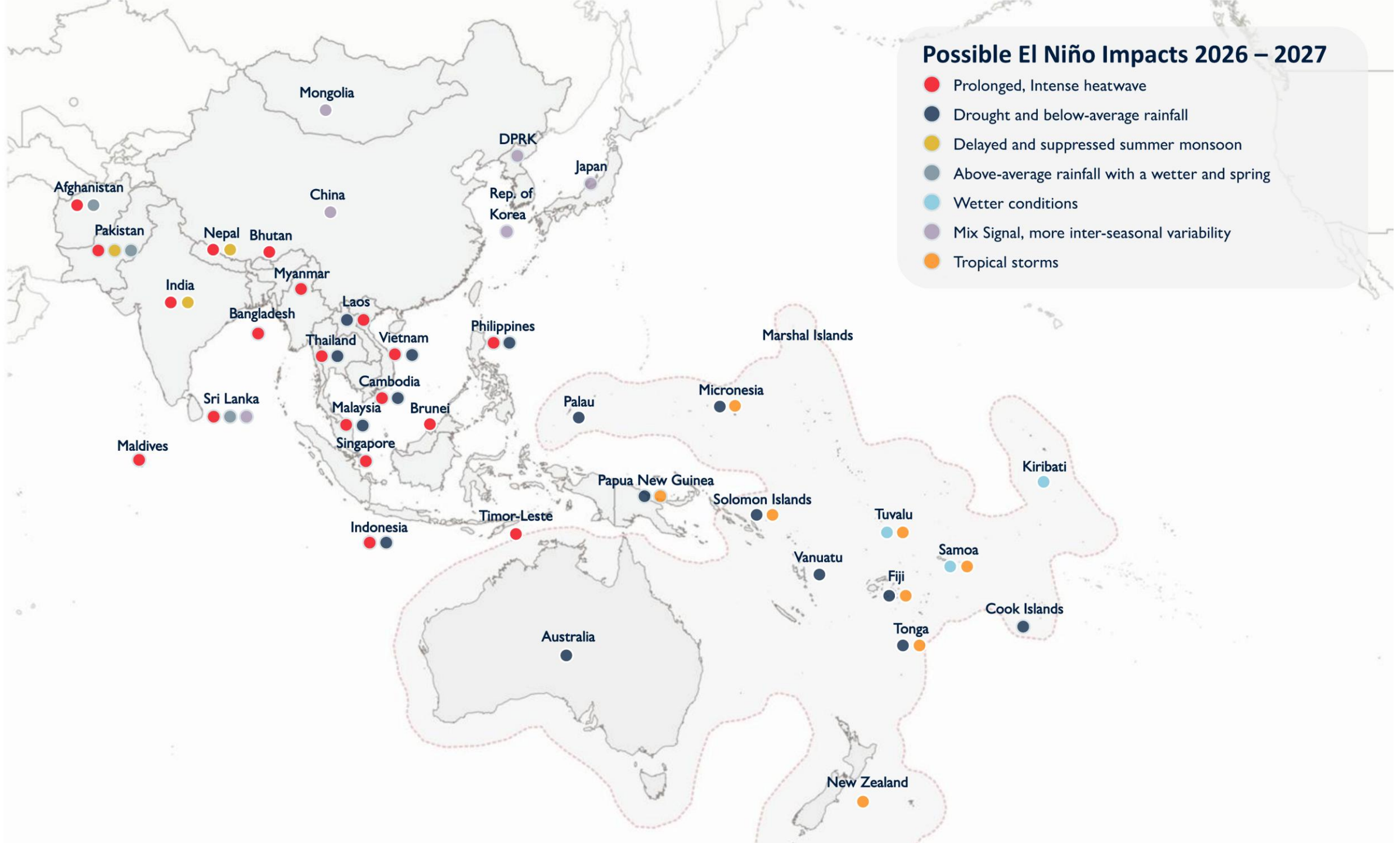
Diminished Coping Capacity

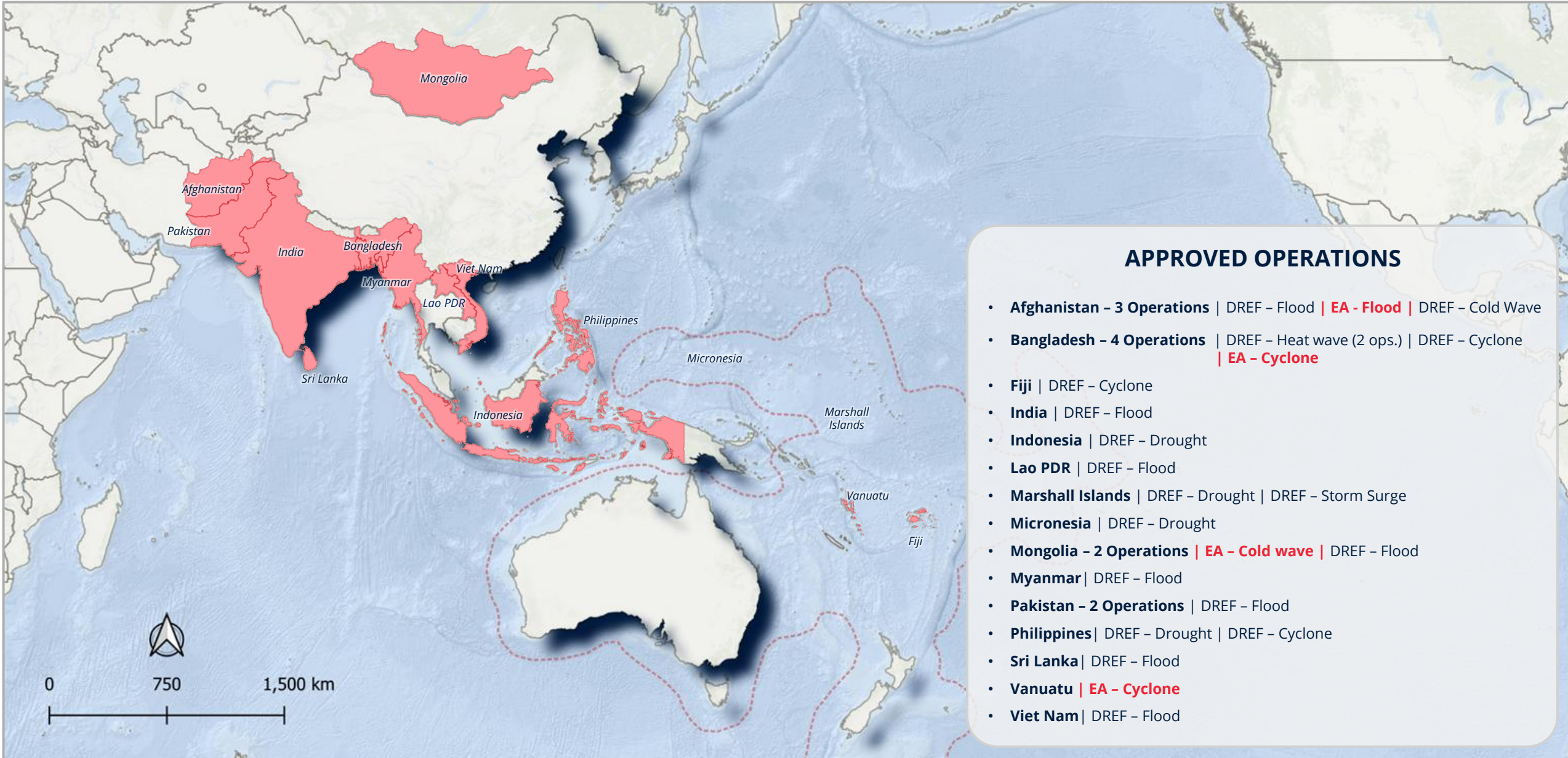
Loss of livelihoods

El Niño is likely to compound existing vulnerabilities across Asia-Pacific. Combined with recurring disasters, economic pressures, supply chain disruptions and fragile livelihoods, it may increase humanitarian needs, food insecurity and water stress while further reducing community coping capacity.

Possible El Niño Impacts 2026 – 2027

- Prolonged, Intense heatwave
- Drought and below-average rainfall
- Delayed and suppressed summer monsoon
- Above-average rainfall with a wetter and spring
- Wetter conditions
- Mix Signal, more inter-seasonal variability
- Tropical storms







Summarizing the humanitarian impact

Expected climate impacts

- **Below-average rainfall across the Region**
- **Widespread above-normal temperatures and heat stress**
- **Increase frequency of extreme weather related disasters**
- **Agricultural stress emergency from late 2026 into early 2027**

Potential impact on people

- **Increased risk of food insecurity and malnutrition**
- **Water scarcity and reduces access to safe water**
- **Displacement and protection risk in hazards-prone areas**
- **Health risk due heat stress**
- **Water borne diseases**

Agriculture and food insecurity

- **Crop water stress during critical stages (planting, flowering, grain filling)**
- **Potential yield reduction for rice, maize, root crops and vegetables**
- **Livelihoods, fisheries and aquaculture also at risk**
- **Impact on rural livelihoods and food availability**



RECOMMENDATIONS

El Niño 2026-2027 Preparedness and readiness

Recommendation for RCRC Partners:



Update contingency and readiness plans



Review early actions protocols



Coordinate with the local authorities



Preposition of stocks in highly vulnerable areas



Implement early actions



Implement livelihoods protection activities



Update RCRC Partners through GO Platform



Increase surveillance and preparedness for climate-sensitive diseases

Recommendations

Preparedness and Readiness

01

Integrate El Niño forecasts and seasonal outlooks **into seasonal preparedness**

02

If there are already **Early Action protocols** in place for NS, reassess the **likelihood of activation**, and make sure all the readiness activities are done before hand

03

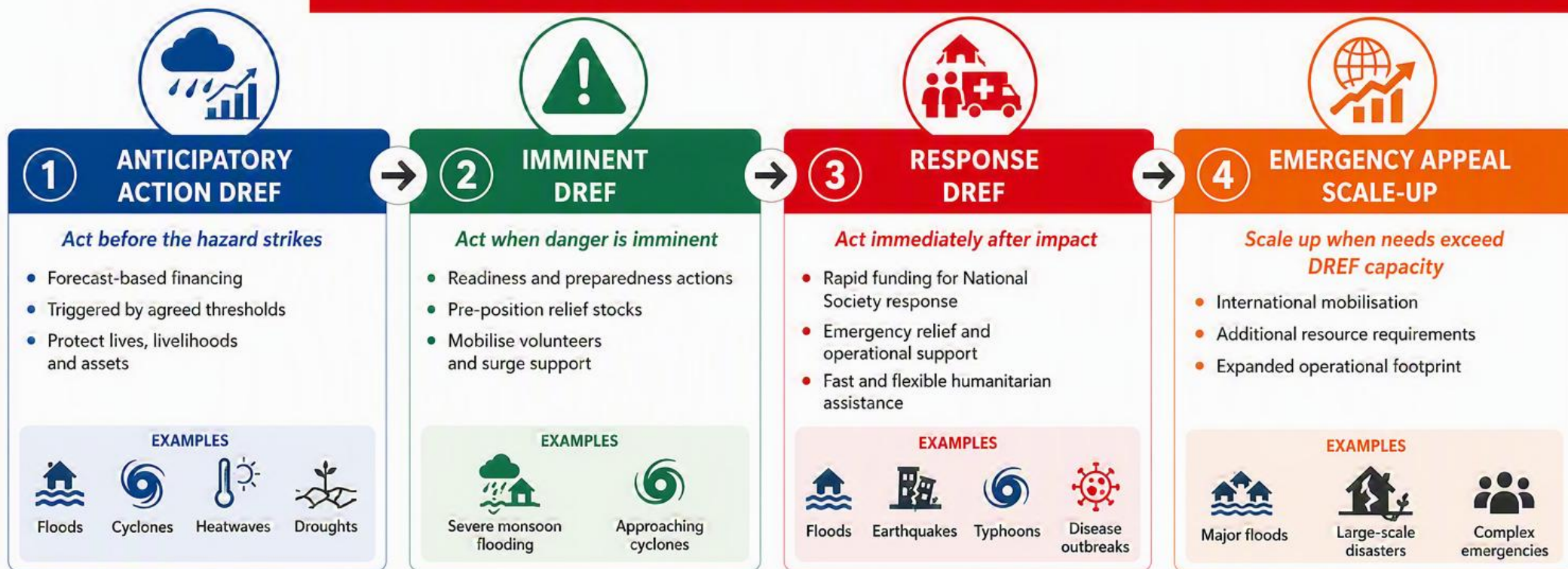
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AVAILABLE RESOURCES

Guidelines and tools



ONE MECHANISM – MULTIPLE PATHWAYS FOR ACTION



WHY DREF?



Fast and flexible funding



Supports local action by National Societies



Enables early action and rapid response



Can scale from localised emergencies to major operations



Strengthens community resilience and reduces humanitarian impact

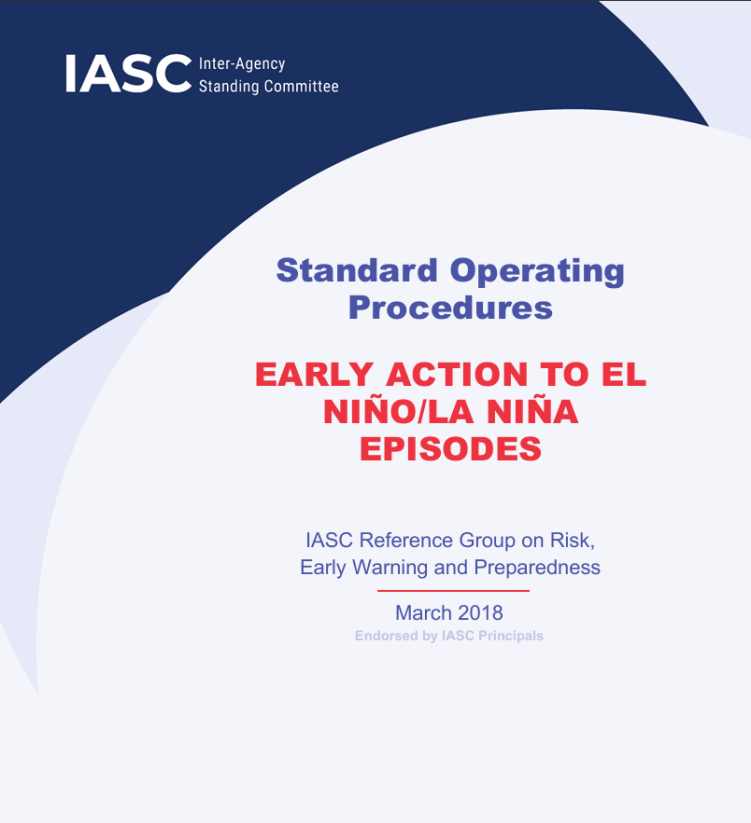


DREF provides National Societies with rapid, flexible funding to save lives, reduce humanitarian suffering and strengthen community resilience.



Source: IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) Operational Framework (2025) and Emergency Appeal Framework.

Resources



IFRC-DREF Operational Parameter for Drought Anticipation and Response “Drought DREF”

Guidance – Version #2 – September 2024



Thank-you