



Seasonal Climate Outlooks For Early Preparedness in Trinidad and Tobago

Presenter:
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Weather Forecasts Versus Climate Outlooks: What's The Difference?

- ❑ Weather is what you get!**
- ❑ Climate is what you expect!**

For planning purposes Met Services provide:

- ❑ Daily weather forecasts**
- ❑ Sub-seasonal climate outlooks (monthly)**
- ❑ Seasonal climate outlooks (3-months)**

Weather forecast is usually absolute

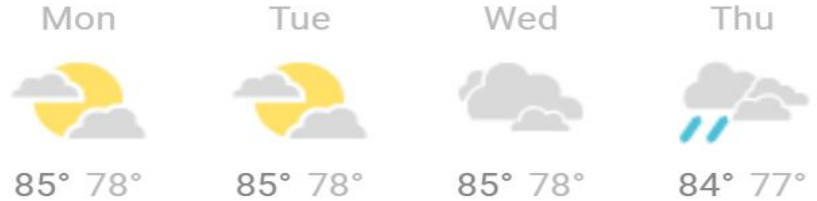
Seasonal forecast is more about probabilities (chance)

Planning

Should you host an outdoors function early next week?

Forecast for Mon, Tue, Wed
Thu of next week

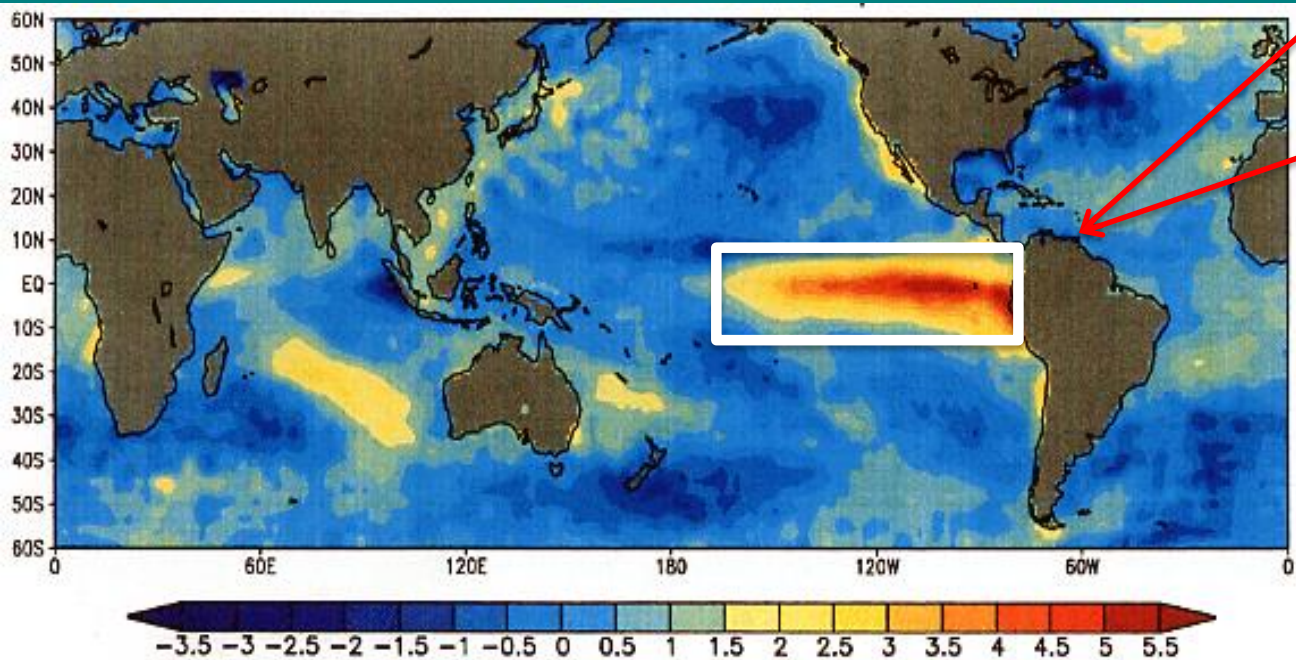
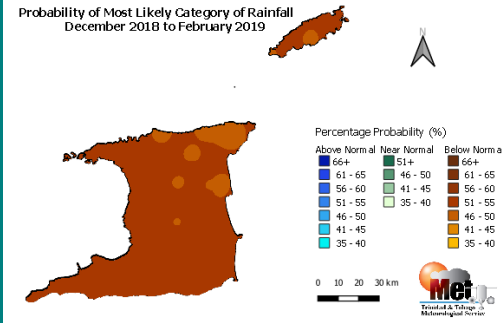
(June 03 to June 06)



Do You Know How Seasonal Forecasts Work?

- ❑ Seasonal forecast based on signal from the ocean**
- ❑ Uses the sea surface temperatures to predict at longer-time scales**
- ❑ Sea acts as a good predictor of the atmosphere**
- ❑ State (warm/cold) of the sea changes much more slowly than the winds and rains in the atmosphere**
- ❑ Can influence weather patterns far away**

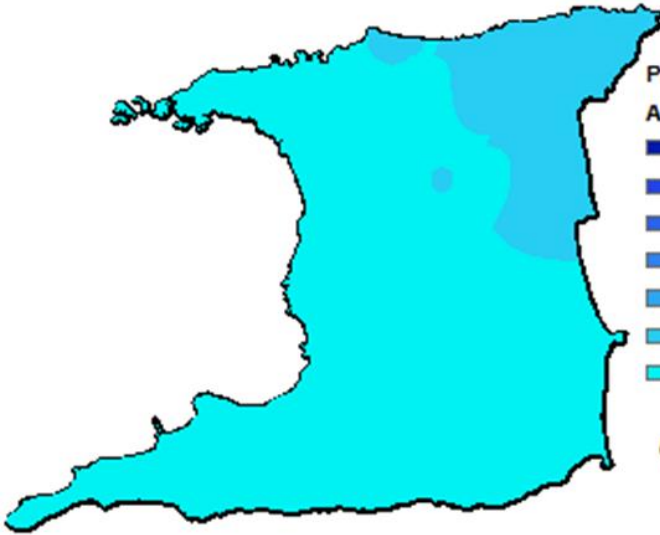
Harsh dry seasons in Trinidad and Tobago are largely influenced by very warm ocean temperatures in the Pacific Ocean, several thousand kilometers away.



Seasonal Outlooks Given In 3 categories:

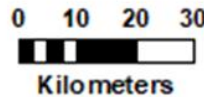
- Below normal**
 - Near normal**
 - Above normal**
-
- **Each possibility is given a percent (%) chance of occurring**
 - **When percent chance is high, the signal is strong**
 - **Pay attention to the possibility of high rainfall or drought**
 - **Can translate into dollars saved**

**Probability of Most Likely Category of Rainfall
September to November 2018**



Percentage Probability (%)

Above Normal	Near Normal	Below Normal
66+	51+	66+
61 - 65	46 - 50	61 - 65
56 - 60	41 - 45	56 - 60
51 - 55	35 - 40	51 - 55
46 - 50		46 - 50
41 - 45		41 - 45
35 - 40		35 - 40



We all know what occurred.

Did we use this information to prepare?

Why Are We Providing Seasonal And Sub-seasonal Climate Outlooks?

- ❑ **Designed to help understand developing situations against the normal seasonal outcomes – while being cautious of unexpected outcomes**
- ❑ **Seasonal forecasts can be very useful tools for planning**
- ❑ **Promote use for effective management of climate risk/flooding**
- ❑ **As early warning tools for early preparation**
- ❑ **As a form of building your community's ability to cope with weather and climate extreme**

Ready

Seasonal forecasts

Set

Mid-Range forecasts

Go!

Short-Range forecasts

Be Ready

- ✓ Work to prepare you property against flood
- ✓ Clean up drains
- ✓ Clear guttering
- ✓ Seal leaks
- ✓ Trim trees overhang

Be Alert

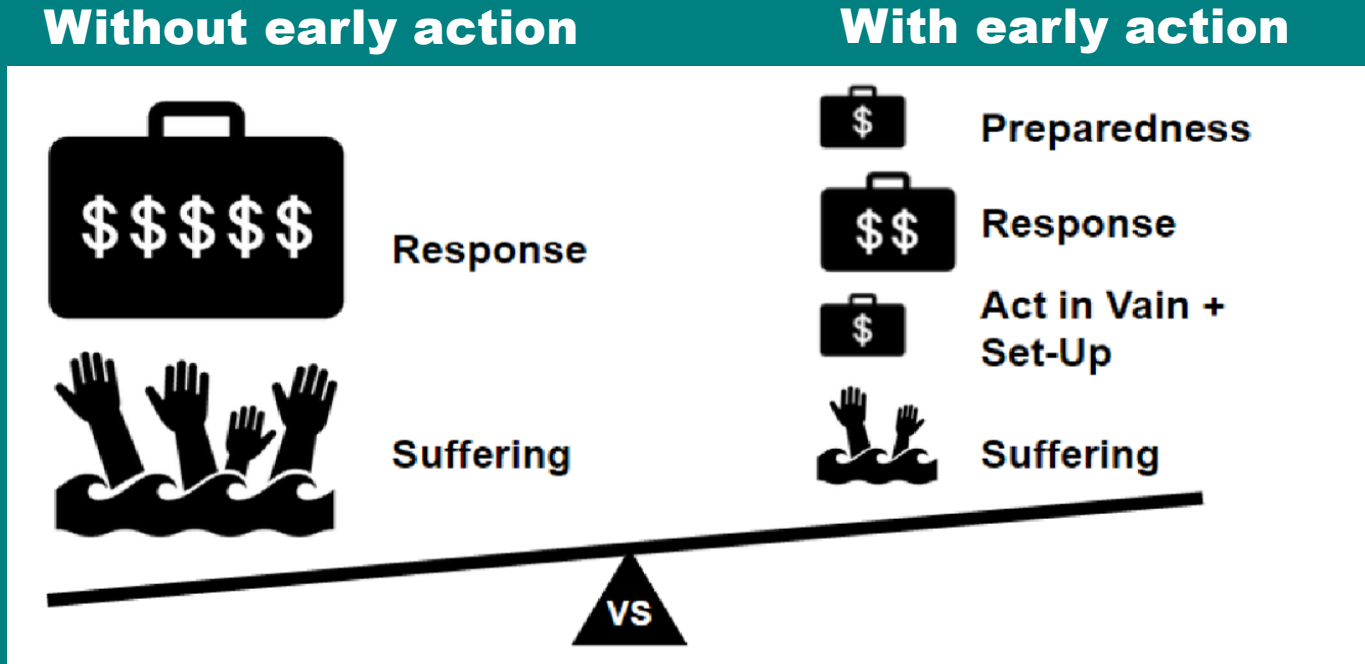
- Prepare a go-bag and include items such as emergency supplies
- ✓ Clothes Important documents
 - ✓ Be sandbag ready

Act Early

- ✓ Remain alert
- ✓ Listen to the weather forecast regularly
- ✓ Get go kit and be ready to go
- ✓ Think it will happen

Why Use the Seasonal Outlooks?

Reduce costs & human suffering by shifting your actions from response to preparedness, early action for easier response



Moving From Thinking About Hazards To Thinking Impacts



Monitor weather information / forecasts for certain hazards

Impacts on households, livelihoods, infrastructure, economy



National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF) IX

Thank You

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