Forecast Update: We are on the threshold of a weak El Niño, but it is not fully clear whether global rainfall will be influenced by this. Further information will appear in the next few months; continue monitoring seasonal forecasts for the latest information.

IRI Global Forecast Map: Colours on this map indicate areas where we have increased confidence that the next three months will be unusually wet or dry. The darker the colour, the more confident we are.

Areas of Concern
We have moderately increased confidence that parts of Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Liberia will be unusually dry this October-December.

There is moderately increased confidence that parts of Ethiopia, Kenya, and Somalia will be unusually wet this October-December.

What can I do?
To anticipate impacts, monitor local rainfall forecasts to see when and where rainfall events might occur. Some regional resources include: Seasonal forecasts. For the Sahel, see: ACMAD.

If below-normal rainfall does occur, the following sectoral impacts are possible:
- Increased forest fires
- Food security: change in planting/harvesting times, crop drying/storage
- Poor water quality

If above-normal rainfall does occur, the following sectoral impacts are possible:
- Increased chances of flooding
- Health: enhanced transmission rates of infectious diseases

For more information to help interpret the forecast, see accompanying document called: ‘Important Forecast Guidance and Resources’.

If you have any questions, please e-mail the IFRC Helpdesk at IRI: ifrc@iri.columbia.edu.