Global Forecast: Total Rain and Snow for January 2013 – March 2013

Produced by the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre and the International Research Institute for Climate and Society

Forecast Update:
The forecast signals this month are not very strong, as we are no longer in La Niña or El Niño phases.

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.

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

[Map legend]

Will this season will be unusually wet?

- Wet: Highly increased chance (55% or greater)
- Wet: Moderately increased chance (45-50%)
- Wet: Slightly increased chance (35-40%)
- No new information
- Slightly decreased chance of unusually wet or unusually dry

Will this season will be unusually dry?

- Dry: Slightly increased chance (35-40%)
- Dry: Moderately increased chance (45-50%)
- Dry: Highly increased chance (55% or greater)
Forecast Interpretation/Highlighting Areas of Concern for January-March 2013

**Americas**
There is moderately increased confidence that parts of the western and southeastern United States and the Galapagos Islands (Ecuador) will be unusually dry this January-March.

There is moderately increased confidence that parts of the United States will be unusually wet this January-March.

**Asia**
Parts of Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines have a decreased chance of unusually wet or dry conditions (grey colour) this January.

**Africa**
This forecast has very little new information in Africa for January-March. We suggest monitoring regional forecasts and local sources of information.

**Pacific**
There is moderately increased confidence that parts of the Marshall Islands will be unusually wet this January-March.

For additional guidance on forecast interpretation, connecting forecasts with appropriate actions, and resources for forecast monitoring and decision-making support, please see the accompanying attachment labelled: ‘Important Forecast Guidance and Resources’.

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