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SEASONAL CLIMATE OUTLOOK FOR JANUARY – FEBRUARY – MARCH 2025

1. Prevailing global climate conditions

1.1 The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

The El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is currently in the neutral phase. The latest official CPC ENSO Outlook predicts a 59% chance of La Niña developing between November 2024 and January 2025. The likelihood of La Niña persisting during the forecast period (January to March 2025) is 63%. ENSO-neutral conditions are expected to return by March-April-May 2025, with a 61% probability. (see *Figure 1*).

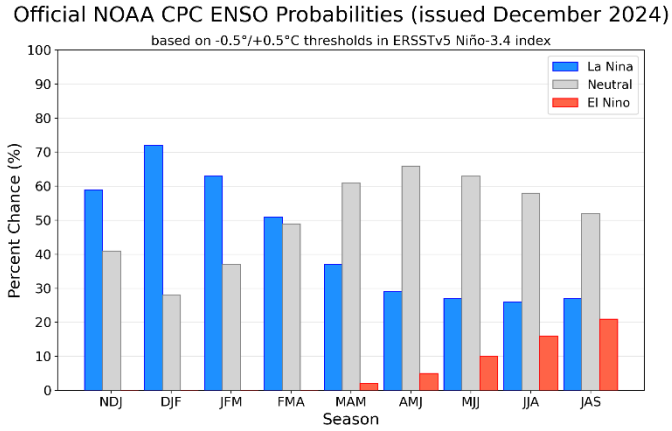

Figure 1: Forecasted Nino 3.4 Index (Source: Official NOAA CPC)

1.1 The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)

The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is in a neutral phase. The IOD had been tending negative from mid-October but returned to neutral values at the beginning of December.

It is expected to remain neutral throughout the forecast period (January to March 2025). (*see Figure 2*)

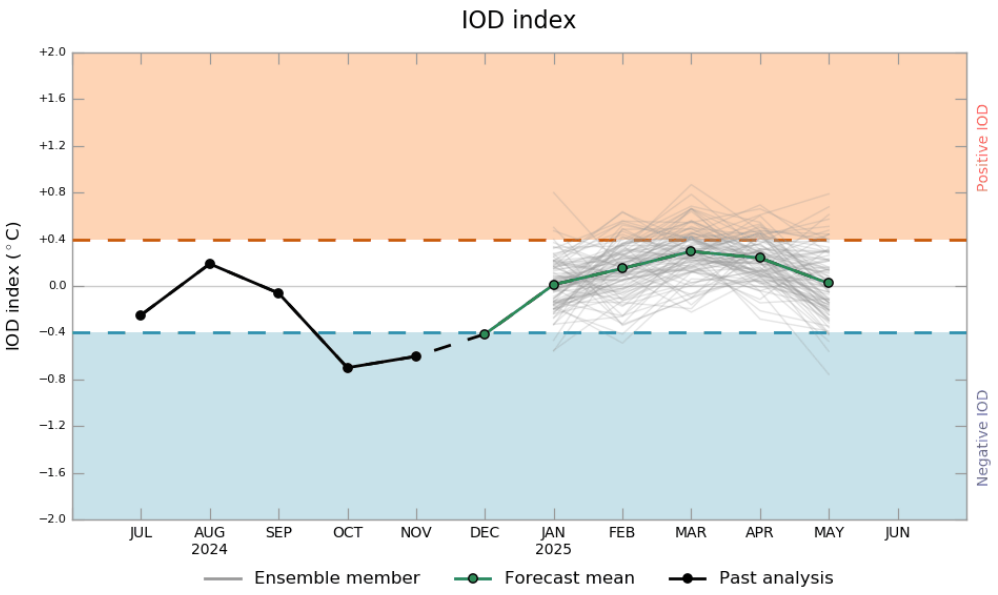

Figure 2: Observed and Forecasted IOD Index (Source: BoM)

2. Seasonal Climate Outlook for January-February-March 2025

The rainfall forecast for the upcoming quarter (January-February-March) is expected to be near normal overall, with a tendency towards below-normal rainfall (Normal to Below Normal) in the central and southern regions of Mahe, Praslin, and La Digue. In contrast, the northern part of Mahe is expected to experience Normal to Above-Normal rainfall. Average temperature is forecasted to remain above normal throughout the forecast period (January-February-March 2025). (*see Figure 3*)

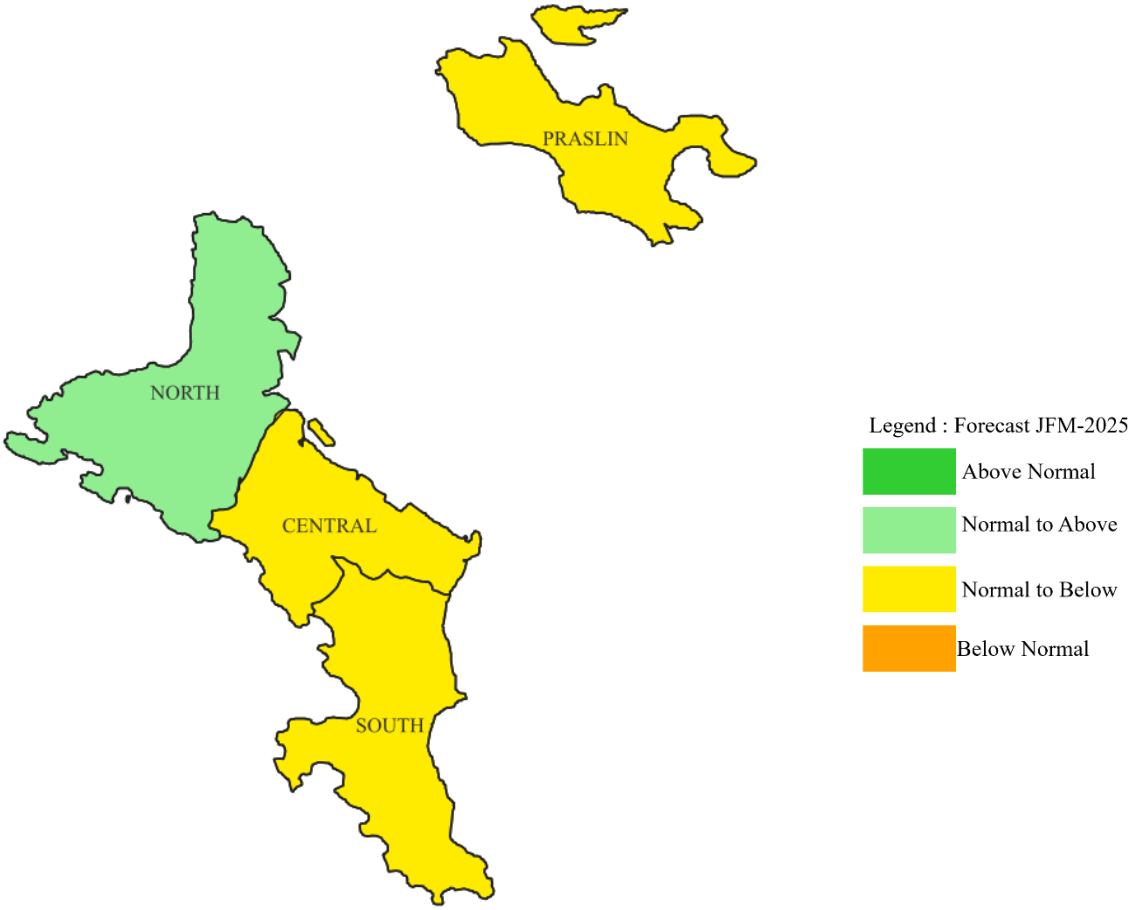

Figure 3: Rainfall Forecast for January-February-March 2025

The table below gives a summary of climatological statistics for the January-February-March based on the expected conditions.

	North	Central	South	Praslin
Average JFM rainfall ***(mm)***	[997.1 - 1236]	[528.1 - 674.3]	[776.5 - 992.3]	[378.4 - 633.4]
Number of Rainy days ***(days)***	[51 - 56]	[38 - 39]	[42 - 46]	[25 - 30]
Number of days when Rainfall >10mm ***(days)***	[26 - 33]	[16 - 19]	[20 - 27]	[12 - 16]

3. Climatology of January-February-March

The map illustrates the spatial distribution of rainfall across the Seychelles during the period from January to March (1991-2020). Rainfall values are shown in millimeters (mm), with a color gradient that transitions from dark blue (indicating higher rainfall) to orange (indicating lower rainfall).

The highest rainfall amounts, ranging from 1000 to 1250 mm, are observed in the northern part of Mahe. Moving southward towards Praslin and La Digue, the rainfall decreases, with values ranging between 600 and 1000 mm. The central and southern regions of Mahe, along with Praslin and La Digue, experience relatively lower rainfall amounts. This rainfall distribution suggests that the northern region of Mahe receives more consistent and abundant rainfall during the January to March period, while the central and southern parts, including Praslin and La Digue, receive significantly lower rainfall in comparison.

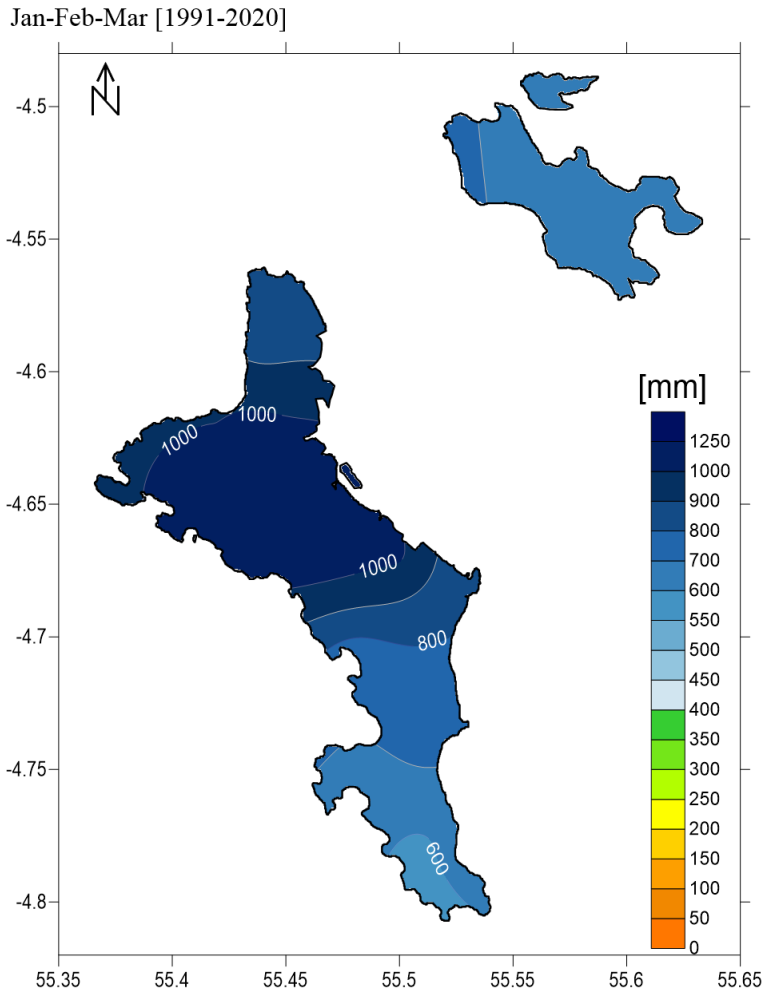

Figure 4: Climatology of January-February-March rainfall (1991-2020)

NOTE: This Outlook applies specifically to seasonal timescales (three-month overlapping periods) and may not fully capture intra-seasonal (month-to-month) variations. Therefore, it is highly recommended to use this seasonal forecast alongside the daily and weekly forecasts provided by the Seychelles Meteorological Authority.