

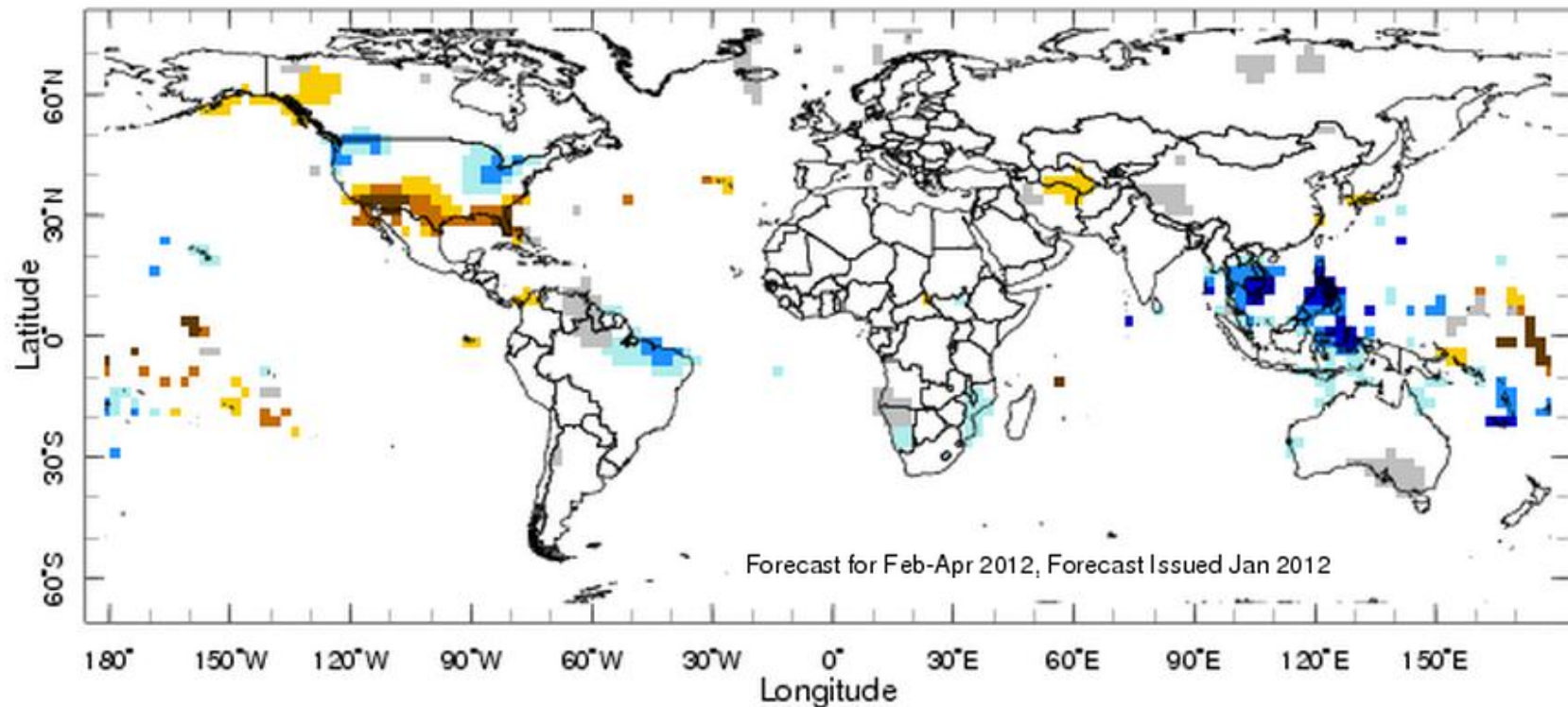
Global Forecast: Total Rain and Snow for February-April 2012

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

Forecast Update: La Niña redeveloped in August and is now of weak to moderate strength. It is likely to affect rainfall patterns in some areas.

IRI Global Forecast Map: Colours show whether the season of February-April 2012 will be unusually wet or dry.

- Colours on this map show *areas with an increased chance of having an unusually wet or dry season*. 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'.



How confident can we be that the next 3 months will be unusually wet?

Low Confidence
(35% to 40% Chance)

Medium Confidence
(45% to 50% Chance)

High Confidence
(55% Chance or Greater)

How confident can we be that the next 3 months will be unusually dry?

Low Confidence
(35% to 40% Chance)

Medium Confidence
(45% to 50% Chance)

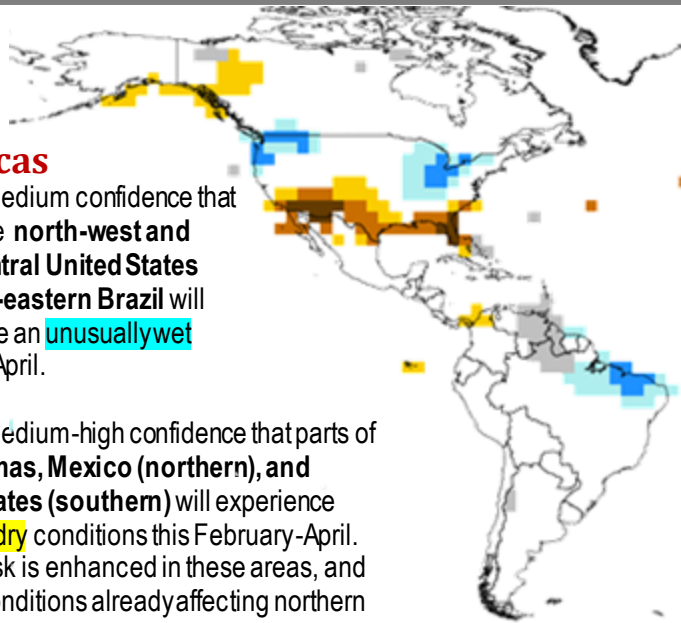
High Confidence
(55% Chance or Greater)

Forecast Interpretation/Highlighting Areas of Concern for February-April 2012

Americas

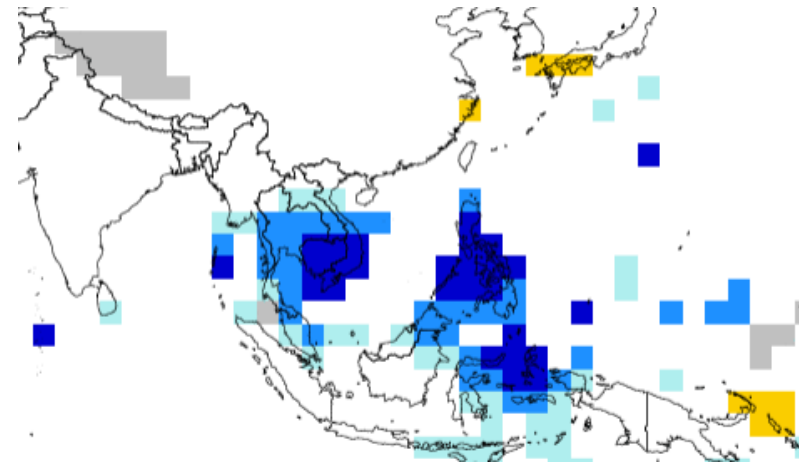
There is medium confidence that parts of the **north-west and north-central United States** and **north-eastern Brazil** will experience an **unusually wet** February-April.

There is medium-high confidence that parts of the **Bahamas, Mexico (northern), and United States (southern)** will experience **unusually dry** conditions this February-April. Drought risk is enhanced in these areas, and drought conditions already affecting northern Mexico have an enhanced chance of continuing over the next three months.



Asia

Southeast Asia: There is medium-high confidence that parts of **The Maldives, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia, Laos, the Andaman Islands (India), Myanmar, and Brunei Darussalam** will be **unusually wet** this February-April. The risks of flooding events and landslides are therefore increased.



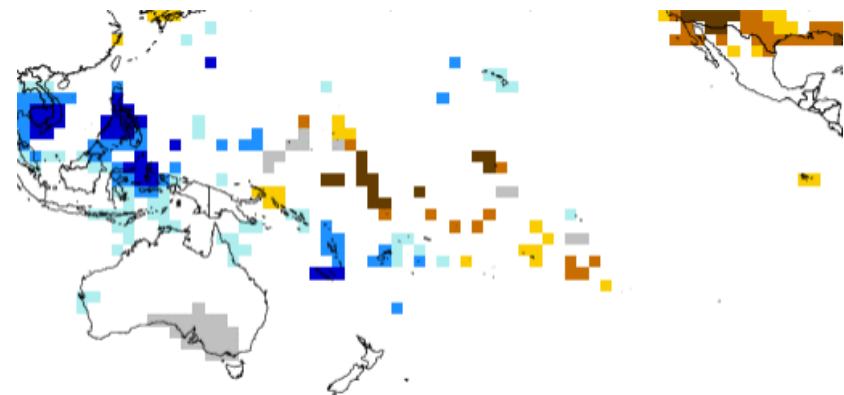
Pacific

IRI's forecast shows substantially increased chances of **unusually wet** conditions, implying enhanced flood risk for parts of:

- **New Caledonia**
- **Vanuatu**

IRI's forecast shows substantially increased chances of **unusually dry** conditions, implying enhanced drought risk for:

- **Kiribati (main and east)**
- **Nauru**
- **Tuvalu** (already facing a water shortage emergency due to drought)



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.