

**January-February-March 2021**  
**Seasonal Climate Outlook**





# SEYCHELLES METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

## January-February-March Seasonal Climate Outlook



### 1.0 October-November-December 2020 Performance

The forecast for October-November-December 2020 (OND) season over Mahe, Praslin and La Digue issued before the beginning of the rainy season was Near Normal with a bias toward Below Normal rainfall. Table 1 below shows the actual rainfall recorded over the same period. Out of the 15 stations considered for the forecast, 6 recorded Below Normal while 9 recorded Normal rainfall translating into a perfect hit. As predicted the main driver was the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) with La Nina condition persisting throughout. Cascade Waterworks recorded the most rainfall with 1212.2 mm, while Anse Forbans recorded only 563.9 mm which was the lowest.

	OND TOTAL	OND LONG TERM MEAN	BN	AN	BN?	AN?	ANOMALIES
Anse Boileau	827.3	888.9	666.7	1111.1	NO	NO	-61.6
Anse Forbans	563.9	842	631.5	1052.5	YES	NO	-278.1
Anse Royale Police Station	633.3	662.2	496.7	827.8	NO	NO	-28.9
Anse Royale Waterwork PUC	759	724.5	543.4	905.6	NO	NO	34.5
Belombre	863.8	1137	852.8	1421.3	NO	NO	-273.2
Cascade Waterwork PUC	1212.2	1072.1	804.1	1340.1	NO	NO	140.1
Fairview La Misere	1013.6	1246.1	934.6	1557.6	NO	NO	-232.5
Hermitage Waterwork PUC	847.4	1058.2	793.7	1322.8	NO	NO	-210.8
La Gogue Waterwork PUC	533.6	997.8	748.4	1247.3	YES	NO	-464.2
Le Niolle Waterwork PUC	771.2	1126.3	844.7	1407.9	YES	NO	-355.1
Praslin Airstip	554.8	908.2	681.2	1135.3	YES	NO	-353.4
Quatre Bornes Police Station	523.7	775.9	581.9	969.9	YES	NO	-252.2
Rochon Waterwork PUC	994.9	1220.7	915.5	1525.9	NO	NO	-225.8
Seychelles Airport	972.2	881.3	661.0	1101.6	NO	NO	90.9
Tea Factory	829.5	1298	973.5	1622.5	YES	NO	-468.5

*Table 1: October-November-December rainfall performance*

### 2.0 November-December 2020 Performance

To assess the rainfall forecast for November-December-January (NDJ) 2020/21, we took a look at the rainfall recorded in November and December and compared it to the Long-term mean for NDJ. So far the Normal to Below forecast is still on track with all the stations still recording negative anomalies. However, few stations should be able to exceed their respective long-term mean with one month remaining in the forecast period.

	NOV TOTAL	DEC TOTAL	NOV + DEC	NDJ LONG-TERM MEAN	ANOMALIES
Anse Boileau	240.3	340.3	580.6	880.0	-299.4
Anse Forbans	271.5	166.3	437.8	849.0	-411.2
Anse Royale Police Station	207.5	236.7	444.2	717.1	-272.9
Anse Royale Waterwork PUC	254.4	309.4	563.8	818.0	-254.2
Belombre	389.5	313.8	703.3	1111.1	-407.8
Cascade Waterwork PUC	512.1	491.1	1003.2	1136.2	-133.0
Fairview La Misere	370.5	472.2	842.7	1094.2	-251.5
Hermitage Waterwork PUC	300.0	361.9	661.9	995.7	-333.8
La Gogue Waterwork PUC	182.5	241.9	424.4	1022.7	-598.3
Le Niolle	336.9	267.0	603.9	1133.5	-529.6
Praslin Airstrip	235.6	227.7	463.3	959.9	-496.6
Quatre Bornes Police Station	250.2	173.0	423.2	767.5	-344.3
Rochon Waterwork PUC	367.3	417.5	784.8	1173.0	-388.2
Seychelles Airport	474.8	328.5	803.3	885.1	-81.8
Tea Factory Morne Blanc	415.4	291.7	707.1	1204.5	-497.4

Table 2: November-December Rainfall Performance

### 3.0 Oceanic Patterns in December 2020

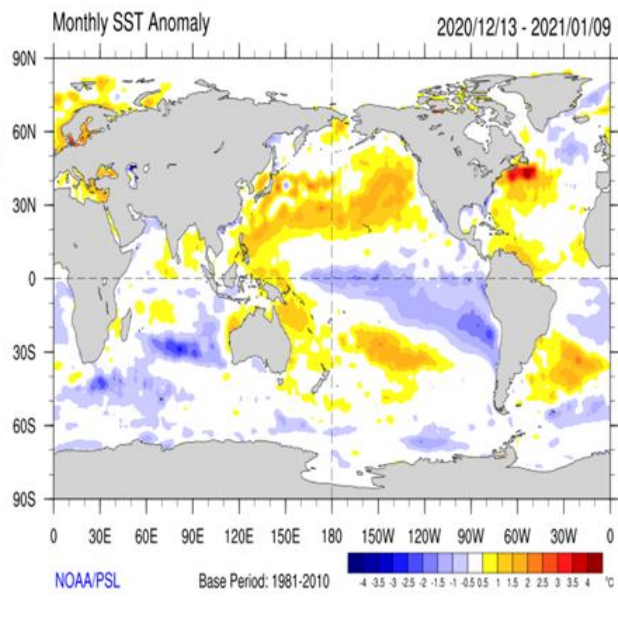
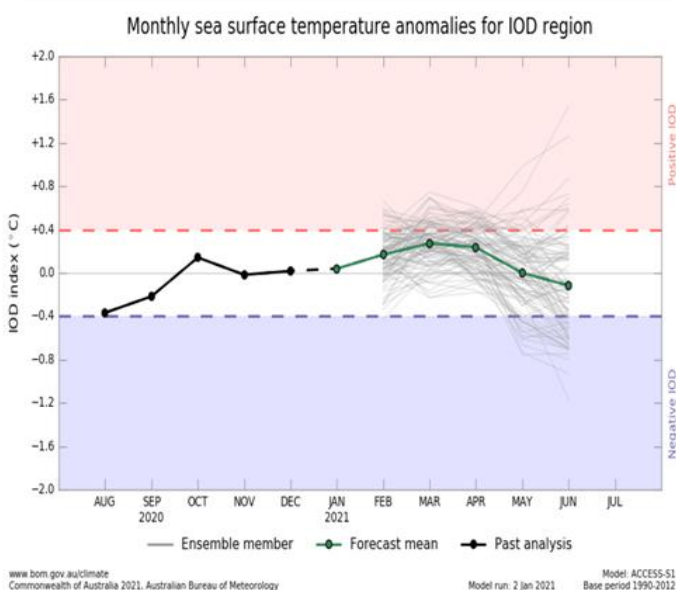
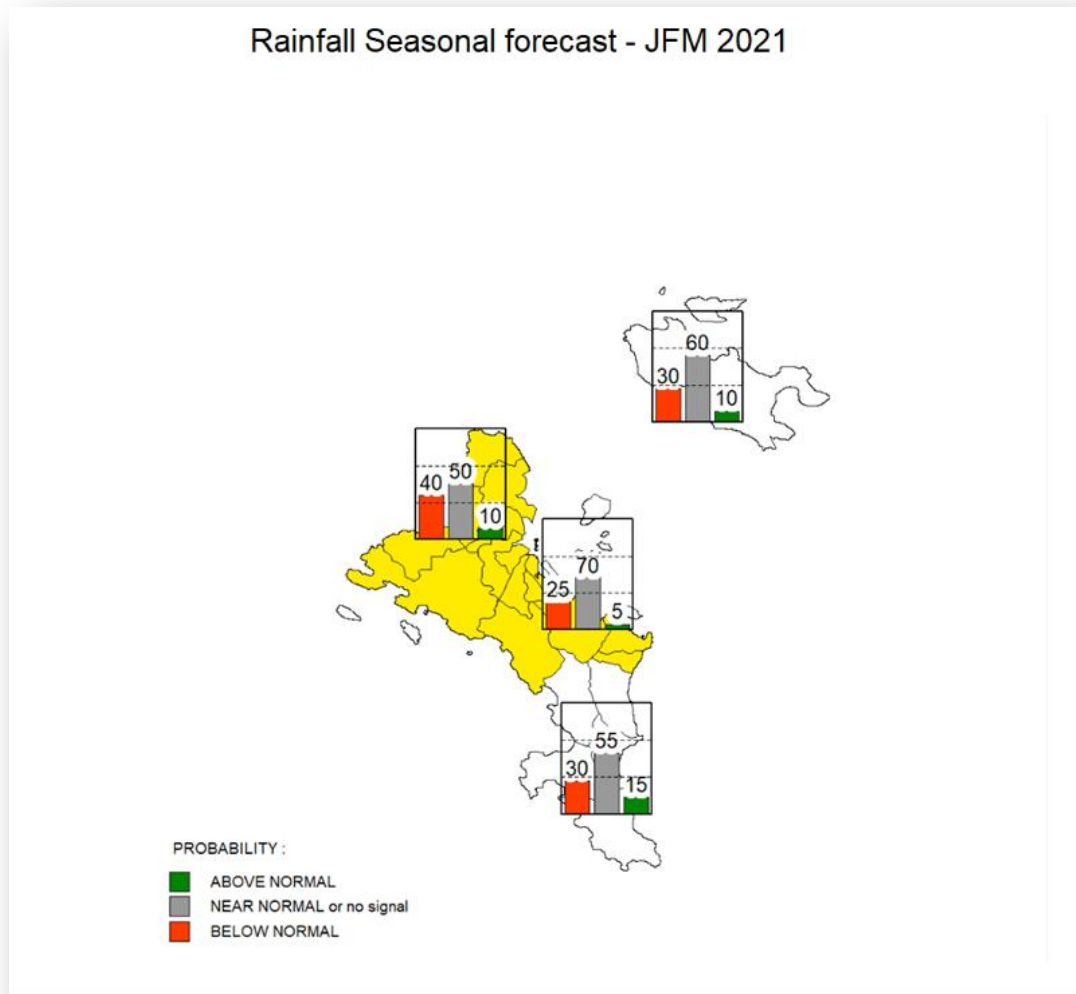


Figure 7: The Indian Ocean Dipole index

Figure 8: Current Monthly SST Anomalies

Sea surface temperatures in the Indian Ocean are cooler than average to the south, while the Indian Ocean dipole remains neutral. Five of the six surveyed climate models by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology expect the IOD to remain neutral at least up to March. La Nina is likely to have reached its peak in terms of sea surface temperature patterns in the Pacific Ocean. However the impacts of La Nina are expected to persist into early March.

#### 4.0 January-February-March Rainfall Seasonal Forecast 2021



In view of the current persisting La Nina condition, the probability-based rainfall outlook for January-February-March indicates that there is an enhanced likelihood for Near Normal to Below Normal rainfall over Mahe, Praslin and La Digue.