

EL NIÑO IMPACTS DASHBOARD FOR CVF-V20 MEMBERS

**A NEW PUBLIC DASHBOARD LETS EVERY MEMBER SEE
HOW ITS OWN REGION FARED IN THE EIGHT STRONGEST
EL NIÑOS ON RECORD AND WHAT THIS SEASON'S
FORECAST MODELS EXPECT**



OVERVIEW

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) now gives a **greater than 90 percent** chance of a very strong El Niño this boreal fall and winter and a **75 percent** chance that it exceeds +2.5°C in October to December, which would surpass every event since 1950.¹ [The Climate Brink dashboard](#) turns that headline into region-by-region planning information, since a single click shows how a region fared in each of the eight strong El Niños since 1957, what **13 dynamical seasonal forecast systems** (6 NOAA NMME, 7 Copernicus C3S) show for this season and a short summary of the published research.²

Its historical basis is strong, because across 26 mapped regions, **86 percent of region-events (176 of 205)** went the expected way, and in the two largest eastern Pacific events, 1982 to 1983 and 1997 to 1998, every region did.² For members, the question is no longer whether this event will shift local risk but where the odds are now loaded against them, and this tool answers that faster than any other public product we have seen.



WHAT THIS SHOWS FOR MEMBER REGIONS

The dashboard's most consistent signals fall squarely on CVF-V20 geographies, as the selection below from the accompanying analysis shows.²

REGION	SEASON	RECORD IN THE 8 PAST STRONG EVENTS	THIS SEASON
Southern Africa	Dec to Feb	Drier in 6 of 8 (about 80 percent odds of below-normal rain), 2023 to 2024 driest at 69 percent of normal	All 13 models show drought, maize harvest at risk
Horn of Africa (southern Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia)	Oct to Dec	Wetter in all 8, peaking at 241 percent of normal in 1997	Flood risk amplified by a developing positive Indian Ocean Dipole
Indonesia and the Maritime Continent	Dry season	Drier in all 8, typically 73 percent of normal, with severe fire risk	The most reliable El Niño impact on the planet
Philippines	Dec to Apr	Drier in all 8, median 58 percent of normal	All 13 models agree
Western Pacific islands (Palau to Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji)	Boreal winter	Drier in all 8, with sea-level drop exposing reef flats	Drought and reef stress
Kiribati and Tuvalu	Boreal winter	Wetter in 5 of 5 satellite-era events, about 200 percent of normal	Heavy rain and flooding

Southern Mekong (Cambodia, southern Laos, southern Vietnam)	Mar to May 2027	Drier in 7 of 8, median 71 percent of normal	A six-month lead for water planning
South Asia	2026 monsoon, Sri Lanka NE monsoon	India 12 percent below normal by mid-August, Sri Lanka wetter in all 8 (126 percent)	India's 2027 monsoon dry in only 1 of 8 past cases
Colombia, Venezuela, Guianas	Dec to Feb	Drier in all 8, median 71 percent of normal	All 13 models agree
Costa Rica, Panama, Caribbean Colombia	Boreal winter	Drier, Panama Canal restricted in 2023	Trade and hydropower exposure
Coastal Peru and Ecuador	Boreal winter and spring	Extreme flooding in 1982 to 1983 and 1997 to 1998 only	Offshore waters 4.6°C above normal resemble those two events



Photo credit: 5 January 2021, Laborers resting during recovery following a cyclone in Bangladesh, highlighting climate-related disasters | Shutterstock

HOW TO READ THESE OUTPUTS

The dashboard shifts odds rather than issuing forecasts, and its author states plainly that no past event resembles this one, since the September model runs put the peak near **+4.1°C in Niño-3.4** against the prior record of +2.75°C in 2015 to 2016, which means "we are extrapolating well outside the training data."² That model-ensemble figure uses a different index from NOAA's official relative index and should be read as the upper envelope of guidance rather than a planning number, and members should weigh three further limits.

1. West Africa, the Sahel, Bangladesh and several small island states have no mapped region, so members there should rely on *Prévisions Saisonnières des Caractéristiques Agro-hydro-climatiques* (PRESASS), South Asian Climate Outlook Forum (SASCOF), and their national services.

2. The Horn of Africa signal depends more on the Indian Ocean Dipole than on El Niño itself, so the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Climate Prediction and Applications Centre's (ICPAC)s Greater Horn of Africa Climate Outlook Forum (GHACOF) outlook remains the authority.
3. This is an independent research product, so Southern Africa Regional Climate Outlook Forum (SARCOF), GHACOF, Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forum (PICO), and national meteorological services remain the basis for official triggers and declarations.

The natural cycle itself is not caused by warming, and our communications should not claim otherwise, but it now unfolds on a human-warmed baseline that raises the absolute extremes. The analysis puts the chance that 2027 becomes the warmest year on record at **95 to 96 percent** and finds warming and El Niño contributed roughly equally to the 2023 to 2024 Amazon rainfall deficit, which is the defensible foundation for Loss and Damage and concessional finance arguments this season.²



Photo credit: Drought-induced water scarcity in Africa, characterized by cracked soil and declining water availability under dry conditions | Magnifico

RECOMMEN- DED USE OVER THE NEXT 60 DAYS

1. Circulate the dashboard link to national meteorological services, disaster risk management agencies, and ministries of agriculture, water, and finance.
2. Cross-check each dashboard signal against the latest regional outlook before triggering anticipatory action or sovereign risk pools (ARC, CCRIF, SEADRIF, PCRIC).
3. Use the season-by-season replay to brief principals ahead of the IMF and World Bank meetings and COP31, where the historical record of 1997 to 1998 and 2015 to 2016 makes the case for pre-arranged finance concrete.
4. Report to the Office any region where the dashboard and national forecasts diverge, so our next monthly El Niño brief can address it.

Questions on this note should be directed to the Office of the Chief Scientist and Science Advisor at kq@cvfv20.org and sgoffice_ml@cvfv20.org, respectively, copy secretariat@cvfv20.org.

ANNEX: KEY SOURCES

¹ NOAA Climate Prediction Center, [ENSO Diagnostic Discussion](#), 10 September 2026. Supports the greater than 90 percent chance of a very strong event, the 75 percent chance of exceeding +2.5°C (three-month relative index) in October to December, and Niño-3.4 at +1.8°C in August.

² Zeke Hausfather, The Climate Brink, [The impacts of this year's record El Niño](#), 28 September 2026, with the companion [interactive impacts dashboard](#). Supports the 13-model ensemble, the 86 percent (176 of 205) historical hit rate, the +4.1°C model peak versus the +2.75°C 2015 to 2016 record, all regional figures in Section 2, the 95 to 96 percent chance of a record-warm 2027 and the Amazon attribution finding.





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