

Climate Monitoring and Prediction for the Maldives – September 2025

Prepared by Staff at Foundation for Environment, Climate and Technology, Maldives and Sri Lanka and Columbia University

Nipuni Alahakoon, Achini Wijesiri, Dilrukshi Kulasooriya, Lareef Zubair, A. Afaaf and Michael Bell

September 30, 2025

PACIFIC SEAS STATE

September 19, 2025

As of mid-September 2025, ENSO-neutral conditions continue across the equatorial Pacific Ocean. However, there is an increasing likelihood of La Niña during September-November (SON) with a moderate probability of 56%. These La Niña conditions are expected to persist through the boreal winter of 2025/2026 (December-January). In contrast, sea surface temperature (SST) is slightly warmer than the average levels (0.5 °C), which is not typical for a developing La Niña phase. (Text Courtesy IRI)

INDIAN OCEAN STATE

26 Aug-1 Sep, 2025

0.5°C above average SST was observed around the Maldives.

During the last two weeks of September, the northern islands experienced a peak daily rainfall of around 60 mm on 25th September, while the remaining islands received comparatively lower amounts. In the coming week, the northern islands are expected to record another peak in daily rainfall, reaching up to 70 mm. The Indian Ocean SST remains warmer, while in contrast, La Niña conditions are now developing in the Pacific Ocean.

Highlights

Monitored:

In September, the northern and southern islands received up to 5 mm of rainfall; while remaining islands received less. North-Westerly winds prevailed for the Northern and Central islands while Westerly winds prevailed for the Southern islands of Maldives during the month of August.

Predictions: A transition from ENSO-neutral to La Niña is likely in the next couple of months, with a 71% chance of La Niña during October - December 2025. Thereafter, La Niña is favored but chances decrease to 54% in December 2025 - February 2026.

Summary

CLIMATOLOGY

Monthly Climatology:

In October, the northern half of the country usually receives up to 200 mm rain while the southern half receives up to 250 mm rain. Wind is westerly. The entire country usually receives up to 200 mm rain in November with no change in the wind direction from October. Usually in December, northern islands receive up to 150 mm while central and southern islands receive up to 200 mm and 250 mm rain respectively. Southern islands get north easterly wind while southern islands get northerly wind.

MONITORING

Fortnightly Rainfall Monitoring:

Date	Rainfall		
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
14 th September	TR	TR	5 mm
15 th September	TR	TR	10 mm
16 th September	TR	TR	TR
17 th September	10 mm	TR	TR
18 th September	TR	TR	-
19 th September	TR	TR	-
20 th September	TR	-	5 mm
21 st September	TR	TR	-
22 nd September	-	TR	TR
23 rd September	TR	5 mm	TR
24 th September	TR	10 mm	10 mm
25 th September	60 mm	5 mm	TR
26 th September	40 mm	5 mm	5 mm
27 th September	TR	TR	TR
28 th September	TR	TR	-

TR - Trace Value

Monthly and Seasonal Rainfall Monitoring

Monthly Average: In September, the northern and southern islands received up to 5 mm of rainfall, and the central islands received up to 3 mm rainfall.

FECT Foundation for Environment
Climate and Technology

FECT, Maldives, Sri Lanka & New York

Phone: (+960) 7788010(MV), (+94) 81-2376746(SL)

Web: www.climate.mv

Blog: fectmv.blogspot.com

E-mail: fectmv@gmail.com

FB: www.fb.com/fectmv

TW: @fectmv

Monthly Temperature Monitoring:

	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
T Max	32.0°C	32.8°C	31.8°C
T Min	25.0°C	26.1°C	24.7°C

Dekadal Rainfall Estimates

1-10 Sep, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 10 mm rainfall
Central Islands: 10 mm rainfall
Southern Islands: 70 mm rainfall

11-20 Sep, Dekadal rainfall estimated as; Northern Islands: 20 mm rainfall
Central Islands: 20 mm rainfall
Southern Islands: 20 mm rainfall

PREDICTIONS

Daily Rainfall Forecast:

Date	Rainfall		
	Northern Islands	Central Islands	Southern Islands
9th October	70 mm	40 mm	40 mm
10th October	70 mm	40 mm	20 mm
11th October	70 mm	40 mm	70 mm
12th October	40 mm	40 mm	40 mm
13th October	40 mm	40 mm	40 mm
14th October	20 mm	70 mm	40 mm
15th October	20 mm	70 mm	40 mm

Biweekly Rainfall Forecast:

NOAA/NCEP GFS model predicts higher probability of below-normal tercile by 45% in the northern islands; below-normal tercile by 45% and above-normal tercile by 50% in the central islands; above-normal tercile by 60% in the southern islands between 11th - 24th October.

Seasonal Rainfall and Temperature Forecast:

Below-normal precipitation tercile is 45% probable in the northern islands; 60% probable in central and southern islands of Maldives from October-November-December 2025 and seasonal rainfall forecast is higher likelihood of below-normal range.

MJO Index:

The MJO is predicted by NOAA CPC to be in phases 1,2 respectively in the next two weeks (7 – 21 October 2025). MJO in phase 1 and 2 will enhance the rainfall over the Maldives from 7th- 21st October.

Figures in Annexure

Inside this Issue

- **Rainfall Monitoring**
 - Daily Satellite derived Rainfall Estimates
 - Monthly Rainfall derived from Satellite Rainfall Estimate
 - Monthly and Seasonal Monitoring
- **Ocean Surface Monitoring**
- **Rainfall Predictions**
 - Weekly Predictions from NOAA/NCEP
 - Seasonal Predictions from IRI¹

www.climate.mv



www.fb.com/fectmv



@fectmv

Websites: www.climate.mv

www.tropicalclimate.org/maldives