

La Niña

2016/2017

Historical Impact
Analysis



Linda Hirons and Nicholas
Klingaman

February 2016

This report has been produced for Evidence on Demand with the assistance of the UK Department for International Development (DFID) contracted through the Climate, Environment, Infrastructure and Livelihoods Professional Evidence and Applied Knowledge Services (CEIL PEAKS) programme, jointly managed by DAI (which incorporates HTSPE Limited) and IMC Worldwide Limited.

The views expressed in the report are entirely those of the author and do not necessarily represent DFID's own views or policies, or those of Evidence on Demand. Comments and discussion on items related to content and opinion should be addressed to the author, via enquiries@evidenceondemand.org

Your feedback helps us ensure the quality and usefulness of all knowledge products. Please email enquiries@evidenceondemand.org and let us know whether or not you have found this material useful; in what ways it has helped build your knowledge base and informed your work; or how it could be improved.

DOI:http://dx.doi.org/10.12774/eod_cr.february2016.hironsetal4

First published February 2016
© CROWN COPYRIGHT

Contents

SECTION 1	1
Introduction	1
SECTION 2	2
What are El Niño and La Niña and what can we expect this year?	2
2.1 Description of El Niño and La Niña	2
2.2 Do all El Niño events transition into La Niña events?	3
SECTION 3	5
Monitoring: Summary of current forecasts.....	5
3.1 International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)	5
3.2 European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)	5
SECTION 4	7
Global Impacts of La Niña	7
4.1 Summary of historical global impacts of La Niña	7
4.2 Global changes in probability of extremes	7
SECTION 5	9
Impact Tables.....	9
5.1 Introduction	9
5.2 Description of Impact Tables	9
5.3 Time evolution of Impacts	10
5.4 Southern Africa	11
5.5 West Africa	12
5.6 East Africa	13
5.7 Central Africa	13
5.8 Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA)	14
5.9 Indonesia	15
5.10 Southern Asia	15
5.11 Southeast Asian Peninsular.....	16
5.12 Caribbean	16
5.13 British Overseas Territories	16

SECTION 1

Introduction

El Niño conditions developed in the tropical Pacific during the latter half of 2015, peaking in December 2015 as one of the strongest El Niño events on record, comparable with the 1997-98 “El Niño of the century”. Conditions in the tropical Pacific are forecast to return to normal over the coming months (section 3), with the potential to transition into La Niña conditions (section 2.2, 3) during 2016-17. If this was to occur it would act as a further strong perturbation, or ‘kick’, to the climate system and lead to further significant socio-economic impacts affecting many sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, health and energy. This report analyses La Niña events over the last 37 years of the satellite era (1979-present) and aims to identify regions where there is an increased likelihood of impacts occurring.

It is important to note that this analysis is based on past analogous events and is not a prediction for this year. No two La Niña events will be the same – the timing and magnitude of events differs considerably (Figures 1 and 2). More importantly, no two La Niña events lead to the same impacts – other local physical and social factors come into play. Therefore, the exact timings, locations and magnitudes of impacts should be interpreted with caution and this should be accounted for in any preparedness measures that are taken.

SECTION 2

What are El Niño and La Niña and what can we expect this year?

2.1 Description of El Niño and La Niña

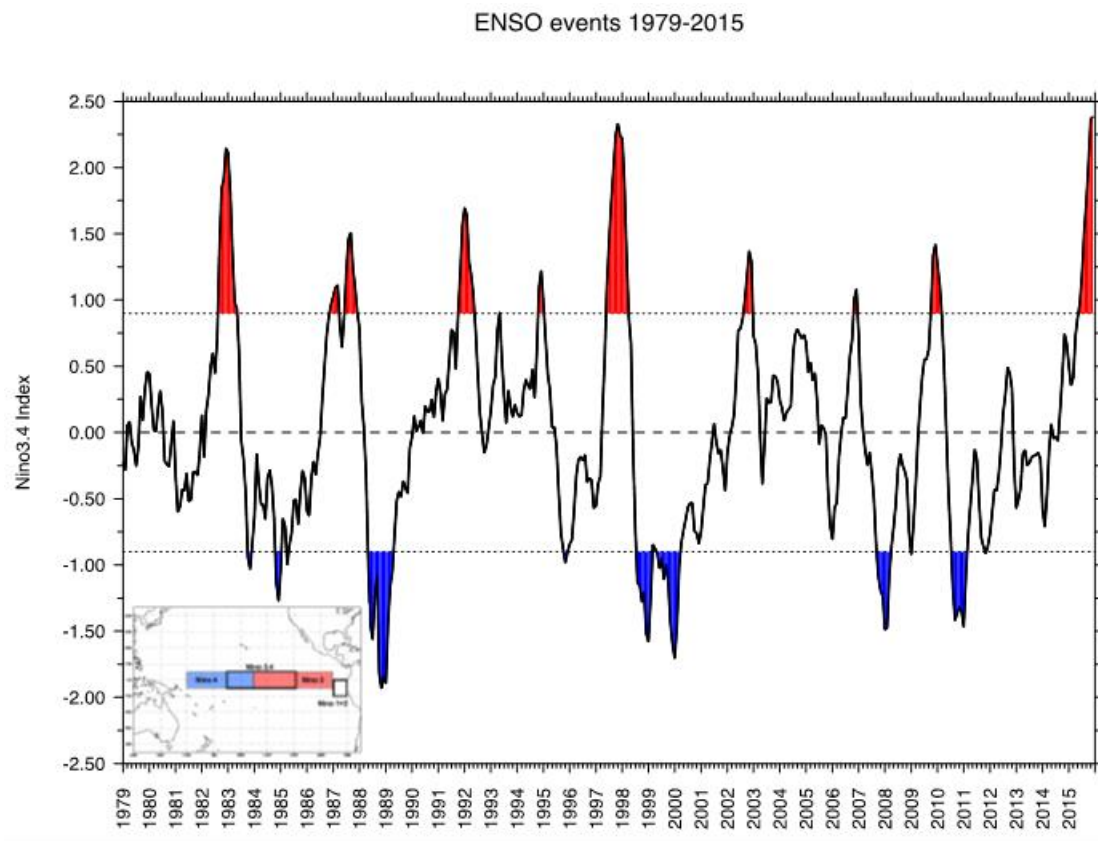
The El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is one of the most important phenomena in the Earth's climate system. It describes the year-to-year variations in ocean temperatures in the tropical Pacific. These variations influence weather patterns in the tropics but also have impacts on a global scale.

ENSO has three states - El Niño, La Niña and Neutral - described by the cycle between above and below normal sea-surface temperatures (SSTs) in the equatorial central and eastern Pacific. An El Niño state occurs when the SSTs in the central and eastern Pacific are substantially warmer than normal (red shading in Figure 1; e.g., 1997-98). Conversely, a La Niña state occurs when the SSTs are substantially colder than normal (blue shading in Figure 1; e.g., 1988-89). La Niña conditions often, but not always, follow El Niño conditions (Figure 1 and 2). Neutral conditions refer to the state when neither El Niño nor La Niña is occurring and the SSTs in the equatorial Pacific are close to average (e.g., 2003-05). Several years of Neutral conditions can persist between La Niña and El Niño events.

El Niño and La Niña events tend to develop between April and June and tend to reach their maximum strength (or peak) during December to February. An event typically persists for 9-12 months and typically recurs approximately every 2-7 years (see Figure 1 for recent events from 1979-2015).

ENSO has significant impacts on global weather and climate (section 4). It is a slowly evolving climate phenomenon, the peak of which can be predicted months in advance. Therefore, understanding its global impacts is crucial in providing early advice and warning to regions of the globe likely to be vulnerable to those impacts.

Figure 1: Observed ENSO events defined by SST anomalies in the Niño 3.4 region (see insert)¹ in the Pacific. The dotted line shows \pm one standard deviation from the mean used to define El Niño and La Niña events. El Niño events, associated with warmer-than-normal SSTs in the Pacific, are shown in red (1982-83, 1986-87, 1991-92, 1994-95, 1997-98, 2002, 2006, 2009-10, 2015-16). La Niña events, associated with colder-than-normal SSTs in the Pacific are shown in blue (1983, 1984-85, 1988-89, 1995, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2007-08, 2010-11).



2.2 Do all El Niño events transition into La Niña events?

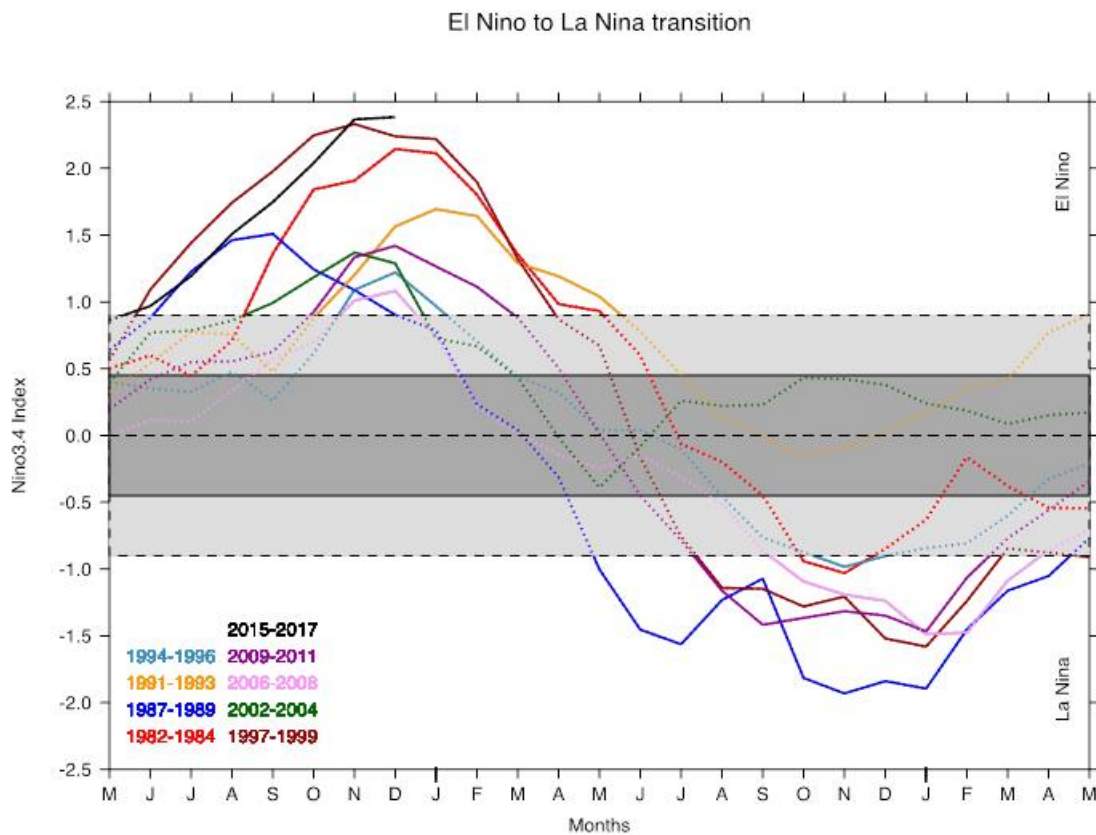
As is clear from Figure 1, strong La Niña conditions (blue shading) often, but not always, follow strong El Niño conditions (red shading). Between 1950 and 2015 three quarters of El Niño events were followed by La Niña conditions². Figure 3 shows the progression of the last 8 strong El Niño events in the satellite era (1979-present). 6 out of the 8 events transition into La Niña conditions the following year.

The strongest amplitude El Niño events do not necessarily lead to the strongest amplitude La Niña events; for example, the strongest La Niña on record followed the 1987-88 El Niño, which was only of moderate amplitude (blue line, Figure 2). Conversely, one of the strongest El Niños on record in 1987-88 led to a very weak La Niña event the following year (red line, Figure 2). After the El Niño events in 1992 (orange line, Figure 2) and 2003 (green line, Figure 2), the central and eastern Pacific returned to neutral conditions rather than transitioning into a La Niña state.

¹ The Niño 3.4 region in the Pacific is defined as [5°N-5°S, 120°-170°W], and is the most commonly used index to measure ENSO.

² There were 12 strong El Niño events between 1950-2015 of which 3 didn't transition into La Niña conditions. Here strong events are defined as at least one standard deviation from the mean Niño 3.4 index using Extended Reconstructed SST (ERSST) version 4 data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Figure 2: Transition of El Niño events from 1979-2015 defined by SST in the Niño 3.4 region in the Pacific. Solid lines of positive Niño 3.4 index (top of plot; above grey region) represent El Niño conditions. Solid lines of negative Niño 3.4 index (bottom of plot; below grey region) represent La Niña conditions. The dashed lines (within the grey regions) show neutral conditions in the Pacific.



6 out of the 8 El Niño events since 1979 have transitioned to La Niña conditions.

SECTION 3

Monitoring: Summary of current forecasts

To understand the context of the potential meteorological and socio-economic impacts, it is important to monitor the weakening El Niño and potential transition to La Niña conditions in the Pacific. There are many modeling centres around the world doing exactly this. Below is a summary of the current forecasts of ENSO over the coming months. The International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI; section 3.1) provides a multi-model forecast which consists of 15 dynamical models³ and 8 statistical models⁴. This forecast gives an idea of whether different types of models from different modelling centres agree what will happen over the coming months and seasons. One of the IRI dynamical models known to be more accurate is the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) model. Therefore, the current ensemble forecast from ECMWF is also summarised below (section 3.2).

3.1 International Research Institute for Climate and Society (IRI)

El Niño conditions are forecast to continue in the first half of 2016, although SST anomalies are currently weakening, having peaked in Nov-Dec 2015. The El Niño is forecast to dissipate to neutral conditions by late spring or early summer 2016 with a possible transition into La Niña conditions forecast in Autumn 2016.

On average, the models are predicting that the El Niño conditions will continue to weaken towards neutral conditions, with a change from positive to negative SST anomalies in the Pacific occurring during Jun-Aug 2016. On average, the dynamical models predict a transition into La Niña conditions occurring in Sep-Nov 2016; the statistical models also predict a transition to La Niña conditions but that it will occur slightly later in Oct-Dec 2016.

On average, the models predict that neutral conditions are more likely than El Niño conditions by May-Jul 2016 and that La Niña conditions are more likely than neutral conditions from Aug-Oct 2016.

One of the more accurate dynamical models included in the IRI forecast is the ECMWF model. It is predicting that El Niño conditions will weaken over the next 5 months and that SST anomalies in the Pacific will become weakly negative in Jun-Aug 2016 (-0.2 degrees).

3.2 European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF)

El Niño has peaked and will weaken to neutral conditions by late spring or early summer with the potential of transitioning to La Niña conditions.

ECMWF runs 51 forecasts every month to sample the uncertainty in the developing conditions. All the February forecasts anticipate a weakening of the warm SST anomalies in

³ A dynamical model is a complex mathematical model made up of physical equations that model motion in the atmosphere and ocean.

⁴ A statistical model is a simple model based on statistical relationships or predictors that have been observed in the real world.

the central and eastern Pacific towards neutral conditions. All 51 February forecasts show neutral or La Niña conditions by August 2016 in the Niño 3.4 region. In the Niño 3 region in the eastern Pacific⁵ 8 (~16%) forecasts predict continued weak El Niño conditions by August 2016, 8 (~16%) predict a transition into La Niña conditions by August 2016 and the remaining 35 forecasts (~68%) are predicting neutral conditions by August 2016 in the eastern Pacific.

This is consistent with the IRI forecasts above that predict that the transition to La Niña conditions will occur later in the year.

Current observations⁶ of the heat content in the upper Pacific Ocean show that it has been decreasing considerably since November 2015. This observational information matches the forecasts described above: that the Pacific is currently transitioning to neutral conditions.

⁵ See insert in Figure 1 for definition of all Niño regions.

⁶ from the NCEP (National Centre of Environmental Prediction) Global Ocean Data Assimilation System (GODAS). http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/analysis_monitoring/enso_update/heat-last-year.gif

SECTION 4

Global Impacts of La Niña

4.1 Summary of historical global impacts of La Niña

La Niña conditions (colder than normal conditions in the tropical Pacific) are known to shift global patterns of rainfall and temperature. In general, the global impacts of La Niña can be thought of as opposite to those of El Niño. The known historical global patterns of temperature (colder and warmer than normal) and rainfall (wetter and drier than normal) with La Niña conditions are summarised in Table 1 below for two seasons (Jun-Aug) and (Dec-Feb). These are compared with the historical global impacts of El Niño.

Summary of Historical Impacts				
	La Niña		El Niño	
	Jun-Aug	Dec-Feb	Jun-Aug	Dec-Feb
Wetter	India, Malaysia, Indonesia, Central America, Sahel, southern Australia	Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, northern South America, southern Africa	central Pacific, central Chile, western United States (US)	South America (Ecuador, northwestern Peru, southern Brazil, central Argentina, Uruguay), equatorial East Africa, northern Mexico/southern
Drier	central Pacific, Uruguay, eastern Argentina, central Chile	central Pacific, Ecuador, East Africa, southern India	India, Indonesia, Malaysia, eastern Australia, Sahel, southern Africa, northern South America	Australia, Indonesia, the Philippines, northern South America, southern Africa
Warmer	Papua New Guinea, eastern Indonesia	southern US	west coast of South America, southern Brazil, Central America	South East Asia, southern Africa, Japan, southern Alaska and western/central Canada, southeastern Brazil and southeastern Australia
Colder	West Africa, southeast Asia, western South America	West Africa, Japan, eastern Brazil, southern Alaska and western/central Canada	southern Pacific, New Zealand	Gulf coast of US

Table 1 Summary of historical global impact of La Niña and El Niño during Jun-Aug and Dec-Feb seasons.

4.2 Global changes in probability of extremes

Figures 4.2 and 4.3 show the probability of changes of extremes in temperature, precipitation and soil moisture during March – November (Figure 4.2) and December – August (Figure 4.3) of an average La Niña event. This analysis is based on 8 observed La Niña events over the last 37 years (1979-present). Extremes here are defined as being in the top (or bottom) 25% of the observed record at that location. **The maps in Figures 4.2 and 4.3 show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.** More detailed, zoomed in maps of Africa (p 18-20), southern Asia (p 21-23) and the Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA; p 24-26) can be found in the supplementary material (SM1).

Figure 4.2: Global change in the probability of extremes in temperature, precipitation and soil moisture from March-November 2016. Composites are based on averages of 8 observed events over the last 35 years. Colours show the change in the probability of the upper (or lower) quartile during La Niña (e.g., light yellow shows extreme warm temperatures in the upper quartile of the observed record being 1.5-2 times more likely during La Niña). **Zoomed in maps are available in the supplementary material (SM1).**

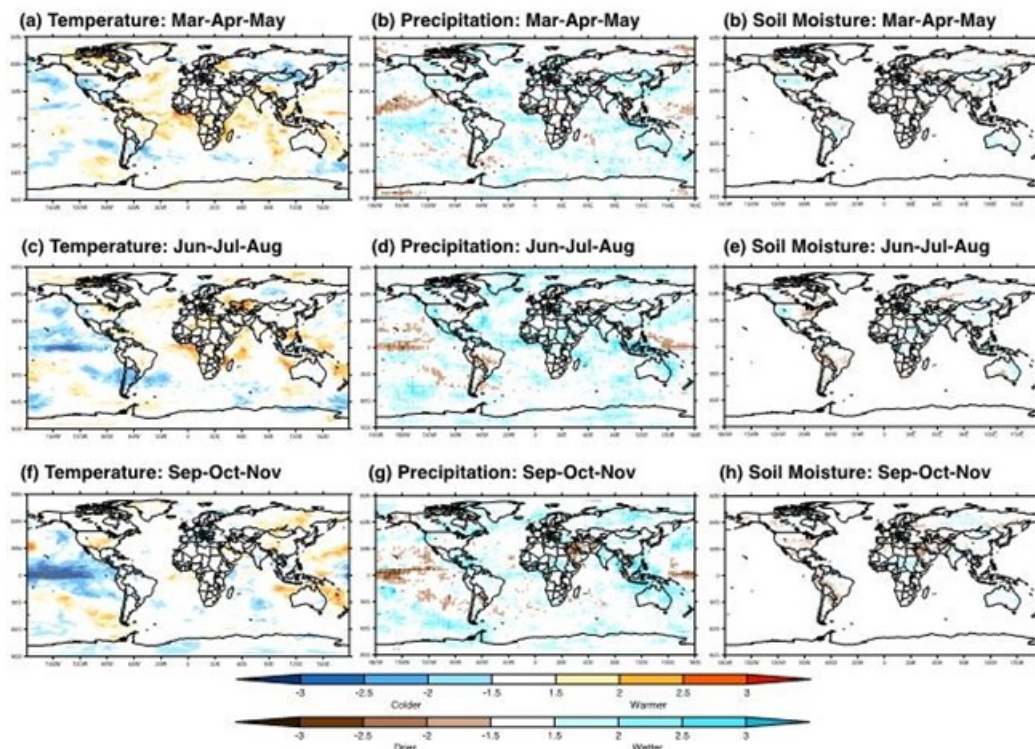
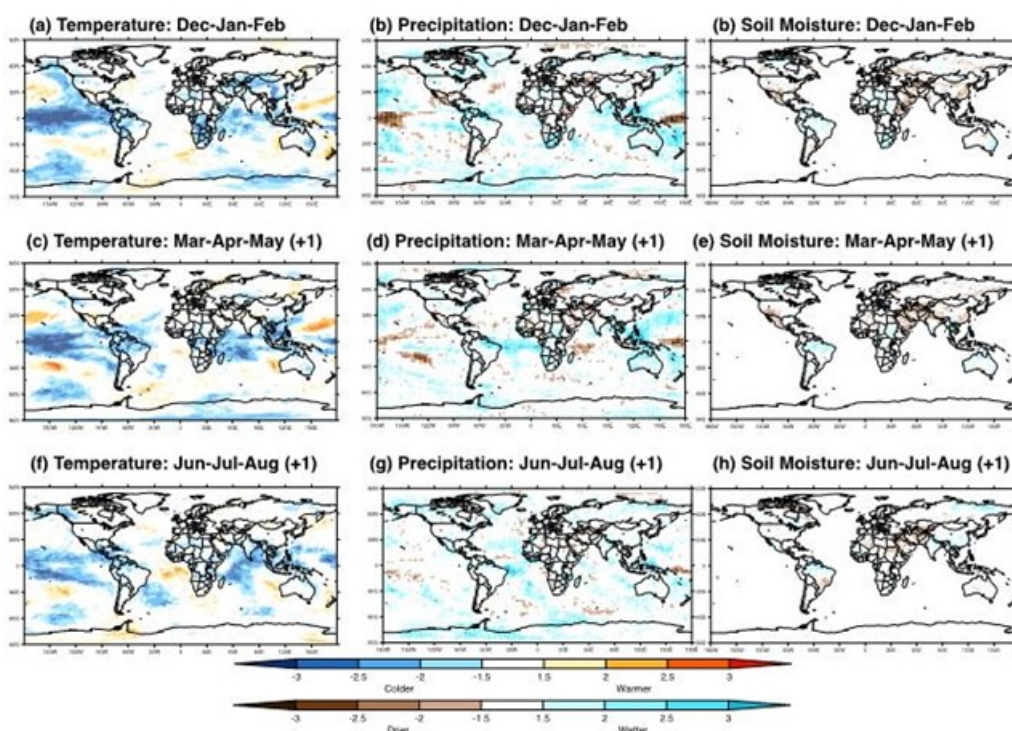


Figure 4.3: As Figure 4.2, but for December 2015-August 2016. **Zoomed in maps available in SM1.**



SECTION 5

Impact Tables

5.1 Introduction

Evidence from past La Niña events has been used to determine the probability of temperature, soil moisture and rainfall extremes during the 2016-17 event in different DFID high priority regions and countries (Table 5.1) over the next 6 seasons (Mar-May 2016, Jun-Aug 2016, Sep-Nov 2016, Dec-Feb 2016/17, Mar-May 2017, Jun-Aug 2017).

Table	Region	Countries
5.4	Southern Africa	South Africa, Mozambique, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe
5.5	West Africa	Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone
5.6	East Africa	Ethiopia, South Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Somalia, Sudan, Tanzania, Rwanda
5.7	Central Africa	Democratic Republic of Congo
5.8	Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA)	Libya, Egypt, Algeria, Lebanon, Jordan, Palestinian Territories, Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen
5.9	Indonesia	Indonesia
5.10	Southern Asia	India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal
5.11	Southeast Asian Peninsular	China, Vietnam, Myanmar (Burma)
5.12	Caribbean	Caribbean, Guyana
5.13	British Overseas Territories	In following regions: Caribbean, Atlantic, Pacific, Indian Ocean, southern Europe

Table 5.1: Summary of regions and countries covered in the Impact Tables.

5.2 Description of Impact Tables

The Impacts of La Niña on the countries listed in Table 5.1 can be broken down into (a) the Meteorological Impact: the likely impact on the meteorological variables of temperature, soil moisture and rainfall, and (b) the Socio-economic Impact: the evidenced impact that such changes in meteorological variables will have on different sectors. The Meteorological Impacts are shown by the colours in the Impact Tables (see Table 5.2 for full explanation) and the Socio-economic Impacts are represented by colour coded sector symbols (see Table 5.3 for full explanation). These keys can be used to interpret the Impact Tables for each region (Tables 5.4 – 5.13). More detail on the methodology used for the Meteorological and Socio-economic analysis is given below.

(a) Meteorological Impact Analysis

For each country or region, the **likelihood** of temperature and rainfall⁷ extremes occurring is shown by the coloured boxes according to the Impact key below (Table 5.2). For example, dark blue colours for temperature – corresponding to “Very Likely Extremely Cold” conditions – can be interpreted as extreme⁸ cold conditions in that season, in that country, as being at least twice as likely to occur during La Niña. If the impact is limited to a particular region of that country then that region is represented in that box (e.g., S referring to South) and there is no consistent signal in the rest of that region or country. If there is no consistent signal across that country at all, even regionally, then this is labelled in the tables as ‘no consistent signal’.

⁷ Rainfall in the Impact Tables refers to analysis of both Rainfall **and** Soil Moisture.

⁸ Extreme refers to an event being in the upper or lower quartile - the bottom or top 25% of the observed record for that country for that season.

Impact Key					
	Very Likely	Likely		Likely	Very Likely
Temperature					
	Extremely Cold		No consistent signal	Extremely Hot	
Soil Moisture and Rainfall	Extremely Wet			Extremely Dry	

Regional Impacts within each area are denoted by letters:
 E.g., S = South.
 Outside this region there is 'no consistent signal'.

Table 5.2: Key for meteorological impacts of temperature, soil moisture and rainfall.

(b) Socio-economic Impact Analysis

An extensive **literature search** has been carried out. Scientific literature has been reviewed using the *science direct*, *web of knowledge* and *google scholar* databases. Grey literature and media reports were also analysed (e.g., *NGO reports*). In addition, specific case study details were analysed using databases of past natural disasters (e.g., *EM-DAT – International Disaster Database*).

Potential **socio-economic impacts** that were identified in the literature search have been categorized by sector e.g., ‘Food Security’ and ‘Health’. The evidenced impacts, based on past events, are summarised using sector symbols (see the Symbol key in Table 5.3 below). The uncertainty of the impact in these sectors is represented by the coloured borders around the symbols: red, green and beige correspond to high, medium and potential impacts respectively (see Level of Confidence key in Table 5.3 below). A full list of the referenced literature used to evidence the socio-economic impacts is provided in the supplementary material (SM2).

5.3 Time evolution of Impacts

It is not possible to break the sector impacts down by season because there is not sufficient scientific understanding or evidence to do so. Furthermore, each event is slightly different and therefore the timing or occurrence of particular impacts can vary considerably.

The developing phase of La Niña (March-November) can also, in most but not all cases, be thought of as the transitioning from El Niño to La Niña. Therefore, impacts during the developing phase of La Niña may be similar to impacts during the decaying phase of El Niño. This will be especially true in the MAM 2016 season when the decaying strong El Niño event will have the largest influence.

Symbol Key		Analysis of Past El Niño events		Level of Confidence	
Symbol	Description of threat				
	Crop productivity		High – well evidenced		Medium – some evidence
	Water availability		Potential – possible pathway to impact		
	Flooding				
	Drought				
	Migration /displacement of people				
	Infrastructure				
	Economy				
	Health				
	Food Security				

Table 5.3: Key for socio-economic impacts by sector and level of confidence.

5.4 Southern Africa

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Southern Africa	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Increase risk of Tropical cyclone landfall south of Madagascar. Increase soil moisture – could improve crop productivity but risk of flooding could destroy crops and impact food security. Increase incidences of Malaria.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal					no consistent signal		
South Africa	Temperature			no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Increase extreme rainfall events with potential for flooding and significant damage to infrastructure. Improved production of rice and wheat, if not damaged by floods. Increased risk of disease spread (e.g., Malaria, cholera).
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	SW				SW		
Mozambique	Temperature	N	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		N			Increase Tropical cyclones forming in Mozambique Channel with increase likelihood of landfall and flooding. Possibility of displacement of people. Increase soil moisture.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	consistent signal	consistent signal	S				
Malawi	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal					Increase likelihood of flooding with risk of disease outbreak (e.g., cholera). Increase incidents of Malaria.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal				
Zambia	Temperature		N	no consistent signal		E	E		Increase likelihood of flooding. Damage to crops and livestock. Possible increase in Malaria.
	Rainfall	N		no consistent signal	SW	E	E		
Zimbabwe	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Increase soil moisture, could improve crop productivity but also increase likelihood of flooding. Increase incidence of Malaria. Reduced risk of forest fires.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	N	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		

5.5 West Africa

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
West Africa	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Cooler temperatures across West Africa. Increase risk of flooding in the Sahel region. Increased cereal production, unless crops destroyed by floods.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
Nigeria	Temperature	S	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	E		Possible risk of flooding and agricultural damage, particularly in the North.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	N	no consistent signal		
Ghana	Temperature	S	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	S	S		Possible for flooding causing agricultural damage and loss of crops.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	N	no consistent signal	S	no consistent signal		
Sierra Leone	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Increase risk of flooding and landslides causing damage to infrastructure and possible displacement of people.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		

5.6 East Africa

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
East Africa	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal					Reduced rainfall in both rainy seasons. Increased likelihood of drought, food shortages and famine. Lower than normal incidence of Rift Valley Fever.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
Ethiopia	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal				Increase likelihood of drought, leading to reduction in Maize production, possible food shortages and famine. Increase risk of forest fires in North.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		N		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
South Sudan	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal			Possible increase risk of flooding, leading to crop damage and food shortages.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal		no consistent signal		
Kenya	Temperature	no consistent signal	SE	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	SE	SE		Drier than normal short rains leading to a reduction of vegetation and increase likelihood of drought. Possible food shortages and famine. Reduced risk of Rift Valley Fever outbreaks.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	NW			
Uganda	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		Increase likelihood of drought, food shortages and famine.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal	S	no consistent signal		
Somalia	Temperature	N	N		N				Drier than normal short rains leading to reduction of vegetation and increase likelihood of drought. Reduced risk of Rift Valley Fever outbreaks.
	Rainfall	N	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	N	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
Sudan	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		Experienced flooding in past La Niña years, destroying homes and farmland.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal	S	N		
Tanzania	Temperature			no consistent signal		E			Increased risk of drought in North with reduced risk of Rift Valley Fever outbreak. Possible flooding in South.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	NW	NW		
Rwanda	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal			no consistent signal		Increase likelihood of drought leading to possible food shortages and famine.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal				

5.7 Central Africa

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Central Africa	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal					
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
Democratic Republic of Congo	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		N	no consistent signal		Flooding has occurred in past La Niña years.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal	S	no consistent signal		



5.8 Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA)

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
MENA	Temperature	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Increase likelihood of drought. Increased dust storms and related respiratory health risks. Reduced Wheat production.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		E	E	E	E		
Libya	Temperature	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		no consistent signal			
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		no consistent signal			
Egypt	Temperature	no consistent signal	N	no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Potential for drought.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal							
Algeria	Temperature	no consistent signal		no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Possible increase risk of drought.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal					SE		
Lebanon	Temperature	no consistent signal				no consistent signal			Increased likelihood of drought. Reduced wheat production.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal							

Jordan	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Increased likelihood of drought. Reduced wheat production.
	Rainfall		no consistent signal						
Palestinian Territories	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Increased likelihood of drought. Reduced wheat production.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal						
Syria	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Increased likelihood of drought. Increased dust storms and related respiratory health risks. Reduced wheat production.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal					
Iraq	Temperature	no consistent signal			no consistent signal				Increased likelihood of drought. Increased dust storms and related respiratory health risks. Reduced wheat production. Forest regions vulnerable to fire.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		S	N				
Afghanistan	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Increased likelihood of drought. Less vegetation, possibility of dust storms. Risk of forest fires, causing displacement of people and smoke-related respiratory problems.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal						
Yemen	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		Increased likelihood of drought. Increase likelihood of dust storms. Risk of forest fires, causing displacement of people and smoke-related respiratory problems.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal					

5.9 Indonesia

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Indonesia	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal					Increased likelihood of Dengue Fever epidemic. Increased risk of flooding.
	Rainfall				no consistent signal	W	no consistent signal		

High
Medium
Potential

5.10 Southern Asia

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Southern Asia	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal					Increase risk of flooding with damage to infrastructure and farmland. Increase risk of disease outbreak (e.g., Cholera, Malaria).
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal	no consistent signal			
India	Temperature	N	S	S	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	NE		Wetter Indian Monsoon, especially in late season (Sep) in NW. Increased risk of flooding and mudslides. Increased Malaria outbreaks in NW. Improved rice and soybean production in S.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	SE		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	N		
Pakistan	Temperature		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal			Increase in incidence of Malaria. Possible risk of drought in NW.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	N	no consistent signal		
Bangladesh	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal			Increase risk of flooding: flooding in past La Niña years has resulted in displacement of people and damage to infrastructure/farmland. Increase risk of cholera.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
Nepal	Temperature		no consistent signal		no consistent signal				Potential increase risk of flooding.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			no consistent signal	no consistent signal			

High
Medium
Potential



5.11 Southeast Asian Peninsular

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Southeast Asian Peninsular	Temperature								Increased likelihood of early onset of summer rainy season in May, more extreme rainfall events, increase likelihood of flooding. Possible damage to infrastructure and displacement of people.
	Rainfall		no consistent signal	no consistent signal					
China	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	N	S	no consistent signal		More Tropical Cyclones making landfall (between Sep-Nov) with possible flooding and damage. Reduced crop productivity: reduced rice production in SE, reduced Maize in N and NE.
	Rainfall	NE	NE	E	E	E	S		
Vietnam	Temperature	no consistent signal	N		N				Increased likelihood of early onset of summer rains in May. Increase risk of flooding and landslides with possible damage to infrastructure/agriculture and displacement of people.
	Rainfall		no consistent signal				no consistent signal		
Myanmar (Burma)	Temperature			N	no consistent signal				Increased likelihood of early onset of summer rains in May. Increased risk of flooding and landslides causing damage to farmland.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal	S				

High
Medium
Potential

5.12 Caribbean

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Caribbean	Temperature			no consistent signal		S			Increase hurricane activity: hurricane landfall twice as likely during La Niña as during El Niño years, leading to possible damage to infrastructure/agriculture. Increase risk of cholera outbreaks.
	Rainfall	no consistent signal			N	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
Guyana	Temperature		no consistent signal	S	S	N	S		Increase risk of flooding, especially coastal region. Possible damage to food crops and livestock. Increase incidence of Malaria.
	Rainfall	N		S		no consistent signal			

High
Medium
Potential

5.13 British Overseas Territories

Caribbean – [Anguilla, Montserrat, British Virgin Islands, – **East**], [Cayman Islands, Turks and Caicos Islands – **North**].

Atlantic – [Bermuda – **northern subtropical**], [St Helena and dependencies- Ascension Island, Tristan da Cunha – **southern tropical**], [Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands, British Antarctic Territories – **South**].

Pacific – [Pitcairn Islands]

Indian Ocean – [British Indian Ocean Territory]

Southern Europe – [Gibraltar]

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Southern Europe	Temperature	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal	no consistent signal		
	Rainfall						no consistent signal		

High
Medium
Potential

Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Central Indian Ocean	Temperature			no consistent signal					Potential for flooding.
	Rainfall			no consistent signal		no consistent signal	no consistent signal		



Country	Variable	MAM 2016	JJA 2016	SON 2016	DJF 16/17	MAM 2017	JJA 2017	Risk	Evidenced Impacts
Central Pacific	Temperature	no consistent signal							Fewer hurricanes in NE Pacific. Increase risk of drought during peak of La Niña. Increase risk of Dengue Fever in South Pacific Islands. Increase phytoplankton - increase fish availability.
	Rainfall						no consistent signal		



Supplementary Material

SM1: Extra Impact Maps

Regional impact maps showing the change in the probability of extremes of temperature, rainfall and soil moisture across Africa (SM1.1-SM1.3), Asia (SM1.4-SM1.6) and the Middle East and Northern Africa (MENA; SM1.7-SM1.9). *These regional impact maps are the same as the global maps in the report above but for focused regions.*

Figure SM1.1: Change in the probability of extremes in temperature across Africa for the seasons Mar-May 2016 (MAM), Jun-Aug 2016 (JJA), Sep-Nov 2016 (SON), Dec-Feb 16/17 (DJF), Mar-May 2017 (MAM1), Jun-Aug 2017 (JJA1). Composites are based on averages of 8 observed events over the last 37 years. Colours show the change in the probability of the upper (or lower) quartile (e.g., light yellow refers to extreme warm temperatures in the upper quartile of the observed record being 1.5-2 times more likely during a La Niña). **These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.**

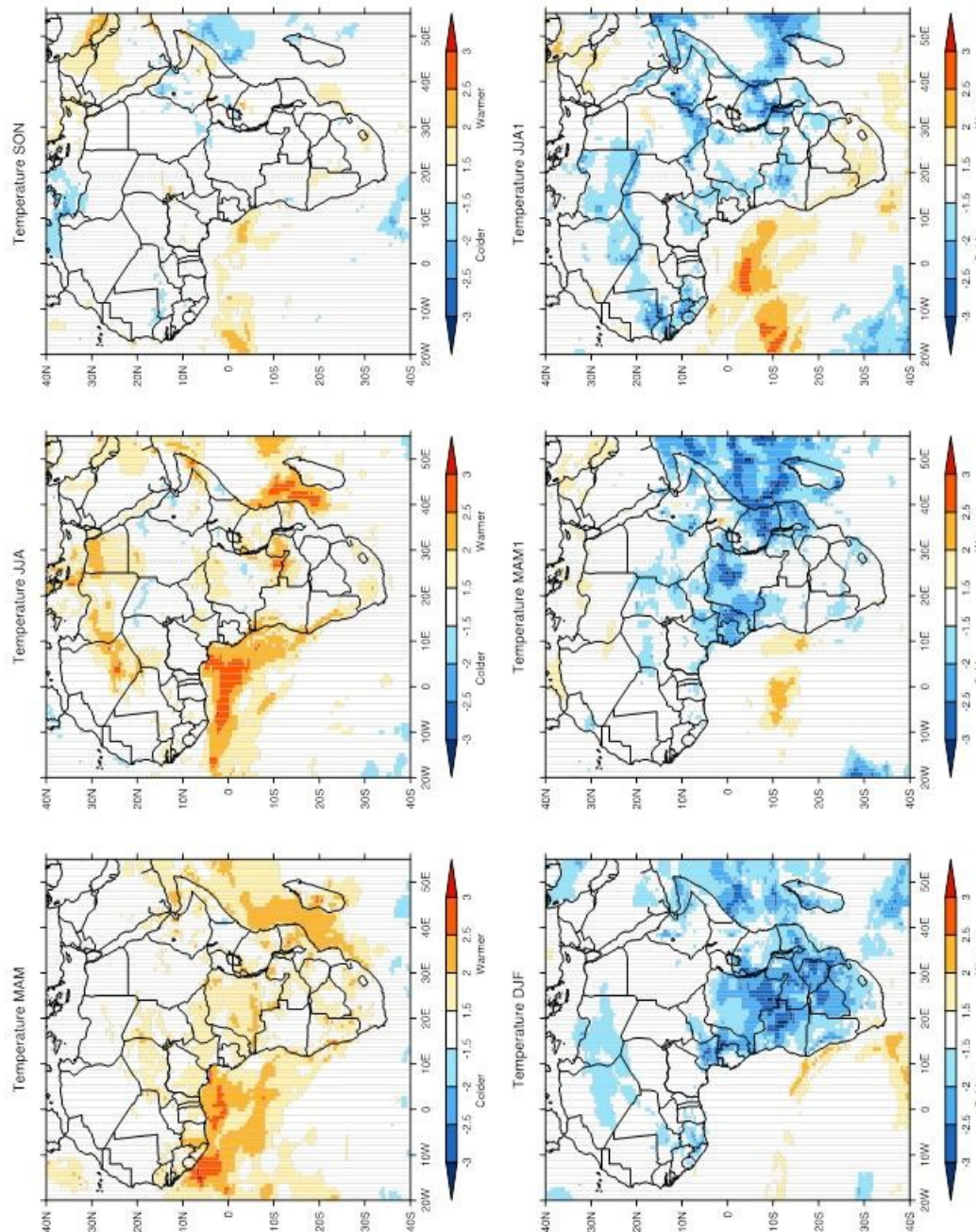


Figure SM1.2: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in rainfall across Africa. These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.

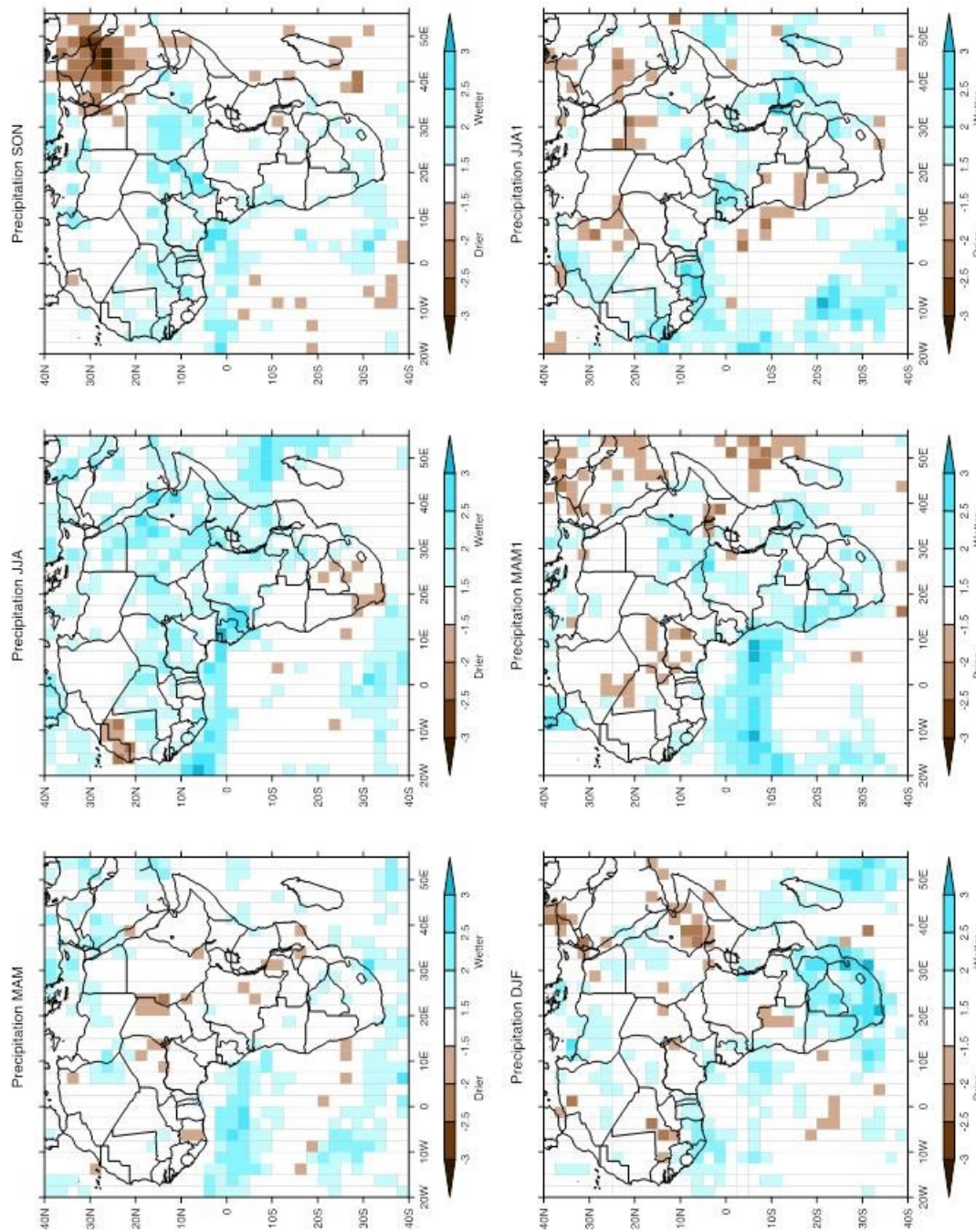


Figure SM1.3: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in soil moisture across Africa. These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.

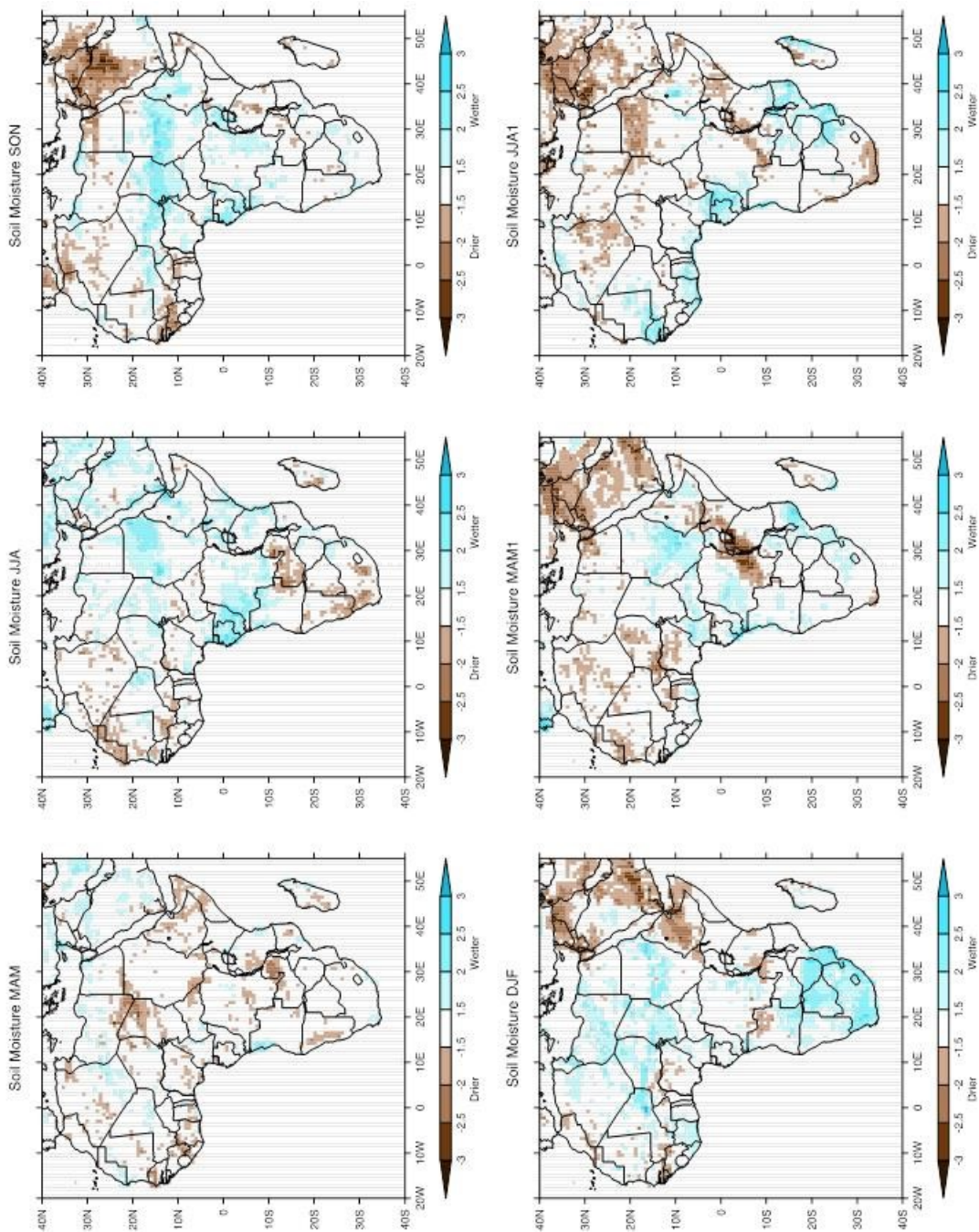


Figure SM1.4: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in temperature across Asia. These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.

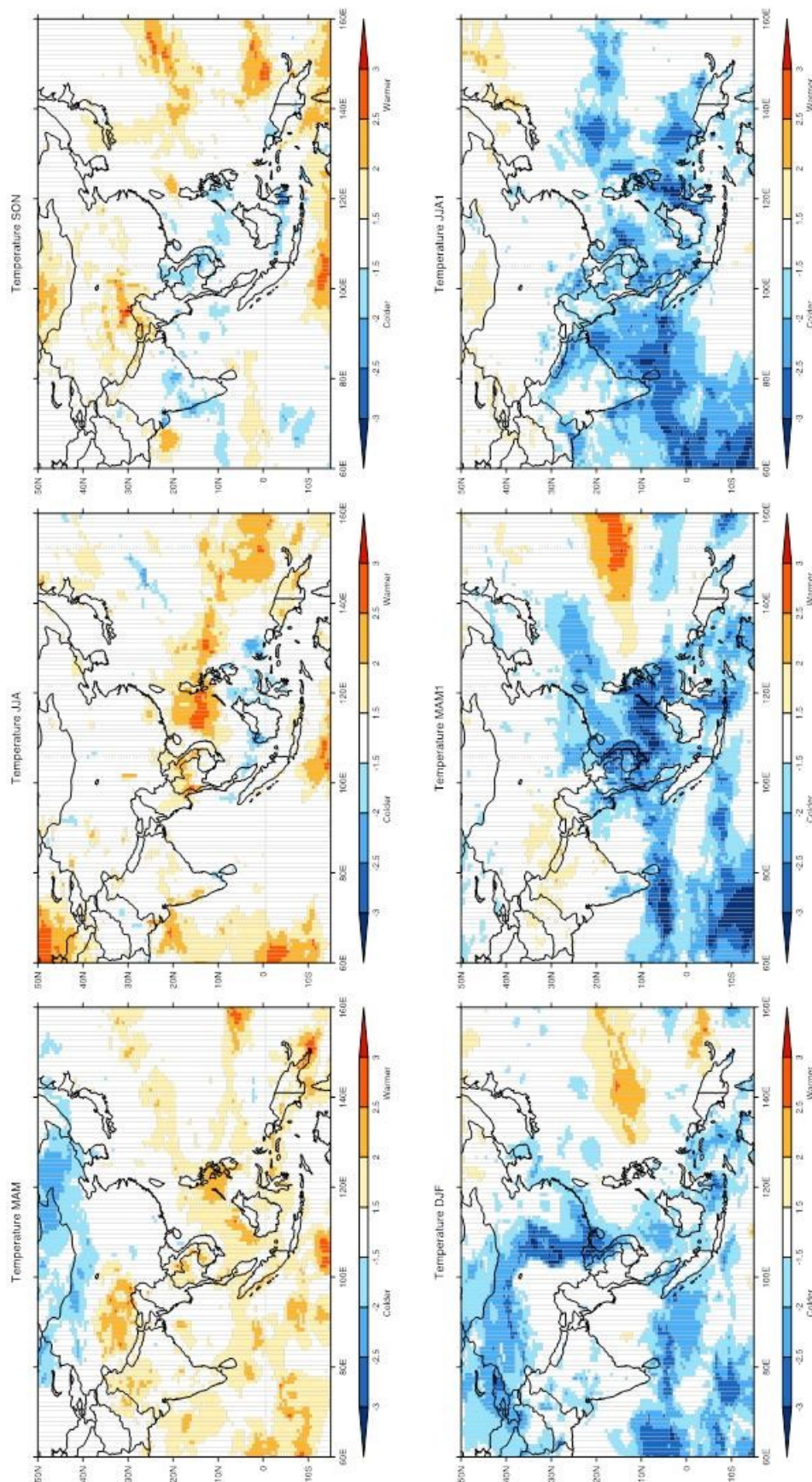


Figure SM1.5: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in rainfall across Asia. These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.

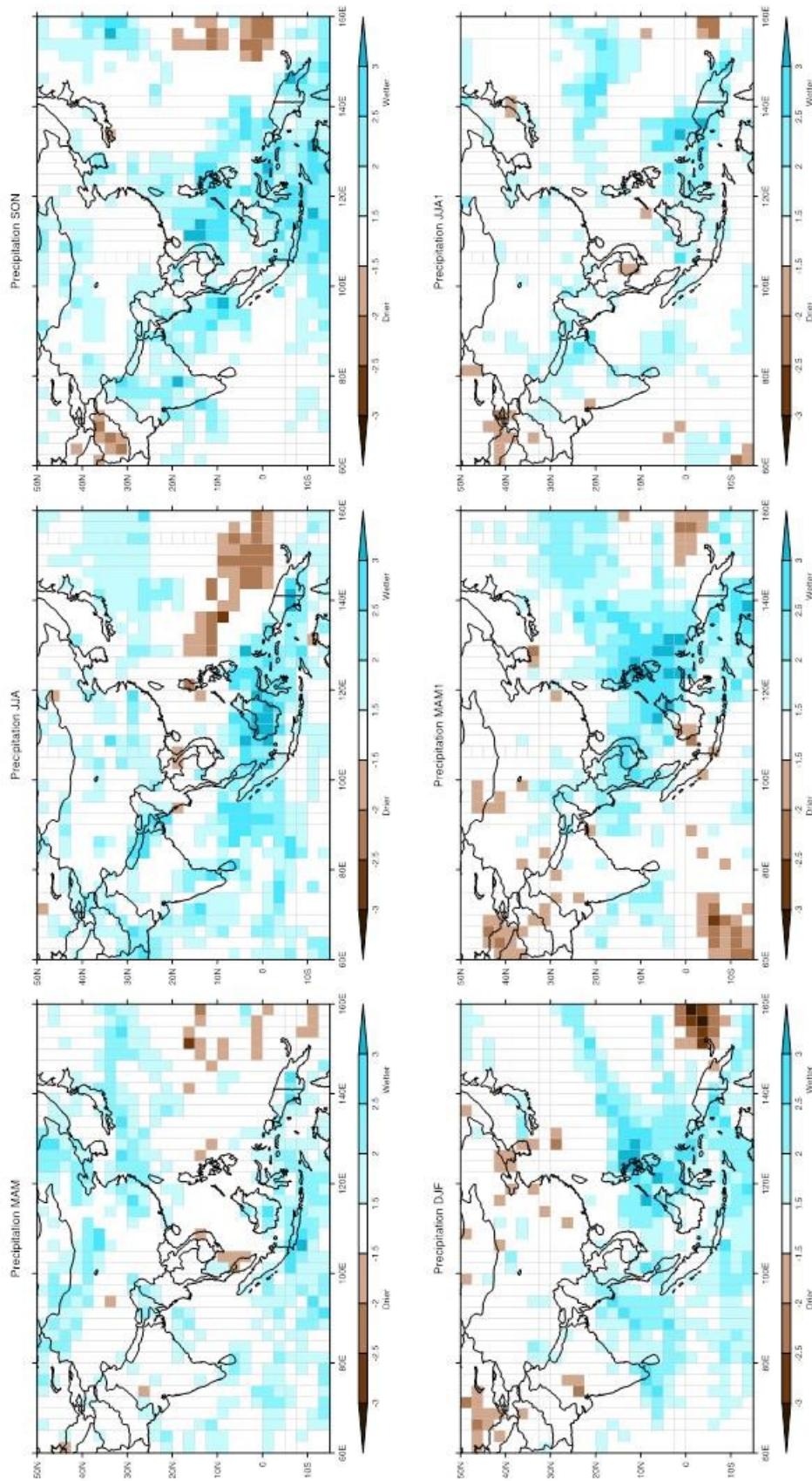
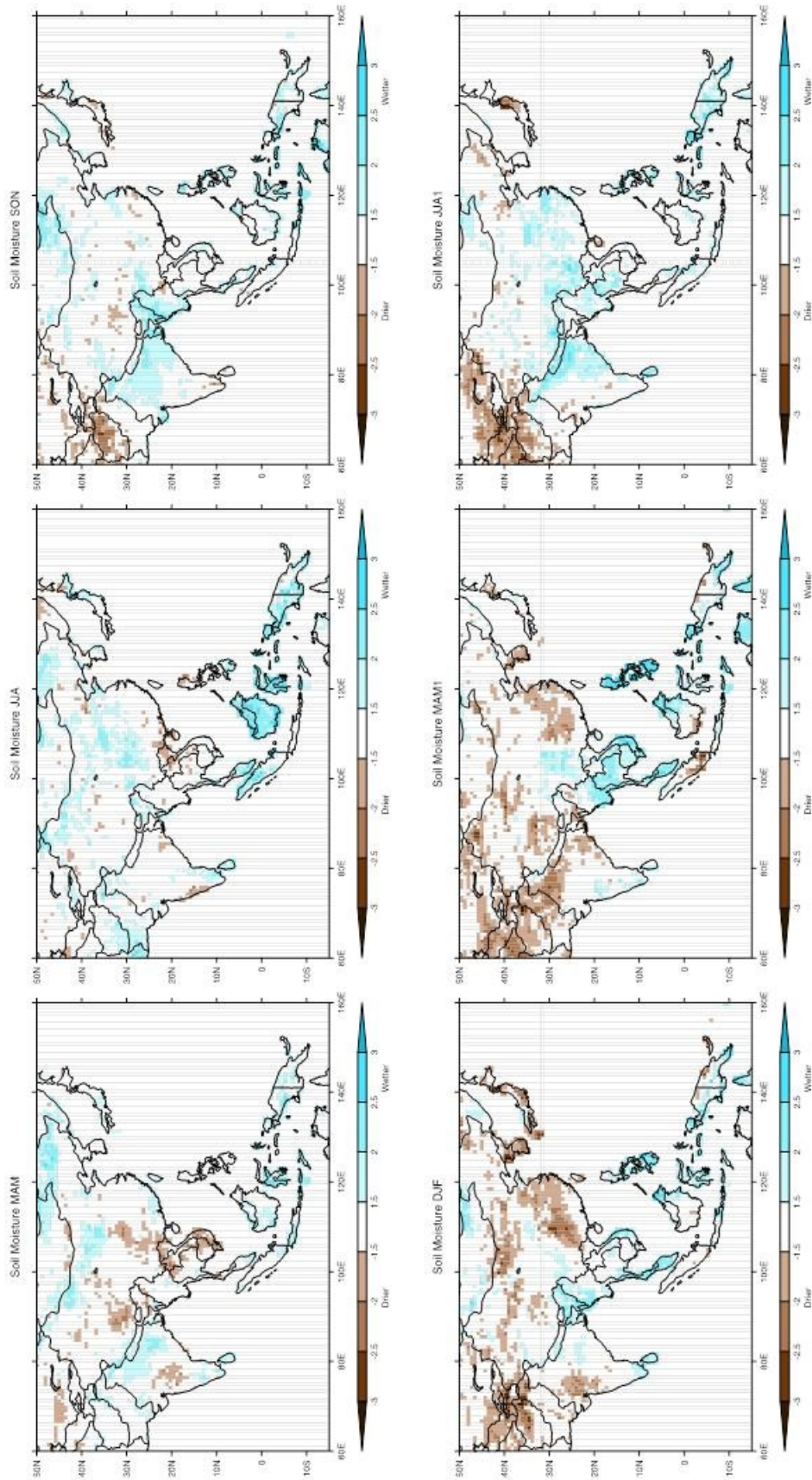


Figure SM1.6: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in soil moisture across Asia. These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.



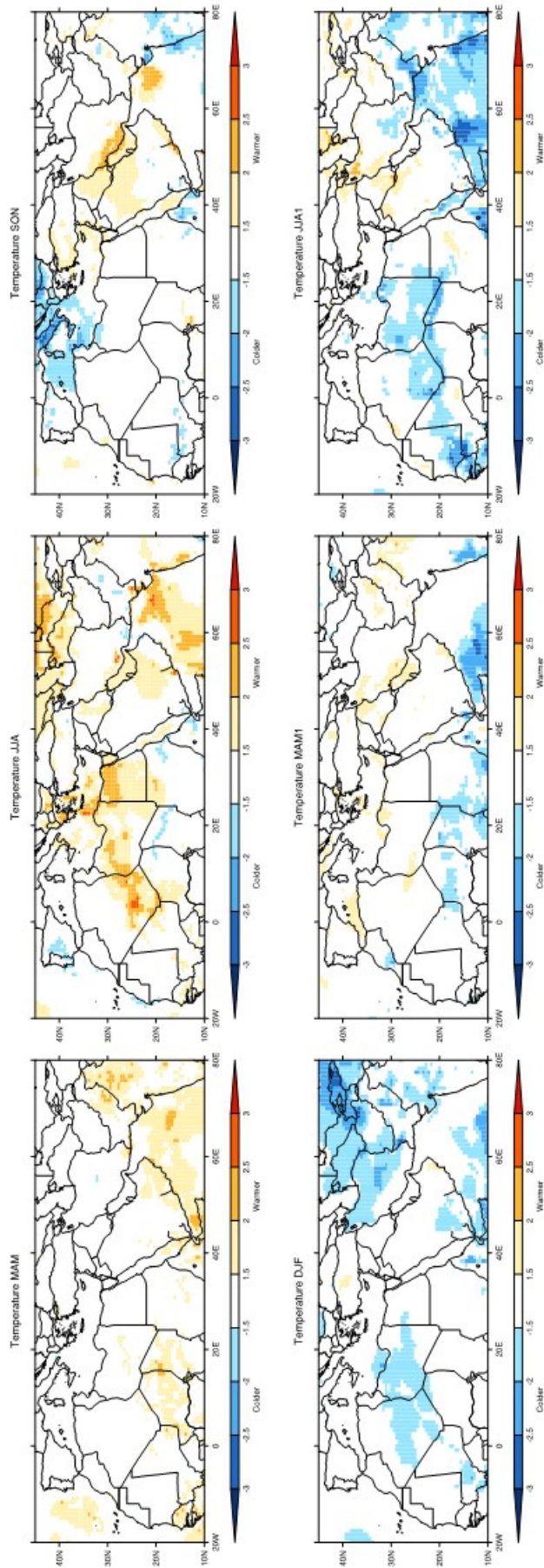


Figure SM1.7: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in temperature across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). **These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.**

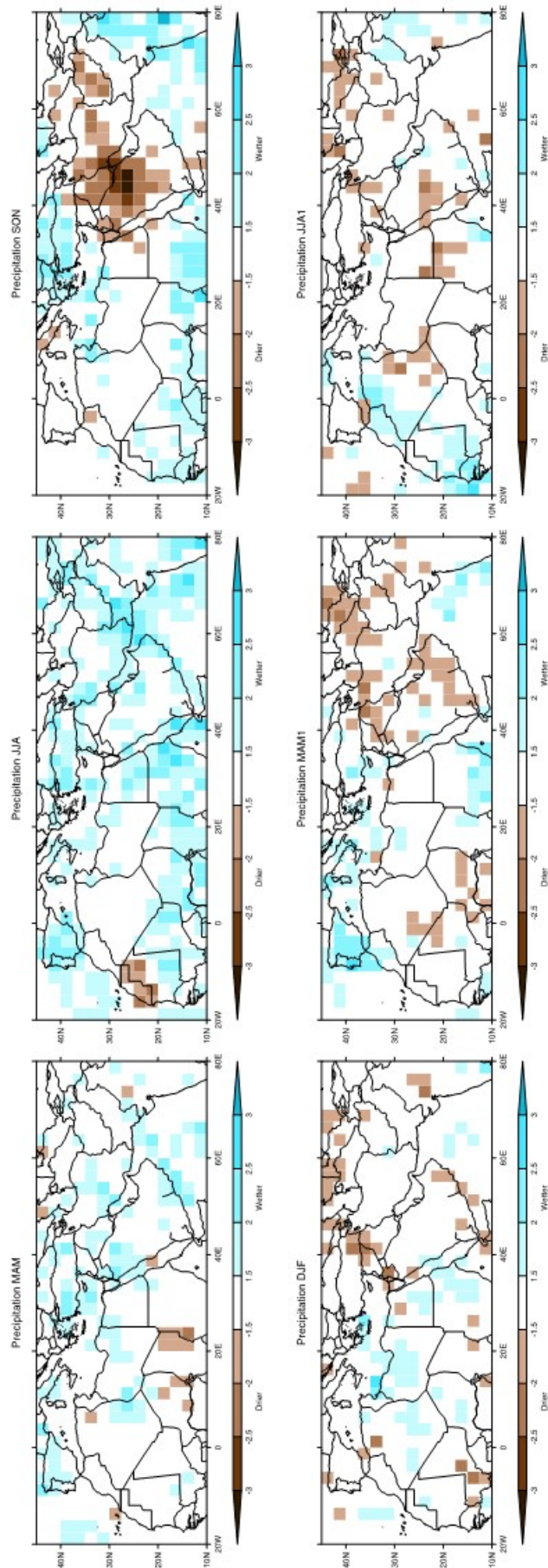


Figure SM1.8: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in rainfall across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). **These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.**



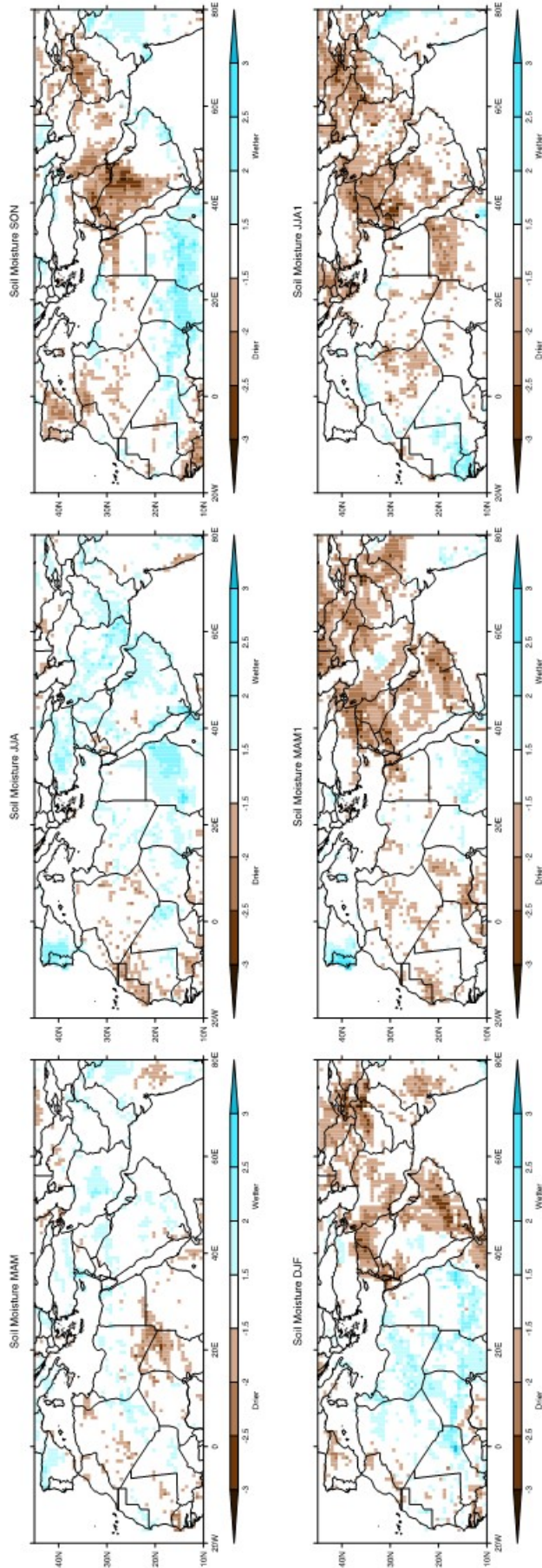


Figure SM1.9: As Figure SM1.1, but for extremes in soil moisture across the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). **These maps show where impacts occur and how important they are to that region.**

SM2: References

Websites: *Current conditions or forecasts, Impacts, Databases of past Hazards, Example NGO reports.*

Monitoring - current conditions or forecasts:

<http://iri.columbia.edu/our-expertise/climate/forecasts/enso/current/>

http://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/charts/seasonal/nino-plumes-public-charts-long-range-forecast?time=2016020100,0,2016020100&nino_area=3&forecast_type_and_skill_measure=plumes

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/department/enso-blog>

<http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>
Impacts:

http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/Features/LaNina/la_nina_2.php

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/blogs/enso/impacts-el-niño-and-la-niña-hurricane-season>

Databases of past Hazards:

<http://floodobservatory.colorado.edu/Archives/index.html>

<http://www.emdat.be/database>

<http://reliefweb.int>

Examples of NGO websites used for grey literature searches:

<http://www.care-international.org>

e.g.: <http://www.care-international.org/files/files/publications/Climate-Change-In-Search-of-Shelter-2009.pdf>

<http://www.wfp.org>

e.g.: <http://www.wfp.org/news/news-release/emergency-hub-ecuador-airlifts-food-flood-victims-bolivia>

<http://reliefweb.int>

e.g.: <http://reliefweb.int/report/mozambique/mozambique-la-nina-triggers-record-number-cyclones>

<http://www.who.int>

e.g.: <http://www.who.int/globalchange/summary/en/index4.html>

<http://www.fao.org/home/en/>

e.g.: <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4251e.pdf>

<http://www.greenpeace.org.uk>

e.g.: <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/Global/international/publications/forests/2013/JN455-An-Impending-Storm.pdf>

Papers/Reports:

- Akhtar R, McMichael AJ. 1996: Rainfall and malaria outbreaks in western Rajasthan. *Lancet*, **348**: 1457–1458.
- Andela, N., G. R. van der Werf: Recent trends in African fires driven by cropland expansion and El Niño to La Niña transition. *Nature Climate Change* **4**, 791–795 (2014).
- Anyamba, A., C. J. Tucker, R. Mahoney, 2002: From El Niño to La Niña: Vegetation Response Patterns over East and Southern Africa during the 1997–2000 Period. *J. Climate*. **15**: 3096-3103.
- Anyamba, A., Chretien, J.-P., Small, J., Tucker, C. J., Formenty, P. B., Richardson, J. H., Britch, S. C., Schnabel, D. C., Erickson, R. L., and Linthicum, K. J. (2009). Prediction of a Rift Valley fever outbreak. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U. S. A.*, **106**(3), 955–959.
- Atsamon, L.; Patama, S.: 2016: Long-term trends and variability of total and extreme precipitation in Thailand. *Atmospheric Research*. **169**: 301-317.
- Barasa, B.; V., Kakembo; F., Mugagga; et al. 2013: Comparison of extreme weather events and streamflow from drought indices and a hydrological model in River Malaba, Eastern Uganda. *International Journal of Environmental Studies*. **70**: 940-951.
- Bellprat, O., Lott, F. C., Gulizia, C., Parker, H. R., Pampuch, L. A., Pinto, I., Ciavarella, A., and Stott, P. A. (2015). Unusual past dry and wet rainy seasons over southern Africa and south America from a climate perspective. *Weather and Climate Extremes*. **9**, (36–46).
- Bhuvaneswari, K., Geethalakshmi, V., Lakshmanan, A., Srinivasan, R., and Sekhar, N. U. (2013). The impact of El Niño Southern Oscillation on hydrology and rice productivity in the Cauvery Basin, India: Application of the soil and water assessment tool. *Weather and Climate Extremes*, **2**, 39–47.
- Bouma MJ, van der Kaay HJ. 1996: The El Niño Southern Oscillation and the historic malaria epidemics on the Indian subcontinent and Sri Lanka: an early warning system for future epidemics? *Tropical Medicine and International Health*, **1**: 86–96.
- Bouma, M., Kovats, R., Goubet, S., Cox, J. S. H., and Haines, A. (1997). Global assessment of El Niño's disaster burden. *The Lancet*, **350**(9089), 1435–1438.
- Cane, M. A., Eshel, G., and Buckland, R. W. (1994). Forecasting Zimbabwean maize yield using eastern equatorial Pacific sea surface temperatures. *Nature*, **371**, 204–205.
- CARE (1998). El Niño in 1997-1998: Impacts and CARE's response. *Report*, CARE. 151 Ellis St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30303-2439; web: www.care.org/publications/elniño/
- CARE International, 2009. In Search of Shelter: Mapping the Effects of Climate Change on Human Migration and Displacement, <http://www.care-international.org/files/files/publications/Climate-Change-In-Search-of-Shelter-2009.pdf>
- Chatel, F. D. (2014). The role of drought and climate change in the Syrian uprising: Untangling the triggers of the revolution. *Middle Eastern Studies*, **50**(4), 521–535.
- Chikoore, H.; Vermeulen, J. H.; Jury., M. R., 2015: Tropical cyclones in the Mozambique Channel: January-March 2012. *Natural Hazards*. **77**: 2081-2095.
- Chretien, J.-P., Anyamba, A., Small, J., Britch, S., Sanchez, J. L., Halbach, A. C., Tucker, C. J., and Linthicum, K. J. (2015). Global climate anomalies and potential infectious disease risks: 2014-2015. *PLoS Curr.*, **7**. <http://currents.plos.org/outbreaks/article/global-climate-anomalies-and-potential-infectious-disease-risks-2014-2015/>
- Dartmouth 2016. Global active archive of large flood events, *Dartmouth Flood Observatory*. University of Colorado. <http://floodobservatory.colorado.edu/Archives/index.html>
- Dilley, M. and Heymand, B. N. (1995). ENSO and disaster: Droughts, floods and El Niño Southern Oscillation warm events. *Disasters*, **19**(3), 181–193.
- Dutra, E.; Magnusson, L.; Wetterhall, F.; et al. 2013: The 2010-2011 drought in the Horn of Africa in ECMWF reanalysis and seasonal forecast products. *International Journal of Climatology*. **33**: 1720-1729.
- Elsanabary, M. H.,; Gan, T. Y. 2015: Evaluation of climate anomalies impacts on the Upper Blue Nile Basin in Ethiopia using a distributed and a lumped hydrologic model.

- Journal of Hydrology*. **530**: 225-240.
- EM-DAT (2016). EM-DAT The International Disaster Database - <http://www.emdat.be>.
- Fandamu, P., L. D., Speybroeck, N., Mulumba, M., and Berkvens, D. (2006). East coast fever and multiple El Niño Southern Oscillation ranks. *Veterinary Parasitology*, **135**(147-152).
- Fitchett, J. M.; Grab, S. W. 2014: A 66-year tropical cyclone record for south-east Africa: temporal trends in a global context. *International Journal of Climatology*. **34**: 3604-3615.
- Gagnon, A. S., A. B. G. Bush, K. E. Smoyer-Tomic, 2001: Dengue epidemics and the El Niño Southern Oscillation, *Clim. Res.* **19**: 35–43.
- Gill, E. C.; Rajagopalan, B.; Molnar, P., 2015: Subseasonal variations in spatial signatures of ENSO on the Indian summer monsoon from 1901 to 2009. *Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres*. **120**: 8165-8185.
- Giannini, A., Kushnir, Y., and Cane, M. A. (2000). Interannual variability of Caribbean rainfall, ENSO, and the Atlantic Ocean. *Journal of Climate*, **13**(2), 297–311.
- Gleick, P. H. (2014). Water, drought, climate change, and conflict in Syria. *Weather, Climate, and Society*, **6**(3), 331–340.
- Goldammer, J. G., R. W. Mutch, Eds., “Global forest fire assessment 1990–2000” (FAO Forestry Department, 2001). Continental-Scale Partitioning of Fire Emissions During the 1997 to 2001 El Niño/La Niña
- Guido R., van der Werf, J., T. Raderson, G., J. Collatz, L. Giglio, P. S. Kasibhatla, A. F. Arellano JR., S. C. Olsen, E. S. Kasischke.: Continental-Scale Partitioning of Fire Emissions During the 1997 to 2001 El Niño/La Niña Period. 2004. *Science*. **02 Jan 2004**: 73-76.
- Hachigonta, S.; Reason, C. J. C. 2006: Interannual variability in dry and wet spell characteristics over Zambia. *Climate Research*. **32**: 49-62.
- Hales S, Weinstein P, Woodward A. 1996: Dengue fever epidemics in the South Pacific: driven by El Niño Southern Oscillation? *Lancet*, **348**: 1664–1665.
- Hales S et al., 1999: El Niño and the dynamics of vector-borne disease transmission. *Environmental Health Perspectives*, **107**: 99–102.
- Hansen, J. W. and Indeje, M. (2004). Linking dynamic seasonal climate forecasts with crop simulation for maize yield prediction in semi-arid Kenya. *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*, **125**, 143–157.
- Hellmuth, M. E., A Moorhead, MC Thomson, J Williams - 2007 - *fanrpan.org* : Climate risk management in Africa: Learning from practice.
- Hoell, A.; Funk, C.; Barlow, M., 2014: La Nina diversity and Northwest Indian Ocean Rim teleconnections. *Climate Dynamics*. **43**: 2707-2724.
- Hoell, A.; Funk, C.; Barlow, M., 2014: The regional forcing of Northern hemisphere drought during recent warm tropical west Pacific Ocean La Nina events. *Climate Dynamics*. **42**: 3289-3311.
- Hoell, A.; Funk, C.; Magadzire, T.; et al. 2015: El Nino-Southern Oscillation diversity and Southern Africa teleconnections during Austral Summer. *Climate Dynamics*. **45**: 1583-1599.
- Hsiang, S. M., Meng, K. C., and Cane, M. A. (2011). Civil conflicts are associated with the global climate. *Nature*, **476**(438-441).
- Iizumi, T., Luo, J-J., Challinor, A. J., Sakurai, G., Yokozawa, M., Sakuma, H., Brown, M. E., & Yamagata, T. 2014: Impacts of El Niño Southern Oscillation on the global yields of major crops. *Nature Communications* **5**, Article number: 3712
doi:10.1038/ncomms4712.
- Jiabing, S., Zhang, Zhao; Tao, Fulu; et al. 2015: How ENSO affects maize yields in China: understanding the impact mechanisms using a process-based crop model. *International Journal of Climatology*. **36**: 424-438.
- Jinjuan, G.; Dai, Z.; Mei, X.; et al. 2015: Interference of natural and anthropogenic forcings on variations in continental freshwater discharge from the Red River (Vietnam) to sea. *Quaternary International*. **380**: 133-142.

- Jury, M., Malmgren, B. A., and Winter, A. (2007). Subregional precipitation climate of the Caribbean and relationships with ENSO and NAO. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres*, **112**(D16), n/a–n/a. D16107.
- Jury, Mark R., 2014: Malawi's Shire River Fluctuations and Climate. *Journal of Hydrometeorology*. **15**: 2039-2049.
- Keil, A., Teufel, N., Gunawan, D., and Leemhuis, C. (2009). Vulnerability of smallholder farmers to ENSO-related drought in Indonesia. *Climate Research*, **38**, 155–169.
- Kigotho, A. W. (1997). El Niño wreaks havoc in Horn of Africa. *The Lancet*, **350**(9094), 1830–1830.
- Kogan, F. N., Satellite-Observed Sensitivity of World Land Ecosystems to El Niño/La Niña, *Remote Sensing of Environment*, Volume **74**, Issue 3, December 2000, Pages 445-462, ISSN 0034-4257,
- Kovats, 2000: El Niño and human health. *Bull World Health Organ*. **78**(9):1127-35.
- Kovats, R. S., Bouma, M. J., Hajat, S., Worrall, E., and Haines, A. (2003). El Niño and health. *PubMed*, **362**(9394)(1481-1489).
- Kumar, K. K., Rajagopalan, B., Hoerling, M., Bates, G., and Cane, M. (2006). Unraveling the mystery of Indian Monsoon failure during El Niño. *Science*, **314**(5796), 115–119.
- Kumar, P. R. and Kamra, A. K. (2012). Variability of lightning activity in South/Southeast Asia during 1997–98 and 2002–03 El Niño/La Niña events. *Atmospheric Research*, **118**, 84–102.
- Lindblade, K. A., Walker, E. D., Onapa, A. W., Katungu, J., and Wilson, M. L. (1999). Highland malaria in Uganda: prospective analysis of an epidemic associated with El Niño. *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, **93**, 480–87.
- Lindsay, S. W., Bødker, R., Malima, R., Msangeni, H. A., and Kisinza, W. (2000). Effect of 1997-98 El Niño on highland malaria in Tanzania. *Lancet*, **355**, 989–90.
- Linthicum, K. J., A. Anyamba, C. J. Tucker, P. W. Kelly, M. F. Myers, and C. J. Peters, 1999: Climate and satellite indicators to forecast rift valley fever epidemics in Kenya. *Science*, **23**, 1656–1659.
- Loevinsohn, M. E. (1994). Climatic warming and increased malaria incidence in Rwanda. *The Lancet*, **343**(8899), 714–718.
- Mabaso, M. L. H.; Kleinschmidt, I.; Sharp, B.; et al., 2007: El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) and annual malaria incidence in Southern Africa. *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*. **101**: 326-330.
- Martin, R. V., Washington, R., and Downing, T. E. (2000). Seasonal maize forecasting for South Africa and Zimbabwe derived from an agroclimatological model. *Journal of Applied Meteorology*, **39**(1473-1479).
- Maxwell, D., P. Webb, J. Coates and J. Wirth Rethinking, 2008: Food Security in Humanitarian Response, *Food Security Forum Rome*, April 16–18. <http://www.care-international.org/files/files/publications/Food-Security-Rethinking-Food-Security-2008.pdf>
- Miralles, D. G.; van den Berg, M. J.; Gash, J. H.; et al. 2014: El Niño-La Niña cycle and recent trends in continental evaporation. *Nature Climate Change*. **4**: 122-126.
- Nguyen-Le, D., Jun Matsumoto, and Thanh Ngo-Duc, 2015: Onset of the Rainy Seasons in the Eastern Indochina Peninsula. *J. Climate*, **28**, 5645–5666.
- Nicholson, S. E., B. Some, and B. Kone, 2000: An Analysis of Recent Rainfall Conditions in West Africa, Including the Rainy Seasons of the 1997 El Niño and the 1998 La Niña Years. *J. Climate*, **13**, 2628–2640.
- Nicholson, S. E., J. C. Selato,: The influence of La Niña on African Rainfall. *Int. J. Climatol*. **20**: 1761–1776 (2000).
- Okonkwo, C.; Demoz, B., 2014: The relationship between El Niño Southern Oscillations and cereal production in Sahel. *Environmental Hazards-Human and Policy Dimensions*. **4**: 343-357.
- Olago, D., Marshall, M., Wandiga, S. O., Opondo, M., Yanda, P. Z., Kangalawe, R., Githeko, A., Downs, T., Opere, A., Kabumbuli, R., Kirumira, E., Ogallo, L., Mugambi, P.,

- Apindi, E., Githui, F., Kathuri, J., Olaka, L., Sigalla, R., Nanyunja, R., Baguma, T., and Achola, P. (2007). Climatic, socio-economic, and health factors affecting human vulnerability to cholera in the Lake Victoria Basin, East Africa. *AMBIO: A Journal of the Human Environment*, **36**(4), 350–358.
- Miller, C. and Cotter, J. (2013). An impending storm. Impacts of deforestation on weather patterns and agriculture. *Technical Report (Review) 04-2013*, Greenpeace Research Laboratories.
- Perry, R. I. and Sumaila, U. R. (2007). Marine ecosystem variability and human community responses: The example of Ghana, West Africa. *Marine Policy*, **31**(2), 125–134.
- Plisnier, P. D., Serneels, S., and Lambin, E. F. (2000). Impact of ENSO on East African ecosystems: a multivariate analysis based on climate and remote sensing data. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, **9**(6), 481–497.
- Propastin, P., Fotso, L., and Kappas, M. (2010). Assessment of vegetation vulnerability to ENSO warm events over Africa. *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, **12**, Supplement 1, S83–S89.
- Prothero, R. M. (1994). Forced movements of population and health hazards in tropical Africa. *J. Epidemiol.*, **23**, 657–664.
- Rodo, X., Pascual, M., Fuchs, G., and Faruque, A. S. G. (2002). ENSO and cholera: A nonstationary link related to climate change? *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, **99**(20), 12901–12906.
- Rojas, O., Li, Y., and Cumani, R. (2014). Understanding the drought impact of El Niño on the global agricultural areas: An assessment using FAO's Agricultural Stress Index (ASI). *Technical report, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations*.
- Saunders MA, Roberts F. 1999: El Niño's impact on landfalling intense tropical cyclones. *In: Proceedings of the 23rd Conference on Hurricanes and Tropical Meteorology*, 10–15 January Dallas, Texas: 274–275.
- Sun, X.; Renard, B.; Thyer, M.; et al. 2015: A global analysis of the asymmetric effect of ENSO on extreme precipitation. *Journal of Hydrology*. **530**:51-65.
- Susilo, G. E., Yamamoto, K., and Imai, T. (2013). Modeling groundwater level fluctuation in the tropical peatland areas under the effect of El Nino. *Procedia Environmental Sciences*, **17**, 119–128.
- Tao, F. L., Yokozawa, M., Zhang, Z., Hayashi, Y., Graßl, Hartmus, H., and Fu, C. B. (2004). Variability in climatology and agricultural production in China in associated with the East Asian summer monsoon and El Niño Southern Oscillation. *Climate Research*, **28**, 23–30.
- Tartaglione, C. A., Smith, S. R., and O'Brien, J. J. (2003). ENSO impact on hurricane landfall probabilities for the Caribbean. *Journal of Climate*, **16**(17), 2925–2931.
- Vicente-Serrano, S. M., Lopez-Moreno, J. I., Gimeno, L., Nieto, R., Moran-Tejeda, E., Lorenzo-Lacruz, J., Begueria, S., and Azorin-Molina, C. (2011). A multiscalar global evaluation of the impact of ENSO on droughts. *Climate and Dynamics*, **116**(D20109).
- Xin, X.; Sokolik, Irina N., 2015: Dust interannual variability and trend in Central Asia from 2000 to 2014 and their climatic linkages. *Journal of geophysical research-atmospheres*. **120**: 23.
- Wang, X., Christian J., Murtugudde R., Busalacchi A. 2005: Ecosystem dynamics and export production in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific: A modeling study of impact of ENSO. *Geophys. Res. Letts*. **32**, L02608, doi:10.1029/2004GL021538.
- Waylen, P. and Owusu, K. (2014). Changes in expectations and extremes in the rainfall climatology of Accra, Ghana, 1895–2005. *Applied Geography*, **52**, 99–109.
- WHO, 2000: Control of first Rift Valley fever outbreak outside Africa is under way. WHO Rep. 62, 1 p. [Available online at <http://www.who.int/inf-pr-2000/en/pr2000-62.html>.]
- Wu, M. C., W. L. Chang, and W. M. Leung, 2004: Impacts of El Niño–Southern Oscillation Events on Tropical Cyclone Landfalling Activity in the Western North Pacific. *J. Climate*, **17**, 1419–1428.
- Yuan, Y. and Yang, S. (2012). Impacts of different types of El Niño on the East Asian climate: Focus on ENSO cycles. *Journal of Climate*, **25**(21), 7702–7722.

- Yu, Y.; Notaro, M.; Liu, Z.; et al. 2015: Climatic controls on the interannual to decadal variability in Saudi Arabian dust activity: Toward the development of a seasonal dust prediction model. *Journal of Geophysical Research-Atmospheres*. **120**: 1739-1758.
- Zaroug, M. A. H., Eltahir, E. A. B., and Giorgi, F. (2014). Droughts and floods over the upper catchment of the Blue Nile and their connections to the timing of El Niño and La Niña events. *Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.*, **18**(3), 1239–1249.
- Zhang, T., Zhu, J., Yang, X., and Zhang, X. (2008). Correlation changes between rice yields in North and Northwest China and ENSO from 1960 to 2004. *Agricultural and Forest Meteorology*, **148**(6–7), 1021–1033.
- Zhang, Y., Bi, P., Wang, G., and Hiller, J. E. (2007). El Niño southern oscillation (ENSO) and dysentery in Shandong province, China. *Environmental Research*, **103**(1), 117–120.