



Challenge
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Hot Topics



La Nina effect

Let's see what abnormal weather La Nina has brought.

THE La Nina effect (拉尼娜現象) effect has been established! It is said to be the cause of recent weather anomalies. Let's learn more about it.

What is La Nina?

LA Nina means "the little girl" in **Spanish**. It refers to a weather pattern opposite to El Nino (厄爾尼諾). While El Nino refers to higher sea surface temperatures in the equatorial Pacific, La Nina refers to cooler temperatures. The **influence** of La Nina is expected to continue until summer.



Bolivia

THERE were heavy **rainfalls** and floods in Bolivia (玻利維亞) in January. La Nina is blamed for **exacerbating** the country's rain season. (AP)



Hong Kong

THE cold weather warning was lifted on 18 February after being in place for 594.5 hours. The second longest cold spell is also said to be the result of the La Nina effect.



China

THE heavy **snowstorms** in January **crippled** transport and power supplies in many cities. The fierce weather was **probably** due to low sea surface temperatures in the Pacific. (AFP)

Australia

THIS picture shows dead trees and cracked earth in Australia in August last year. La Nina brought wet weather to eastern Australia, ending the worst **drought** in 100 years. (Reuters)



Useful link

El Nino and La Nina

<http://www.weather.gov.hk/wxinfo/climat/enso.htm>



Spanish (n) 西班牙語
influence (n) 影響

rainfall (n) 降雨量
exacerbate (v) 惡化

snowstorm (n) 暴風雪
cripple (v) 陷入癱瘓

probably (adv) 很可能
drought (n) 乾旱