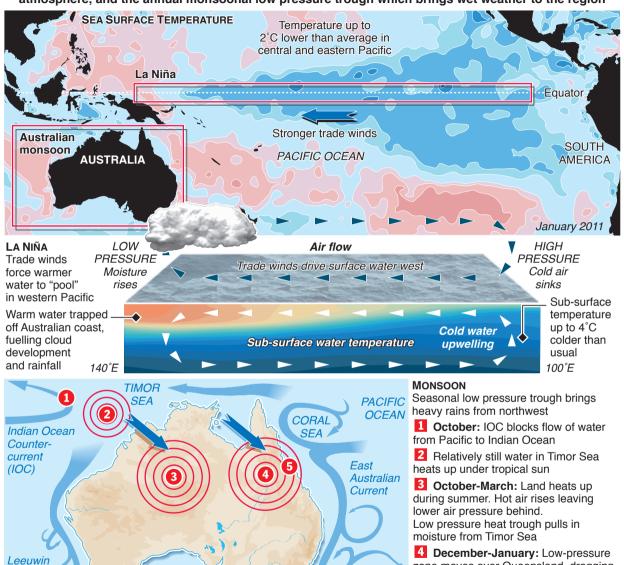
## **Australian flooding linked to La Niña**

Queensland's devastating floods are the result of heavy rains caused by two normally unconnected weather phenomena - La Niña, a periodic interaction between the Pacific Ocean and the Earth's atmosphere, and the annual monsoonal low pressure trough which brings wet weather to the region



LA NIÑA 1955: Hunter Valley Floods create **EVENTS** inland sea as large as England and Wales. 25 people killed

1960

Current

1950

1955

1974: Massive flooding kills 14 in Brisbane. 6,000 homes damaged or destroyed

1980

1985

2000: Australia's second wettest

1990

monsoon rains

1995

2011: Queensland suffers worst flooding in its recorded history year on record

2005

2010

1965

1970

1975

zone moves over Queensland, dragging

in monsoon rains from north west 5 2010: La Niña combines with

2000