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| ***Monsoon* rain to lash Vietnam this week**  *Rain is expected to* ***dampen*** *Vietnam’s northern, southern, and Central Highland regions in the next couple of days, according to the National Center for Hydro-meteorological Forecasting.*  Due to a **trough** of low pressure, it is forecast to rain in mountainous areas in northern Vietnam on Wednesday.  Medium to heavy rainfall measuring at 50-80 millimiters over 12 hours will also **batter** the Red River Delta and north-central province of Thanh Hoa on the same day.  From Wednesday night, the trough **will travel westward**, causing **downpours** in the region to linger until Saturday.  In Hanoi, rain **accompanied** by strong **gusts** and lightning is in the forecast from Wednesday to Saturday this week.  Average temperatures in the capital will range from 25 to 31 degrees Celsius on Wednesday.  Meanwhile, a strengthened monsoon is also expected to bring downpours, thunderstorms, and strong winds to the Central Highlands and southern Vietnam, including HCMC, from Wednesday to Friday.  Average temperatures will range from 23 to 32 degrees Celsius in the southern metropolis on Wednesday.  Rain and gusts will occur in the northern and southern parts of the East Vietnam Sea, as well as along the coast from south-central Binh Thuan Province to southern Kien Giang Province. | ***Monsoon:*** *gió mùa.*  ***Dampen/****dam-puhn****:*** to make wet.  **Trough/**trawf: a long and narrow box to hold water.  **Batter:** vùi dập.  **will travel westward:** di chuyển về phía tây.  **Downpours/**doun-pawr: heavy rain.  **Accompanied:** kèm theo.  **Gusts:** a sudden and strong wind. |