

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 64

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	DECEMBER 2012						
	October 2012 Total	November 2012 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2012)	183	178	Normal 256	209	311	261	24 of 49
Henderson (1975 – 2012)	160	27	Above 575	109	245	171	37 of 38
Honiara (1954 – 2012)	97	28	Above 467	134	245	173	54 of 57
Kirakira (1965 – 2012)	352	191	Above 480	202	334	242	36 of 45
Lata (1975 – 2012)	453	312	Normal 371	273	406	353	21 of 38
Munda (1962 – 2012)	285	280	Normal 265	211	326	272	25 of 51
Taro (1975 – 2012)	221	220	Below 99	161	231	197	3 of 35

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall October to December 2012

Predictor: SST 1&9

Stations	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecasted probs. * (Include LEPS)	Verification (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Auki (1962 – 2012)	618	610	771	696	18 of 49	38/21/41 (20.8)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2012)	762	343	493	411	34 of 38	21/56/23 (31.5)	Near consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2012)	593	384	559	446	38 of 55	21/59/19 (24.9)	Near consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2012)	1023	671	839	731	34 of 44	30/47/23 (-1.4)	Near consistent
Lata (1975 – 2012)	1136	963	1208	1080	23 of 38	8/51/42 (29.4)	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2012)	830	704	815	760	37 of 51	46/35/19 (5.8)	Inconsistent
Taro (1975 – 2012)	540	633	781	692	6 of 33	19/44/36 (5.0)	Near consistent

* Forecast is consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is near-consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by only one category (i.e. terciles 1 and 2 or terciles 2 and 3).

Forecast is inconsistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by two categories (i.e. terciles 1 and 3).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for February to April 2013

Predictors and Period used: December SST 1 & 9 – one month

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	45	1008	55		6.2	62.7
Henderson	67	691	33		27.0	73.7
Honiara	64	784	36		17.4	69.0
Kirakira	64	990	36		11.8	68.2
Lata	67	1168	33		12.1	62.2
Munda	47	1042	53		-2.9	41.2
Taro	58	840	42		-1.2	55.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	33	902	33	1084	34	-1.3	41.2
Henderson	39	595	39	786	22	15.5	47.4
Honiara	36	665	41	855	23	19.2	44.8
Kirakira	45	869	38	1102	17	19.4	47.7
Lata	43	1036	48	1276	9	15.0	48.6
Munda	25	947	38	1127	37	-2.8	31.4
Taro	39	784	40	943	21	1.2	33.3

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for February - April 2013

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara							

Summary Statement:

December 2012 rainfall:

Monthly rainfall across Solomon Islands for December 2012 was normal to above normal except for Taro.

Henderson, Honiara and Kirakira recorded above normal rainfall while Auki, Lata and Munda recorded normal rainfall for the month. Rainfall results during the month obviously confirmed the position of the South Pacific Convergence Zone actively over the central and eastern parts of the country.

October to December 2012 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

Forecast for the period – October to December 2012 was likely to be normal in most parts of the country. The forecasting skills were generally high.

As a result of the forecast verification, Auki, Henderson, Honiara, Kirakira and Taro were near consistent while Lata was consistent and Munda inconsistent. The seasonal total rainfall recorded across the country was consistent with the mean position of South Pacific Convergence Zone - northeast of Solomon Islands.

Outlooks for February – April 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

The climate outlook for the period is likely to be normal to below normal rainfall in most parts of the country.

Henderson, Lata and Taro is likely to be below normal to normal while normal condition is likely for Honiara and normal to above normal for Munda. Kirakira is likely to be below normal while no rainfall guidance is likely for Auki. Similar prediction is also likely for median forecast for the period.

The forecasting skills for the period are generally moderate.

2. POAMA:

Still can't access the Poama website

Drought monitoring

No rainfall drought is current for Solomon Islands for the period.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: $X < 0.0$ Low: $0 \leq X < 5$ Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$ Good: $10 \leq X < 15$ High: $15 \leq X < 25$
Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$ Exceptional: $X \geq 35$