

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 65

Country Name: KIRIBATI

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2013						
	November 2012 Total	December 2012 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru	57.2	115.1	40.5	67.3	266.6	132.0	15/60
Butaritari	448.4	331	243.4	203.0	360.7	286.0	31/75
Kanton	31.3	29.9	4.2	4.8	75.2	15.2	15/53
Kiritimati	19.1	3.2	37.4	17.6	67.0	34.7	44/86
Tarawa	70.2	131.2	113	138.9	328.8	228.7	18/64

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2012 to January 2013**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #61]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Beru	212.8	210.0	613.3	335.5	20/57	2/5/93 (35.3)	Near Consistent
Butaritari	1022.8	582.0	903.5	769.0	54/72	17/23/60 (28.3)	Consistent
Kanton	65.4	25.8	149.1	56.0	26/48	28/20/52 (21.8)	Near consistent
Kiritimati	59.7	31.7	104.2	58.4	36/70	10/19/71 (31.1)	Near consistent
Tarawa	314.4	333.7	781.1	510.0	21/63	18/24/58 (26.1)	In consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2012 to January 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #61): SSTA 1 & 9 July- September

* 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 using SCOPIC for
March to May 2013**

Predictors and Period used: SSTA 1 & 9 (Nov –Jan)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	21.7%	264.0	78.3%		29.1%	71.4%
Butaritari	36.3%	944.0	63.7%		5.8%	63.9%
Kanton	38.6%	167.2	61.4%		9.4%	62.2%
Kiritimati	39.3%	311.2	60.7%		10.1%	63.9%
Tarawa	43.3%	489.2	56.7%		5.5%	57.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	10.5%	153.8	30.1%	379.0	59.4%	26.0%	55.1%
Butaritari	23.1%	793.0	43.4%	1188.0	33.5%	7.5%	52.5%
Kanton	25.2%	121.4	37.1%	216.2	37.7%	6.7%	42.2%
Kiritimati	27.1%	286.5	27.3%	394.0	45.6%	10.7%	37.7%
Tarawa	22.8%	329.8	37.0%	634.6	40.2%	6.7%	42.9%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
March to May 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Tarawa (Western)	33.33	329	30	811	36.67		
Tabuaeran (Eastern)	23.33	296	40.0	548	36.67		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2012:

Normal to Below Normal rainfall recorded throughout the Kiribati region.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2012–January 2013, including outlook verification:

Normal to Above Normal rainfall observed during the last 3 months (Nov-Jan). 3 out of the 5 stations had consistent with the SCOPIC prediction for that period, while the remaining stations have near consistent.

Outlooks for March–May 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

Using SSTA 1& 9, Wetter months again expected in upcoming 3 months (March-May) in most of the stations with moderate level skill. It should be noted that we approaching what known as the predictability barrier where forecast levels usually low.

2. POAMA:

Above Normal rainfall expected for Tarawa in the western region while Normal rainfall for Tabuaeran in the East for March to May 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: $X \geq 35$