

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 67

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	MARCH 2013						
	January 2012 Total	February 2013 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2013)	293	332	967	321	444	369	Highest of 52
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	150	202	641	189	325	248	Highest of 39
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	219	222	594	236	344	301	56 of 59
Kirakira 1965 – 2013)	319	363	491	287	400	364	40 of 46
Lata (1975 – 2013)	534	181	860	370	526	420	37 of 38
Munda (1962 – 2013)	488	208	623	292	424	342	48 of 52
Taro (1975 – 2013)	72	246	286	240	307	275	23 of 38

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January to March 2013**

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 – 2013)	1592	980	1262	1184	50 of 52	33/35/32 (0.8)	Near Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	993	626	857	715	32 of 39	46/37/17 (14.2)	Inconsistent
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	1035	691	922	824	46 of 58	52/30/18 (14.8)	Inconsistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2013)	1173	875	1169	1002	30 of 45	56/33/11 (26.5)	Inconsistent
Lata (1975 – 2013)	1576	1143	1366	1275	31 of 38	30/ 42 /28 (3.0)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2013)	1320	1015	1285	1111	38 of 52	35/ 39 /26 (-3.6)	Near consistent
Taro (1975 – 2013)	604	705	863	769	6 of 36	56/19/25 (6.4)	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).

Predictor: SST 1&9

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for May to July 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	48	604	52		-3.0	52.0
Henderson	50	282	50		-4.9	35.1
Honiara	52	294	48		-2.4	47.4
Kirakira	57	857	43		5.9	65.2
Lata	49	984	51		4.4	68.4
Munda	47	871	53		-1.6	58.8
Taro	78	855	52		-0.7	57.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	35	535	30	669	35	-3.2	32.0
Henderson	34	257	34	319	32	-0.6	32.4
Honiara	39	268	26	339	34	1.7	43.9
Kirakira	39	735	36	928	25	11.6	43.5
Lata	36	870	24	1166	38	7.6	52.6
Munda	31	704	35	1005	34	-0.1	37.3
Taro	32	760	33	926	35	-5.8	12.1

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
May - July 2013**

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

Summary Statement:

March 2013 rainfall:

Rainfall in March 2013 was above normal in most parts of the country.

All stations across the country recorded exceptionally high rainfall except Taro which recorded normal rainfall for the month. Auki recorded the highest extreme rainfall since 1962 for the month and Henderson since 1975.

Much of the rainfall during the month was resulted from an active monsoon coupled with South Pacific Convergence Zone and Tropical Cyclone Sandra which located south of the country from 06th to 12th March 2013.

January to March 2013 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

Climate outlook for the period was normal to below normal while no rainfall guidance was likely for Auki.

However, according to the forecast verification results, Taro was consistent to their forecast while Henderson, Honiara, and Kirakira were inconsistent. Auki, Lata and Munda were near

consistent. Rainfall received during the period was consistent to the ENSO condition in the region.

Outlooks for May – July 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

Climate outlook for the period is likely to be climatology for most parts of Solomon Islands.

No rainfall guidance is likely for Auki, Henderson, Honiara, Lata, Munda and Taro while Kirakira is likely to be below normal. The skills for the forecast are very low for Auki, Henderson, Munda and Taro while Honiara, Kirakira and Lata are moderate for the period.

2. POAMA:

Climate outlook using dynamical model – POAMA2 during the period for Honiara is likely to be normal. The forecast is consistent to the current ENSO neutral condition in the region.

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: $X \geq 35$