

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 71

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	JULY 2013						
	May 2012 Total	June 2013 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2013)	234	279	345	190	248	214	46 of 52
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	72	68	105	73	108	92	24 of 39
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	87	91	108	66	106	95	39 of 58
Kirakira (1965 – 2013)	264	297	558	246	402	314	44 of 47
Lata (1975 – 2013)	301	245	533	298	392	338	35 of 39
Munda (1962 – 2013)	202	188	575	238	403	296	47 of 52
Taro (1975 – 2013)	154	291	289	281	373	316	13 of 35

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
May to July 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)	858	535	669	604	45 of 51	35:30:35 (-3.2)	Near Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	245	257	319	282	12 of 38	34:34:32 (-0.6)	Near Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	286	268	339	294	24 of 58	39:26:34 (1.7)	Near consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2013)	1118	735	928	857	39 of 47	39:36:25 (11.6)	Inconsistent
Lata (1975 – 2013)	1080	870	1166	984	21 of 39	36:24:38 (7.6)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2013)	965	704	1005	871	33 of 52	31:35:34 (-0.1)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2013)	734	760	926	855	9 of 34	32:33:35 (-5.8)	Inconsistent

* 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 September to November 2013

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	45	638	55		3.3	57.1
Henderson	24	360	76		14.9	68.4
Honiara	28	362	72		8.3	56.4
Kirakira	44	791	56		-3.2	52.4
Lata	25	1054	75		9.2	63.2
Munda	35	716	65		4.1	58.8
Taro	13	787	87		25.9	78.8

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	21	589	35	691	44	1.0	20.4
Henderson	12	294	19	392	69	15.0	55.3
Honiara	19	313	45	413	36	2.9	40.0
Kirakira	19	648	41	855	40	1.0	31.0
Lata	25	967	19	1218	56	3.9	34.2
Munda	10	646	51	783	39	7.4	43.1
Taro	11	741	45	840	44	8.1	33.3

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for September – November 2013

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	13.33	269	26.67	407	60		

Summary Statement:

July 2013 rainfall:

Rainfall in July was normal to above normal across the country.

Auki, Honiara (central region), Kirakira, Lata (eastern region) and Munda in the western region recorded above normal while Henderson (central region) and Taro in the western region recorded normal rainfall.

Normal to above normal rainfall during the month was resulted of SPCZ activities over the islands.

May to July 2013 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

No rainfall guidance was likely for most parts of Solomon Islands for the period – May to July 2013 except for Honiara in the central and Kirakira in the eastern regions.

As a result of forecast verification, Munda in the western region was consistent to its forecast, while Auki, Henderson and Honiara (central region), and Lata in the eastern region were all near consistent. Kirakira in the eastern regions and Taro in the western region were inconsistent to their forecast.

The result was consistent to the neutral ENSO condition in the region.

Climate Outlooks for September – November 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

The climate outlook for Solomon Islands for the period – September to November 2013 is likely to normal to above normal.

Kirakira (eastern region) and Taro (western region) is likely to be near normal while Honiara (central region) and Munda in the western region is likely to be normal. Auki, Henderson (central region) and Lata in eastern region are most likely to be above normal.

In contrast, the median forecast is most likely to be above median for the period which may suggest likely on set of La Nina before the wet season commence.

The tercile forecasting skill is generally moderate while the median skills are generally high for the period.

2. POAMA:

The Climate outlook for Solomon Islands using POAMA dynamic model predicts to above normal 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: $X \geq 35$