

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 72

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	AUGUST 2013						
	June 2013 Total	July 2013 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2013)	279	345	169	151	237	199	22 of 52
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	68	105	74	70	104	86	15 of 39
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	91	108	96	68	109	90	34 of 58
Kirakira (1965 – 2013)	297	558	239	196	345	277	19 of 46
Lata (1975 – 2013)	245	533	536	270	403	323	33 of 39
Munda (1962 – 2013)	188	575	257	200	310	267	24 of 52
Taro (1975 – 2013)	291	289	293	261	328	292	19 of 36

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall June to August 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)	793	555	670	605	44 of 51	28/51/21(4.5)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	247	231	314	256	19 of 39	25/30/45(-0.6)	Near consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	296	236	330	270	32 of 57	21/48/30(-0.3)	Consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2013)	1093	711	980	882	34 of 46	21/37/42(7.8)	Consistent
Lata (1975 – 2013)	1315	865	1188	1018	31 of 39	32/52/16(-3.1)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2013)	1019	754	979	835	40 of 52	25/43/32(8.1)	Near consistent
Taro (1975 – 2013)	873	803	938	886	17 of 35	20/49/31(2.8)	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: August SST 1&9

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for October to December 2013

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	25	695	75		10.8	51.0
Henderson	11	418	89		25.9	73.7
Honiara	20	450	80		15.7	63.6
Kirakira	29	751	71		6.7	59.1
Lata	18	1082	82		13.7	65.8
Munda	33	761	67		2.4	52.9
Taro	20	684	80		14.5	69.7

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	6	610	29	754	65	20.8	55.1
Henderson	3	345	9	497	88	31.5	60.5
Honiara	6	386	22	563	72	24.9	52.7
Kirakira	20	672	42	861	38	-1.4	34.1
Lata	1	970	44	1196	55	29.4	50.0
Munda	22	710	28	816	50	5.8	33.3
Taro	12	620	38	775	50	5.0	42.4

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for October – December 2013

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	30	308	17	516	53		
Munda	17	684	33	816	50		
Taro Is.	17	558	37	689	46		

Summary Statement:

August 2013 rainfall:

Rainfall in August was above normal in most parts of the country.

Central, western and eastern parts of the eastern region recorded above normal rainfall while west parts of eastern region recorded normal rainfall. The results of the rainfall during the month were consistent with position of the SPCZ located southwest of its normal.

Lata in the eastern region recorded the highest monthly total rainfall of 536mm while Henderson in the central recorded the lowest total rainfall of 74mm.

June to August 2013 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

The forecast for the period – June to August 2013 was normal to above normal. The skill for the forecast during the period was very low to moderate.

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

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

Climate Outlooks for October – December 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

The tercile and median forecast predicts similar outlooks of above normal in most parts of the country for the period, October to December 2013.

Central, western and eastern parts of the eastern regions are most likely to be above normal while Kirakira in the west part of the eastern region is likely to be normal. The skills for the forecast are generally high for both the tercile and median for the period.

The climate outlook for the period may suggest onset of La Nina before the wet season.

2. POAMA:

The climate outlook for the period – October to December 2013 using POAMA dynamical model is most likely to be above normal for central and western region. The outlook is consistent with the SCOPIC outlook 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: $X \geq 35$