

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 73

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

| Station (include data period) | SEPTEMBER 2013 | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | July 2013 Total | August 2013 Total | Total (mm) | 33%tile Rainfall (mm) | 67%tile Rainfall (mm) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Ranking |
| Auki (1962 – 2013) | 345 | 169 | 194 | 168 | 243 | 200 | 24 of 51 |
| Henderson (1975 – 2013) | 105 | 74 | 35 | 56 | 114 | 80 | 6 of 39 |
| Honiara (1954 – 2013) | 108 | 96 | 96 | 68 | 114 | 79 | 35 of 58 |
| Kirakira 1965 – 2013) | 558 | 239 | 125 | 201 | 306 | 229 | 7 of 45 |
| Lata (1975 – 2013) | 533 | 536 | 1404 | 306 | 380 | 348 | Highest of 39 |
| Munda (1962 – 2013) | 575 | 257 | 219 | 207 | 271 | 236 | 21 of 52 |
| Taro (1975 – 2013) | 289 | 293 | 340 | 235 | 291 | 258 | 29 of 37 |

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall July to September 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) | 709 | 576 | 706 | 619 | 34 of 51 | 39:28:33(-3.2) | Inconsistent |
| Henderson (1975 – 2013) | 214 | 231 | 323 | 288 | 12 of 39 | 24:47:29(-2.9) | Near consistent |
| Honiara (1954 – 2013) | 300 | 244 | 336 | 283 | 33 of 57 | 24:50:26(0.2) | Consistent |
| Kirakira 1965 – 2013) | 922 | 735 | 1058 | 875 | 26 of 44 | 28:41:31(-1.9) | Consistent |
| Lata (1975 – 2013) | 2474 | 912 | 1202 | 1113 | Highest of 39 | 25:39:36(-2.8) | Near consistent |
| Munda (1962 – 2013) | 1050 | 756 | 905 | 843 | 42 of 52 | 31:41:28(-3.3) | Near consistent |
| Taro (1975 – 2013) | 923 | 866 | 995 | 914 | 19 of 35 | 20:42:38(-3.7) | 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 1 month

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for November 2013 to January 2014

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

| Station | Below Median (prob) | Median Rainfall (mm) | Above Median (prob) | | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--|------|----------|
| Auki | 20 | 879 | 80 | | 26.2 | 71.4 |
| Henderson | 16 | 574 | 84 | | 30.0 | 76.3 |
| Honiara | 22 | 576 | 78 | | 24.3 | 69.3 |
| Kirakira | 23 | 816 | 77 | | 18.8 | 70.5 |
| Lata | 17 | 1119 | 83 | | 19.1 | 73.7 |
| Munda | 51 | 855 | 49 | | -3.8 | 37.3 |
| Taro | 40 | 688 | 60 | | 3.9 | 66.7 |

| Station | Below Normal (prob) | 33%ile Rainfall (mm) | Normal (prob) | 66%ile Rainfall (mm) | Above Normal (prob) | LEPS | Hit-rate |
|-----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------------|------|----------|
| Auki | 8 | 778 | 29 | 969 | 63 | 34.4 | 63.3 |
| Henderson | 15 | 440 | 9 | 660 | 76 | 29.9 | 63.2 |
| Honiara | 9 | 511 | 33 | 639 | 58 | 27.1 | 53.6 |
| Kirakira | 5 | 708 | 28 | 936 | 67 | 30.9 | 52.3 |
| Lata | 9 | 1046 | 34 | 1274 | 57 | 14.6 | 44.7 |
| Munda | 27 | 810 | 26 | 977 | 47 | 0.0 | 39.2 |
| Taro | 12 | 575 | 35 | 772 | 53 | 12.5 | 51.5 |

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for November 2013 – January 2014

| Station | Lower Tercile (prob) | 33%ile rainfall (mm) | Middle Tercile (prob) | 66%ile rainfall (mm) | Upper Tercile (prob) |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Honiara | 13 | 362 | 40 | 605 | 47 |
| Munda | 10 | 755 | 30 | 875 | 60 |
| Taro | 30 | 451 | 37 | 715 | 33 |

Summary Statement:

September 2013 rainfall:

Normal to below rainfall was recorded in most parts of the country during the month.

Eastern region: Normal rainfall was recorded in Lata and below normal in Kirakira.

Central region: Normal rainfall was recorded in Auki and Honiara while below normal rainfall in Henderson/Honiara international Airport.

Western region: Munda recorded above normal rainfall while Taro recorded normal rainfall.

The rainfall received during the month across the country was resulted from the weakening of the South Pacific Convergence Zone over the Islands.

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

Forecast for the period was predicted for normal condition in most parts of the country however, with very low skills.

As a result of verification of forecast for the period:

Eastern region: Kirakira was consistent to its forecast while Lata was near consistent.

Central region: Honiara was consistent while Henderson was near consistent and Auki was inconsistent to its forecast.

Western region: Munda was near consistent while Taro was consistent to its forecast for the period.

The rainfall received during the period was consistent with the neutral ENSO condition observed.

Climate Outlooks for November 2013 – January 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

The climate outlook for the period is most likely to be above normal in most part of Solomon Islands.

Eastern, Central and Western regions are most likely to be above normal for the period.

2. POAMA:

For POAMA dynamical model, the climate outlook for Honiara is likely to be above normal in the central region, most likely above normal for Munda and Climatology for Taro in the western 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: $X \geq 35$