

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 76

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	DECEMBER 2013						
	October 2013 Total	November 2013 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2013)	327	195	107	210	310	257	2 of 50
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	234	22	126	111	247	175	18 of 39
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	190	34	99	136	255	175	13 of 58
Kirakira 1965 – 2013)	346	76	127	208	350	243	9 of 46
Lata (1975 – 2013)	736	186	279	282	405	357	14 of 39
Munda (1962 – 2013)	272	187	313	214	324	267	33 of 52
Taro (1975 – 2013)	241	229	300	154	230	194	33 of 36

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
October to December 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)	629	610	754	695	20 of 50	6/29/ 65 (20.8)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2013)	382	345	497	418	18 of 39	3/9/ 88 (31.5)	Near consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2013)	323	386	563	450	15 of 56	6/22/ 72 (24.9)	Inconsistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2013)	549	672	861	751	11 of 45	20/ 42 /38(-1.4)	Near consistent
Lata (1975 – 2013)	1201	970	1196	1082	26 of 39	1/44/ 55 (29.4)	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2013)	772	710	816	761	28 of 52	22/28/ 50 (5.8)	Near consistent
Taro (1975 – 2013)	770	620	775	684	22 of 35	12/38/ 50 (5.0)	Near consistent

Predictor: SST 1&9

* 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 for February to April 2014

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	26	1015	74		6.2	63.5
Henderson	57	695	43		23.4	71.8
Honiara	50	795	50		16.1	66.1
Kirakira	57	996	43		10.0	64.4
Lata	62	1170	38		14.6	68.4
Munda	40	1040	60		-3.3	34.6
Taro	51	865	49		-2.1	51.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	20	906	50	1090	30	-2.4	36.5
Henderson	26	601	40	795	34	14.2	51.3
Honiara	18	671	42	860	40	16.7	42.4
Kirakira	36	888	40	1101	24	19.5	40.0
Lata	42	1040	46	1274	12	15.3	44.7
Munda	22	950	39	1127	39	-2.8	32.7
Taro	38	789	39	934	23	1.5	35.1

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for February – April 2014

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)
Honiara	33	642	43	801	24
Munda	33	937	30	1260	37
Taro	46	793	33	944	21

Summary Statement:

December 2013 rainfall:

Rainfall in December 2013 was normal to below normal in most parts of the country.

Below normal rainfall was recorded in Eastern region - Kirakira, Lata and Central region – Auki and Honiara while southern parts of central region - Henderson and western region - Munda recorded normal rainfall. Further northwest of western region - Taro registered above normal rainfall for the month.

South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) was well-developed in December and positioned northeast of the country.

October to December 2013 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

Above normal condition was likely for most parts of country with general high skills during the period.

As a result of forecast verification for the period – central region, Auki and Henderson; eastern region - Kirakira, and western region – Munda and Taro was near consistent to their forecast while Lata in the eastern region was consistent to its forecast. Only Honiara in the central region was inconsistent it its forecast for the period.

In general, the climate outlook for the period was not performing well as only one site out of seven sites was consistent to its forecast.

Climate Outlooks for February - April 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

Climate outlook for the Solomon Islands for the period – February to April 2014 is likely to be normal to below normal across the country.

Central and Eastern regions are likely to be normal while normal to above and normal to below normal in parts of the western regions.

The climate outlook is consistent with the current ENSO condition in the Tropical Pacific.

2. POAMA:

POAMA dynamical model suggests normal for central region while below normal for Taro and no rainfall guidance for Munda.

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: $X \geq 35$