

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 78

Country Name: KIRIBATI

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			February 2014				
	December 2013 Total	January 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru (1932:2013)	107.3	-	9.0	10.0	141.0	44.0	-
Butaritari (1931:2013)	270.9	244.9	106.2	189.0	303.5	261.5	13/77
Kanton (1937:2013)	97.8	13.6	91.9	4.5	28.2	7.6	46/58
Kiritimati (1921:2013)	0.7	0.5	1.6	30.3	92.0	51.5	5/89
Tarawa (1950:2013)	139.8	237.5	179.9	69.1	270.3	177.2	33/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall December 2013 to February 2014

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #74]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?)
Beru (1932:2013)	-	191.5	666.3	349.0	-	19.4/40.4/40.2(30.7)	-
Butaritari (1931:2013)	622	686.0	1060.4	886.0	24/74	54.6/13.1/32.3(17.1)	Consistent
Kanton (1937:2013)	203.3	29.4	204.4	58.4	33/50	52.9/35.4/11.7(33.2)	Near-Consistent
Kiritimati (1921:2013)	2.8	66.2	156.0	117.0	1/78	33.1/46.9/20.0(30.4)	Near-Consistent
Tarawa (1950:2013)	557.2	386.0	863.1	680.7	29/64	64.4/18.5/17.1(30.2)	Near-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).

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2013 to February 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #74): SSTa's 1 and 9 (3mths) Jan 1949 – Oct 2013

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for April to June 2014

Predictors and Period used: Jan to Feb2014 NINO3.4 SST Anomalies extended

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru (1932:2013)	56.5	222.4	43.5		3.3	62.0
Butaritari (1931:2013)	58.5	895.0	41.5		6.7	64.5
Kanton (1937:2013)	55.8	216.3	44.2		2.5	60.9
Kiritimati (1921:2013)	56.9	282.0	43.1		5.1	56.5
Tarawa (1950:2013)	58.8	420.2	41.2		6.7	62.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru (1932:2013)	38.9	160.0	35.7	334.0	25.4	3.7	46.0
Butaritari (1931:2013)	41.2	721.3	34.5	1038.7	24.3	7.9	43.5
Kanton (1937:2013)	36.9	174.0	39.4	252.1	23.7	4.3	45.7
Kiritimati (1921:2013)	38.6	211.4	32.3	369.0	29.1	2.5	43.5
Tarawa (1950:2013)	39.5	321.3	36.0	518.0	24.5	6.0	46.9

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
April to June 2014**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Tabuaeran	5.0	467	13.0	753	82.0		
Tarawa	6.0	364	48.5	665	45.5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2014:

Below Normal rainfall recorded in Beru, Butaritari and Kiritimati stations.
Above normal rainfall recorded in Kanton and Normal rainfall recorded in Tarawa.
Rainfall for Kiritimati ranked 5 out of 89 for February.

Accumulated rainfall for December 2013 to February 2014, including outlook verification:

Below normal rainfall in Butaritari and Kiritimati. Consistent with High skill in Butaritari and Near consistent with a very high skill in Kiritimati.
Normal rainfall in Kanton and Tarawa. Both are near-consistent with a very high level of skill.
Rainfall for Kiritimati ranked 1 out of 78 for December 2013 to February 2014.

Outlooks for April-June 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for April to June 2014 shows the most likely outcome for Beru, Butaritari, and Tarawa is below-normal, with normal the next most likely. The outlook for Kiritimati offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfalls are similar. The seasonal rainfall outlook for April to June 2014 shows the most likely outcome for Kanton is normal, with below-normal the next most likely. The least likely category for all stations is above-normal. Confidence in the outlook is low to moderate.

2. POAMA:

Tabuaeran favours above normal rainfall and Tarawa favours normal rainfall.

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: $X \geq 35$