

# Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 79

**Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS**

**TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall**

Station (include data period)	MARCH 2014						
	January 2014 Total	February 2014 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2014)	568	555	250	331	451	374	11 of 53
Henderson (1975 – 2014)	663	210	287	193	328	253	22 of 40
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	646	254	302	238	345	304	30 of 60
Kirakira (1965 – 2014)	504	271	265	288	410	364	13 of 47
Lata (1975 – 2014)	359	203	297	374	527	426	9 of 39
Munda (1962 – 2014)	575	617	151	297	429	344	4 of 53
Taro (1975 – 2014)	502	366	109	241	302	276	3 of 39

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall  
January to March 2014**

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 – 2014)	1373	985	1266	1186	43 of 50	19/46/35 (0.8)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 201)	1160	633	875	719	37 of 40	32/40/28 (14.2)	Near consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	1202	693	929	837	39 of 56	35/46/19 (14.8)	Near consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2014)	1040	878	1173	1014	16 of 43	49/22/29 (26.5)	Near consistent
Lata (1975 – 2014)	859	1154	1369	1276	11 of 38	13/53/34 (3.0)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2014)	1343	1023	1299	1115	34 of 52	40/38/22 (-3.6)	Inconsistent
Taro (1975 – 2014)	977	693	861	766	26 of 33	80/2/18 (6.4)	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).

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## Predictor: SST 1&9

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

### TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for May to July 2014

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	47	611	53		-2.8	52.9
Henderson	48	280	52		-4.6	36.8
Honiara	51	294	49		-0.9	50.0
Kirakira	57	864	43		5.2	63.8
Lata	62	999	38		1.6	66.7
Munda	52	871	48		-1.0	59.6
Taro	55	852	45		-1.0	52.9

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	27	536	48	678	25	-1.6	41.2
Henderson	22	254	43	319	35	0.4	15.8
Honiara	35	270	36	337	29	1.5	43.1
Kirakira	31	740	42	953	27	9.8	42.6
Lata	52	874	18	1165	30	5.3	48.7
Munda	36	706	41	1001	23	0.0	36.5
Taro	33	756	30	923	37	-5.8	20.6

### TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for May – July 2014

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)
Honiara	52	267	24	410	24
Munda	52	745	15	907	33
Taro	24	721	12	889	64

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#### **Summary Statement:**

#### **March 2014 rainfall:**

Rainfall in March was below normal for eastern, western and northern parts of central region.

Auki - central, Kirakira, Lata – eastern, Munda and Taro in the western region recorded rainfall below normal while Henderson and Honiara in the central region recorded normal rainfall during the month.

Below normal rainfall recorded almost across the country was resulted by the displacement of the South Pacific Convergence Zone to the northeast of Solomon Islands.

#### **January to March 2014 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)**

The climate outlook for the period – January to March 2014 was normal to below normal across the country.

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

Central and Western regions recorded above normal rainfall during the period while the Eastern region recorded normal and below normal rainfall.

### **Climate Outlooks for May - July 2014:**

#### **1. SCOPIC:**

The climate outlook for Solomon Islands for the period – May to July 2014 is favoured for normal condition across the country.

Central region – Auki, and Henderson, parts of Eastern and Western regions are likely to be normal while Lata in the Eastern region is likely to be below normal. The outlook for Honiara shows the most likely outcome is normal; with below normal the next most likely. The outlook for Taro in the Western region is mixed, with similar chances for above normal and below normal; near normal is the least likely outcome.

The median forecast suggests below median in most parts of the Solomon Islands. Both median and tercile forecast skills for most station across the country are very low to moderate for the period.

#### **2. POAMA:**

Similar prediction is also strongly favoured for Honiara and Munda by POAMA model while Taro is most likely to be above normal.

**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:  $X \geq 35$