Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 80

Country Name: ***SOLOMON ISLANDS***

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			APRIL 2014				
	February 2014 Total	March 2014 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2014)	555	250	**504**	215	263	250	52 of 53
Henderson (1975 – 2014)	210	287	**553**	105	177	149	Highest of 40
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	254	302	**952**	130	200	157	Highest of 60
Kirakira 1965 – 2014)	271	265	**620**	197	310	233	46 of 48
Lata (1975 – 2014)	203	297	**258**	268	371	323	13 of 39
Munda (1962 – 2014)	617	151	**614**	229	300	267	52 of 53
Taro (1975 – 2014)	366	109	**336**	234	368	298	24 of 39

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
February to April 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)	**1309**	906	1090	1015	49 of 53	20/**50**/30 (-2.4)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 201)	**1050**	601	795	695	36 of 40	26/**40**/34 (14.2)	Near consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	**1508**	671	860	795	Highest of 60	18/**42**/40 (16.7)	Near consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2014)	**1156**	888	1101	996	34 of 46	36/**40**/24 (19.5)	Near consistent
Lata (1975 – 2014)	**758**	1040	1274	1170	Lowest of 39	42/**46**/12 (15.3)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2014)	**1382**	950	1127	1040	48 of 53	22/**39**/**39** (-2.8)	Near consistent
Taro (1975 – 2014)	**811**	789	934	865	18 of 38	38/**39**/23 (1.5)	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

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks for June to August 2014

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	48	609	52		0.9	54.9
Henderson	43	250	57		-3.8	41.0
Honiara	45	274	55		-0.7	49.1
Kirakira	41	885	59		-1.1	50.0
Lata	60	1042	40		-3.5	46.2
Munda	44	844	56		1.3	59.6
Taro	53	884	47		-3.3	54.3

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	25	556	**61**	677	14	4.5	39.2
Henderson	21	233	**32**	312	47	-0.6	38.5
Honiara	18	237	**57**	330	26	-0.3	33.3
Kirakira	15	718	**44**	980	42	7.8	58.7
Lata	**28**	870	**52**	1218	21	-3.1	35.9
Munda	25	760	**42**	980	33	8.1	38.5
Taro	19	812	48	931	**32**	2.8	40.0

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for June – August 2014

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)
Honiara	**39**	**220**	**22**	**324**	**39**
Munda	**43**	**693**	**21**	**1037**	**36**
Taro	21	**675**	**15**	**883**	**64**

Summary Statement:

April 2014 rainfall:

Above normal rainfall was recorded in most parts of the country in April 2014.

Central region stations – Auki, Henderson and Honiara, eastern region – Kirakira and western region - Munda recorded above normal while eastern part of eastern region – Lata recorded below normal and northwest part of western region – Taro recorded normal rainfall.

Henderson and Honiara recorded the highest monthly total rainfall ever recorded for the month since 1975 and 1954. The high rainfall recorded in central and parts of eastern and western regions was resulted from an active trough over Solomon Islands which linked to a low pressure system located southwest of the Guadalcanal and Rennell Islands and later became Tropical Cyclone ITA.

Associated with bad weather condition, flash flooding was observed across the country and especially in Honiara claims 21 lives and about 50,000 people homeless.

February to April 2014 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

Climate outlook for the period was normal across the country and skills was high for central and eastern region stations while very low skill was for western region.

As a result of verification, central, eastern and parts of western regions was near consistent to their forecast while only Taro in the western region was consistent to its forecast. Central region stations – Auki, Henderson and Honiara, eastern region – Kirakira and western region – Munda recorded above normal rainfall during the period while Lata – eastern region recorded below normal and Taro – western region recorded normal rainfall. Highest rainfall was record in Honiara and least rainfall recorded was recorded in Lata during the period.

Most of the rainfall recorded during the period was resulted from the active trough which linked to a low pressure system and became Tropical Cyclone ITA located southwest of Solomon Islands in the month of April 2014.

***Climate Outlooks for June - August 2014*:**

1. ***SCOPIC*:**

   Climate outlook for Solomon Island for the period – June to August 2014 is likely to be normal in most parts of the country.

   Central region – Auki, Honiara, eastern region – Kirakira, Lata, and western region – Munda and Taro is likely to be normal while Henderson's central region is likely to be above normal.

   Very low skill forecast is for central region – Henderson, Honiara and eastern region – Lata while low to moderate skills for the rest of the stations.

   Median climate outlook suggests above median rainfall for central region and parts of eastern and western regions with low to very skills for the period.

2. ***POAMA*:**

   POAMA climate outlook for the period –Munda is likely to be below normal while Taro is likely to be above normal. The outlook for Honiara is mixed, with similar chances for below normal and above normal totals. Near normal is the least likely outcome for all stations.

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: $X \geq 35$