Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No: 83

Country Name: *SOLOMON ISLANDS*

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			JULY 2014				
	May 2014 Total	Jun 2014 Total	Total (mm)	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2014)	365	140	**162**	191	249	214	15 of 53
Henderson (1975 – 2014)	104	45	**44**	73	107	92	4 of 40
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	91	44	**31**	66	108	95	6 of 59
Kirakira 1965 – 2014)	178	59	**220**	246	401	336	14 of 48
Lata (1975 – 2014)	256	227	**291**	301	398	343	13 of 40
Munda (1962 – 2014)	239	444	**189**	240	421	299	10 of 53
Taro (1975 – 2014)	241	310	**228**	283	366	316	9 of 36

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
May to July 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)	**667**	536	677	611	34 of 52	27/**48**/25 (-1.6)	Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 201)	**194**	254	318	279	7 of 39	22/**43**/35 (0.4)	Near consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2014)	**167**	270	336	294	8 of 59	35/**36**/29 (1.5)	Near consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2014)	**458**	740	953	864	2 of 48	31/**42**/27 (9.8)	Near consistent
Lata (1975 – 2014)	**774**	874	1165	999	9 of 40	**52**/18/30 (5.3)	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2014)	**873**	706	1001	871	28 of 53	36/**41**/23 (0.0)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2014)	**779**	756	923	852	14 of 34	33/30/**37** (-3.8)	Near consistent

Predictor: SST 1&9

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

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*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 September to November 2014

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	***61***	641	39		3.5	54.0
Henderson	***51***	358	48		10.5	64.1
Honiara	46	362	***53***		7.2	53.6
Kirakira	***53***	771	46		-3.1	51.2
Lata	29	1059	***71***		11.1	64.1
Munda	27	704	***72***		2.4	57.7
Taro	9	788	***91***		28.7	79.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	26	590	35	692	***39***	2.7	40.0
Henderson	21	291	**41**	389	38	10.5	48.7
Honiara	20	315	**60**	412	20	3.4	41.1
Kirakira	***38***	643	28	853	34	0.0	32.6
Lata	***41***	981	24	1227	35	3.5	41.0
Munda	9	650	***49***	782	42	7.5	44.2
Taro	9	744	34	836	***57***	7.3	41.2

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)
Honiara	46	243	18	363	36
Munda	46	670	15	801	39
Taro	24	753	46	890	30

Summary Statement:

July 2014 rainfall:

Below normal rainfall was recorded in most parts of the country in July 2014.

Honiara in the central region recorded the lowest rainfall of 31mm while Taro in the western region recorded the highest rainfall of 228mm in July.

The below rainfall in July was associated with a weak South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) over the country during the month.

May to July 2014 rainfall: (Include a summary statement on verification)

Normal rainfall was forecasted for most parts of the country for the period – May to July 2014 with low to moderate skills.

As a result of forecast verification for the period - Auki in the northern central region, Lata in the eastern region and Munda in the western region were consistent to their forecast while the rest of

the stations were inconsistent. Henderson, Honiara – south central region and eastern region stations recorded below normal rainfall during period while western region recorded normal rainfall.

***Climate Outlooks for September - November 2014*:**

1. ***SCOPIC*:**

   The climate outlook for the Solomon Islands is mixed. The forecast skill is generally low to moderate for the period – September to November 2014.

   Eastern region – Lata is likely to below normal and for Kirakira the chances of below normal, normal and above normal are similar.Central region – Henderson and Honiara and; western region – Munda likely to be normal for the period. Auki in the central and Taro in the western regions is likely to be above normal. Similar outlook is also likely for the period for median forecast in parts of the country.

2. ***POAMA*:**

   Normal to below normal is likely for the POAMA forecast for Solomon Islands for the period – September to November 2014.

   Central region – Honiara and western region – Munda is likely to be below normal while Taro in the northwest part of western region is likely to be 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: $X \geq 35$