

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 91

Country Name: KIRIBATI

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2015						
	January 2015 Total	February 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru (Jul1932-Nov 2014)	-	-	-	20.0	136.0	55.3	-
Butaritari (Jul 1931-Mar 2015)	-	-	429.1	189.0	402.0	281.5	55/77
Kanton (Sep 1937-Jun 2014)	-	-	-	19.6	57.4	27.2	-
Kiritimati (Jan 1921-Mar 2015)	-	35.9	76.3	76.6	139.8	106.1	30/90
Tarawa (Jan 1950-Mar 2015)	229.4	287.1	434.2	113.1	262.7	171.0	60/66

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January 2015 to March 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #87]

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	-	143.1	493.0	280.6	-	8/39/53 (33.3)	-
Butaritari	-	723.0	1119.0	902.7	-	20/35/45 (14.8)	-
Kanton	-	40.7	171.2	110.8	-	17/24/59 (30.8)	-
Kiritimati	-	160.1	297.9	221.6	-	18/29/53 (31.6)	-
Tarawa	950.7	348.3	923.5	647.9	46/66	14/38/48 (25.6)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

* 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).

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #87):

NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies extended (Sep-Nov)

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
May to July 2015**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies extended (2 mths)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	41.4	230.0	58.6		2.8	59.2
Butaritari	43.8	814.3	56.2		1.3	58.3
Kanton	43.3	211.0	56.7		1.3	55.8
Kiritimati	43.4	178.0	56.6		1.2	51.6
Tarawa	38.9	403.6	61.1		6.8	60.0

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	33	173	24	284.8	43	1.9	34.7
Butaritari	27	716.3	33	894.3	40	2.5	45
Kanton	34	178.3	29	268.0	37	-1.7	34.9
Kiritimati	36	119.0	21	246.2	43	2.3	45.3
Tarawa	26	328.9	32	510.5	42	3.9	40.0

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
May to July 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Arorae	5	289	37	476	58		
Butaritari	30	707	58	880	12		
Kanton	6	165	49	270	45		
Kiritimati	21	126	27	226	52		
Tabuaeran	15	315	15	622	70		
Tarawa	12	370	55	554	33		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2015:

March records above normal rainfall for both Butaritari and Tarawa. Kiritimati recorded below normal. Tarawa rainfall ranks 60 out of 66.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2015, including outlook verification:

January to March recorded above normal rainfall for Tarawa. The verification is Consistent with very high level of skill.

Outlooks for May to July 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

The most likely outcome is above normal for all rainfall stations, except Kanton which offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar. There is very low to low level of skill at all stations.

2. POAMA:

The most likely outcome is above normal rainfall for Arorae, Kiritimati and Tabuaeran and normal for Butaritari, Kanton and Tarawa.

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: $X \geq 35$