

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 98

Country Name: KIRIBATI

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	October 2015						
	August 2015 Total	September 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Tarawa	233	358.5	250.1	41.7	123.9	72.8	55/66
Butaritari	176.7	178.6	164.5	97.8	197	145	43/74
Beru	-	-	-	19.0	63.4	35.3	-
Kanton	165.8	-	216.9	6.9	30.0	12.8	53/56
Kiritimati	171.7	124.9	250.6	4.0	17.9	10.7	88/91

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
August to October 2015**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #94]

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?)
Tarawa	841.6	193.6	431.2	280.2	57/66	1/15/ 84 (34.8)	Consistent
Butaritari	519.8	351	629.7	539.1	34/73	1/22/ 77 (24.8)	Near Consistent
Beru	-	104.3	200.3	133.0	-	3/6/ 91 (23.5)	-
Kanton	-	81.5	173.2	127.1	-	5/8/ 87 (24.9)	-
Kiritimati	547.2	26.6	58.0	42.1	83/88	13/33/ 54 (5.4)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #94):

NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies extended (3 month) Jan 1950 to Sep 2015

* 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 using SCOPIC for
December 2015 to February 2016**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies extended

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Tarawa	4	680.7	96		28.4	75.4
Butaritari	7	875.5	93		19.8	73
Beru	0	349.0	100		46.8	84.3
Kanton	4	59.7	96		25.2	68.9
Kiritimati	1	116.0	96.2		41.8	82.3

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Tarawa	0	390.5	12	852.7	88	44	66.2
Butaritari	2	643.3	23	1056.6	75	19.6	54
Beru	0	177.2	11	652.7	89	41.3	56.9
Kanton	0	30.3	1	204.0	99	43.2	60
Kiritimati	0	59.9	1	155.0	99	37.6	51.6

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
December 2015 to February 2016**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Arorae	5	58	5	837	90		
Butaritari	46	618	8	1064	46		
Tarawa	36	397	5	820	59		
Kiritimati	5	50	5	147	90		
Kanton	5	6	5	213	90		
Tabuaeran	6	44	5	399	89		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2015:

October records, above normal rainfall for Kanton, Kiritimati and Tarawa whereas Butaritari records normal rainfall. Kanton ranks 53 out of 56 and Kiritimati ranks 88 out of 91.

Accumulated rainfall for August to October 2015, including outlook verification:

August to October 2015 rainfall for Tarawa and Kiritimati was above normal and Butaritari rainfall was normal. The verification for Tarawa and Kiritimati was consistent whereas Butaritari was near consistent. The level of skill was moderate to very high.

Outlooks for December 2015 to February 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

The Kiribati outlook for December 2015 to February 2016 favours above normal rainfall, with normal the next most likely. Confidence in the outlook is exceptional.

2. POAMA:

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

Butaritari's outlook is for December to February is mixed, with similar chances for above or below 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: $X \geq 35$