Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 125

Country Name: Kiribati

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			January 2018				
	November 2017 Total	December 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru	-	-	-	62.0	261.0	127.0	-
Butaritari	141.6	162.5	225.5	203.0	346.0	280.0	31/80
Kanton	0.9	3.7	7.3	5.3	65.7	13.6	24/58
Kiritimati	3.2	6.4	2.3	17.6	66.8	34.1	10/92
Tarawa	128.6	145.4	37.4	137.8	320.9	229.0	14/69

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2017 to January 2018

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #121]

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	-	204.0	600.0	284.0	-	27/**58**/15 (50.6)	-
Butaritari	529.6	579.0	895.0	748.5	23/77	33/**42**/25 (29.6)	Near-consistent
Kanton	11.9	28.7	131.3	57.2	8/54	35/**44**/21 (33.9)	Near-consistent
Kiritimati	11.9	32.7	101.1	58.4	10/76	37/**50**/13 (41.3)	Near-consistent
Tarawa	311.4	321.1	741.8	506.0	22/68	31/**48**/21 (42.7)	Near- consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2017 to January 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #121): **NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies (2mths: August to September 2017)**

*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 March to May 2018

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies (2mths: December 2017-January 2018)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	**78**	264	22		26.9	73.1
Butaritari	**61**	942	39		7.1	69.2
Kanton	**69**	168	31		16.9	68.0
Kiritimati	**65**	325	35		15.9	63.6
Tarawa	**66**	503	34		12.9	67.2

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	**48**	158	42	381	10	23.2	55.8
Butaritari	**45**	779	32	1097	23	9.2	47.7
Kanton	40	129	**45**	232	15	11.7	44.0
Kiritimati	**43**	289	40	410	17	15.1	43.9
Tarawa	**47**	335	32	656	21	12.7	53.7

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for March to May 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Tarawa	**82**	364	12	665	6		
Tabuaeran	**55**	467	15	753	30		
Kiritimati	**67**	303	24	537	9		
Kanton	**82**	95	13	200	5		
Butaritari	**58**	734	18	1195	24		
Arorae	**76**	243	19	681	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2018:
Below normal rainfall for Kiritimati and Tarawa.
Normal for Butaritari and Kanton.
Kiritimati ranks 10th driest while Tarawa 14th driest.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2017 to January 2018, including outlook verification:

Below normal in all stations withy near-consistent verification.
Kanton ranks 8th[th] driest.

Outlooks for March to May 2018:

1. **SCOPIC:**

   The outlook for March to May 2018 shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely for Beru, Butaritari and Tarawa.

   Normal is the most likely outcome, with below normal the next most likely for Kanton.

   And a near-equal likelihood of below normal and normal rainfall for Kiritimati.

2. **POAMA:**

   The outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations (Tarawa, Tabuaeran, Kiritimati, Kanton, Butaritari and Arorae).

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: $X \geq 35$