Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 117

Country Name: Kiribati

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			May 2017				
	March 2017 Total	April 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru	6.2	153.8	48.8	40.9	98.0	66.5	23/64
Butaritari	159.8	121.1	132.2	222.0	330.0	302.9	9/78
Kanton	13.9	109.3	127.2	48.9	93.6	63.0	48/60
Kiritimati	100.8	133.7	102.8	35.9	107.5	63.2	60/93
Tarawa	124.3	55.0	85.1	97.8	171.2	141.4	20/68

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
March to May 2017
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #113]

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	208.8	153.8	381.4	265.5	26/61	**43**/42/15 (23.5)	Near consistent
Butaritari	413.1	785.7	1098.3	944.0	6/78	**40**/33/27 (8.9)	Consistent
Kanton	250.4	125.0	224.8	167.5	41/59	40/**41**/19 (12.7)	Near consistent
Kiritimati	337.3	288.6	411.0	323.0	50/92	**40**/39/21 (15.2)	Near consistent
Tarawa	264.4	343.9	666.3	517.3	15/68	**41**/33/26 (12.9)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March 2017 to May 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #113)**:**

Nino 3.4SST Anomalies 2mths (Dec-Jan)

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* Forecast is underlined 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 July to September 2017

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SST anomaly 2mths (April-May).

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	23	173.0	77		15.6	59.6
Butaritari	29	595.0	71		9.6	69.4
Kanton	40	178.0	60		1.0	59.2
Kiritimati	51	72.1	49		-1.4	41.8
Tarawa	23	335.0	77		16.5	67.2

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	17	130.0	19	262.0	**64**	17.4	50
Butaritari	18	499.0	32	737.0	**50**	6.4	45.2
Kanton	20	152.9	36	226.3	**44**	3.7	46.9
Kiritimati	30	42.1	29	102.0	**41**	-0.9	29.9
Tarawa	14	193.1	21	544.6	**65**	16.3	49.3

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for July to September 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Arorae	5	191	**90**	574	5		
Butaritari	**82**	464	13	730	5		
Kanton	5	111	**86**	226	9		
Kiritimati	5	75	**90**	131	5		
Tabuaeran	**64**	83	31	317	5		
Tarawa	**85**	270	10	636	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2017:
Butaritari and Tarawa recorded below normal, Beru and Kiritimati recorded normal rainfall, while Kanton recorded above normal rainfall for the month of May. Butaritari's May rainfall was the 9th driest in 78 years of record.

Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2017, including outlook verification:
Butaritari and Tarawa recorded below normal rainfall, Beru and Kiritimati recorded normal, while Kanton recorded above normal rainfall for the March to May period.

Outlook verification:- Consistent in Butaritari and Tarawa and near-consistent in Beru, Kanton and Kiritimati.

Butaritari's March to May total rainfall was the 6th driest in 78 years of record.

Outlooks for July to September 2017:
1. SCOPIC:
The seasonal rainfall outlook for July to September 2017 shows the most likely outcome is above-normal, with normal generally the next most likely.

2. POAMA:

The seasonal rainfall outlook for July to September 2017 favours below normal for Butaritari, Tarawa and Tabuaeran. Normal is the favoured outcome for Arorae, Kanton and Kiritimati.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: X < 0.0   Low: 0 ≤ X < 5   Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10   Good: 10 ≤ X < 15   High: 15≤ X < 25

Very High: 25 ≤X < 35   Exceptional: X ≥ 35