

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 127

Country Name: Kiribati

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2018						
	January 2018 Total	February 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru	22.3	-	44.8	20.0	136.0	57.7	29/66
Butaritari	225.5	44.5	28.7	187.9	402.0	281.5	3/81
Kanton	7.3	5.2	64.6	19.6	61.7	28.3	41/61
Kiritimati	2.3	2.2	5.7	76.6	139.8	103.6	3/93
Tarawa	37.4	26.4	7.1	115.3	270.9	178.9	4/69

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January to March 2018**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #123]

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	292.3	-	48/40/12 (34.6)	-
Butaritari	298.7	685.9	1116.0	875.0	8/80	40/36/24 (11.4)	Consistent
Kanton	77.1	38.6	171.2	97.9	27/57	46/46/8 (35.6)	Near-consistent
Kiritimati	10.2	160.0	295.9	221.0	2/92	47/45/8 (30.0)	Consistent
Tarawa	70.9	348.3	940.4	688.1	6/69	46/38/16 (29.3)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #123):

Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies for October-November 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
May to July 2018**

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies, February-March.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	60	233.0	40		4.7	58.8
Butaritari	56	814.2	44		0.2	57.1
Kanton	62	211.9	38		5.5	59.2
Kiritimati	57	178.2	43		0.4	52.9
Tarawa	60	403.0	40		4.4	57.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	38	175.0	43	286.6	19	4.7	33.3
Butaritari	39	706.0	35	894.3	26	1.4	44.4
Kanton	37	178.3	38	276.9	25	0.9	34.7
Kiritimati	34	120.8	41	247.6	25	1.6	44.1
Tarawa	42	333.6	34	510.5	24	4.1	38.2

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Tarawa	91	370	5	554	4		
Tabuaeran	95	315	5	622	0		
Kiritimati	95	126	5	226	0		
Kanton	94	165	5	270	1		
Butaritari	85	707	10	880	5		
Arorae	85	289	10	476	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2018:

Butaritari, Kiritimati and Tarawa recorded below normal rainfall. Beru's rainfall was normal and Kanton's was above normal.

Butaritari and Kiritimati both ranked 3rd driest for March, while Tarawa ranked 4th driest.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2018, including outlook verification:

Butaritari, Kiritimati and Tarawa recorded below normal rainfall, while Kanton recorded normal rainfall.

Outlook verification was consistent at Butaritari, Kiritimati and Tarawa, and near-consistent at Kanton.

Outlooks for May to July 2018:

1. SCOPIC:

Kanton's outlook shows a near-equal likelihood of below normal and normal rainfall.

The outlook for Butaritari and Tarawa outlook shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely. Above normal is the least likely.

At Beru and Kiritimati, the outlook shows normal as the most likely outcome, with below normal the next most likely.

Skill in the outlook is low in Beru, Butaritari, Kiritimati and Tarawa while very low in Kanton.

2. POAMA:

Below normal rainfall is favoured at all stations across Kiribati.

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: $X \geq 35$