

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 129

Country Name: Kiribati

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	May 2018						
	March 2018 Total	April 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Beru	44.8	5.3	14.9	38.8	96.5	64.0	10/65
Butaritari	28.7	136.9	-	218.7	328.0	302.5	-
Kanton	64.6	113.2	-	49.0	94.8	64.5	-
Kiritimati	5.7	-	44.3	37.8	106.4	63.3	37/94
Tarawa	7.1	29.2	42.1	93.7	170.6	141.2	9/69

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

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #125]

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	65.0	158.0	381.0	264.0	10/62	48/42/10 (23.2)	Consistent
Butaritari	-	779.0	1096.7	942.0	-	45/32/23 (9.2)	-
Kanton	-	128.6	231.5	167.7	-	40/45/15 (11.7)	-
Kiritimati	-	288.7	410.3	324.7	-	43/40/17 (15.1)	-
Tarawa	78.4	334.8	656.2	503.2	3/69	47/32/21 (12.7)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #125):

NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies (2mths: December 2017-January 2018)

* 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
July to September 2018**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies (2months: April- May 2018)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	53	176.5	47		16.4	62.3
Butaritari	53	561.0	47		8.3	68.3
Kanton	52	180.8	48		1.2	64.0
Kiritimati	50	71.8	50		-1.5	33.8
Tarawa	55	336.2	45		21.9	72.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Beru	34	130.7	40	261.6	26	20.1	52.8
Butaritari	34	500.0	36	734.0	30	8.6	50.8
Kanton	35	153.5	35	227.3	30	5.9	46.0
Kiritimati	34	42.4	34	101.7	32	0.2	32.4
Tarawa	37	195.8	39	543.6	24	19.3	48.5

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Tarawa	64	270	30	636	6		
Tabuaeran	79	83	16	317	5		
Kiritimati	9	75	79	131	12		
Kanton	12	111	76	226	12		
Butaritari	76	464	18	730	6		
Arorae	39	191	56	574	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2018:

Beru and Tarawa recorded below-normal rainfall for the month of May 2018 while Kiritimati recorded normal rainfall for the same month.

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

Beru and Tarawa both recorded below-normal rainfall from March to May 2018 accumulated totals. Outlook Verification is consistent for the two stations.

Tarawa ranks the 3rd driest month for March to May 2018 for the 69 years of record.

Outlooks for July to September 2018:

1. SCOPIC:

At Beru, the outlook shows normal as the most likely outcome, with below-normal the next most likely. Above normal is the least likely.

The outlook for Tarawa shows a near-equal likelihood of normal and below-normal rainfall. Above normal is the least likely.

The outlook offers little guidance as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal are similar for Butaritari, Kanton and Kiritimati.

Skills in the outlook is low in Kiritimati, Moderate in Kanton and Butaritari, and high in Tarawa and Beru.

2. POAMA:

Tarawa, Tabuaeran and Butaritari favour below-normal rainfall while Kiritimati, Kanton and Arorae favour 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: $X \geq 35$