Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 161

Country: Kiribati

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Nov-2020	Dec-2020	Jan-2021				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Beru (1932-2021)	4.6	6.5	4.2	62.0	261.0	127.0	7/64
Butaritari (1931-2021)	92.6	169.4	133.9	207.0	365.0	286.0	15/82
Kanton (1937-2020)				6.5	90.6	13.6	
Kiritimati (1921-2021)	4.3	1.3	0.6	10.0	48.2	23.7	**4/95**
Tarawa (1950-2021)	15.9	19.8	68.1	137.8	331.2	229.4	17/74

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for November 2020 to January 2021

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities based on NINO3.4 August-September 2020				Verification: Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?
	Rainfall (mm)						B-N	N	A-N	LEPS	
Beru (1932-2021)	15.3	Below normal	177.3	613.3	309.0	**3/62**	**54**	42	4	50	Consistent
Butaritari (1931-2021)	395.9	Below normal	588.0	911.2	733.1	13/79	**49**	37	14	30	Consistent
Kanton (1937-2020)			26.0	169.2	65.4		**51**	45	4	34	
Kiritimati (1921-2021)	6.2	Below normal	29.8	94.0	42.0	**6/79**	**50**	44	6	38	Consistent
Tarawa (1950-2021)	103.8	Below normal	321.0	784.7	509.9	10/73	**53**	38	9	42	Consistent

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for March to May 2021

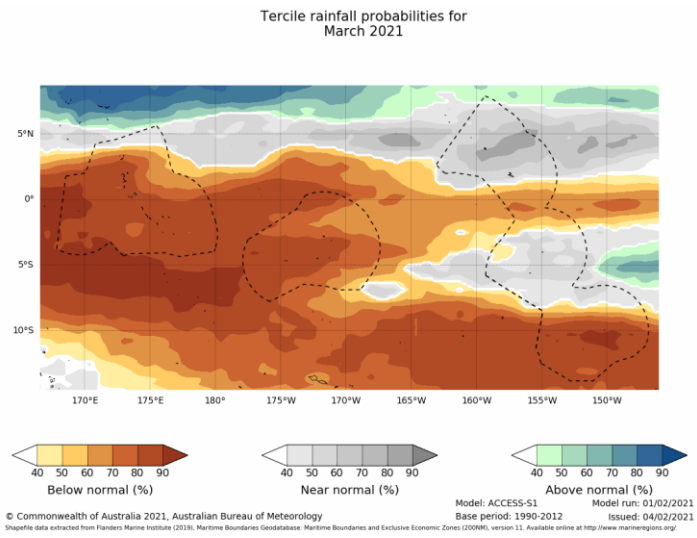
Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for December 2020 to January 2021

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Beru (1932-2021)	79	292.0	21		30	74
Butaritari (1931-2021)	63	940.0	37		8	69
Kanton (1937-2020)	69	177.9	31		15	66
Kiritimati (1921-2021)	70	367.0	30		14	60
Tarawa (1950-2021)	67	517.3	33		15	69

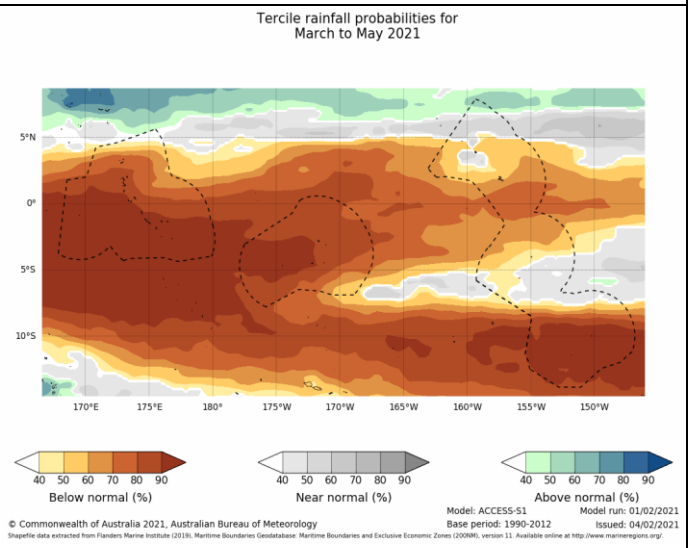
Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Beru (1932-2021)	49	169.2	45	382.1	6	26	52
Butaritari (1931-2021)	45	746.3	34	1087.7	21	10	53
Kanton (1937-2020)	40	137.3	45	228.2	15	11	40
Kiritimati (1921-2021)	47	299.3	36	470.7	17	12	43
Tarawa (1950-2021)	50	334.8	30	682.5	20	14	56

TABLE 4: Monthly and Seasonal Climate Outlooks using ACCESS-S for March to May 2021

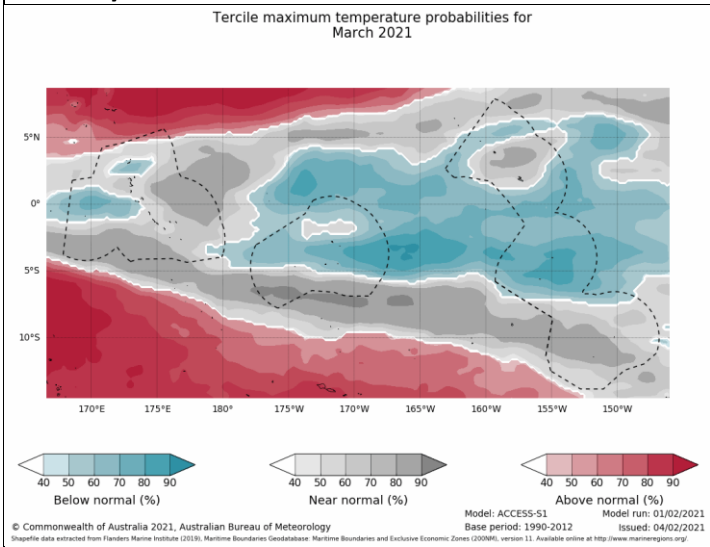
Monthly rainfall



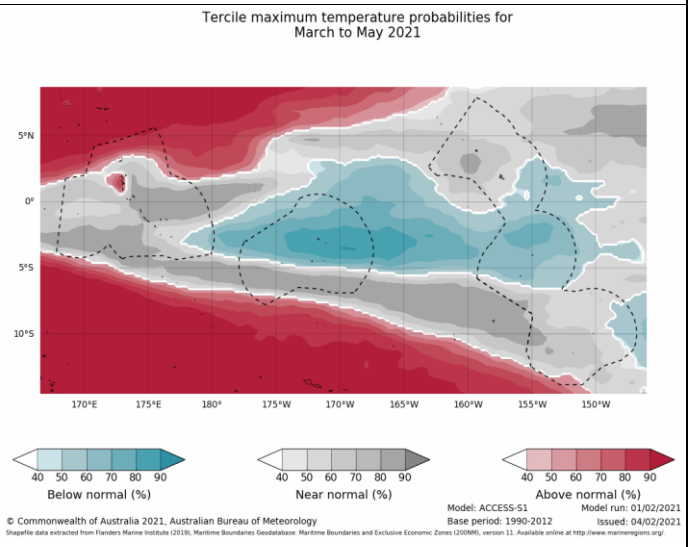
Seasonal rainfall



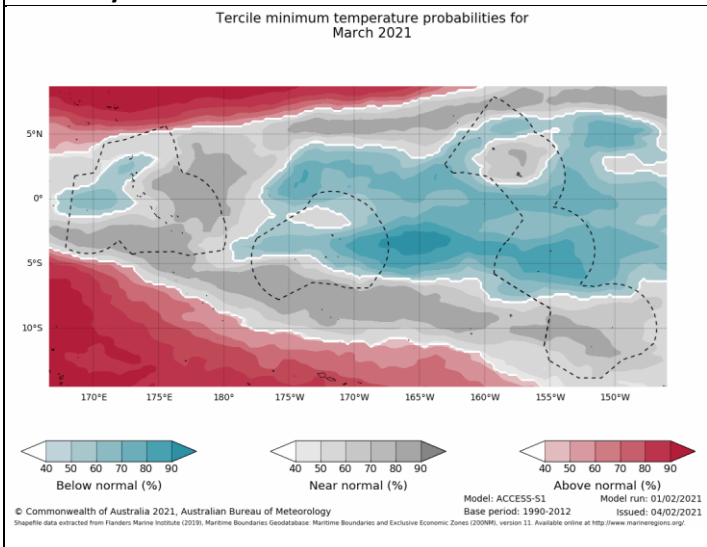
Monthly Tmax



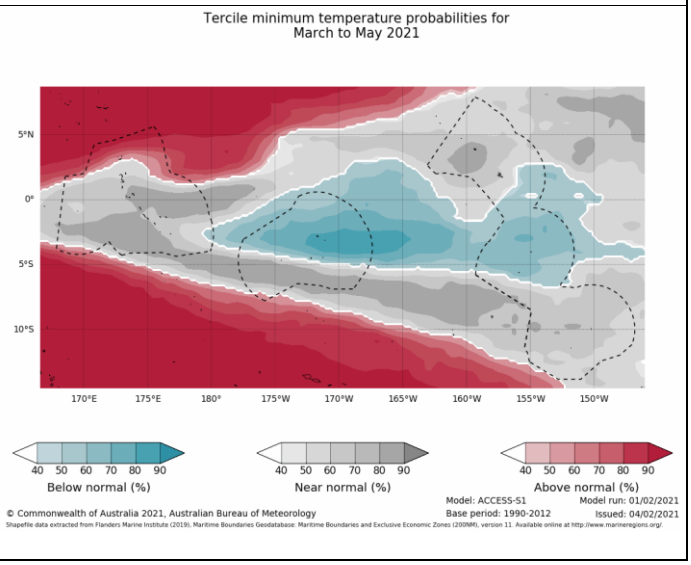
Seasonal Tmax



Monthly Tmin



Seasonal Tmin



Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2021:

All stations recorded below normal rainfall for January 2021.

Kiritimati had its fourth driest January on record.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2020 to January 2021, including outlook verification:

Below normal rainfall was recorded at Beru, Butaritari, Kiritimati and Tarawa, with the outlook issued in October verified as consistent at all sites.

Beru had its third driest November to January on record, while Kiritimati had its sixth driest.

Outlooks for March to May 2021:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   The outlook at most stations shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely. Above normal is the least likely.

   Kanton's outlook shows normal as the most likely outcome, with below normal as the next most likely. Above normal is the least likely.

   Forecast confidence for Beru is very high, while it is good at Butaritari, Kanton, Kiritimati and Tarawa.

2. **ACCESS-S:**

   Monthly and Seasonal rainfall:

   The outlooks for March 2021 and March to May 2021 generally favour below normal rainfall across the country, except for eastern Kiribati in March where near-normal is favoured over large areas, including Kiritimati.

   Monthly maximum and minimum temperatures:

   Below normal temperatures are favoured over most of the Phoenix Group and large parts of the Line Group for March 2021, while for the Gilbert Group near-normal is generally the most likely. Kiritimati's outlook is an exception to the Line Group as near-normal temperatures are favoured there for March.

   Seasonal maximum and minimum temperatures:

   Below normal temperatures are favoured over most of the Phoenix Group and the central parts of the Line Group of islands for March to May 2021. Across remaining parts of the country, near-normal temperatures are favoured for the coming season.

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: $X \geq 35$

TABLE 5: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders

Product	Date: January 2021	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Climate Bulletin	29th January	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs	+118	+45	+73
EAR Watch	29th January	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs	+118	+45	+73
Media Release	29th January	Media Colleagues – Government and Non-Government entities. Internal Staffs	43	28	15
Ocean Bulletin	29th January	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs	+118	+45	+73
		Total	161	73	88