

# Pacific Islands - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 196

Country: Kiribati

## Part 1: Recent climate

**TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall**

Station (include data period)	Oct-2023	Nov-2023	Dec-2023				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Beru (1932-2023)	253.6	454.1	303.0	61.0	201.5	115.1	55/67
Butaritari (1931-2023)	203.0	213.1	830.8	162.5	308.0	250.0	86/86
Kanton (1937-2023)	76.7			4.4	69.7	19.1	
Kiritimati (1921-2023)	38.7	83.5	100.5	4.0	25.1	8.8	74/89
Tarawa (1950-2023)	289.8	298.9	609.4	97.0	259.0	167.0	76/76
Arorae (1950-2023)	257.2	402.4		70.7	275.7	144.0	

**TABLE 2: Three-month Total Rainfall for October to December 2023**

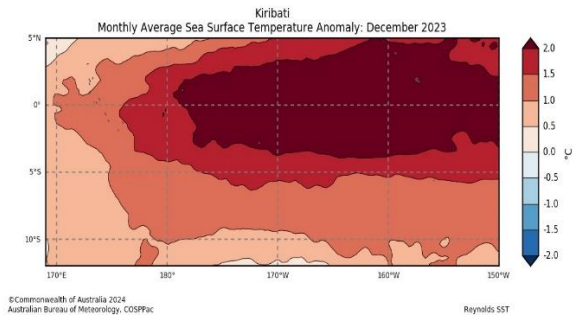
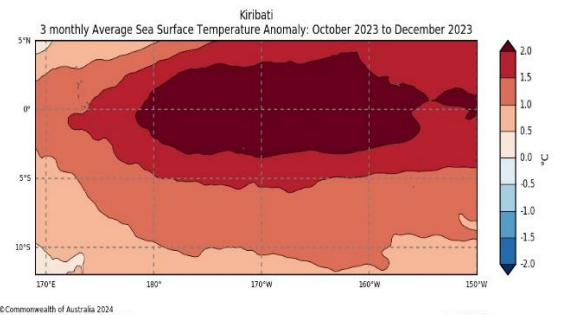
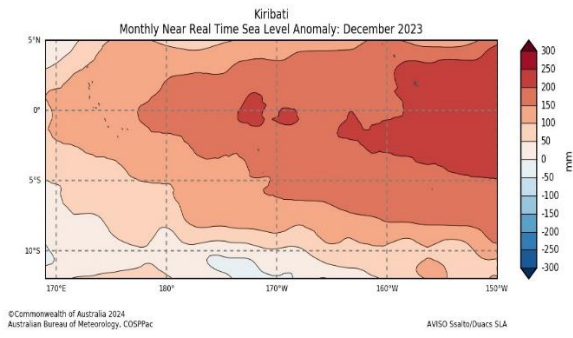
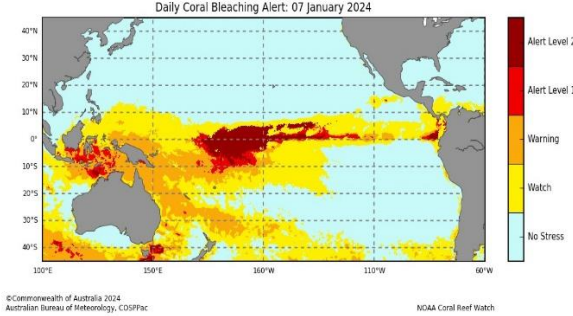
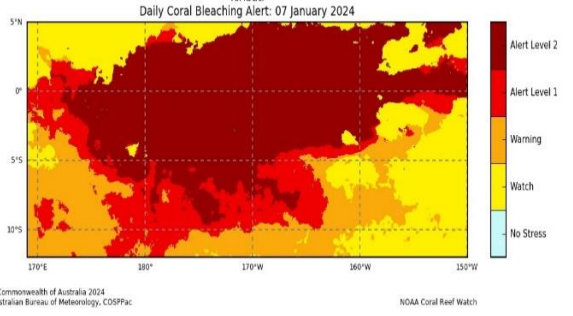
Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Rainfall (mm)					
Beru (1932-2023)	1010.7	Above normal	104.0	322.0	225.4	64/66
Butaritari (1931-2023)	1246.9	Above normal	448.0	732.0	546.0	84/86
Kanton (1937-2023)			30.5	109.4	51.6	
Kiritimati (1921-2023)	222.7	Above normal	18.4	72.7	38.0	69/82
Tarawa (1950-2023)	1198.1	Above normal	245.0	486.6	329.5	73/76
Arorae (1950-2023)			171.3	475.0	275.6	

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2024

<div>Monthly: February</div> <div>Rainfall (Image 1)</div> <div><p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for February 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapelite data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (ECONM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.maritimegeos.org/">http://www.maritimegeos.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>	<div>Seasonal: February to April</div> <div>Rainfall (Image 2)</div> <div><p>Tercile rainfall probabilities for February to April 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapelite data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (ECONM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.maritimegeos.org/">http://www.maritimegeos.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>
<div>Monthly Maximum temperature (Image 3):</div> <div><p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for February 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapelite data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (ECONM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.maritimegeos.org/">http://www.maritimegeos.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>	<div>Seasonal maximum temperature (Image 4):</div> <div><p>Tercile maximum temperature probabilities for February to April 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapelite data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (ECONM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.maritimegeos.org/">http://www.maritimegeos.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>
<div>Monthly minimum temperature (Image 5):</div> <div><p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for February 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapelite data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (ECONM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.maritimegeos.org/">http://www.maritimegeos.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>	<div>Seasonal minimum temperature (Image 6):</div> <div><p>Tercile minimum temperature probabilities for February to April 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapelite data extracted from Flanders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (ECONM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.maritimegeos.org/">http://www.maritimegeos.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>

Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

Monthly/Three months: December and October to December 2023

<p><b>Monthly: December</b></p> <p><b>Sea Surface Temperature (Image 1):</b></p>  <p>©Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPPac</p>	<p><b>Last three months: October to December 2023:</b></p> <p><b>Sea Surface Temperature (Image 4):</b></p>  <p>©Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPPac</p>
<p><b>Sea level (Image 2):</b></p>  <p>©Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPPac</p>	
<p><b>Daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):</b></p>  <p>©Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPPac</p>	 <p>©Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPPac</p>

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2024

<div>Monthly: February</div> <div>Monthly sea surface temperature (Image 5):</div> <div><p>Difference from average sea surface temperature forecast for February 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (G200NM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.marinegovernors.org/">http://www.marinegovernors.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>	<div>Seasonal: February to April</div> <div>Seasonal sea surface temperature (Image 6):</div> <div><p>Difference from average sea surface temperature forecast for February to April 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (G200NM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.marinegovernors.org/">http://www.marinegovernors.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>
<div>Monthly sea level (Image 7):</div> <div><p>Difference from average sea surface height forecast for February 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (G200NM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.marinegovernors.org/">http://www.marinegovernors.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>	<div>Seasonal sea level (Image 8):</div> <div><p>Difference from average sea surface height forecast for February to April 2024</p><p>Base period: 1981-2018 Model: ACCESS-S2 © Commonwealth of Australia 2024, Australian Bureau of Meteorology Shapefile data extracted from Flinders Marine Institute (2019), Maritime Boundaries Geodatabase: Maritime Boundaries and Exclusive Economic Zones (G200NM), version 11. Available online at <a href="http://www.marinegovernors.org/">http://www.marinegovernors.org/</a></p><p>Model run: 06/01/2024 Issued: 08/01/2024</p></div>
<div>4-week Coral Bleaching (Image 9):</div> <div><p>Pacific Ocean 4 Weeks Coral Bleaching Outlook: 28 January 2024</p><p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPac</p><p>NOAA Coral Reef Watch</p></div>	<div><p>Kiribati 4 Weeks Coral Bleaching Outlook: 28 January 2024</p><p>© Commonwealth of Australia 2024 Australian Bureau of Meteorology, COSPac</p><p>NOAA Coral Reef Watch</p></div>

## **Summary Statement**

### **Monthly and last three months: December 2023/October to December 2023 statement**

Rainfall in December 2023 was above normal for all stations, with Tarawa and Butaritari recording their wettest December on record. Rainfall on Kanton and Arorae stations is currently unavailable at the time of reporting.

For the past three months, rainfall was above normal for most of the stations. Butaritari and Beru recorded their third wettest October to December period, while Tarawa recorded its fourth wettest.

## **Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2024**

### **Monthly /Seasonal rainfall and temperature Outlook statements**

Rainfall for February and February to April is very likely to be above normal over the Phoenix and most parts of the Line and Gilbert groups. Rainfall is likely to be near-normal for the southernmost parts of the Line group and northernmost parts of the Gilbert group.

Maximum and minimum temperatures during February and averaged over February to April are very likely to be above normal over the Kiribati region.

## **Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement**

### **Monthly and last three months: December 2023/October to December 2023**

December and averaged October to December, ocean temperatures around the Kiribati region were 0.5 to 2.0°C above normal.

December sea levels around Kiribati were 50mm to 250mm above normal.

The majority of Kiribati groups are on Alert level 2.

## **Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for February and February to April 2024**

### **Ocean Variable statement**

February and averaged over February to April, ocean temperatures around Kiribati are predicted to be 0.8 to 2.0°C above normal.

February sea levels around most parts of the Gilbert group and the northernmost islands in the Line groups are predicted to be -30mm to -100mm below normal. The southern parts of the Line group are predicted to be 30-60mm above normal.

Averaged over February to April, sea levels around the Gilbert and Northern Line are predicted to be -30mm to -100mm. The rest are anticipated to be near-normal.

The 4 weeks coral bleaching is expected to be on watch for eastern Kiribati while the central and western Kiribati are expected to be on alert level 2.

**TABLE 3: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders**

Product	Date: December 2023	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of Male	Number of Female	Comments (If there are comments from you Stakeholders)
Climate Bulletin	11	Government and Non- Government Organisations and Public subscribed to the products	158	70	88	
EAR Watch	12	Drought committee members	62	35	27	
Media release	11	KMS Media and KMS staff	53	23	30	
Ocean Outlook	11	Government and Non-Government Organisations and Public subscribed to the products	158	70	88	
Climate data request	0					
<b>Total</b>			<b>431</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>233</b>	