Pacific Islands - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 199

Country: Kiribati

Part 1: Recent climate

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Jan-2024	Feb-2024	Mar-2024				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Beru (1932-2024)	253.7	74.9	203.0	24.7	136.7	53.9	56/68
Butaritari (1931-2024)	531.8	343.9	588.9	187.9	402.0	281.5	74/87
Kanton (1937-2024)	112.9	145.1	84.9	19.6	64.7	31.8	53/67
Kiritimati (1921-2024)	59.6	152.1	287.5	71.8	152.0	94.0	89/99
Tarawa (1950-2024)	317.7	181.3	451.0	101.8	270.6	170.1	68/78
Arorae (1950-2023)				32.9	184.7	85.0	

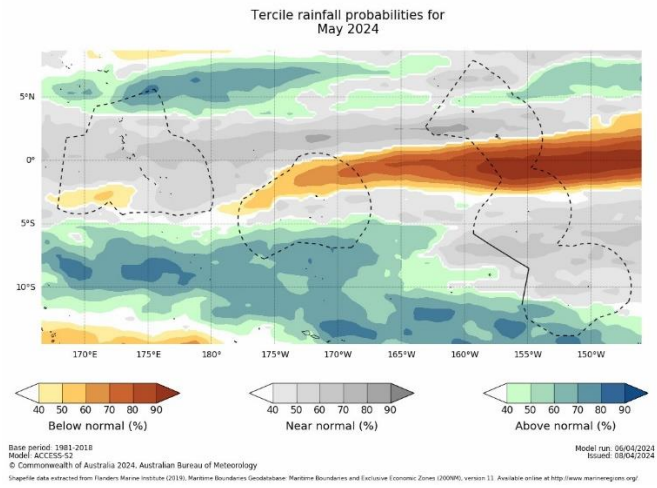
TABLE 2: Three-month Total Rainfall for January to March 2024

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Rainfall (mm)					
Beru (1932-2024)	531.6	Above normal	122.7	487.7	273.3	47/68
Butaritari (1931-2024)	1464.6	Above normal	673.1	1118.0	826.4	77/87
Kanton (1937-2024)	342.9	Above normal	36.6	175.0	85.0	50/63
Kiritimati (1921-2024)	499.2	Above normal	105.5	278.0	197.0	83/98
Tarawa (1950-2024)	950.0	Above normal	336.8	940.4	590.3	51/77
Arorae (1950-2023)			147.7	660.3	391.0	

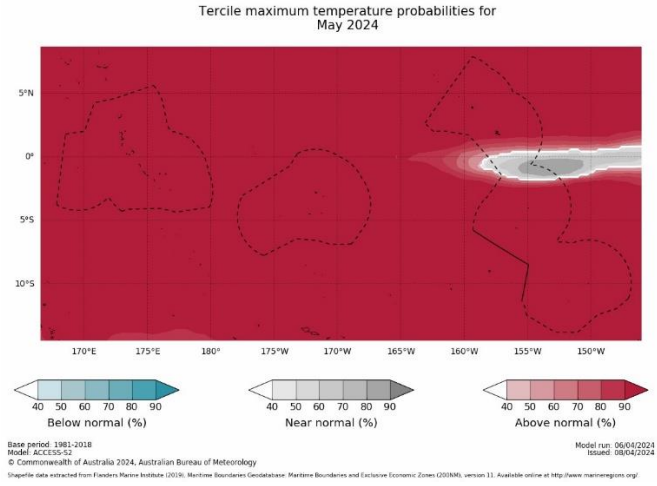
Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for May and May to July 2024

Monthly: May

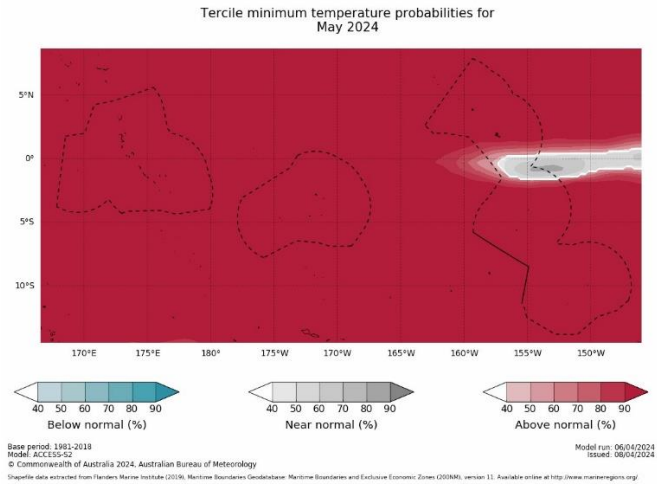
Rainfall (Image 1)



Monthly Maximum temperature (Image 3):

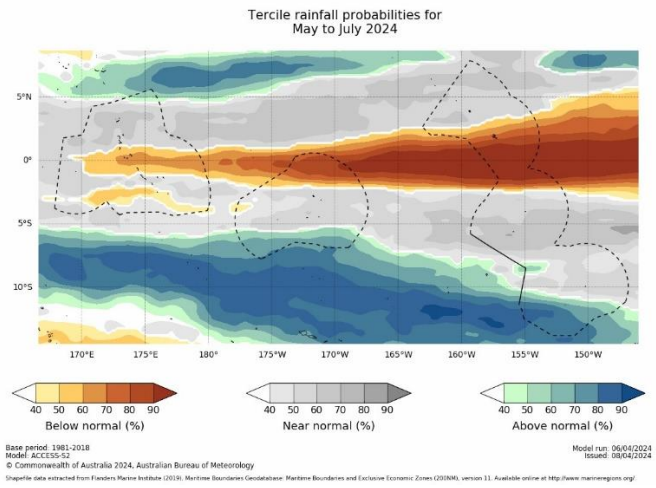


Monthly minimum temperature (Image 5):

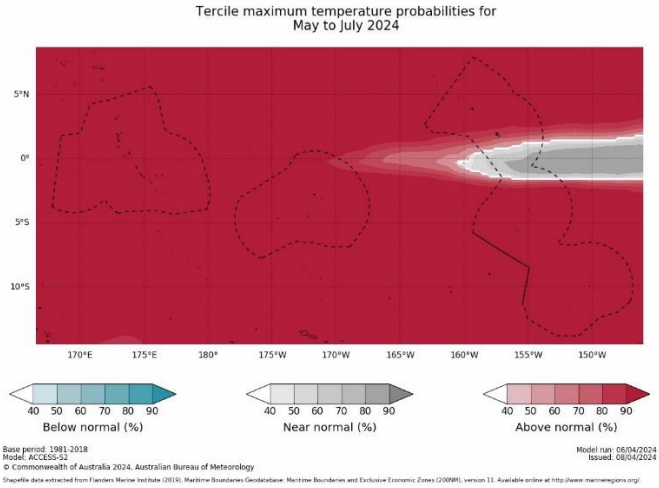


Seasonal: May to July

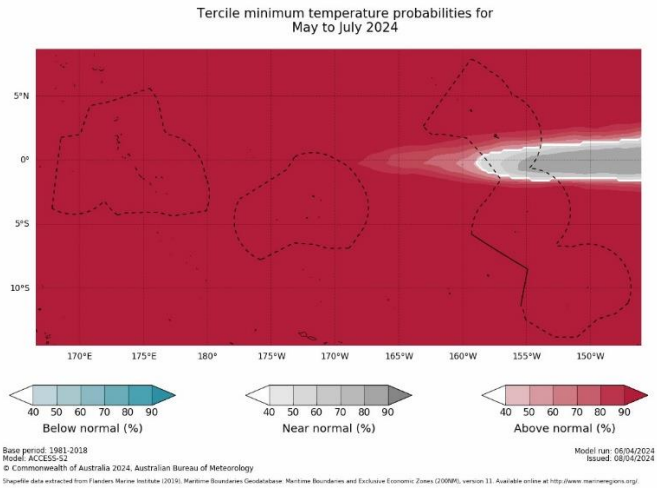
Rainfall (Image 2)



Seasonal maximum temperature (Image 4):

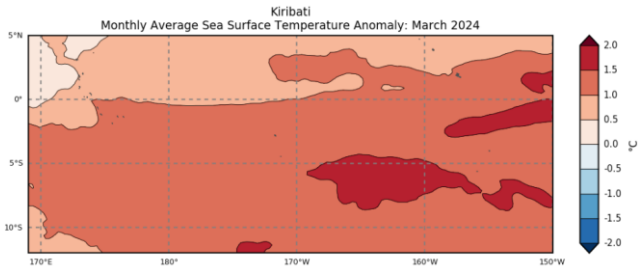
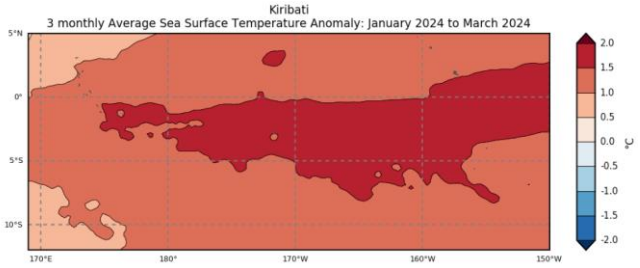
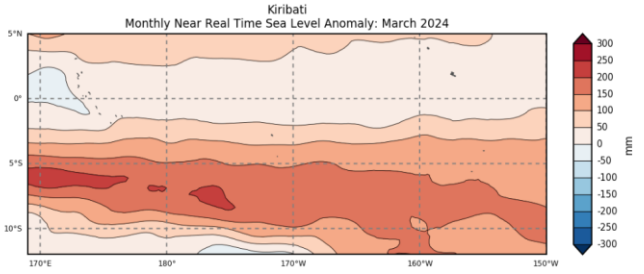
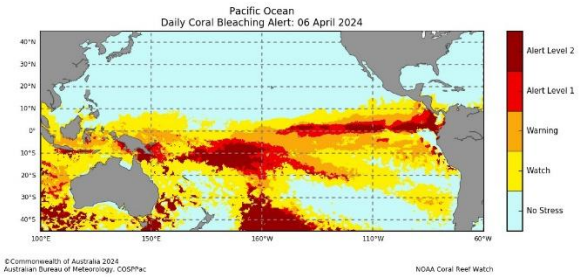
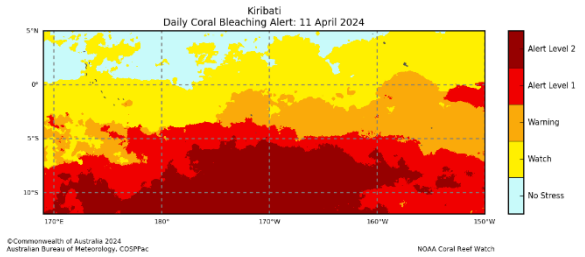


Seasonal minimum temperature (Image 6):

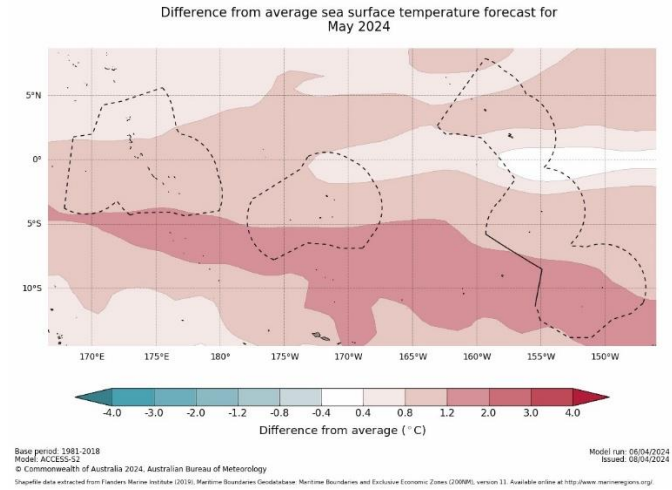
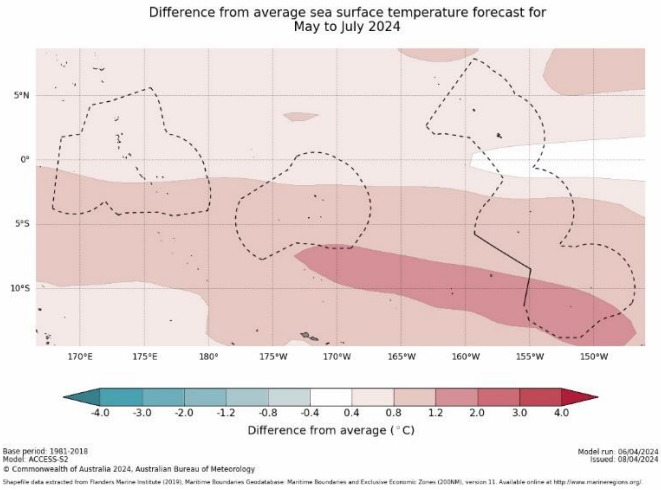
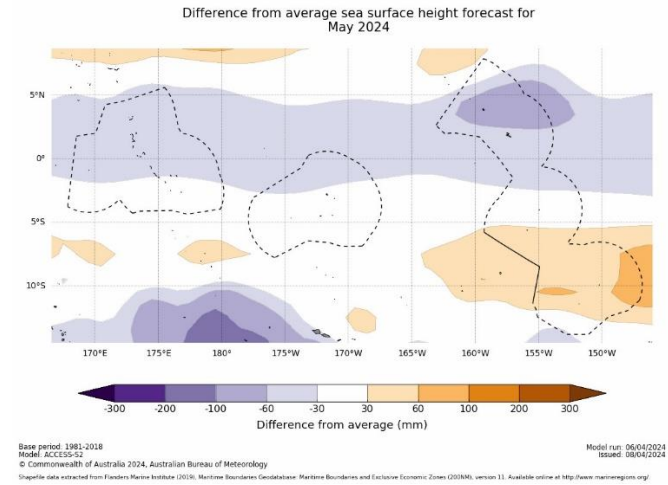
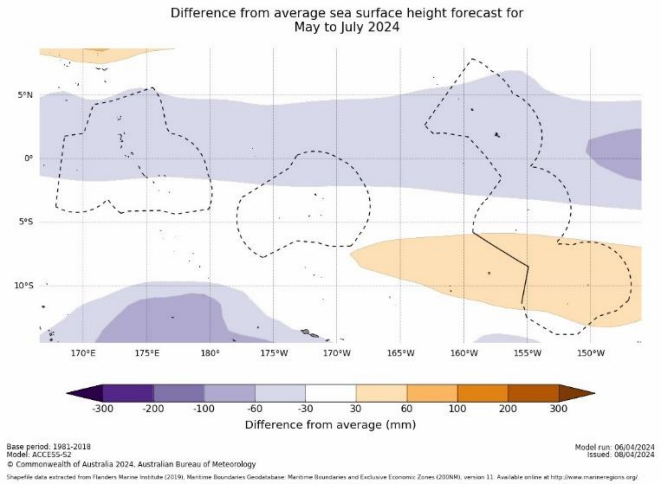
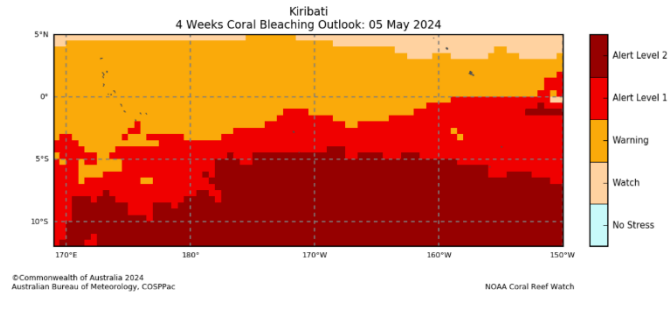
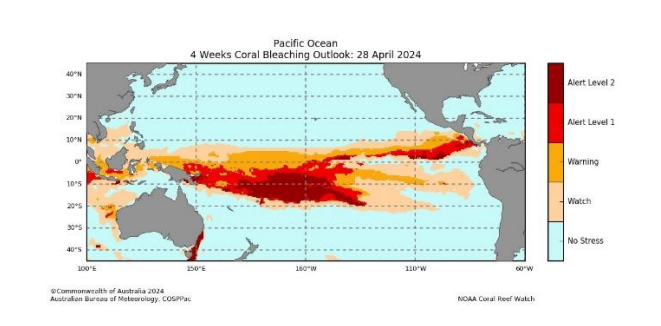


Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

Monthly/Three months: March 2024 and January to March 2024

Monthly: March 2024	**Last three months: January to March 2024:**
Sea Surface Temperature (Image 1):	**Sea Surface Temperature (Image 4):**
	
Sea level (Image 2):	
	
Daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):	
	

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for May and May to July 2024

Monthly: May	Seasonal: May to July
Monthly sea surface temperature (Image 5):	**Seasonal sea surface temperature (Image 6):**
	
Monthly sea level (Image 7):	**Seasonal sea level (Image 8):**
	
4-week Coral Bleaching (Image 9):	
	

Summary Statement

Monthly and last three months: March 2024/January to March 2024 statement

The rainfall for March and the past three months was above normal over all stations.

The rainfall for Arorae is not available.

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for May and May to July 2024

Monthly /Seasonal rainfall and temperature Outlook statements

The rainfall for May is likely to be below normal over some northern parts of both the Line Phoenix Islands, while the remaining islands are likely to have near-normal rainfall.

The rainfall for May to July is likely or very likely to be below normal over parts of the northern Line Islands, including Kiritimati, the northern Phoenix Islands, and Ccntral parts of the Gilbert group. In contrast, above normal rainfall is likely in the far south of both the Phoenix and Line Islands, while remaining areas (which is most of Kiribati) are likely to receive near-normal May to July rainfall.

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

Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement

Monthly and last three months: March 2024/January to March 2024

March ocean temperatures around Kiribati were 0.5 to 1.5°C above normal.

Averaged over January to March, ocean temperatures around Kiribati were 1.0 to 2.0°C above normal.

March sea levels around the Phoenix group and Southern Gilbert and Line Islands were 50mm to 100mm above normal.

The daily coral bleaching was on watch on Gilbert Islands, and Alert Level1 on southern Phoenix and southern Line Islands.

Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for May and May to July 2024

Ocean Variable statement

May and averaged May to July, ocean temperatures around Kiribati are predicted to be 0.4 to 1.2°C above normal.

May and averaged May to July, sea levels around northern parts of Kiribati are predicted to be 30mm to 60mm below normal, near normal in the southern parts of Gilbert and Phoneix and central Line Islands. The Southern Line Islands are expected to be 30 to 60mm above normal.

The 4-week coral bleaching outlook to 5th May 2024 is projected to be on alert level 1 for the southern Gilbert and Phoenix islands. The rest are expected to be on warning.

IN BRIEF for Teleconference

- Rainfall was above normal for all stations for both periods March and January to March.
- The rainfall outlook generally indicates below average to normal most likely in May and May to July.
- SSTs were above normal for March and January to March. The outlook shows above normal SSTs for the next one and three months.
- Sea-surface heights (SSHs) were above normal for March. Below normal to above normal sea surface heights are predicted for May and May to July.
- Coral bleaching was on Alert Level 1 for parts of Kiribati. Alert level 1 is predicted for the southern Gilbert and Phoenix Islands.

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

Product	Date: March 2024	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of Male	Number of Female	Comments (If there are comments from you Stakeholders)
Climate Bulletin	13th	Government and Non-Government Organisations and Public subscribed to the products	158	70	88	
EAR Watch	13th	Drought committee members.	62	35	27	
Media release	13th	KMS Staff and Media.	53	23	30	
Ocean Outlook	13th	Government and Non-Government Organisations and Public subscribed to the products	158	70	88	
National Climate Outlook Forum	18th	Mayors, Clerks, Key stakeholders & Outer Island Observers.	55	35	20	
Climate data request	12, 13 & 28th	Abaiang Council, Student and Vodafone	3		3	
		Total	**489**	**233**	**256**	

Extreme spring tides 10th March 2024:

Figure 1: Costal overtopping to the public road and gathering place (Maneaba) at Temaiku.

Figure 2: Central island, Abemama coastal flooding at the church compound.

Figure 3: Community Food Crop reserve (Bwabwai) inundated by seawater affects the quality of the crops and causes loss of such.