

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 2 April 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 18 April:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following country EEZs: Palau, northern CNMI, southern Line Is. (Kiribati), most of PNG, western and southern Solomon Is., central and southern Vanuatu, western and southern New Caledonia, northern Tonga, Niue, southern A. Samoa, southwest Cook Is., northern and parts of southern French Polynesia. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in parts of PNG, southern New Caledonia, and southern French Polynesia. Elsewhere SSTs are predicted to **be near-normal**.
- Notably **above normal** sea level (>100 mm) is predicted for southern and northernmost Palau, northern FSM, eastern Guam, northern CNMI, New Guinea Is., most of the Solomon Is., western Tuvalu, southern Fiji and Tonga. **Below normal** sea level (<100 mm) is predicted for parts of the southern Line Is. (Kiribati), and small patches in northern and eastern French Polynesia. Elsewhere sea levels are predicted to be **near-normal**. Note that sea level anomalies from ACCESS-S2 do not include global but can include regional sea level trends.
- Tide calendars available via oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/. Sea level and SST skill information, can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Outlook, fortnight to 18 April:

- According to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models, there is a near normal or reduced risk of tropical cyclone (TC) occurrence in the SW Pacific region over 8-14 April.
- Above normal rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: Southern Palau, southwest FSM, northeast RMI, southern Phoenix and Line Is. (Kiribati), northern and southern PNG, Solomon Is., northern Vanuatu, northern and western New Caledonia, northern Fiji, Tuvalu, Tokelau, Wallis & Futuna, Samoa, A. Samoa, northern Niue, Cooks Is., northern and southwest French Polynesia. **Below normal** rainfall is favoured for the following country EEZs: northern and eastern New Guinea Is., northern and southeastern FSM, southern RMI, Nauru, Gilbert Is. and Northern Line Is. (Kiribati), patches of New Caledonia, southern Vanuatu, Fiji (except Rotuma), southern Tonga, southeast French Polynesia and the Pitcairn Is.
- Maximum and/or minimum air temperatures are favoured to **be normal or below normal** in the following country EEZs: Nauru, most of Kiribati and Tuvalu, Tokelau, southwest Fiji, southern Tonga, and northern Cook Is. Elsewhere, there is a strong likelihood of **above normal** temperatures.
- Remember to review rainfall and air temperature outlook skill information, which can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Influences:

- **El Niño-Southern Oscillation** (ENSO) and **Indian Ocean Dipole** (IOD) are neutral. Additional information is available via the Southern hemisphere monitoring updatehttp://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso.
- Over the 30 days to 30 March, outgoing longwave radiation observations suggest the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** was confined to the western Pacific, and the **South Pacific Convergence Zone** remained displaced southwards over Vanuatu, Fiji and Tonga.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation** (MJO), as of 30 March is relatively weak over the Western Pacific. Forecasts for the MJO are mixed, with about half of the models indicating a weak or indiscernible signal of the MJO over the next fortnight, while the other half forecast a slight strengthening of the MJO over the western or central Pacific region.
- Outlooks: http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html, ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook Influences: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/



