

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 05 February 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 21 February:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following country EEZs: Palau, Guam, CNMI, most of FSM, PNG, most of Solomon Is., west Tuvalu, and southern French Polynesia. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in southern Palau, central CNMI, parts of PNG, southern French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Is.. **Below normal** SSTs are favoured in parts of Nauru, Kiribati. Elsewhere SSTs are predicted to be near-**normal**.
- Notably **above normal** sea level (>100 mm) is predicted for southern Palau, western FSM, western RMI, central PNG through to northern Solomon Is., west Tuvalu, far southern Fiji, and far southern Tonga. **Below normal** sea level (<100 mm) is predicted for central Line Is. (Kiribati). 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 21 February:

- According to the ECMWF and ACCESS-S model consensus outlook, there is increased risk of tropical cyclone occurrence for the week 17-23 February between New Caledonia, Vanuatu, and Fiji.
- Above normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: Guam, Palau, CNMI, FSM, northern and southeastern PNG, southern Solomon Is., New Caledonia, Vanuatu, southern and northern Fiji, Tonga, Wallis and Futuna, Samoa, American Samoa, Niue, and southern French Polynesia. **Below normal** rainfall is favoured for the following country EEZs: Northern CNMI, northern RMI, southern and northeastern PNG, Nauru, most of Kiribati (excluding northern Gilbert and northern Line Is.), northern Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, northern Cook Is., and northern French Polynesia.
- Maximum and/or minimum air temperatures are favoured to be **normal** or **below normal** in the following country EEZs: Nauru, Kiribati (excluding far southern Line Is.), northern Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, northern Cook Is., and northern French Polynesia. 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)** remains neutral. While many of the indicators have recently met the threshold for La Niña they have not been sustained for levels or duration sufficient to warrant La Niña status. Additional information is available via the Southern hemisphere monitoring update- <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso>. The **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** is also neutral.
- Over the 30 days to 01 February, outgoing longwave radiation observations suggest the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** was close to its average position for this time of year (but more confined to the western Pacific), and the **South Pacific Convergence Zone** remained displaced southwards between PNG and Samoa.
- A moderate to strong pulse of the **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)**, as of 04 February has progressed across the Maritime Continent and now approaching the Western Pacific. MJO forecast to become weak till 08 February but then uncertainty after whether it will remain active.
- Outlooks:** <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/>, <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html>, [ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook](http://www.ecmwf.int/en/forecasts/short-range-weather-forecasts/tropical-cyclone-outlook)
- Influences:** <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>

