

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 23 April 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 9 May:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following country EEZs: southern Palau, CNMI, southern Line Is. (Kiribati), southern PNG, western and southern Solomon Is., Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji and Rotuma, most of Tonga, Niue, southern Samoa, northern Cook Is., and Pitcairn Is. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in northern CNMI, southern PNG, southern New Caledonia. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, **above normal** sea level (>100 mm) is predicted for Yap State and northern FSM, Guam, eastern CNMI, parts of the Solomon Is., southwest Tuvalu. **Below normal** sea level (<100 mm) is predicted for parts of the southern Line Is. (Kiribati), and northern Cook Is. Elsewhere, sea levels are expected 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 are available via <https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/> Sea level and SST skill information can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Outlook, fortnight to 9 May:

- There is **increased risk** of tropical cyclone (TC) occurrence in around Solomon Is., Vanuatu, and New Caledonia from the 29 April to 5 of May, and the Coral Sea and across PNG and Philippines from 5 to 11 May, according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- Above normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: southern Palau, most of PNG, Solomon Is., northern CNMI, Vanuatu, northern New Caledonia, northern Fiji, northern Tonga, Tuvalu, Wallis & Futuna, A. Samoa, Niue, central and northern Cooks Is., Phoenix & southern Line Is (Kiribati), and French Polynesia. **Below normal** rainfall is favoured for the following country EEZs: central and eastern FSM, southern RMI, northern Line Is. (Kiribati), southern Fiji, southern Tonga, and southern Cook Is.
- Maximum and minimum air temperatures are considered **normal** in the following country EEZs: Nauru, Gilbert Is. and northern Line Is. (Kiribati), 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 Update- <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso>.
- Over the 30 days to 20 April, outgoing longwave radiation observations suggest the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** was barely distinguishable, and the **South Pacific Convergence Zone** was near the average position over PNG and Solomon Is. then displaced southwards over Fiji (most likely detecting recent TC activity).
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)**, as of 20 April, is inactive. The ACCESS-S outlook suggests that MJO might strengthen in the central Pacific over the next week.

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/>

