

## Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 27 August 2025

### Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 12 September:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): western FSM, Palau, PNG, Solomon Is, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji, southern Tuvalu, Niue, central French Polynesia, Cook Is, and Pitcairn Is. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in most of PNG, the south of Solomon Islands, parts of New Caledonia, Vanuatu, and western French Polynesia. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, **above-normal** sea levels (>100 mm) are predicted for most of Palau, the FSM, eastern CNMI, and east PNG. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are indicated for central Niue, northern CNMI, and central Line Islands (Kiribati), as well as southern French Polynesia and southern Cook Islands. 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 12 September:

- The risk of tropical cyclone occurrence is significantly increased for the period from 1 to 7 September in the region near the Philippines, Palau, Taiwan, Guam, CNMI, western Marshall Islands, and FSM, according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- Above-normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: PNG, northern Palau, central Marshall Islands, eastern and western FSM, Guam, parts of the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Western and French Polynesia, Samoa, American Samoa, central Cook Islands, Niue, northern Fiji, and western French Polynesia. **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following EEZs: Kiribati (Gilbert, Phoenix, and Central Line Islands), Vanuatu, Tuvalu, northern Tokelau, Nauru, and the southern and northern parts of French Polynesia.
- Near-normal maximum and minimum air temperatures** are favoured for Nauru, the Gilbert Islands, the Phoenix Islands (Kiribati), northern Tokelau, northern Cook Islands, and northeastern French Polynesia. The central line is expected to be **below-normal** temperatures. (Kiribati). Elsewhere, **above-normal** temperatures are likely. Please review the 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)** remain neutral. A negative **IOD** event is likely in the coming months. Additional information is available via the Southern Hemisphere Monitoring Update - <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso>.
- For the past 30 days, outgoing longwave radiation observations have shown that the Intertropical Convergence Zone in the far western Pacific has realigned to its usual position, currently located west of Hawaii. The **South Pacific Convergence Zone** is weaker than normal for this time of year.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** is currently active over the Indian Ocean. Most international models forecast the MJO to weaken and become inactive in the coming fortnight.
- 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/>

