

Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 15 October 2025

Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 31 October:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): most of Palau and CNMI, southwestern FSM, PNG, the western half of the Solomon Is, most of Vanuatu, New Caledonia, far southern Tonga, southeastern Cook Is., and the southern half of French Polynesia. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in large parts of PNG, the northwestern Solomon Islands, northwest New Caledonia, central western Vanuatu, patches in southern French Polynesia, and the Cook Is. Elsewhere, SSTs are predicted to be **near-normal**.
- Notably, **above-normal** sea levels (>100 mm) are predicted for northern CNMI, southeastern Palau, southern PNG, the northern part of the Solomon Islands, eastern and far southwestern FSM, the northern tip of the Line Islands (Kiribati), and southern RMI. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are indicated for parts of central Tonga, southeastern Niue, southern Cook Is, and small parts of southern and northern French Polynesia. Elsewhere, sea levels are expected to be near-normal. Note that sea level anomalies from ACCESS-S2 do not include global trends but can include regional ones.
- 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 31 October:

- The significant risk of tropical cyclone occurrence for the period from 20 to 26 October has contracted to the South China Sea near the Philippines and the central Philippine Sea according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- Above-normal rainfall** is favoured in the following EEZs: CNMI, Palau, patches of FSM and central RMI, most of PNG, western half of the Solomon Is., most of Vanuatu, northern New Caledonia, parts of Samoa and A. Samoa, Niue, southern Cook Is., central Tonga, eastern Fiji, western French Polynesia and central east Line Is. (Kiribati). **Below-normal rainfall** is favoured for the following EEZs: north and southeastern FSM, eastern PNG, northern Solomon Is, northeastern Gilbert Is, northern and southern parts of the Line Islands (Kiribati), southern New Caledonia, patches of Tuvalu, Tokelau, far northern Cook Islands, French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Is.
- Near-normal maximum and minimum** air temperatures are favoured for Nauru, Kiribati, northern Tuvalu, southern Marshall Islands, far northern Tokelau, northern Cook Is, a patch in central Tonga and Niue, northeastern French Polynesia and Pitcairn Is. The northern Line Islands (Kiribati), the southern central part of PNG and the northernmost part of French Polynesia are expected to experience **below-normal** temperatures. Elsewhere, above-normal temperatures are likely. Please review the skill information on the rainfall and air temperature outlook, which can be found in the accompanying presentation.

Climate Influences:

- El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** remains neutral. The **Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)** is negative. 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** is close to its normal position for this time of year. The **South Pacific Convergence Zone** is located slightly south over the northern Solomon Islands.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** is currently weak or indiscernible. The MJO is forecast to remain weak and move over into the Indian Ocean and the Maritime continent over the next fortnight.
- Outlooks:** <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/>, <http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html>, [ECMWF Tropical Cyclone Outlook](#)
- Influences: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>

