

## Pacific Weekly ACCESS-S Update Wednesday 26 November 2025

## Ocean Outlook, fortnight to 12 December:

- Sea surface temperature (SST) forecasts more than 0.8°C **above normal** are favoured in the following countries' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs): CNMI, southern PNG, most of the Solomon Is., Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji, southern Tonga, and central Niue. SST anomalies above 1.2°C are favoured in parts of northern CNMI, southern PNG, southern Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, the southern half of Fiji and Tonga. Forecasts more than 0.8°C **below normal** are favoured for northern Phoenix Is., and western Line Is. (Kiribati). Elsewhere, SSTs are expected to be near normal.
- Notably, **above-normal** sea levels (>100 mm) are predicted for central CNMI, central FSM, far northern RMI, southeastern PNG, and southwestern Solomon Islands. **Below-normal** sea levels (<100 mm) are indicated in patches of the southern Cook Is, southwest 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 <a href="https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/">https://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/library/</a>. Sea level and SST skill information can be found in the accompanying presentation.

## Climate Outlook, fortnight to 12 December:

- There is an increased risk of tropical cyclone occurrence north of PNG for 1 to 7 December and slightly increased from 8 to 14 December according to the ACCESS-S and ECMWF models.
- **Above-normal** rainfall is favoured in the following EEZs: Northern CNMI, western Guam, eastern FSM, Palau, most of the ocean regions of PNG, Solomon Is, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, American Samoa, Tokelau, most of the Cook Islands, Wallis and Futuna, Niue, parts of French Polynesia. **Below-normal** rainfall is favoured for the following EEZs: central and eastern FSM, RMI, northern Phoenix and most of Line Is. (Kiribati), northern Cook Is., far northern French Polynesia and southern Pitcairn Islands.
- **Near-normal or below-normal maximum and minimum** air temperatures are favoured for Nauru, Kiribati, the northern half of Tuvalu, Tokelau, Cook Is, Samoa, American Samoa, French Polynesia, and Pitcairn Island. Elsewhere, **above-normal** temperatures are likely. Please review the skill information for the rainfall and air temperature outlook in the accompanying presentation.

## **Climate Influences:**

- El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) indicators are showing signs La Niña is becoming established in the tropical Pacific. The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is negative. Additional information is available via the Southern Hemisphere Monitoring Update <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso">http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso</a>.
- Over the past 30 days, outgoing longwave radiation observations indicate that the **Intertropical Convergence Zone** and **the South Pacific Convergence Zone** are both close to their climatological normal positions for this time of year.
- The **Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO)** is currently active over the western Pacific Ocean. The MJO is forecast to strengthen into the western Pacific over the coming fortnight and is likely to influence weather patterns in the region.

Outlooks: <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/">http://oceanportal.spc.int/portal/ocean.html</a>, <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/pacific/outlooks/">ECMWF tropical cyclones</a> Influences: <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/">http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/</a>



