

March-April-May 2021
Seasonal Climate Outlook





SEYCHELLES METEOROLOGICAL AUTHORITY

March-April-May Seasonal Climate Outlook



1.0 December-January-February 2020/21 Performance

The observed rainfall over the 15 stations considered for the DJF seasonal forecast, showed that a considerable amount of rainfall was recorded over most stations. Altogether 5 stations recorded Normal rainfall, 8 Above Normal and 2 recorded Below Normal rainfall. In terms of spatial distribution, the stations in the central and northern regions of Mahe performed much better, whereas the extreme south recorded negative anomalies with rainfall deficiencies as high as 187.1 mm at Anse Forbans.

	DJF TOTAL	DJF LONG TERM MEAN	BN	AN	BN?	AN?	ANOMALIES
Anse-Boileau	833.8	636.2	477.2	795.3	NO	YES	197.6
Anse-Forbans	534.4	721.5	541.1	901.9	YES	NO	-187.1
Anse-Royale-Police-Station	590.6	577.3	433.0	721.6	NO	NO	13.3
Anse-Royale-Waterwork-PUC	715.6	697.9	523.4	872.4	NO	NO	17.7
Belombre	1145.6	879.9	659.9	1099.9	NO	YES	265.7
Cascade-Waterwork-PUC	1202.4	877.8	658.4	1097.3	NO	YES	324.6
Fairview-La-Misere	1172.6	928.4	696.3	1160.5	NO	YES	244.2
Hermitage-Waterwork-PUC	1114.8	816.2	612.2	1020.3	NO	YES	298.6
La-Gogue-Waterwork-PUC	902.2	794.1	595.6	992.6	NO	NO	108.1
Le-Niol-Waterwork-PUC	1194.1	869.1	651.8	1086.4	NO	YES	325.0
Praslin-Airstrip	735.7	829.6	622.2	1037.0	NO	NO	-93.9
Quatre-Bornes-Police-Station	427.4	585.5	439.1	731.9	YES	NO	-158.1
Rochon-Waterwork-PUC	1386.6	902.9	677.2	1128.6	NO	YES	483.7
Seychelles-International-Airport	994.7	742.8	557.1	928.5	NO	YES	251.9
Tea-Factory-Morne-Blanc	1095.1	988.5	741.4	1235.6	NO	NO	106.6

Table 1: December-January-February rainfall performance

2.0 January-February-March 2020/21 Performance

Table 2 below shows how the JFM season is performing so far two months into the season. 11 stations are still having rainfall deficit, while the remaining 4 stations has already exceeded their respective long term averages. On a month by month basis, the January performance was much better than February. This reducing trend in rainfall amount is normal for this period of the year as the rainy season is coming to an end.

	JAN TOTAL	FEB TOTAL	JAN + FEB	JFM LONG TERM MEAN	ANOMALIES
Anse-Boileau	416.6	76.9	493.5	686.3	-192.8
Anse-Forbans	282	86.1	368.1	757.1	-389.0
Anse-Royale-Police-Station	282.6	71.3	353.9	670.0	-316.1
Anse-Royale-Waterwork-PUC	336.6	69.6	406.2	690.4	-284.2
Belombre	553.7	278.1	831.8	822.1	9.7
Cascade-Waterwork-PUC	512.3	199.0	711.3	890.2	-178.9
Fairview-La-Misere	511.2	189.2	700.4	838.1	-137.7
Hermitage-Waterwork-PUC	573.3	179.6	752.9	741.8	11.1
La-Gogue-Waterwork-PUC	478.3	182.0	660.3	745.8	-85.5
Le-Niol-Waterwork-PUC	627.1	300.0	927.1	844.8	82.3
Praslin-Airstrip	229.7	278.3	508.0	769.7	-261.7
Quatre-Bornes-Police-Station	177.5	76.9	254.4	598.8	-344.4
Rochon-Waterwork-PUC	695	274.1	969.1	815.8	153.3
Seychelles-International-Airport	417.3	248.9	666.2	747.2	-81.0
Tea-Factory-Morne-Blanc	609.3	194.1	803.4	864.2	-60.8

Table 2: January-February Rainfall Performance

3.0 Oceanic Patterns

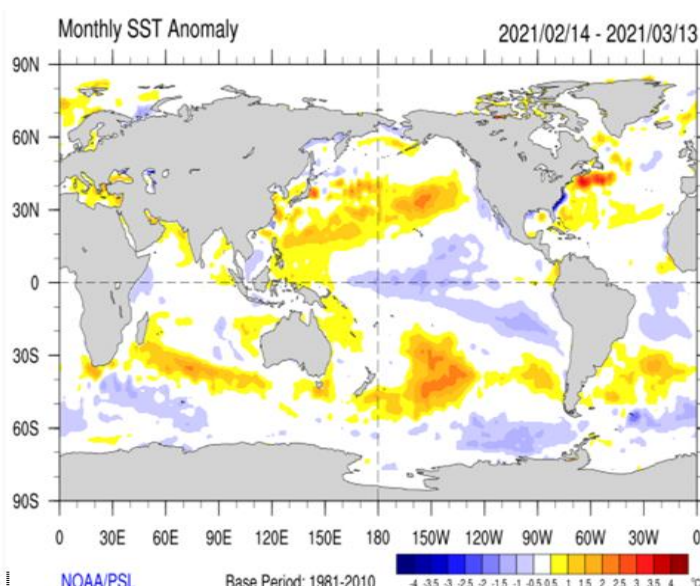
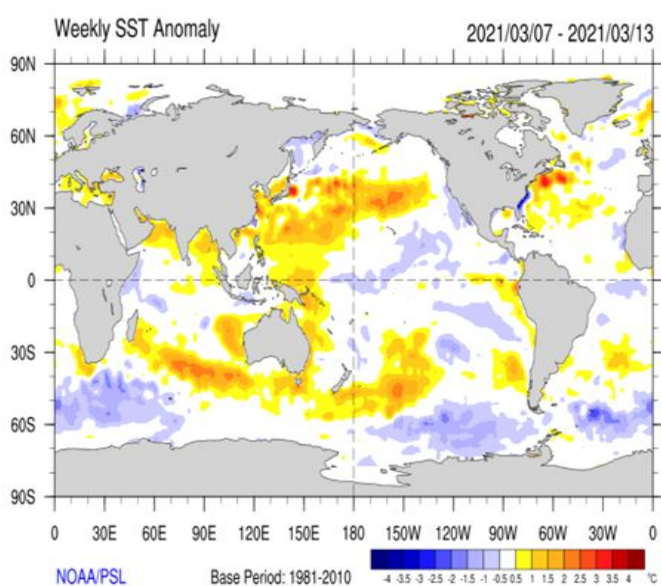


Figure 7: Latest weekly SST Anomalies

Figure 8: Latest Monthly SST Anomalies

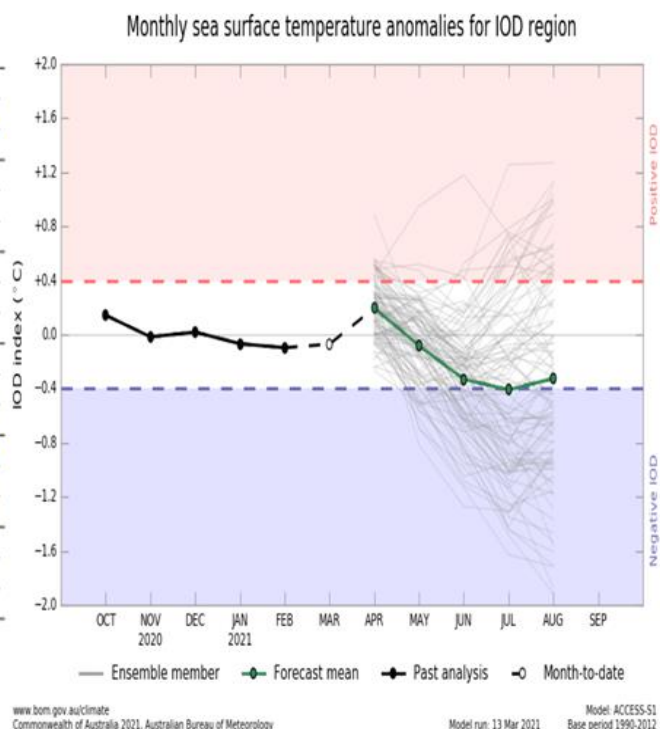
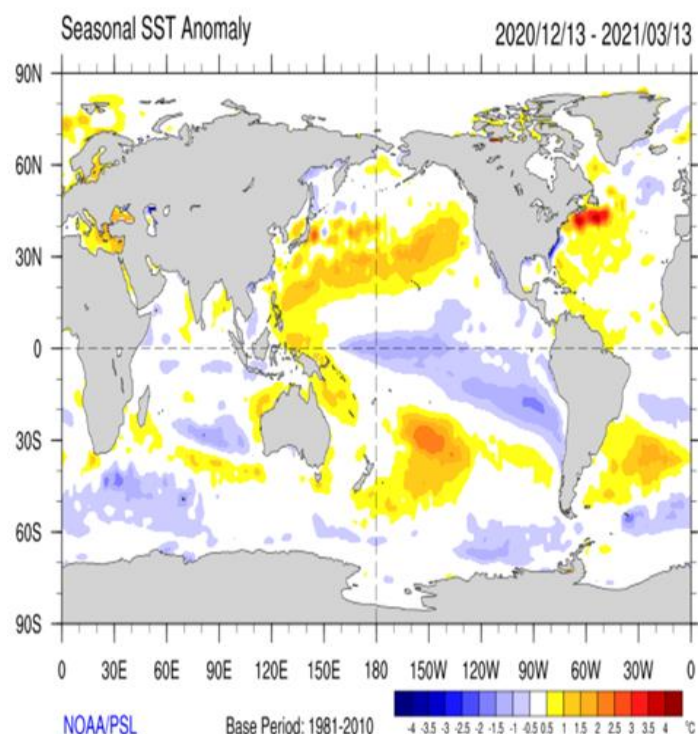


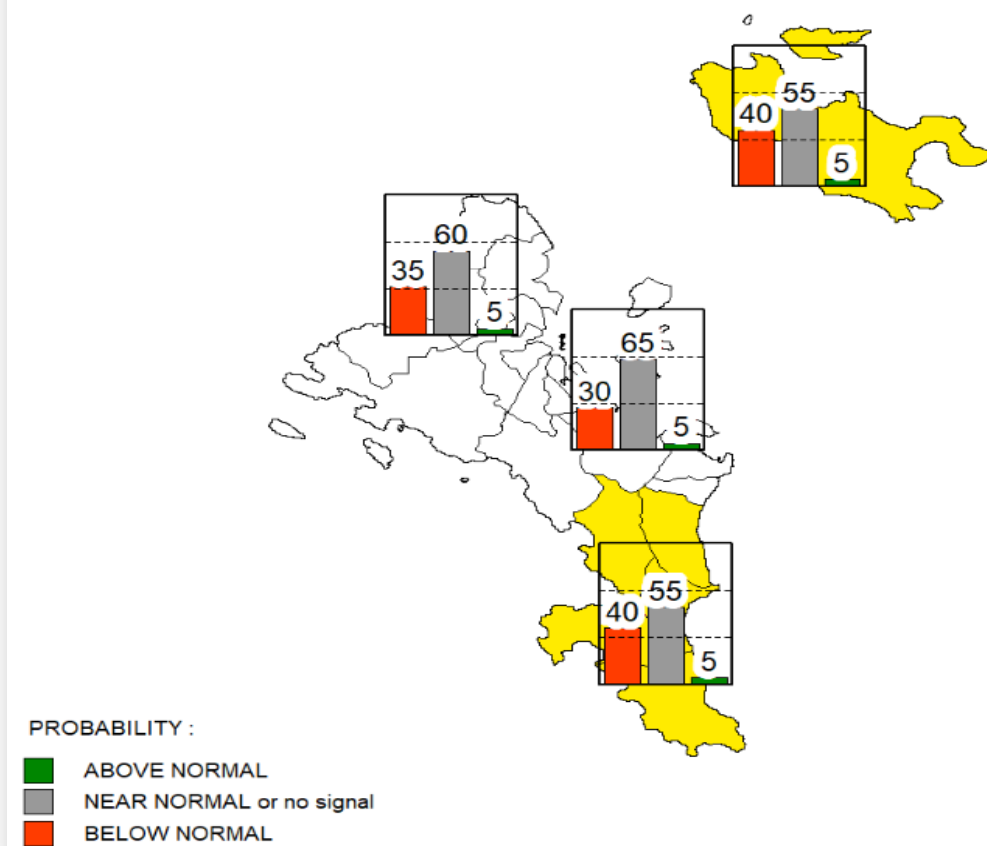
Figure 9: Latest seasonal SST Anomalies

Figure 10: Latest Indian Ocean Dipole Index

The La Nina condition is approaching its end as the negative SST anomalies reduce in the Pacific. Most models surveyed by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology indicate that Nino 3.4 will return to neutral by May. However, the effect of La Nina on the climate of Seychelles is likely to persist. Over the South-west Indian Ocean, the weekly, monthly and seasonal SST anomalies all shows areas of negative temperature anomalies around Seychelles, particularly along the Somali coast. The IOD values for July reach the negative threshold for three of the five models surveyed by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, indicating potential for negative IOD to develop.

4.0 March-April-May Rainfall Seasonal Forecast 2021

Rainfall Seasonal forecast - MAM 2021



Based on the prevailing conditions over the South-west Indian Ocean, the probability-based rainfall outlook for March-April-May indicates an enhanced likelihood for Near Normal rainfall with a strong bias towards Below Normal over Mahe, Praslin and La Digue.