Kiribati Country Report

Kiribati Met Service

Office phone: (686)720-26459

Assistant forecaster

Email: af@met.gov.ki

Joint Meeting of RA II WIGOS Project and RA V TT-SU
Jakarta, Indonesia / 11 October 2018
BMKG Headquarter

Outline

I. Abstract (updates on status and plan of satellite data access, processing, application and training)

II. Satellite data and product requirements, training needs and infrastructure

Appendix

a. Background

b. Short description of NMHS activities

c. Current observational system overview

d. Access, processing and application of satellite data and products

e. Satellite data to address regional challenges

Abstract (updates on status and plan of satellite data access, processing, application and training)

- Kiribati Met Service access the satellite data from the Internet and by using Himawari cast system provided by Japan Meteorological Angency (JMA). JMA had conducted trainings on the use of the system after the complete installation of Himawari system in the country and also in the region in at RSMC Nadi Fiji.
- The satellite data used in forecasting, surface analysis and also posted on our website www.met.gov.ki for the public.
- KMS also uses other satellites such as GOES and MTSAT.
- In the past KMS used EMWIN, LRIT and the internet to get the satellite images eventhough the speed of the internet was not really good.

Satellite data and product requirements, training needs and infrastructure

- Satellite data and product requirements
- Training needs on interpreting RGBs and on visualizing loops and other related satellite data topics
- Technical infrastructure issues to access and process/visualize satellite data:

  To access Himawari cloud.

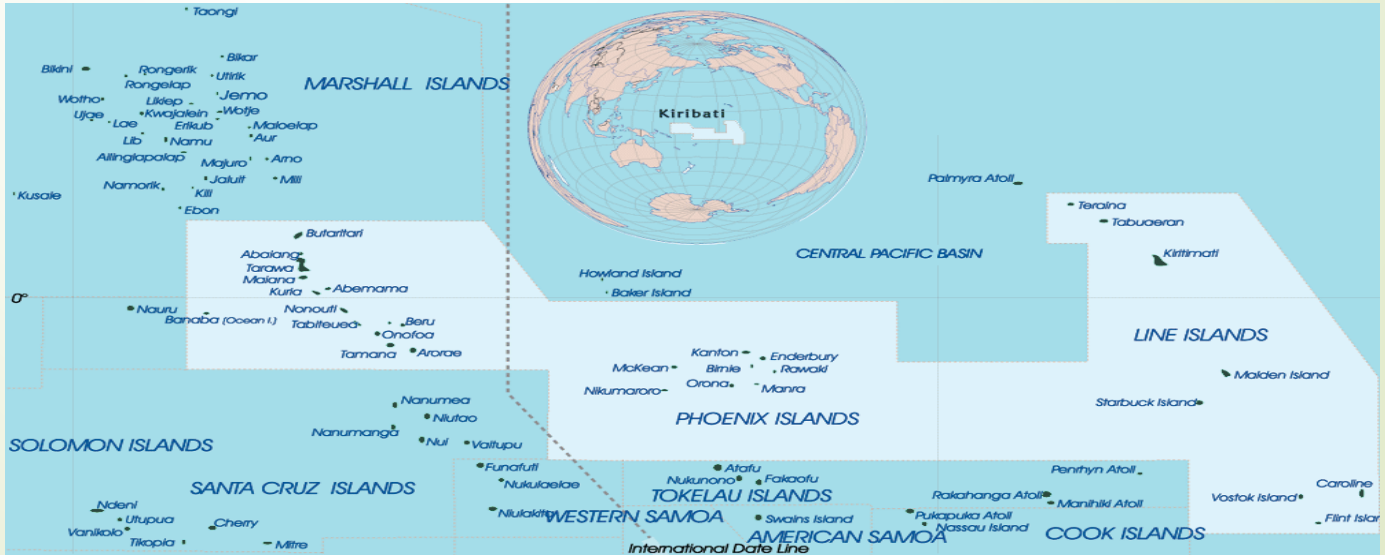
Appendix

Background

Kiribati lies over the equator near the International Date Line. There are three main island groups such as Kiribati group, Phoenix group and Line groups. The islands are all low lying coral islands with the total population of approximately 100,000. Kiribati has a tropical climate due to it location, wet and dry.

The major historical disasters are sea level rise and strong wind. Kiribati often experiences inundation during spring tide which links to sea level rise. Strong wind had also caused some damages like uprooting of trees and the blown away of roof tops

The national economic sectors relying on KMS are Agriculture, Transpotation, Fisheries and other government and non-government sectors.



Short Description of NMHS Activities

Kiribati met Service is under the office of the President and is an official provider of weather related inforamtion to the nation. The department is also the focal point of tsunami warnings and related informations. Our mission is to serve the public with their daily weather forecast, climate predictions, climate data and to provide the hourly metar report for aviation.

Marine forecast and aviation forecast are provided by RSMC Nadi Fiji.

Kiribati Met Service is also expected to improve and to expand it services to meet the government 20year vision.

Current Observational System Overview

I. Surface observations: Seven stations altogether but currently only five are operational, three in the Kiribati group, one in the Phoenix group and one in the Northern Line islands.

II. Upper-air observations is only done on the main island Tarawa once a day.

III. Marine observation: KMS access marine observations from buoys driting in the region on the NOAA web site.

IV. Aircraft-based observations: KMS does not receive observations from aircrafts

V. Satellite observation: Himawari system and web sites such as ASCAT, etc

VI. Weather Radar Observations: nil

Access of Satellite Data and Products

I. Himawari and NOAA southern hemisphere sectors
II. Currently KMS can access the data by using the Himawari system and the Internet.
III. SATAID is the main satellite data application used
    I. Key application areas: satellite image around our area and the pacific.
    II. Satellite-based products: Himawari system.

Satellite Data to address National and Regional Challenges

Challenge: is addressing and mitigation risk from increased frequency and intensity of severe weather and climate related disasters.

So satellite data is also used for weather and climate early warnings and disaster risk reductions.

Example:

For weather: monitor the development and movements of clouds around our area.

and

For climate: to compare with dynamical and statistical forecast.