

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 101

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Stations (data period)	January 2016						
	November 2015 Total	December 2015 Total	Total	33% tile Rainfall (mm)	67% tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
<i>Central Region</i>							
Auki (1962 – 2015)	254	356	109	295	425	348	3 of 55
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	274	433	125	175	263	212	10 of 42
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	111	252	58	192	301	241	4 of 61
<i>Eastern Region</i>							
Kirakira 1965 – 2015)	351	280	33	234	419	308	Lowest of 49
Lata (1975 – 2015)	281	528	187	345	483	378	4 of 42
<i>Western Region</i>							
Munda (1962 – 2015)	82	351	130	289	416	369	2 of 55
Taro (1975 – 2015)	237	272	102	215	264	239	7 of 39

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2015 to January 2016**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #97]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent Inconsistent?)
<i>Central Region</i>							
Auki (1962 – 2015)	719	778	971	879	13 of 52	81/17/2 (21.1)	Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	832	445	661	574	34 of 41	78/21/1 (27.3)	Inconsistent
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	422	510	642	576	15 of 59	84/13/3 (19.4)	Consistent
<i>Eastern Region</i>							
Kirakira 1965 – 2015)	664	702	925	796	14 of 47	87/11/2 (20.7)	Consistent
Lata (1975 – 2015)	996	1046	1217	1118	12 of 41	50/42/8 (3.8)	Consistent
<i>Western Region</i>							
Munda (1962 – 2015)	563	818	978	862	3 of 54	45/34/21 (0.4)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2015)	611	599	780	700	13 of 36	89/5/6 (15.1)	Near consistent

* Forecast is consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is near-consistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by only one category (i.e. terciles 1 and 2 or terciles 2 and 3).

Forecast is inconsistent when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) differ by two categories (i.e. terciles 1 and 3).

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2015 to January 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #97):

Predictor: November Nino 3.4 extended -1 month

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for March to May 2016.

Predictors and Period used: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies January 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%)	Hit-rate (%)
<i>Central Region</i>						
Auki	72	854	28		2.2	64.2
Henderson	78	537	22		4.3	65.0
Honiara	77	614	23		4.8	62.3
<i>Eastern Region</i>						
Kirakira	67	909	33		0.2	56.3
Lata	92	1120	8		16.7	60.0
<i>Western Region</i>						
Munda	52	929	48		-1.9	42.6
Taro	64	858	36		-0.8	57.9

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33% ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66% ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%)	Hit-rate (%)
<i>Central Region</i>							
Auki	42	742	25	960	33	-1.7	24.5
Henderson	38	446	60	599	2	14.8	57.5
Honiara	48	548	42	699	10	3.7	45.9
<i>Eastern Region</i>							
Kirakira	47	856	38	1033	15	1.4	39.6
Lata	70	996	25	1184	5	13.4	45.0
<i>Western Region</i>							
Munda	38	808	45	1010	17	-0.7	35.2
Taro	57	736	31	917	13	3.8	42.1

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for March to May 2016.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33% ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66% ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
<i>Central Region</i>							
Honiara	45	460	6	625	49		
<i>Eastern Region</i>							
Kirakira	73	662	15	1037	12		
Lata	73	981	12	1181	15		
<i>Western Region</i>							
Munda	48	852	5	965	47		
Taro	48	706	6	931	46		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2016:

Drier than normal rainfall was recorded in central, eastern and western region in January 2016.

Kirakira in the eastern region recorded the lowest rainfall of 33mm, a record for the month January since 1975 while on the same region; Lata recorded the highest rainfall of 187mm. All regions recorded rainfall well below their median for month and were consistent with the El Nino condition in the region.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2015 to January 2016, including outlook verification:

Forecast for the period – November 2015 to January 2016 was likely to be below normal in all regions with average high skill.

As a result of observations, Auki and Honiara in the central region, Kirakira and Lata in the eastern region and Munda in the western region were consistent to their forecast. Taro was near consistent while Henderson was inconsistent.

Drier than normal rainfall was observed in eastern and parts of central and western region. Below median rainfall was recorded in most parts of the country during the period.

Outlooks for March to May 2016:

1. Median:

Below median rainfall is most likely for the central, eastern and western region for the period – March to May 2016 with low skill.

2. SCOPIC:

Below normal rainfall is likely for Auki and Henderson in central region, Kirakira and Lata in eastern region and Taro in the western region. Normal rainfall is likely for Honiara and Munda. The skill for the forecast is generally low.

2. POAMA:

Below normal rainfall is likely for eastern and western regions while central region is likely to be normal for the period.

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: $X < 0.0$

Low: $0 \leq X < 5$

Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$

Good: $10 \leq X < 15$

High: $15 \leq X < 25$

Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$

Exceptional: $X \geq 35$