

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

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2016						
	November 2015 Total	December 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	129.5	280.3	85.3	313.6	451.3	386.7	2/45
Pekoa	87.2	181.9	11.0	235.5	341.1	289.1	1/46
Lamap	61.0	232.9	26.2	173.0	275.2	221.1	1/56
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	63.7	190.1	37.2	211.5	325.6	257.0	2/45
Port Vila	73.1	228.3	24.8	200.4	325.4	245.7	2/64
Whitegrass	35.7	102.2	54.2	109.2	221.8	168.2	9/45
Aneityum	52.3	256.4	89.3	161.6	345.2	246.7	10/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall

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?)
Northern Region							
Sola	495.1	1031.5	1356.4	1183.1	4/43	60:29:11 (6.1)	Consistent
Pekoa	280.1	603.9	826.0	625.1	3/45	61:37:02(16.9)	Consistent
Lamap	320.1	447.0	551.3	473.1	8/53	70:26:04 (8.2)	Consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	29.1	450.9	691.6	590.6	2/43	66:33:01(22.5)	Consistent
Port Vila	326.2	449.5	675.4	586.6	8/63	79:20:01(22.5)	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).

Whitegrass	192.1	270.8	415.6	344.5	8/44	77:19:04(8.8)	Consistent
Aneityum	398.0	462.6	606.1	686.8	16/64	71:18:11(4.6)	Consistent

November 2015 to January 2016

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

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November to January 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #97):
Nino 3.4SST Anomalies, July-September 2015

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

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies, November 2015 – January 2016

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	89	1274.9	11		15	75
Pekoa	59	714.0	41		-2.4	58
Lamap	50	636.2	50		-3.3	13
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	73	757.7	27		3.3	61
Port Vila	74	720.9	26		3.2	61
Whitegrass	80	358.3	20		5.7	59
Aneityum	55	704.1	45		-3.0	44

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	79	1134.0	17	1372.2	04	16	44
Pekoa	82	609.7	9	868.9	9	6	27
Lamap	39	277.2	35	720.8	26	-3.5	25
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	53	610.0	36	882.4	11	0.3	30
Port Vila	45	636.0	41	828.9	14	1.5	39
Whitegrass	51	320.7	45	456.6	04	8.5	28
Aneityum	50	600.5	32	889.4	18	-0.9	19

**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)		
Northern Region							
Sola	85	928	06	1363	09		
Pekoa	82	617	13	808	05		
Lamap	82	574	13	721	05		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	67	590	27	817	06		
Port Vila	67	506	27	772	06		
Whitegrass	76	304	15	405	09		
Aneityum	48	598	40	862	12		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2016:

- Rainfall for January 2016 was below normal for all stations. Pekoa and Lamap recorded the driest on record while Sola, Bauerfield and Port Vila recorded the second driest on record.

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

- Accumulated rainfall for the past three months was below normal for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum).
- The outlook was consistent for all stations with Bauerfield recording the second driest for the three months on record.

Outlooks for March to May 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

Using Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies;

- The outlook favours *below normal* rainfall for Sola, Pekoa, Bauerfield, Whitegrass and Aneityum with normal being the next most likely.
- The most likely outcome at Lamap and Port Vila is *below normal* with normal being the next most likely.

2. POAMA:

- The POAMA Outlook favours *below normal* for all stations with normal being the next most likely at Pekoia, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum. The next most likely at Sola is above normal.

Drought Watch: Using 6month SPI method

In drought: all seven (7) stations

Sola since April 2015

Pekoia since October 2015

Lamap since October 2015

Bauerfield since November 2015

Port Vila since September 2015

Whitegrass since January 2016

Aneityum since January 2016

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: $X \geq 35$

