

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 102

Country Name: NIUE ISLAND

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	February 2016						
	December 2015 Total	January 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Hanan Airport (1950 – 2016)	88.6	135.1	281.6	193.0	280.7	238.5	46/67

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall December 2015 to February 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #98]

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?)
Hanan Airport	505.3	597.3	808.1	681.0	15/66	91/6/3 (18.3)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2015 to February 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #98):

NINO 3.4 – September to October 2015

* 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).

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
April to June 2016**

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 – January to February 2016

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	67	443.3	33		0.3	54.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	68	354.0	11	526.6	21	2.3	39.4

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
April to June 2016**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Hanan Airport	73	415	22	584	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2016:

- February rainfall was **Above Normal**.

Accumulated rainfall for December 2015 to February 2016, including outlook verification:

- Rainfall for December to February was **below normal**.
- The outlook for December to February favoured **below normal** rainfall.
- Verification for the outlook was **consistent** with the observed below normal rainfall.

Outlooks for April to June 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

- The SCOPIC outlook for April to June 2016 favours **below normal** rainfall.
- Confidence in the outlook is **low**.

2. POAMA:

- The POAMA outlook for April to June favours **below normal** rainfall.

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: $X \geq 35$

Brief Summary on Drought Monitoring in Niue

782	Apr 2015	-4.8	15.385	10.938	17.188	9.677
783	May 2015	-9.6	9.231	6.250	12.500	8.065
784	Jun 2015	-9.8	12.308	7.692	9.375	8.065
785	Jul 2015	-13.5	9.231	10.769	4.688	9.677
786	Aug 2015	-15.5	16.923	6.154	6.250	11.290
787	Sep 2015	-17.4	16.923	4.615	6.250	9.677
788	Oct 2015	-19.3	18.462	9.231	4.688	6.452
789	Nov 2015	-14.4	18.462	12.308	6.250	9.677
790	Dec 2015	-11.5	26.154	10.769	4.615	9.524
791	Jan 2016	-11.4	15.385	12.308	7.692	9.524
792	Feb 2016	-16.2	21.538	16.923	9.231	12.698

3-month timescale: In drought (for 10 months)

6-month timescale: In drought (for 10 months)

9-month timescale: In drought (for 10 months)

12-month timescale: In drought (for 9 months)

36-month timescale: In drought (for 11 months)

The public are aware of the current situation with the El Nino conditions. Drought is expected to continue (and perhaps worsen as we enter the dry season in the coming months) as the rainfall outlook for the coming three months favours below normal rainfall.

Currently here in Niue, we are experiencing good amount of rainfall.

Thank you.

Brief Report on TC Winston

Rainfall within the period of the cyclone from 16th to 18th February 2016 was 105.6mm. Cyclone Winston has brought much needed rainfall for crops and land. Strong winds were experienced.