

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

**Country Name:** Samoa

### 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
Afiamalu	656.4	350.5	280.7	401.9	639.0	521.1	12/63
Nafanua	463.1	113.4	412.3	314.0	465.6	394.9	26/44
Apia	373.6	85.6	322.4	269.9	399.5	342.9	57/127
Faleolo	262.5	114.5	161.7	187.4	277.2	235.7	13/55

### 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?)
Afiamalu	1287.6	1620.4	2225.4	1925.3	12/62	42/56/2 (12.7)	Near consistent
Nafanua	988.8	1166.0	1564.3	1322.3	12/40	83/13/4 (12.5)	Consistent
Apia	781.6	1005.2	1310.9	1137.0	18/126	83/9/8 (8.2)	Consistent
Faleolo	538.7	764.5	926.2	854.2	9/53	62/25/13 (0.9)	Consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

**Predictors and Period used for December to February 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #98):**  
**Nino 3.4 value from August 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 value from December to February 2016.**

Station	<b>Below Median (prob)</b>	Median Rainfall (mm)	<b>Above Median (prob)</b>		<b>LEPS</b>	<b>Hit-rate</b>
Afiamalu	66	842.3	34		-0.9%	54.5%
Nafanua	59	644.8	41		-2.6%	57.1%
Apia	61	534.8	39		-2.2%	57.6%
Faleolo	76	398.6	24		2.0%	70.4%

Station	<b>Below Normal (prob)</b>	33%ile rainfall (mm)	<b>Normal (prob)</b>	66%ile rainfall (mm)	<b>Above Normal (prob)</b>	<b>LEPS</b>	<b>Hit-rate</b>
Afiamalu	<b>52</b>	751.6	16	949.6	32	-1.7%	39.4%
Nafanua	<b>59</b>	505.9	17	732.4	24	-1.2%	25.0%
Apia	<b>53</b>	454.8	22	645.5	25	-2.1%	18.2%
Faleolo	<b>40</b>	343.9	37	459.4	23	-2.9%	48.1%

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

Station	<b>Lower Tercile (prob)</b>	33%ile rainfall (mm)	<b>Middle Tercile (prob)</b>	66%ile rainfall (mm)	<b>Upper Tercile (prob)</b>		
Apia	<b>76</b>	486	12	628	12		

## **Summary Statements**

### **Rainfall for February 2016:**

“Normal rainfall” was recorded for Nafanua and Apia whereas Afiamalu and Faleolo observed “below normal”.

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

All stations received “below normal” rainfall for December to February period.

The outlook was “consistent” for all stations with the exception of Afiamalu recorded “near consistent”.

### **Outlooks for April to June 2016:**

#### **1. SCOPIC:**

- The outlook for Afiamalu, Nafanua and Apia shows the most likely outcome is “below normal”, with “above normal” the next most likely.
- Faleolo favours “below normal” rainfall.

The confidence is “very low”

#### **2. POAMA:**

- The outlook favours “below normal” rainfall for Apia in the next coming season, with equal chance of “normal” and “above normal” the next most likely.

**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:  $X \geq 35$