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

Period:\*below normal/normal/above normal

<u>Predictors and Period used for December to February 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #98):</u> **Nino 3.4 value from August to October 2015.** 

<sup>\*</sup>Forecast is <u>consistent</u> when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is <u>near-consistent</u> 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 <u>inconsistent</u> 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

**<u>Predictors and Period used</u>**: Nino 3.4 value from December to February 2016.

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

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)	
Apia	76	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:  $0 \le X < 5$  Moderate  $5 \le X < 10$  Good:  $10 \le X < 15$  High:  $15 \le X < 25$ 

Very High:  $25 \le X < 35$  Exceptional:  $X \ge 35$