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

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

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
Auki (1962 – 2016)	356	109	482	320	440	393	39 of 55
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	433	125	693	210	308	239	42 0f 42
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	252	59	382	219	311	266	48 of 62
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	280	33	326	271	364	317	26 of 49
Lata (197 5– 2016)	528	187	537	325	467	393	32 of 42
Munda (1962 – 2016)	351	130	533.7	289	481	331	41 of 55
Taro (1975 – 2016)	272	102	146	222	316	261	6 of 40

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?
Auki (1962 – 2016)	947	895	1177	1040	21 of 52	50/43/7 (8.4)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	1251	584	837	686	38 of 41	88/9/3 (23.8)	In consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	693	625	881	707	28 of 59	74/21/5 (16.9)	Near consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	639	796	1089	965	9 of 46	78/19/2 (21.8)	Consistent
Lata (197 5– 2016)	1253	1035	1238	1125	28 of 41	67/30/3 (15.9)	In consistent
Munda (1962 – 2016)	1098	934	1237	1105	27 of 54	15/54/31 (0.5)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2016)	520	637	774	685	3 of 37	67/27/7 (10.1)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

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

Predictor: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies October 2015

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*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: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies February 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	51	659	49		-1.9	7.5
Henderson	85	333	15		8.8	60.0
Honiara	78	373	22		3.5	54.1
Kirakira	82	820	18		6.2	65.3
Lata	66	974	34		-0.1	50.0
Munda	56	779	44		-1.7	31.5
Taro	65	840	35		-1.5	57.9

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	37	595	36	706	27	-1.8	13.2
Henderson	87	301	10	368	3	14.8	45.0
Honiara	70	326	20	470	10	3.1	37.7
Kirakira	80	691	15	958	5	10.5	46.9
Lata	44	856	49	1063	7	3.8	40.0
Munda	32	707	44	861	24	-1.9	42.6
Taro	57	765	12	887	31	-1.4	47.4

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for August to October 2015.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	52	267	9	410	39		
Kirakira	70	539	12	878	18		
Lata	79	824	5	1115	16		
Munda	52	900	5	1057	43		
Taro	36	753	6	890	58		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for February 2016:

Rainfall is above normal for most parts of the country during the month. This is due to enhanced SPCZ associated with tropical depression during the month.

Above normal rainfall was observed in the central region and the eastern region except for Kirakira which recorded normal rainfall. For the western region, Munda recorded above normal while Taro below normal rainfall.

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

Below normal rainfall was forecasted for most parts of the country.

Observed rainfall at Kirakira in the eastern region as well as Munda and Taro in the western region were Consistent while Auki and Honiara in the central region were near consistent. Henderson and Lata were In- Consistent.

Above normal rainfall was recorded at Henderson and Lata, normal at Auki, Honiara and Munda and below normal at Kirakira and Taro.

Outlooks for April to June 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

The outlook favours below normal rainfall for Henderson, Honiara and Kirakira. Normal rainfall is most likely for Lata and Munda with below normal the next most likely. The likely outcome for Auki is normal to below normal.

2. POAMA:

The rainfall outlook for Honiara, Kirakira, Lata and Munda is likely to be below normal and for Taro the likely outcome is above normal.

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

Very Low: X < 0.0	Low: 0 ≤ X < 5	Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10	Good: 10 ≤ X < 15	High: 15≤ X < 25
Very High: 25 ≤X < 35	Exceptional: X ≥ 35			