

## Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 103

**Country Name:** Samoa

### TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2016						
	January 2016 Total	February 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	350.5	280.7	460.1	395.0	590.5	513.5	29/64
Nafanua	113.4	412.3	339.7	317.7	403.6	356.1	26/44
Apia	85.6	322.4	272.6	273.6	372.5	310.8	57/127
Faleolo	114.5	161.7	273.8	182.7	245.3	215.9	44/55

### TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January to March 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #99]

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	1091.3	1559.7	1992.6	1770.4	12/62	38/57/5 (5.2)	Near consistent
Nafanua	865.4	1094.5	1616.2	1303.3	12/40	71/21/8 (8.2)	Consistent
Apia	680.6	1005.5	1253.7	1131.0	18/126	66/28/6 (8.2)	Consistent
Faleolo	550.0	687.7	887.9	784.9	9/53	57/19/24 (-0.8)	Consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #99):  
**Nino 3.4 value from September to November 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  
May to July 2016**

**Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 value from January to March 2016.**

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	75	732.9	25		3.6%	57.6%
Nafanua	61	519.6	39		-2.1%	53.6%
Apia	73	409.5	27		1.6%	54.5%
Faleolo	88	324.5	12		12.5%	71.4%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	79	621.7	13	833.7	8	8.8%	30.3%
Nafanua	62	423.6	16	579.1	22	-0.8%	32.1%
Apia	45	332.3	31	480.5	24	-3.7%	30.3%
Faleolo	69	271.5	23	382.6	8	7.5%	50.0%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for  
May to July 2016**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	73	388	9	530	18		

## Summary Statements

**Rainfall for March 2016:** 'Normal' rainfall was received at both Afiamalu and Nafanua stations. 'Below normal' rainfall was registered at Apia and 'above normal' was recorded at Faleolo.

### **Accumulated rainfall for January to March 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 May to July 2016:**

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

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

The confidence of the model is "moderate" to 'very low'.

**2. POAMA:** The outlook favours "below normal" rainfall for Apia in the next coming season.

**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:  $X \geq 35$