Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 108

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			August 2016				
	June 2016 Total	July 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2016)	54	261	238	151	235	195	38 of 55
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	31	104	93	70	101	84	25 of 42
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	30	103	68	67	104	90	22 of 61
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	171	379	123	196	340	270	7 of 49
Lata (197 5– 2016)	156	337	415	270	403	320	30 of 42
Munda (1962 – 2016)	257	189	345	200	308	259	43 of 55
Taro (1975 – 2016)	232	331	477	261	315	291	37 of 39

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
June 2016 to August 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #104]

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)	553	555	683	609	18 of 54	35/17/48(-2.0)	Inconsistent
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	227	231	314	250	14 of 42	61/19/20(1.2)	Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	202	236	330	274	16 of 60	37/24/39(-2.2)	Inconsistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	674	711	991	885	15 of 49	85/6/9(12.5)	Consistent
Lata (197 5– 2016)	909	858	1188	994	17 of 42	56/10/34(-0.3)	Near consistent
Munda (1962 – 2016)	791	754	979	844	24 of 55	22/30/48(0.1)	Near consistent
Taro (1975 – 2016)	1040	817	916	873	30 of 38	22/52/26(-2.2)	Near consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for May to July 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #104):

*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).

Predictor: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies April 2016.

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for October to December 2016.

Predictors and Period used: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies August 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	42	696	58		6.8	59.6
Henderson	44	411	56		1.3	58.5
Honiara	40	440	60		12.3	67.2
Kirakira	39	729	61		11.7	66.0
Lata	42	1085	58		3.8	58.5
Munda	42	762	58		5.5	59.3
Taro	36	692	64		12.8	69.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	20	618	37	791	43	14.2	55.8
Henderson	26	345	30	497	44	8.6	53.7
Honiara	27	381	32	557	41	12.6	51.7
Kirakira	29	668	34	836	37	1.1	36.2
Lata	15	970	42	1206	44	14.7	43.9
Munda	19	710	40	816	41	11.6	37.0
Taro	22	637	35	776	43	10.4	50.0

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for October to December 2016.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	30	308	12	516	58		
Kirakira	24	586	15	759	61		
Lata	30	920	6	1184	64		
Munda	27	684	15	816	58		
Taro	45	558	10	389	45		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for August 2016:

Normal to above normal rainfall was received in most parts of the country during the month of August 2016.

Auki in the central, Lata in the eastern, Munda and Taro in the western region record above normal rainfall while, Henderson and Honiara in the central region recorded normal rainfall and below normal was recorded at Kirakira in the eastern region.

Normal to above rainfall was the result of the SPCZ extending over the Solomon Islands during the month.

Accumulated rainfall for June to August 2016, including outlook verification:

Below normal rainfall was favoured for Henderson, Kirakira and Lata, normal rainfall for Taro, normal to above normal for Honiara and above normal for Auki and Munda for the period – June to August 2016.

As a result of observed rainfall, Henderson and Kirakira were consistent with their forecasts while Auki and Honiara in the central region were inconsistent to their forecasts. Western region – Munda and Taro and Lata in the eastern region were near consistent.

Outlooks for October to December 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

Above normal rainfall is most likely for Auki, Henderson and Honiara with normal rainfall the next most likely. There is a near equal likelihood of above-normal and normal rainfall at Lata and Munda. There is little guidance for Kirakira as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar. Most of the outlooks havegood skill with the exception of Henderson where skill is moderate and Kirakira where forecast skill is low

2. POAMA:

Above normal rainfall is likely for most parts of the country. At Taro the rainfall outlook for is mixed, with similar chances for below-normal and above-normal totals; near-normal is the least likely outcome.

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			