Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 110

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			October 2016				
	August 2016 Total	September 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2016)	238	162	**190**	174	241	196	23 of 54
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	93	35	**31**	60	129	103	6 of 42
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	68	59	**65**	78	162	105	14 of 60
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	123	203	**134**	164	310	234	8 of 49
Lata (197 5– 2016)	415	292	**437**	311	453	363	26 of 42
Munda (1962 – 2016)	345	291	**238**	207	261	234	30 of 55
Taro (1975 – 2016)	477	297	**279**	237	296	251	24 of 38

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
August to October 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #106]

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)	**590**	527	703	613	23 of 54	**40**/31/29 (0.2)	Near consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	**159**	248	327	287	8 of 42	**38**/30/32 (-1.3)	Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	**193**	260	365	305	13 of 60	35/35/30/(-1.2)	Consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	**460**	668	955	782	9 of 46	**42**/35/23(5.2)	Consistent
Lata (197 5– 2016)	**1143**	926	1151	1067	28 of 42	**40**/31/29(1.4)	Near Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2016)	**874**	679	818	750	45 of 55	**37**/34/29(-1.1)	Inconsistent
Taro (1975 – 2016)	**1054**	794	899	851	33 of 37	34/32/**34**(3.0)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for June to August 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #106):
Predictor: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies May 2016.

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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 December 2016 to February 2017.

<u>**Predictors and Period used:**</u> 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies October 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	36	1032	64		11.3	63.5
Henderson	35	722	65		13.4	68.3
Honiara	37	707	63		12.4	64.4
Kirakira	29	962	71		25.4	65.2
Lata	37	1136	63		6.1	58.5
Munda	53	1093	47		-1.3	50.0
Taro	34	670	66		8.4	70.3

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	28	898	27	1169	45	7.5	32.7
Henderson	17	586	38	838	45	11.9	56.1
Honiara	20	627	34	861	46	15.9	54.2
Kirakira	15	788	36	1079	49	23.4	58.7
Lata	21	1049	32	1248	47	11.1	46.3
Munda	41	934	23	1223	36	1.9	53.7
Taro	20	621	30	771	50	11.0	45.9

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for December 2016 to February 2017.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	30	496	9	708	61		
Kirakira	12	592	9	873	79		
Lata	9	1015	27	1207	64		
Munda	21	871	9	1213	70		
Taro	45	618	6	774	49		

<u>Summary Statements</u>

October rainfall.

Rainfall in October was normal to below normal across the country.

Central region, Henderson and Honiara recorded below normal while Auki recorded normal rainfall. Kirakira recorded below normal and Lata normal rainfall in the eastern region. Western region – Munda and Taro recorded normal rainfall during the month.

Weak convection associated with positioning of the South Pacific Convergence Zone (SPCZ) resulted in the rainfall during the month.

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

Below normal rainfall was predicted for most parts of the country for the period – August to October 2016.

As a resulted of observed rainfall, central region – Auki recorded normal rainfall, Henderson and Honiara below normal rainfall. Eastern region – Kirakira recorded below normal and Lata normal rainfall. Western region sites recorded above normal rainfall.

Lata and Taro recorded the highest seasonal rainfall for the period.

Outlooks for December 2016 to February 2017:

1. SCOPIC:

Above normal rainfall is likely for most parts of country for the period – December 2016 to February 2017.

Central region – Auki, Henderson, Honiara, eastern region – Lata, Kirakira and western region – Taro are likely to receive above normal rainfall. Munda in the western region is likely to be below normal with above normal rainfall the next most likely.

The confidence in the outlook for the selected period ranges from low to high. The outlook is consistent with the POAMA predictions.

2. POAMA:

Above normal rainfall is most likely for all regions in the Solomon Islands for the period – December 2016 to February 2017.

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