

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 111

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	November 2016						
	September 2016 Total	October 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	186.9	241.8	372.4	552.1	760.8	645.4	34/64
Apia	97.1	135.1	111.6	355.8	489.1	399.6	14/127
Nafanua	131.1	112.7	156.5	352.0	720.2	442.5	7/46
Faleolo	47.5	228.6	232.6	213.8	361.9	293.5	42/55

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall September to November 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #107]

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	801.1	773.0	1094.7	912.2	26/63	47/33/20 (2.9)	Near Consistent
Apia	343.8	495.1	682.9	596.7	18/127	40/37/23 (-0.1)	Consistent
Nafanua	400.3	600.8	806.7	677.8	3/44	47/30/23 (0.7)	Consistent
Faleolo	508.7	400.8	518.7	459.4	34/53	41/30/29 (-1.7)	Near Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for September to November 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #106):

Nino 3.4 values from May to July 2016

* 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).

Summary Statements

Rainfall for November 2016:

All stations received 'below normal' rainfall except Faleolo station which recorded 'normal' precipitation.

Accumulated rainfall for September to November 2016, including outlook verification:

Afiamalu and Faleolo recorded 'normal' rainfall whereas Nafanua and Apia recorded 'below normal' rainfall.

The outlook issued was 'consistent' for Nafanua and Apia and 'near consistent' for Afiamalu and Faleolo .

Outlooks for January to March 2017:

1. SCOPIC:

The outlook for Afiamalu and Apia favours 'above normal' with 'normal' the next most likely. 'Normal' rainfall is the most likely outcome for Nafanua station with 'above normal' the next most likely. The outlook for Faleolo shows near equal likelihood of 'above normal' and 'normal' rainfall.

The confidence of the model varies from 'low to moderate'.

2. POAMA:

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: $X \geq 35$