Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 113

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			January 2017				
	November 2016 Total	December 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2016)	297	157	255	293	422	347	13 of 56
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	328	138	282	170	262	211	32 of 43
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	391	210	289	188	300	241	40 of 62
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	276	293	285	229	416	297	22 of 50
Lata (197 5– 2016)	276	350	651	334	478	374	37 of 43
Munda (1962 – 2016)	348	317	286	285	416	369	20 of 56
Taro (1975 – 2016)	409	409	338	212	263	238	35 of 40

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2016 to January 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #109]

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)	709	778	969	875	13 of 54	20/36/**44**(23.2)	Inconsistent
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	748	454	679	577	31 of 42	20/33/**47**(17.9)	Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	890	509	639	569	52 of 60	19/39/**42**(22.0)	Consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	854	698	923	790	28 of 47	28/36/36(25.0)	Near Consistent
Lata (197 5– 2016)	1277	1044	1215	1115	29 of 41	31/**36**/33(6.4)	Near Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2016)	950	810	977	858	34 of 55	33/**34**/33(1.5)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2016)	1156	601	779	694	37 of 37	31/**35**/34(13.1)	Near Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2016 to January 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #109):

Predictor: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies September 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).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for March to May 2017.

Predictors and Period used: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies January 2017.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	**46**	862	**54**		4.2	61.8
Henderson	48	547	**52**		-0.3	64.7
Honiara	**45**	613	**55**		9.3	65.7
Kirakira	**46**	903	**54**		9.8	65.6
Lata	40	1108	**60**		26.3	70.6
Munda	**51**	925	**49**		-3.2	40.0
Taro	48	857	**52**		1.1	63.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	33	745	**33**	970	**34**	-2.9	17.6
Henderson	29	452	**34**	619	**37**	5.7	52.9
Honiara	28	544	**36**	696	**36**	8.5	51.4
Kirakira	27	854	**36**	1018	37	9.3	50.0
Lata	22	995	**39**	1183	**39**	22.3	47.1
Munda	34	809	**31**	1010	**35**	-2.4	40.0
Taro	31	751	**34**	916	**35**	3.6	51.5

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for March to May 2017.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	39	460	12	625	**48**		
Kirakira	30	662	21	1037	**48**		
Lata	42	981	12	1181	**45**		
Munda	36	852	15	965	**48**		
Taro	39	706	15	931	45		

Summary Statements

January Rainfall.

Rainfall in January was normal to above normal across most part of the country except Auki was below normal.

For Central region – Auki recorded below normal, Honiara normal and Henderson above normal.

Eastern region - Kirakira recorded normal while Lata recorded above normal.

For Western Region - Munda recorded normal rainfall and Taro recorded above normal rainfall. Lata station recorded the highest rainfall during the period.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2016 to January 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfalls for the last three months were normal to above normal except Auki was below normal.

For Central Region - Auki recorded below normal rainfall.

Kirakira in the eastern region, Munda in the western region recorded normal rainfall.

Lata in the Eastern, Honiara and Henderson in the central region, Taro in the western region recorded above normal rainfall.

Verification of the November 2016 to January 2017 outlook, issued in September, showed near

Consistent to consistent forecasts throughout most provinces except Auki showed inconsistent

Forecast.

Outlooks for March to May 2017:

1. SCOPIC:

For much of the country, the outlook offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.

2. POAMA:

Above normal rainfall is most likely throughout the country for March to May 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			