

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 114

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			February 2017				
	December 2016 Total	January 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2016)	157	255	530	322	463	394	49 of 56
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	138	282	403	210	323	240	34 of 43
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	210	289	465	219	315	270	54 of 63
Kirakira (1965 – 2016)	293	285	405	272	363	326	40 of 50
Lata (1975 – 2016)	350	651	582	326	476	395	36 of 43
Munda (1962 – 2016)	317	286	617	294	488	337	47 of 56
Taro (1975 – 2016)	409	338	277	218	314	259	24 of 41

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
December 2016 to February 2017**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #110]

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)	942	898	1169	1032	21 of 53	28/27/45(7.5)	Near Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	823	586	838	722	26 of 42	17/38/45(11.9)	Near Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	964	627	861	707	46 of 60	20/34/46(15.9)	Consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2016)	983	788	1079	962	28 of 47	15/36/49(23.4)	Near Consistent
Lata (1975 – 2016)	1583	1049	1248	1136	37 of 42	21/32/47(11.1)	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2016)	1220	934	1223	1093	37 of 55	41/23/36(1.9)	Near Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2016)	1024	621	771	670	34 of 38	20/30/50(11.0)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for December 2016 to February 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #110):

Predictor: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies October 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 SCOPIE for April to June 2017.

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	51	661	49		0.9	58.8
Henderson	51	338	49		5.9	67.6
Honiara	51	376	49		14.1	65.7
Kirakira	52	814	48		19.4	75.8
Lata	51	967	49		4.3	55.9
Munda	50	784	50		-2.9	37.1
Taro	50	841	52		3.0	51.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	33	596	34	711	33	-0.8	38.2
Henderson	33	302	34	370	33	5.9	35.3
Honiara	32	330	38	470	30	17.1	48.6
Kirakira	34	700	39	944	27	19.3	45.5
Lata	34	850	37	1061	29	15.6	50.0
Munda	32	710	34	857	34	-2.8	17.1
Taro	34	767	34	886	32	-0.5	48.5

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for April to June 2017.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	33	267	09	410	58		
Kirakira	48	605	18	878	33		
Lata	38	900	24	1057	36		
Munda	33	745	15	907	52		
Taro	30	721	09	889	61		

Summary Statements

February Rainfall.

Rainfall in February was above normal across most part of the country, except at Taro which recorded normal.

Accumulated rainfall for December 2016 to February 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfall for the last three months was normal to above normal across the Solomon Islands.

Verification of 3 month outlooks issued in November 2016 showed near consistent to consistent forecasts at all stations across the country.

Outlooks for April to June 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 rainfalls are similar.

2. POAMA:

Above normal to normal rainfall is most likely throughout the country for April to June.

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: $X \geq 35$