Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 115

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			March 2017				
	January 2017 Total	February 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2016)	255	530	**209**	331	452	378	4 of 56
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	282	403	**166**	195	328	266	11of 43
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	289	465	**240**	235	344	300	23 of 63
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	285	405	**463**	284	395	356	41 of 50
Lata (197 5– 2016)	651	582	**321**	364	527	420	13 of 42
Munda (1962 – 2016)	286	617	**240**	297	429	342	15 of 56
Taro (1975 – 2016)	338	277	**336**	225	290	270	33 of 42

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January to March 2017
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #111]

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)	**994**	1008	1282	1188	19 of 56	31/34/**35**(-2.9)	Inconsistent
Henderson (1975 – 2016)	**851**	654	905	730	27 of 43	17/38/**45**(6.4)	Near Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2016)	**994**	693	929	824	45 of 62	20/34/**46**(7.5)	Consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2016)	**1153**	860	1161	1002	32 of 49	22/26/**52**(23.6)	Near Consistent
Lata (197 5– 2016)	**1554**	1124	1369	1274	33 of 42	21/32/**47**(7.4)	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2016)	**1143**	1023	1308	1119	29 of 56	**41**/23/36(-4.2)	Near Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2016)	**951**	693	861	768	33 of 40	20/30/**50**(0.2)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #111):
Predictor: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies November 2016.

---

[*] Forecast is <u>consistent</u> when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).

Forecast is <u>near-consistent</u> 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 <u>inconsistent</u> 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 May to July 2017.

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	50	612	50		-3.1	38.2
Henderson	51	277	49		0.2	61.2
Honiara	52	294	48		16.8	61.8
Kirakira	51	867	49		29.4	75.8
Lata	50	978	50		-2.3	54.3
Munda	51	871	49		-1.0	51.4
Taro	50	855	50		2.3	54.8

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	33	544	34	678	33	0.3	35.3
Henderson	32	248	36	318	32	12.0	41.2
Honiara	29	265	36	337	35	23.9	32.4
Kirakira	33	740	43	953	24	31.1	54.5
Lata	33	863	33	1162	34	4.7	57.1
Munda	34	706	34	998	32	-2.1	25.7
Taro	34	762	34	931	32	-1.5	22.6

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	24	220	12	324	64		
Kirakira	42	626	12	881	46		
Lata	36	820	21	1165	43		
Munda	27	693	09	1037	64		
Taro	18	675	24	883	58		

Summary Statements

March Rainfall.

Rainfall in March was mixed, with four sites reporting below-normal, one site reporting normal and two sites reporting above-normal.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfalls for the last three months were mostly normal to above normal across Solomon Islands.

Verification of 3 month outlooks issued in December 2016 showed mainly near-consistent to consistent forecasts across the country.

Outlooks for May to July 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:

Generally points to above-normal as the most likely throughout the country for May to July.

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