Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 119

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			July 2017				
	May 2017 Total	June 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	689.1	166.1	77.5	188.5	317.5	264.4	7/43
Pekoa	527.9	36.2	62.8	60.3	125.6	84.0	18/47
Lamap	218.6	67.5	10.5	60.0	120.8	85.9	1/57
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	403.0	74.3	22.1	47.3	93.9	63.2	6/45
Port Vila	257.7	47.3	80.8	50.1	127.3	75.6	35/65
Whitegrass	121.0	77.3	2.4	30.5	59.6	51.6	2/45
Aneityum	330.9	77.1	26.7	82.0	142.9	112.5	3/66

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
May to July 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #115]

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)?
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	932.7	751.4	1186.0	995.0	21/42	29:35:**36**(3.60)	Near-consistent
Pekoa	626.9	326.3	560.2	464.8	33/47	26:**37:37**(11.0)	Near-consistent
Lamap	296.6	310.6	471.5	356.6	16/56	31:**34:**35(4.8)	Near -consistent
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	499.4	310.2	526.7	427.5	27/47	29:**36:**35(5.5)	Consistent
Port Vila	385.8	349.1	488.4	403.2	21/65	24:**38:38**(15.60)	Near-consistent
Whitegrass	200.7	181.2	272.7	222.5	19/45	**34:**33:33(8.30)	Near-consistent
Aneityum	434.7	357.6	522.4	436.0	33/65	31:34:**35**(4.1)	Near-consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for May to July 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #115): NINO3.4 Feb-Mar

*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 September to November 2017

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 May -July

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%)	Hit-rate (%)
NORTHERN REGION						
Sola	65	1019	35		15	69
Pekoa	77	435	23		37	76
Lamap	61	327	39		7	68
SOUTHERN REGION						
Bauerfield	72	319	28		30	71
Port Vila	76	304	24		30	80
Whitegrass	77	142	23		34	75
Aneityum	77	341	23		29	69

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%)	Hit-rate (%)
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	44	885	28	1176	28	13	32
Pekoa	**53**	307	37	522	10	33	67
Lamap	**46**	274	34	414	20	8	43
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	**48**	237	35	433	17	28	61
Port Vila	**55**	240	30	390	15	29	50
Whitegrass	**52**	116	42	226	6	32	59
Aneityum	**56**	261	32	424	12	28	48

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for September to November 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
NORTHERN REGION							
Sola	46	653	15	1094	39		
Pekoa	46	273	24	477	30		
Lamap	46	280	24	360	30		
SOUTHERN REGION							
Bauerfield	49	227	18	387	33		
Port Vila	49	219	18	310	33		
Whitegrass	58	93	24	157	18		
Aneityum	55	189	33	359	12		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for July 2017:

Rainfall for July, was below normal for all stations except for Pekoa and Port Vila which recorded normal rainfall. Lamap had the driest July month in its 57 years of record, while Whitegrass had its second-driest (45 years of record), and Aneityum its third-driest (66 years of record).

Accumulated rainfall for May to July 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfall for the last three months was normal for most of the stations except for Pekoa which received above normal rainfall, and Lamap received below normal rainfall.

The SCOPIC outlooks issued in April were all near-consistent apart from Bauerfield which was consistent.

Outlooks for September to November 2017:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   Seasonal rainfall outlooks for the next three months shows that below normal rainfall is favoured throughout Vanuatu.

2. **POAMA:**
   Below normal rainfall is most likely at all the stations.

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			