

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 64

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	December 2012						
	October 2012 Total	November 2012 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu (1967-2012)	280.4	234.3	1068.1 Above normal	422.2	657.5	523.1	55/59
Apia (1890-2012)	204.5	207.1	382.4 Normal	276.7	428.2	362.3	73/123
Faleolo (1957-2012)	145.7	84.6	498.3 Above normal	199.5	296.6	244.1	49/51
Nafanua (1965-2012)	188.7	179.6	512.2 Above normal	327.4	456.4	399.8	26/33

**TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
October to December 2012**

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #60]

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

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	1582.8 Above normal	1102.1	1486.7	1258.1	41/56	40/34/26	Inconsistent
Apia	794 Normal	707.6	909.7	818.5	57/123	40/36/24	Near consistent
Faleolo	728.6 Above	524.4	683.0	604.1	36/50	40/36/24	Inconsistent

* 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).

	normal						
Nafanua	880.5 Normal	774.2	1022.5	897.8	16/32	42/40/18	Near consistent

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2012 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #60):
SOI values for period: June – August 2012

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
February to April 2013**

Predictors and Period used: SOI values for Oct-Dec 2012 period

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	50	1412	50		-1.8%	29.1%
Apia	50	925	50		1.6%	53.7%
Faleolo	50	628.5	50		-1.6%	52.9%
Nafanua	50	1062.7	50		3.2%	55.6%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	34	1153.7	31	1550.2	35	-0.2%	36.4%
Apia	33	802.8	34	1022.6	33	1.2%	34.1%
Faleolo	33	589.7	34	688.6	33	-2.2%	29.4%
Nafanua	33	915.3	33	1126.9	34	-1.1%	44.4%

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
February to April 2013**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	40	795	27	1108	33		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2012:

Normal rainfall was recorded for the month of December in Apia while above normal rain was observed elsewhere.

Accumulated rainfall for October–December 2012, including outlook verification:

The 3-month rainfall was above normal for Faleolo and Afiamalu. Apia and Nafanua stations received normal rainfall for the 3monthly period.

Outlooks for February–April 2013:

- 1. SCOPIC:** The statistical model is predicting ‘normal’ rainfall across Samoa for the identified period.

Predictability skill: VERY LOW TO LOW

- 2. POAMA:** climatological ‘normal’ is predicted by the dynamical model for Samoa in the next 3 months

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: $X \geq 35$