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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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
Northern Region							
Sola	684	1019.2	291.7	239.1	410.2	330.3	25/59
Pekoa	232.6	546.0	160.5	147.6	233.2	179.2	19/42
Lamap	81.4	379.3	312.9	100.0	159.8	122.2	49/52
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	35.6	190.5	190.7	103.3	203.2	157.7	24/39
Port Vila	27.1	126.3	208.8	105.8	213.2	158.5	39/60
Whitegrass	2.5	277.8	34.4	47.2	91.0	65.6	9/40
Aneityum	28.6	255.5	136.7	106.6	211.4	151.3	27/61

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall

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	1994.9	860.1	1248.3	1053.8	57/59	20:37:**43** (20.7)	**Consistent**
Pekoa	939.1	395.3	651.3	524.1	33/42	38:**48**:13 (36.0)	**Near-consistent**
Lamap	773.6	331.2	449.2	367.6	43/52	**55**:21:24 (20.1)	**Inconsistent**
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	416.8	327.0	520.0	440.5	16/40	32:**49**:19 (12.0)	**Consistent**

*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).

Port Vila	**362.2**	296.4	502.2	428.2	22/60	**54**:31:15 (20.6)	**Near-consistent**
Whitegrass	**314.7**	127.3	208.7	166.0	31/40	38:**54**:8 (43.3)	**Near-consistent**
Aneityum	**420.8**	286.0	490.3	392.7	35/61	**67**:19:13 (33.6)	**Near-consistent**

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

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2012 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #60):

SST 1& 9, Jun to Aug 2012

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

Predictors and Period used: SST 1& 9, Oct – Dec 2012.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	**54.8**	1260.2	45.2		50.0	50.0
Pekoa	**50.0**	854.5	**50.0**		36.6	36.6
Lamap	**61.2**	703.2	38.8		52.9	52.9
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	**53.7**	902.1	46.3		62.5	62.5
Port Vila	**58.9**	857.6	41.1		5.1	64.4
Whitegrass	40.9	488.0	**41.1**		2.7	58.5
Aneityum	46.2	857.3	**53.8**		-2.6	47.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	34.6	1072	28.1	1323.4	**37.3**	-1.3	24.1
Pekoa	20.4	747.8	**51.4**	956.2	28.2	-2.9	39.0
Lamap	**46.8**	632.2	36.2	756.2	17.0	3.4	43.1
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**35.9**	800.4	31.0	997.7	33.1	3.0	30.0
Port Vila	***39.8***	*769.9*	*37.7*	*924.0*	*22.5*	*3.8*	*30.5*
Whitegrass	22.1	421.5	**39.7**	583.2	38.2	3.4	22.0
Aneityum	31.4	712.2	**41.9**	975.7	26.7	-0.8	34.4

Predictors and Period used: SOI, Oct – Dec 2012.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	**50.6**	1260.2	49.4		3.3	60.3
Pekoa	**50.1**	854.5	49.9		-1.3	46.3
Lamap	**50.1**	703.2	49.9		4.2	62.7
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	**50.9**	902.1	49.1		4.5	62.5
Port Vila	**50.4**	857.6	49.6		1.1	54.2
Whitegrass	**50.4**	488.0	49.6		2.5	56.1
Aneityum	**50.4**	857.3	49.6		-0.6	50.8

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	32.6	1072.0	**34.7**	1323.4	32.7	5.9	37.9
Pekoa	33.2	747.8	33.5	956.2	33.3	-1.1	41.5
Lamap	**33.7**	632.2	**33.6**	756.2	32.7	0.0	19.6
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**34.3**	800.4	**35.1**	997.9	30.6	4.6	42.5
Port Vila	***34.1***	*769.9*	***34.1***	*924.0*	*31.8*	*2.5*	*18.6*
Whitegrass	31.7	421.5	**34.0**	583.2	**34.3**	6.3	39.0
Aneityum	**34.3**	712.2	**34.1**	975.7	31.6	1.5	27.9

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)		
Port Vila	5	773	90	911	5		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2012:

- Rainfall for the past month (December) was *normal* for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Bauerfield, Port Vila and Aneityum) except for Lamap which recorded *above normal* and Whitegrass with *below normal* rainfall.

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

- Total rainfall for the past three months (October to December) was *above normal* for Sola, Lamap, Pekoa and Whitegrass stations, While Bauerfield, Port Vila and Aneityum recorded *normal* rainfall.
- Forecast was *consistent* for Sola and Bauerfield, *Near-consistent* for Pekoa, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum while *Inconsistent* for Lamap.

Outlooks for February–April 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

- Using SST 1 & 9

- Northern Region: Above *Normal* rainfall is favored for Sola while *normal* rainfall is favored for Pekoa and below normal rainfall favored for Lamap. (Confidence: very low to low)
- Southern Region: *Below normal* rainfall is favored for Bauerfield and Port Vila stations, while normal rainfall is favoured for whitgrass and Aneityum stations (Confidence : very low to low)
- Overall: *normal* to *below normal* rainfall is favored for the next three months. (Confidence : low)

- using SOI

- Overall : *Normal* to *below normal* rainfall is favoured for the next three months (confidence : low)

2. POAMA:

- Rainfall for the months February to April favours *normal* rainfall for Port Vila Station.

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