Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 65

Country Name: COOK ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)		January 2013					
	November 2012 Total	December 2012 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Penrhyn (1937-Jan2013)	104	97.7	**383.7**	112.0	299.0	167.0	62/74
Rarotonga (1899-Jan2013)	46.2	128.2	**382.8**	176.3	280.3	213.0	98/115

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2012 to January 2013
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #61]

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?
Penrhyn	**585.4**	357.3	744.3	556.8	40/73	14/36/**51** (17.9%)	Near Consistent
Rarotonga	**557.2**	503.7	688.3	585.0	48/114	30/**56**/14 (7.3%)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2012 to January 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #61):

SSTa's 1&9 (Jul-Sep)

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[*] 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 March to May 2013

Predictors and Period used: SSTa's 1&9 (Nov-Jan)

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	36%	483.0	64%		12.8%	58.1%
Rarotonga	64%	585.5	36%		9.3%	55.6%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Penrhyn	20%	389.0	38%	675.0	**42%**	8.5%	45.2%
Rarotonga	**43%**	522.0	36%	656.3	21%	5.0%	38.1%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for March to May 2013

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Rarotonga	23%	453	27%	581	**50%**		

Summary Statements
Rainfall for January 2012:
Above normal for both groups

Accumulated rainfall for November 2012–January 2013, including outlook verification:
Normal rainfall recorded for Penrhyn (high skill), near consistent forecast. Consistent forecast for Rarotonga for the period.

Outlooks for March–May 2013:
1. **SCOPIC:**
   Above normal for Penrhyn (moderate skill), below normal for Rarotonga (low-moderate skill)
2. **POAMA:** Above normal