

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

**Country Name: SAMOA**

**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
Afiamalu (1967-2012)	234.3	1068.1	1322.8 Above normal	556.1	874	694.6	52/57
Apia (1890-2012)	207.1	382.4	811.8 Above normal	352.7	488.2	400	116/124
Faleolo (1957-2012)	84.6	498.3	496.8 Above normal	214.6	358.1	293.5	47/53
Nafanua (1965- 2012)	179.6	512.2	1125.5 Above normal	369.7	714.2	448.9	34/35

**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?)
Afiamalu	2625.2 Above normal	1424.4	1902.5	1770.0	47/53	36/37/27 (14.1)	Near consistent
Apia	1401.3 Above normal	955.7	1194.7	1052.8	105/123	34/34/32 (5.7)	Near consistent
Faleolo	1079.7	673.2	843.4	740.8	46/51	34/34/32 (2.9)	Near

\* 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).

	Above normal						consistent
Nafanua	1817.3 Above normal	1087.5	1509.3	1337.2	26/31	32/ <b>35</b> /33 (23.3)	Near consistent

Period: \*below normal/normal/above normal

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

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for  
March to May 2013**

**Predictors and Period used: SOI – November 2012 – January 2013**

Station	<b>Below Median (prob)</b>	<b>Median Rainfall (mm)</b>	<b>Above Median (prob)</b>		<b>LEPS</b>	<b>Hit-rate</b>
<b>Afiamalu</b>	48	1162.4	<b>52</b>		2.4	61.1
<b>Apia</b>	49	762.5	<b>51</b>		-0.2	53.7
<b>Faleolo</b>	49	541.6	<b>51</b>		-1.5	52
<b>Nafanua</b>	<b>50</b>	865.3	<b>50</b>		-2.5	55.6

Station	<b>Below Normal (prob)</b>	<b>33%ile rainfall (mm)</b>	<b>Normal (prob)</b>	<b>66%ile rainfall (mm)</b>	<b>Above Normal (prob)</b>	<b>LEPS</b>	<b>Hit-rate</b>
Afiamalu	<b>34</b>	991.8	32	1352.4	<b>34</b>	-1.6	38.9
Apia	<b>34</b>	654	32	834	<b>34</b>	-0.6	35
Faleolo	32	483.6	<b>34</b>	618.5	<b>34</b>	-0.1	26
Nafanua	<b>35</b>	787.9	30	986.6	<b>35</b>	-2	38.9

**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)		
Apia	13.33	620	36.67	899	50.00		

### **Summary Statements**

#### **Rainfall for January 2013:**

'Above normal' rainfall was recorded at all main climate stations in January with Nafanua station registering its second highest monthly rainfall on record. The highest fall of 408.6mm was observed at Afiamalu station on the 31<sup>st</sup> of the month which contributed to flash flooding in the previously flooded urban areas of Apia during TC Evan.

Wetter conditions in January 2013 compared to December 2012 due to very active and intensified SPCZ over Samoa.

#### **Accumulated rainfall for November 2012–January 2013, including outlook verification:**

The 3-monthly accumulated rainfall for the identified period was 'above normal' for all main climate stations.

The forecast issued for this period was 'near consistent' for all stations.

January 2013 was noticeably the wettest of the 3 months.

#### **Outlooks for March–May 2013:**

**1. SCOPIC:** The statistical model output for the next 3 months for Samoa is 'climatology' or 'normal'.

**2. POAMA:** The dynamical model is forecasting 'above normal' to 'normal' rainfall 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:  $X \geq 35$