

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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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
Northern Region							
Sola	1019.2	291.7	538.7	312.9	438.8	386.3	49/60
Pekoa	546.0	160.5	262.1	240.6	339.6	289.1	17/43
Lamap	379.3	312.9	138.3	184.6	276.1	228.4	11/53
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	190.5	190.7	100.8	220.7	331.0	257.0	6/42
Port Vila	126.3	208.8	102.1	204.5	320.5	245.7	7/61
Whitegrass	277.8	34.4	30.0	107.0	187.8	161.2	2/42
Aneityum	255.5	136.7	160.4	159.3	351.6	256.0	22/62

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	1849.6	941.3	1218.2	1076.2	58/59	32:31:38(19.2)	Consistent
Pekoa	968.6	603.9	816.9	622.6	28/42	21:52:27(29.5)	Near-consistent
Lamap	830.5	448.6	549.9	482.9	41/52	55:21:24(11.8)	Inconsistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	482	450.9	691.6	553.3	11/40	43:40:17(24.4)	Near-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	437.2	449.5	669.8	576.9	18/60	65:20:15(20.4)	Consistent
Whitegrass	342.2	245.8	396.6	299.2	23/40	36:40:24(21.8)	Consistent
Aneityum	552.6	431.4	686.8	601.5	26/61	64:12:24(14.5)	Near-consistent

November 2012 to January 2013

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #61]

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2012 to January 2013 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #61): SST 1&9 , Period July – September 2012.

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

Predictors and Period used: SST 1 & 9

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	49.4	1272.6	50.6		4.1	58.6
Pekoa	43.0	697.8	57.0		-0.4	51.2
Lamap	49.9	605.9	50.1		1.8	51.0
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	45.6	749.0	54.4		-1.1	48.7
Port Vila	52.1	720.9	47.9		3.1	59.3
Whitegrass	45.2	357.7	54.8		18.4	68.3
Aneityum	43.5	715.3	56.5		-1.1	50.0

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	22.2	1101.8	50.6	1381.2	27.2	6.7	39.7
Pekoa	25.7	604.9	36.0	856.0	38.3	2.3	31.7
Lamap	29.1	572.5	38.6	720.8	32.3	3.0	35.3
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	35.5	609.1	28.5	860.1	36.0	-3.7	33.3
Port Vila	39.1	597.3	34.8	819.5	26.1	0.3	33.9
Whitegrass	24.1	314.1	34.6	456.6	41.3	11.8	39.0
Aneityum	33.5	610.5	29.6	861.5	36.9	-2.2	18.3

Predictors and Period used: SOI

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	51.8	1272.6	48.2		1.4	58.6
Pekoa	50.6	697.8	49.4		-2.1	53.7
Lamap	52.2	605.9	47.8		4.1	56.9
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	52.2	749.0	47.8		0.4	53.8
Port Vila	52.9	720.9	47.1		7.6	67.8
Whitegrass	53.0	357.7	47.0		9.8	65.9
Aneityum	50.4	715.3	49.6		-1.2	58.3

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	1101.8	33.7	1381.2	31.7	2.7	39.7
Pekoa	34.5	604.9	33.8	856.0	31.7	1.3	48.8
Lamap	34.6	572.5	34.5	720.8	30.9	5.3	43.1
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	34.8	609.1	34.2	860.1	31.0	0.9	46.2
Port Vila	34.4	597.3	33.8	819.5	31.8	1.1	37.3
Whitegrass	36.1	314.1	36.4	456.6	27.5	7.1	53.7
Aneityum	34.3	610.5	33.3	861.5	32.4	1.8	38.3

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)		
Port Vila	36.67	506	26.67	772	36.67		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2012:

- Rainfall for the past Month (January) was *above normal* for Sola, *Normal* for Pekoa and Aneityum, while Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila and Whitegrass recorded *below normal* rainfall.

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

- Total Rainfall for the past three months (November 2012 to January 2013) was *above normal* for Sola, Pekoa and Lamap stations. *Normal* rainfall was recorded for Bauerfield, Whitegrass and Aneityum while Port Vila recorded *below normal* rainfall.
- Forecast was *consistent* for Sola, Port Vila and Whitgrass. *Near – Consistent* for Pekoa, Bauerfield and Aneityum. While forecast for Lamap was inconsistent.

Outlooks for March–May 2013:

1. SCOPIC:

Using SST 1&9;

- Northern Region: *Above normal* rainfall is favoured for Pekoa while *Normal* rainfall is favoured for Sola and Lamap. (Confidence: Low to Moderate)
- Southern Region: *Below normal* rainfall is favoured for all stations except Port Vila which favours *below normal* rainfall. (Confidence : Very Low to Good)
- Overall *normal to above normal* rainfall is favoured for the next three months. (Confidence : Low)

Using SOI;

- Overall *below normal* rainfall is favoured for the next three months (Confidence : Low)

2. POAMA:

- Rainfall for the months March to January equally favour *above normal* and *below normal* rainfall for Port Vila Station.

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: $X \geq 35$

