Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 79

Country Name: *Niue Island*

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2014 Total	February 2014 Total	March 2014				
			Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Hanan Airport (NINO3.4)	282.0	135.0	**556.3**	193.9	311.0	247.5	61/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
January to March 2014
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #75]

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?
Hanan Airport SST's 1 & 9	**973.3**	636.0	951.0	790.0	46/65	9/26/65 (13.8)	**Consistent**

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for January to March 2014 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #75):

Periods: September – November 2013
Predictors: SST's 1 & 9

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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 May to July 2014

Predictors and Period used: Periods: January – March 2014

Predictors: NINO 3.4

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	45	311.0	55		0.9	51.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	31	252.0	30	397.0	39	0.0	42.2

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for May to July 2014

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Hanan Airport	27	415	64	584	9		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2014:

- March rainfall was "Above Normal".

Accumulated rainfall for January – March 2014, including outlook verification:

- Three months rainfall using SSTs 1 and 9, periods September – November for January-March was for *"Above Normal"* rainfall.

- Observed rainfall value was 973.3 mm and it was *"Above Normal"*.

- The verification was *"Consistent".*

Outlooks for May – July 2014:

1. SCOPIC:

Rainfall for the 3 months using Nino 3.4 shows the most likely outcome is *"Above Normal"*. The next mostly likely is *"Below Normal"* and the least likely category is *"Normal"*. Confidence in the outlook is "low".

2. POAMA:

- Lower: 27

- Middle: 64

- Upper: 9

- The POAMA outlook for May to July 2014 shows the most likely outcome is *"Normal"*.

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