

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 89

Country Name: *Niue Island*

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	January 2015						
	November 2014 Total	December 2014 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Hanan Airport (1950-2015)	170.8	46.8	165.7	188.7	333.0	242.0	19/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall November 2014 to January 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #85]

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	383.3	510.0	683.0	599.1	11/65	36/35/29 (8.2)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2014 to January 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #87):

Periods: August –September 2014

Predictors: NINO 3.4

* 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).

**TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for
March to May 2015**

Predictors and Period used: December – January 2015, NINO 3.4

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	54.0	628.0	46.0		-0.2	53.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	43.0	550.7	26.0	770.3	31.0	3.7	40.6

**TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for
March to May 2015**

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Hanan Airport	42	608	48	851	10		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2015:

- January rainfall was **below normal**

Accumulated rainfall for November 2014 to January 2015, including outlook verification:

- Rainfall for November 2014 to January 2015 was **below normal**.
- The outlook offered little guidance for November 2014 to January 2015 as chances of **below normal, normal** and **above normal** rainfall was similar.
- Verification for the outlook was **consistent** with the observed rainfall.

Outlooks for March to May 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

- The Hanan Airport outlook for March to May 2015, using NINO 3.4 shows the most likely outcome is **below normal**, with **above normal** the next mostly likely. The least likely is **normal**.
- Confidence in the outlook is **low**.

2. POAMA:

- The POAMA outlook for March to May 2015 shows the most likely outcome in **normal** with below normal the next most likely.

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: $X \geq 35$