

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 91

Country Name:

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	March 2015						
	January 2015 Total	February 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2015)	573	229	765	312	447	369	53 of 54
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	268	217	190	197	327	266	14 of 41
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	353	219	216	241	344	303	17 of 61
Kirakira (1965 – 2015)	284	93	294	285	405	364	18 of 48
Lata (1975 – 2015)	331	327	922	367	526	419	40 of 40
Munda (1962 – 2015)	606	617	708	286	426	342	51 of 54
Taro (1975 – 2014)	366	264	147	237	296	275	6 of 40

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall January 2015 to March 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #87]

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?)
Auki (1962 – 2015)	1567	993	1277	1188	50 of 54	39/29/32(1.3)	In Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	676	640	904	730	16 of 41	44/36/20(12.7)	Near Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	788	694	937	850	27 of 60	46/28/26(13.9)	Near Consistent
Kirakira (1965 – 2015)	671	881	1173	1027	7 of 47	47/44/9(28.4)	Consistent
Lata (1975 – 2015)	1581	1134	1368	1275	33 of 40	40/36/24(2.3)	In Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2015)	1931	1035	1305	1119	54 of 54	30/38/32(-4.2)	Near Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2014)	777	705	865	769	20 of 38	35/42/23(10.1)	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).

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

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

Predictor: SST 1&9 – 1 month

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

Predictors and Period used: 1 month NINO3.4 Extended SST Anomalies March 2015.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	52	611	48		-1.6	51.9
Henderson	56	277	44		0.0	56.4
Honiara	57	294	43		3.5	54.2
Kirakira	64	857	36		12.8	64.6
Lata	48		52		-2.6	45
Munda	49	871	51		-1.9	20.8
Taro	47	849	53		-1.7	57.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33% ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66% ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	39	537	27	671	34	-1.2	32.7
Henderson	40	250	35	318	25	2.8	25.6
Honiara	44	266	26	335	29	5.8	40.7
Kirakira	46	733	36	940	18	14.5	54.2
Lata	40	866	24	1163	36	-0.1	42.5
Munda	32	712	33	1000	35	-2.3	32.1
Taro	32	758	32	915	36	-2.9	20.0

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

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33% ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66% ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Lata	58	820	30	1165	12		
Kirakira	76	626	12	881	12		
Honiara	64	220	15	324	21		
Munda	64	693	15	1037	21		
Taro	55	675	9	883	36		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for March 2015:

Normal to Above rainfall was recorded for most parts of the country during the month.

In the central region, rainfall was above normal for Auki, normal for Henderson and Honiara. For the eastern region, below normal rainfall was recorded for Kirakira and above normal for Lata. In the western region, Munda recorded above normal rainfall and normal for Taro.

Accumulated rainfall for January to March 2015, including outlook verification:

Below normal rainfall was forecasted for most parts of the country.

Observed rainfalls at Kirakira in the eastern region and Taro in the western region were consistent with their outlooks. Henderson and Honiara in the central region as well as Munda in the western region were Near Consistent while Auki in the central region and Lata in the eastern region were In- Consistent.

Above normal rainfall was recorded at Auki, Lata and Munda, normal at Henderson, Honiara and Taro and below normal at Kirakira.

Outlooks for May to July 2015:

1. SCOPIC:

Below normal rainfall is most likely for most parts of the country.

The likely outcome for Auki, Henderson, Honiara, Kirakira and Lata is below normal rainfall. For Munda and Taro, there is little guidance for the coming season as the chances of below normal, normal and above normal rainfall are similar.

2. POAMA:

The rainfall outlook for Lata and Kirakira in the eastern region, Honiara in the central region as well as Munda and Taro in the western region is below normal.

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: $X \geq 35$