Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 97

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			September 2015				
	July 2015 Total	August 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	126.0	167.5	58.1	165.1	259.3	231.4	04/44
Pekoa	60.3	103.2	13.7	66.5	141.9	88.1	06/45
Lamap	48.4	51.1	4.5	42.8	105.3	72.7	02/55
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	90.9	47.5	14.0	35.4	96.3	61.3	07/43
Port Vila	36.8	60.2	4.0	46.6	105.2	74.5	03/63
Whitegrass	163.9	162.2	0.4	20.2	61.8	31.2	02/43
Aneityum	249.0	160.2	14.9	61.1	124.2	95.1	07/64

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	351.6	1127.8	1381.2	1262.8	03/42	**47**:31:22 (3.8)	Consistent
Pekoa	177.2	608.7	871.0	705.9	11/45	**75**:15:10 (22.4)	Consistent
Lamap	104.0	572.3	724.3	615.3	04/55	**71**:21:8 (22.0)	Consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	152.4	605.2	869.3	753.4	10/43	**86**:11:03 (35.0)	Consistent
Port Vila	101.0	635.3	824.9	718.0	07/63	**69**:27:04 (26.7)	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).

Whitegrass	**326.5**	317.4	461.7	357.7	40/43	**84**:13:03 (27.6)	Near Consistent
Aneityum	**424.1**	607.6	892.1	715.3	49/64	**62**:32:05 (17.9)	Consistent

July to September 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #93]

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for July to September 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #93):

NINO 3.4SST Anomalies, March to May 2015

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for November 2015 to January 2016

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4SST Anomalies, Jul – Sep 2015

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	78	1183.1	22		3.5	56.3
Pekoa	92	625.1	8		14.9	72.7
Lamap	84	473.1	16		7.0	67.7
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	93	590.6	07		17.1	72.7
Port Vila	99	586.6	01		33.2	75.8
Whitegrass	78	344.5	22		1.7	62.5
Aneityum	75	606.1	23		1.8	51.5

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	60	1031.5	29	1356.4	11	6.1	43.8
Pekoa	61	603.9	37	826.0	02	16.9	54.5
Lamap	70	447.0	26	551.3	04	8.2	38.7
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	66	450.9	33	691.6	01	18.4	57.6
Port Vila	79	449.5	20	675.4	01	22.5	48.5
Whitegrass	77	270.8	19	415.6	04	8.8	46.9
Aneityum	71	462.6	18	686.8	11	4.6	45.5

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for November 2015 to January 2016

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	95	922	5	1239	0		
Pekoa	94	599	5	686	1		
Lamap	94	389	5	534	1		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	94	447	5	673	4		
Port Vila	94	409	5	561	1		
Whitegrass	95	229	5	342	0		
Aneityum	82	431	12	668	06		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for September 2015:
Rainfall for the past month was below normal for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum)

Accumulated rainfall for July to September 2015, including outlook verification:
Accumulated rainfall for the past three months was below normal for all stations except for Whitegrass which recorded normal rainfall.
Outlook was consistent for all stations except for Whitegrass which was near consistent.

Outlooks for November 2015 to January 2016:
1. SCOPIC:
Using Nino 3.4SST Anomalies;
The outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations in the coming season with normal being the next most likely.

2. POAMA:

The outlook favours below normal rainfall in the coming three months with normal rainfall being the next most likely.

Drought watch: using 6month SPI method

Stations currently in drought:

- ➔ Sola since April 2015
- ➔ Port Vila since September 2015
- ➔ Aneityum since March 2015

Stations in drought warning;

- ➔ Lamap since February 2015
- ➔ Bauerfield since September 2015

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