Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 98

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			October 2015				
	August 2015 Total	September 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2015)	124	138	181	173	243	200	20 of 53
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	28	85	31	60	129	105	5 of 41
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	12	61	28	83	165	111	3 of 59
Kirakira 1965 – 2015)	71	118	47	166	312	263	3 of 48
Lata (197 5– 2015)	176	255	101	316	454	372	3 of 41
Munda (1962 – 2015)	76	199	240	207	261	232	30 of 54
Taro (1975 – 2015)	163	162	135	240	297	252	3 of 37

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
August to October 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #94]

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)	443	540	704	614	8 of 51	45/21/34	Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	144	250	330	289	6 of 41	40/25/35	consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	102	266	368	315	0 of 59	31/44/25	Near consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2015)	237	686	959	790	0 of 45	53/32/15	Consistent
Lata (1975– 2015)	531	934	1156	1079	2 of 41	44/27/29	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2015)	515	382	818	752	6 of 54	37/37/26	Near consistent
Taro (1975 – 2015)	460	806	903	853	2 of 36	58/15/27	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for August to October 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #94):

*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).

Predictor: May Nino 3.4 extended -1 month

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for December 2015 to February 2016.

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	79	1040	21		13.5	66.7
Henderson	94	686	6		21.8	70.0
Honiara	86	707	14		15.9	65.5
Kirakira	91	965	9		26.3	68.9
Lata	70	1125	30		3.0	52.5
Munda	45	1105	55		-3.3	39.6
Taro	81	685	19		4.8	61.1

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	50	895	43	1177	7	8.4	29.4
Henderson	88	584	9	837	3	23.8	57.5
Honiara	74	625	21	881	5	16.9	53.4
Kirakira	78	796	19	1089	2	21.8	53.3
Lata	67	1035	30	1238	3	15.9	50.0
Munda	15	934	54	1237	31	0.5	50.9
Taro	67	637	27	774	7	10.1	41.7

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for December 2015 to February 2016.

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	48	496	5	708	47		
Kirakira	78	592	10	873	12		
Lata	72	1015	18	1207	10		
Munda	33	871	10	1213	57		
Taro	30	618	7	774	63		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2015:

Normal to below normal was recorded across the Solomon Islands in October.

Auki in the central and Munda in the western region recorded normal rainfall while the rest of the stations in three regions recorded below normal rainfall.

Amounts of rainfall received during the month for Honiara in the central, Kirakira and Lata in the eastern and Taro in the western region were ranked third in the records for the month.

Accumulated rainfall for August to October 2015, including outlook verification:

Normal to below normal rainfall was forecasted for Solomon Islands for the period – August to October 2015 and the skills were low.

Observed rainfalls for the period were consistent for stations in eastern, western and parts of central region. All stations recorded below normal rainfall except for Munda in the western region.

Honiara and Kirakira observed the lowest rainfall recorded for the period.

Outlooks for December 2015 to February 2016:

1. SCOPIC:

Below normal rainfall is most likely for most parts of Solomon Islands for the period – December 2015 to February 2015.

2. POAMA:

Below normal rainfall is most likely for eastern and central region while above normal rainfall is likely for western region.

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: $X \geq 35$