

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 99

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	November 2015						
	September 2015 Total	October 2015 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2015)	138	181	254	173	263	204	33 of 52
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	85	31	274	97	186	138	38 of 41
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	61	28	111	97	159	124	24 of 59
Kirakira 1965 – 2015)	118	47	351	163	265	193	43 of 48
Lata (1975 – 2015)	255	101	281	262	431	371	16 of 41
Munda (1962 – 2015)	199	240	82	182	276	235	2 of 54
Taro (1975 – 2015)	162	135	237	201	293	229	20 of 38

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall September to November 2015

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #95]

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)	573	592	694	644	16 of 52	68/16/16(5.3)	Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2015)	390	290	378	358	28 of 41	69/27/4(14.1)	Inconsistent
Honiara (1954 – 2015)	201	310	412	362	5 of 58	61/24/15(3.7)	Consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2015)	517	637	853	764	8 of 45	73/12/15(5.7)	Consistent
Lata (1975 – 2015)	637	996	1240	1060	2 of 41	62/27/11(5.4)	Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2015)	522	651	784	716	5 of 54	52/27/21(0.8)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2015)	534	741	843	790	4 of 36	58/20/22(1.2)	Consistent

Period: *below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for September to November 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #95):

* 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: November Nino 3.4 extended -1 month

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for January to March 2016.

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

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	64	1196	36		-0.6	57.4
Henderson	64	719	32		0.6	58.5
Honiara	78	837	22		5.4	61.7
Kirakira	95	1014	5		22.6	72.3
Lata	90	1276	10		16.3	70.0
Munda	57	1147	43		-1.5	53.7
Taro	61	773	39		-1.5	55.3

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33% ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66% ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	63	1001	15	1285	22	1.7	38.9
Henderson	83	647	15	890	2	21.8	48.8
Honiara	86	695	9	933	5	12.7	45.0
Kirakira	77	875	23	1167	0	31.2	53.2
Lata	64	1143	29	1370	8	8.0	50.0
Munda	19	1046	58	1312	23	-1.4	38.9
Taro	23	706	72	863	5	2.7	42.1

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	40	672	12	850	48		
Kirakira	46	695	24	949	30		
Lata	58	1079	24	1309	18		
Munda	36	1008	15	1230	49		
Taro	36	715	9	867	55		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for November 2015:

Normal conditions were observed in most parts of the country during month of November 2015 as wet season starting to unfold.

Auki and Honiara in the central, Lata in the eastern and Taro in the western region recorded normal rainfall while Henderson and Kirakira recorded above normal rainfall during the month. Munda in the western region recorded below normal rainfall of 82mm, a near record for the month since 1962.

Accumulated rainfall for September to November 2015, including outlook verification:

Rainfall outlook for the period – September to November 2015 was below normal across the country and the skills for the forecast for the period were generally low.

As a result of observed rainfall, all regions were consistent to their forecast except for Henderson in the central region was inconsistent. The climate outlook for the period was a very good forecast that resulted in almost all consistent to its forecast for the period.

The result was consistent to the current El Nino condition in the Tropical Pacific Ocean.

Outlooks for January to March 2016:

1. Median:

Most likely condition for median forecast for central, eastern and western region for the period – January to March 2016 is below median.

2. SCOPIC:

Below normal rainfall is most likely for central and eastern regions while normal rainfall likely for western region for the period – January to March 2016.

2. POAMA:

Above normal is rainfall is likely for central region while eastern region is likely to be below normal and western region is likely to be above normal for the period.

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: $X \geq 35$