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

Country Name: Vanuatu

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
Northern Region							
Sola	**58.1**	**33.3**	**129.5**	297.1	487.5	388.9	4/45
Pekoa	**13.7**	**13.7**	**87.2**	117.7	211.5	174.8	7/45
Lamap	**4.5**	**12.0**	**61.0**	90.4	133.9	110.8	12/55
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**14.0**	**27.7**	**63.7**	89.0	178.6	125.7	10/43
Port Vila	**4.0**	**10.6**	**73.1**	74.2	156.6	119.8	21/63
Whitegrass	**0.4**	**4.9**	**35.7**	31.9	84.8	46.6	19/45
Aneityum	**14.9**	**95.4**	**52.3**	57.4	139.3	95.8	17/64

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?
Northern Region							
Sola	**220.9**	873.6	1181.3	1047.0	19/41	**80**:07:13(7.0)	Consistent
Pekoa	**114.6**	321.5	575.3	456.9	15/45	**97**:03:0(34.1)	Consistent
Lamap	**77.5**	280.3	409.5	335.2	24/54	**79**:08:13(9.1)	Consistent
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**105.4**	240.9	415.8	330.0	21/43	**95**:03:02(30.7)	Consistent
Port Vila	**87.7**	240.4	397.1	311.5	26/63	**97**:01:02(28.0)	Consistent
Whitegrass	**41.0**	118.5	235.9	167.5	41/43	**85**:15:00(31.6)	Consistent
Aneityum	**162.6**	262.0	422.7	353.3	27/63	**96**:03:01(27.7)	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).

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for September to November 2015 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #95):
Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies, May-July 2015

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

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4SST Anomalies, September- November 2015

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	65	1127.1	35		-1.3	65.6
Pekoa	41	842.9	59		-2.6	51.5
Lamap	69	727.8	31		0.1	53.1
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	87	985.9	13		10.3	72.7
Port Vila	72	885.7	28		0.3	60.6
Whitegrass	71	558.8	29		-1.2	56.3
Aneityum	72	875.5	28		1.1	60.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	58	1004.4	21	1220.2	21	-0.9	21.9
Pekoa	44	758.8	14	990.4	42	-2.4	24.2
Lamap	49	650.3	36	816.8	15	-0.2	18.8
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	75	801.1	10	1058.0	15	2.7	42.4
Port Vila	55	775.6	36	1009.8	8	4.1	48.5
Whitegrass	58	496.3	30	697.5	12	1.5	34.4
Aneityum	61	748.1	33	985.4	6	7.4	42.4

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for

January to March 2016

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	73	907	18	1142	9		
Pekoa	64	731	12	955	24		
Lamap	64	623	12	722	24		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	45	798	27	1021	27		
Port Vila	45	736	27	932	27		
Whitegrass	52	433	27	661	21		
Aneityum	42	715	21	975	36		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for November 2015:
Rainfall for the past month was below normal for all stations (Sola, Pekoa,Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila and Aneityum) except for Whitegrass which received normal rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for September to November 2015, including outlook verification:
Rainfall for the past three months was below normal for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum)
The Outlook was consistent for all stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum)

Outlooks for January to March 2016:
1. SCOPIC:
Using Nino 3.4 SST Anomalies,
The outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations with normal being the next most likely at Lamap, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum, and above normal being the next most likely at Pekoa and Bauerfield while Sola offers little guidance as there is an equal chance of normal and above normal rainfall being the next most likely.

2. POAMA:

The outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations in the coming three months with normal being the next most likely at Sola and Whitegrass and above normal being the next most likely at Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum. There is little guidance for Bauerfield and Port Vila as there is an equal chance of normal and above normal rainfall being the next most likely for these stations.

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