Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 125

Country Name: Niue

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			January 2018				
	November 2017 Total	December 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Hanan Airport	359.7	132.0	268.3	184.0	330.0	242.0	39/68

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2017 to January 2018
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #121]

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)?
Hanan Airport	760.0	500.0	683.0	598.0	53/68	29/**36**/35	Near-consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for November 2017 to January 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #121): Nino 3.4 for August – September 2017

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*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).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for March to May 2018

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4 for December 2017 to January 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	45	605.5	**55**		0.3	52.2

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Hanan Airport	22	545.7	**41**	752.7	37	4.6	38.8

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for March to May 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Hanan Airport	**58**	544.0	21	701.0	21		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2018:
Rainfall for January 2018 was normal.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2017 to January 2018, including outlook verification:
Accumulated rainfall for November 2017 to January 2018 was above normal, with a verification of near-consistent.

Outlooks for March to May 2018:
1. **SCOPIC:**
   Seasonal rainfall outlook for March to May 2018 shows the most likely outcome is normal, with above normal the next most likely. Below-normal rainfall is the least likely.

2. **POAMA:**
   POAMA outlook for March to May 2018 favours below-normal, with equal likelihood of normal to above normal rainfall.

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