

Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction (COMP)

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No. 142 Summary Report

Date: Wednesday 17 July 2019

Time: Australian Eastern Daylight Time at 11:00AM (01:00 UTC)

Host: SPREP

Chair: Marshall Islands

Apologies: Cook Islands, Tuvalu and Tonga

Main purpose for the OCOF:

- To provide a regular forum for the 11 participating PIC NMSs to discuss the current ENSO status, recent one and three-month rainfall, drought (if present), their seasonal climate outlooks and stakeholders engagement with other countries and the COMP (Bureau of Meteorology and SPREP) project team.

In addition, it serves as an online training forum for recent SCOPIC* development and gives the project team and the NMSs an opportunity to discuss other project related matters.

Agenda:

1. Brief introduction of PIC participants, SPREP and Bureau of Meteorology teams.
2. Brief report on current ENSO status.
3. Each NMS report on their past one and three months' rainfall in relation to the current ENSO situation (include ranking and verification), their three-month outlooks and their stakeholders engagement. Wherever appropriate NMS to report on their drought status.
4. Round-table discussion: addressing general concerns/queries on outlooks and SCOPIC
5. Feedback on COSPPac products and services.
6. Country statements with regards to drought or drought-like conditions, drought module issues/concerns.
7. The next OCOF will be held on 14 August 2019 and is to be chaired by **Cook Islands**.

Participants:

The Forum was attended by 21 climate officers (13 female) from 8 partner PIC NMSs.

Cook Islands:

Fiji: Bipen Prakash, Shweta Shiwagni, Jasneel Chandhara and Arieta Baleisolomone

Kiribati: Kamaitia Rubetaake and Miriam Kataunati

Niue: Lenita Togiamana, Clemencia Sioneholo and Hingano Laufoli

Papua New Guinea: Kisolel Posanau, Ruth Apuqahe and Agnes Diap

Republic of Marshall Islands: Nover Juria

Samoa: Tile Tofaeono, Mattaniah Salesa and Faapisa Aiono

Solomon Islands: Max Sitai,

Tonga:

Tuvalu:

* Seasonal Climate Outlooks in the Pacific Island Countries: climate prediction software developed under the PI-CPP.

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Vanuatu: Allan Rarai, Glenda Pakoa, Daphne Nalawas, Kalo Abel

Australia: Grant Beard

SPREP: Philip Malsale

OCOF tables were received from 10 participating countries before the meeting.

Observations and Verification of April to June 2019 outlooks:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending June 2019 were discussed for each PIC. This month, several countries experienced extreme rainfall as shown in the following table:

Station	Period	Rainfall Amount (mm)	Rainfall Rank	Years of record
Tokotoko, Fiji	Apr-Jun	1394.1	72	75
Udu Point, Fiji	Apr-Jun	1234.7	70	70
Tarawa, Kiribati	June	388.5	70	70
Beru, Kiribati	June	193.8	59	65
Butaritari, Kiribati	June	519.6	80	81
Tarawa, Kiribati	Apr-Jun	1516.5	70	70
Beru, Kiribati	Apr-Jun	1005.1	62	62
Butaritari, Kiribati	Apr-Jun	1805	80	80
Hanan Airport, Niue	June	221.9	65	65
Apia, Samoa	June	259.7	118	130
Nafanua, Samoa	June	284.3	45	48
Faleolo, Samoa	June	219.6	55	58
Niu, Tuvalu	June	331.9	68	74
Niu, Tuvalu	Apr-Jun	1211.7	74	74
Aneityum, Vanuatu	Apr-Jun	1046.0	65	67

[Note: The above data may not have undergone quality control]

Validation of forecasts with observed rainfall for the months of April to June 2019 period showed 17 consistent, 14 near-consistent and 19 inconsistent outlooks (50 stations across 10 countries).

A summary of results (C-Consistent, NC-Near Consistent, In-Inconsistent, N/A-not available) for each country is as follows:

Cook Islands (1 NC, 1In); Fiji (1C, 3NC, 9In); Kiribati (4C); RMI (1C, 1NC); Niue (1NC); PNG (3C, 3NC, 2In); Samoa (1NC, 3In); Solomon Islands (3C, 2NC; 2In); Tonga (N/A); Tuvalu (4C) and Vanuatu (1C, 2 NC, 2In).

Overall: 17C, 14NC, 19In.

August to October 2019 Outlooks:

SCOPIC outlooks: 57% of the 54 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 7 in tercile 2, 20% in tercile 3, 11% have near-equal probabilities in two terciles and 4% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

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POAMA outlooks: 37% of the 43 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 5% in tercile 2, 51% in tercile 3, 7% in near-equal probabilities in two terciles and no station has near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

Other matters:

- Fiji, PNG, Kiribati and Samoa have issues with installing SCOPIC software version 4.4.17-rc2.
- Marshall Islands follow up on the Ocean bulletin with SPREP.

Observed Rainfall and Validation

Country	June 2019	April to June 2019	Verification [†] for April to June 2019 outlooks
Cook Islands	Below normal	Below normal and normal	Inconsistent and Near-consistent
Fiji	Mostly normal	Mostly above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Kiribati	Above normal	Above normal	Consistent
RMI	Below normal and normal	Below Normal and normal	Consistent and Near-consistent
Niue	Above normal	Above Normal	Near-consistent
Papua New Guinea	Below normal to above normal	Mostly below normal and above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Samoa	Above normal	Mostly above normal	Near-consistent to Inconsistent
Solomon Islands	Below normal to above normal	Below normal to above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Tonga			
Tuvalu	Below normal and above normal	Above normal	Consistent
Vanuatu	Mostly normal	Below normal to above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent

[†] 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).

Country Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective country engage with their stakeholders

Country	Date June	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Cook Islands – Early Action Rainfall Watch Training	June	MoT and ICI			
Fiji Climate Summary	05/06/2019	General public	140	106	34
Fiji Climate Outlook	11/06/2019	General public	124	93	31
Climate Outlook for Monasavu	11/06/2019	EFL	13	13	-
EAR Watch	05/06/2019	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26
Fiji- Meteorological Data Requests	01/06/19 to 31/06/19	A range of stakeholders	39	34	5
Kiribati Climate bulletin	14th June 2019	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, General Public and internal staffs.	+104	+40	+60
Kiribati -EAR Watch	27-28/06/19	OB, KMS, Disaster, Climate Change, WSEU, PUB, EHU, ECD, KRC, TTM, Lands, Aviation, Marine Guard, BPA, Mineral, Commerce, COSPAC, IFRC	32	10	22
Kiribati Ocean Outlook	14th June 2019	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, General Public and internal staffs.	+104	+40	+60
Kiribati Media Release	14th June 2019	Media Collègues- Government and Non- Government entities. And Internal staffs.	42	27	15
Marshall Island - Monthly Climate Briefing	06/14/19	Office of the Chief Secretary Office(CSO) and National Disaster Management Office(NDMO)	3	2	1

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Niue - Climate Bulletin	13th and 25th	HOD (Head of departments) Government officials National Girls & Boys Brigade Taoga Niue Niue Council Of Women Education	70	30	40
Niue – Monthly climate briefing	14th	Private sector Government staff Government officials National girls and boys brigade Village communities	110	50	60
PNG – National DRR workshop	27th	UNDP, Aust DFAT, USAID, Pngrcs, CCDA, DMPGM, NWS, UPNG, WVI	39	29	10
Samoa-Climate Summary	June	RED Cross, Water Authority, Media, Health, Works & Infrastructure, Land & Transport Authority, Agriculture & Fisheries, Fire Services, Ministry of Women, National University of Samoa, Tourism, Foreign Affairs, Communication and Information Technology, Disaster Managers, Marines	65	27	38
Samoa-Climate Bulletin	23 th & 24 th	RED Cross, Water Authority (SWA), Media, Health, Works & Infrastructure, Land & Transport Authority, Agriculture & Fisheries, Fire Services, Ministry of Women, National University of Samoa, Tourism, Foreign Affairs, Communication and Information Technology, Disaster Managers, Marines	65	27	38
Samoa- EAR Watch	June	Disaster Managers, RED Cross, Water Authority, Ministry of Health	35	25	10
Samoa- Seasonal Rainfall Outlook	June	RED Cross, Water Authority, Media, Health, Works & Infrastructure, Land &	65	27	38

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		Transport Authority, Agriculture & Fisheries, Fire Services, Ministry of Women, National University of Samoa, Tourism, Foreign Affairs, Communication and Information Technology, Disaster Managers, Marines			
Samoa- Ocean Bulletin	June	Maritime, Shipping Corporation, Fire Emergency Services,	30	15	15
Solomon Islands- Climate Bulletin	June	Red Cross, NDMO, Ministry of Agriculture, SIBC, Hydrology, Solomon star, Paoa FM, World Vision, Glodridge Mining, Ministry of Mines and Energy, MEHRD	13	12	1
Solomon Islands – EAR Watch	June	Red Cross, NDMO, Ministry of Agriculture, SIBC, Hydrology, Solomon star, Paoa FM, World Vision, Goldridge Mining, Ministry of Mines and Energy, MEHRD	13	12	1
Solomon Islands- MALACLIM	June	MHMS Prime Minister's Office SIBC Solomon Star Newspaper	7	7	0
Tonga	June				
Tuvalu - Climate Bulletin	June	Governments civil servants, including, departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants		
Tuvalu-EAR Watch	June	Governments civil servants, including all departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants		
Tuvalu-Monthly Climate Briefing	June	Governments civil servants, including all departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants		
Tuvalu-Ocean bulletin	June	Governments civil servants, including all departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants		

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Vanuatu- Early Action Rainfall Watch	17 June	VMGD Stakeholders Community Noticeboards VCAN and VHT website	20 Community boards 34 Emails VCAN + VHT Website		
Vanuatu- Climate Update	17 June	VMGD Stakeholders Community Noticeboards VCAN and VHT website	20 Community boards 34 Emails VCAN + VHT Website		
Vanuatu- Monthly Climate Summary	17 June	VMGD Stakeholders Community Noticeboards VCAN and VHT website	20 Community boards 34 Emails VCAN + VHT Website		
Vanuatu-Radio Talk Back Show	14 June	VMGD VBTC	General Public		
Total			1387	722	505

[Note: The above stakeholder data may not total up due to lack of data from NMS or community and noticeboards are counted only in total]