

Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction (COMP)

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No. 146 Summary Report

Date: Wednesday 20 November 2019

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

Host: SPREP

Chair: Niue

Apologies: Tuvalu and Tonga

Main purpose for the OCOF:

- To provide a regular forum for the 12 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. 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 11 December 2019 and is to be chaired by **Papua New Guinea**.

Participants:

The Forum was attended by 23 climate officers (12 female) from 10 partner PIC NMSs.

Cook Islands: Bates Mania

Fiji: Jasneel Chandra, Shweta Shiwagni and Arieta Daphne

Kiribati: Kamaitial Rubetaake and Miriam Kataunati

Niue: Clemencia Sioneholo, Hingano Laufoli-Hipa, Raquel Tanaki and Maxine Edwards

Papua New Guinea: Kisolet Posanau, Nanao and Gabriel Tuno

Palau: Kikuko Mochimaru

Republic of Marshall Islands: Nover Juria and Samson Kanenko

Samoa: Faapisa Aiono, Kotoni Faasau, Junior Lepale and Mattaniah Salesa

Solomon Islands: Max Sitai and Noel Sanau

Tonga:

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

Australian Aid Project: Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)

Tuvalu:

Vanuatu: Glenda Pakoa

Australia: Grant Beard

SPREP: Philip Malsale and Tile Tofaeono

OCOF tables were received from 12 participating countries before the meeting.

Observations and Verification of August to October 2019 outlooks:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending October 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
Laucala Bay, Fiji	October	557.2	74	78
Udu Point, Fiji	October	365.6	70	71
Madang, PNG	Aug -Oct	197.0	7	70
Port Moresby, PNG	Aug -Oct	233.7	105	107
Lata, Solomon Islands	October	546.0	42	45
Kirakira, Solomon Islands	Aug -Oct	1274.4	46	49
Lata, Solomon Islands	Aug -Oct	1603.3	43	45
Taro, Solomon Islands	Aug -Oct	1301.7	40	40
Niulakita, Tuvalu	October	58.3	3	67
Whitegrass, Vanuatu	October	3.4	5	48
Aneityum, Vanuatu	October	826.5	68	68
Aneityum, Vanuatu	Aug -Oct	1148.7	68	68

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

Validation of forecasts with observed rainfall for the months of August to October 2019 period showed 21 consistent, 22 near-consistent and 16 inconsistent outlooks (59 stations across 12 countries).

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

Cook Islands (1C, 1NC); Fiji (4C, 7NC, 2In); Kiribati (1C, 3NC); RMI (1C, 1NC); Niue (1In); Palau (1NC); PNG (3C, 3NC, 2In); Samoa (4C); Solomon Islands (7In); Tonga (2C, 3NC, 1In); Tuvalu (2C, 2NC) and Vanuatu (4C, 1NC, 2In).

Overall: 21C, 22NC, 16In.

December 2019 to February 2020 Outlooks:

SCOPIC outlooks: 25% of the 63 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, no station in tercile 2, 10% in tercile 3, 37% have near-equal probabilities in two terciles and 29% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

POAMA outlooks: 29% of the 49 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 6% in tercile 2, 55% in tercile 3, 10% in near-equal probabilities in two terciles and not station with near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

Other matters Discussed:

- Solomon Islands face issues downloading the NINO3.4 files
- OCOF 147 will be hosted by SPREP with PNG as the chair
- Password to download SCOPIC was given to BOM (Grant) to review SCOPIC development at the backend
- First OCOF for Palau to participate in the teleconference

Observed Rainfall and Validation

Country	October 2019	August to October 2019	Verification [†] for August to October 2019 outlooks
Cook Islands	Below normal and normal	Below normal and Normal	Near-consistent and consistent
Fiji	Mostly normal and above normal	Below normal to above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Kiribati	Mostly normal	Mostly normal	Consistent and Near-Consistent
RMI	Normal	Normal	Consistent and Near-Consistent
Niue	Normal	Above Normal	Inconsistent
Palau	Normal	Normal	Near-consistent
Papua New Guinea	Mostly normal to above normal	Below normal to above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Samoa	Below normal and normal	Below normal	Consistent
Solomon Islands	Below normal to above normal	Above normal	Inconsistent
Tonga	Below normal to above normal	Below normal and normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Tuvalu	Below normal and normal	Normal and above normal	Consistent and Near-Consistent
Vanuatu	Below normal to above 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 October	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Cook Islands – Climate bulletin	October	No Engagement			
Fiji Climate Summary	07/10/2019	General public	140	106	34
Fiji Climate Outlook	11/10/2019	General public	124	93	31
Fiji -Climate Outlook for Monasavu	08/10/2019	EFL	13	13	-
Fiji- EAR Watch	04/10/2019	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26
Fiji - Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook	25/10/2019	Sugar industry stakeholders	77	60	17
Fiji-Ocean Outlook	October	Reef explorer Fiji limited, Maritime safety authority,World wildlife fun, wiulodlife conservation society and Tourisn sector.	36	29	7
Fiji-Meteorological Data Requests	01/10/19 to 31/10/19	A range of stakeholders	53	49	4
Kiribati Climate bulletin	October	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, General Public and internal staffs.	+104	+40	+60
Kiribati -EAR Watch	October	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	October	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, General Public and internal staffs.	+104	+40	+60
Kiribati –Media Release	October	Media Colleagues-Government and Non-Government entities. And Internal staffs.	42	27	15
Marshall Island - Monthly Climate Briefing	18/10/19	Office of the Chief Secretary Office(CSO) and National Disaster Management Office(NDMO)	4	2	2
Niue - Climate Bulletin	24/10/19	General public	97	45	52

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	17/10/19	Government officials	15	6	9
	17/10/19	Schools	25	14	11
Palau		No Engagement			
PNG-EAR Watch	30/10/19	Govt: National Disaster Centre, Dept. of Transport, National Agriculture Research Institute, Dept. of Agriculture and Livestock, Provincial DisasterCoordinators, Civil Aviation SafetyAuthority, Climate Change DevelopmentAuthority, Dept. of Mineral Policy and Geohazard Managment, PNG DFAT, Centre of Environmental Protection Authority, National Capital District Commision, Dept. of Education. UN Agencies : UNDP, FAO, IOM, Oxfam. NGOs : Childfund, WVI, PNGRC. Private: Pacific Hydo Services, PNG Power, Ok TediMining Ltd, Media. Aus DFAT and Universities	108	70	38
PNG- EAR Watch (circulated by DMT secretariat)	30/10/19	Govt: National Disaster Center, Dept. Of Agriculture and Livestock, PNG Defence Force, PNG DisabilitySector Coalition. UN agencies: UN ResidentCoordinators Office, UNDP, IOM, UNICEF, UNWomen, WHO, UNFPA, UNFAO, UNDSS, OHCHR, OCHA-ROAP, WFP, UNHCR. NGOs: Care Int'l, Childfund, Oxfam, Plan Int'l, SAVE the Children, WVI. ICRC, IFRC and PNGRC. Faith-basedOrgs: Caritas Australia/CPP. DevelopmentPartners: UK Embassy, World Bank, DFAT, EU, Japan, MFAT, USAID and ECHO. Private : ExxonMobil	52	37	15
PNG- ClimateRisk&Early Warning Systems (CREWS) 2nd Workshop	22-23/10/19	Govt: National Disaster Center, NMSA,Dept. Of Agriculture and Livestock, PNG Red Cross,UPNG, UNDP, IOM, CEPA, Ok Tedi Mine, World Vision. EdaRanu, NARI,CocoaBoard,FreshProduceDevel opment Agency, Coffee Industry, Caritas PNG PNG DFAT, , WMO, BoM, RIMES Bangkok, ACAIR,NWS staff	43	32	11
PNG - NWS Strategic plan Launch	22/10/19	Govt: National Disaster, Center, NMSA,Dept. Of Agriculture and Livestock, PNG Red Cross, UPNG, UNDP, IOM, CEPA, Ok Tedi Mine, World Vision. EdaRanu, NARI, CocoaBoard, Fresh Produce Development Agency, Coffee Industry, PNG DFAT, WMO, BoM, RIMES Bangkok, ACAIR, NWS staff, Media	73	48	25
Samoa –Tropical Cyclone briefing	24/10/19	MNRE	15	7	8
Samoa - Disaster Advisory Committee Briefing	30/10/19	RED Cross, Water Authority, Media, Health, Works & Infrastructure, Land & Transport Authority, Agriculture & Fisheries, Fire Services, Ministry of	40	20	20

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		Women, National University of Samoa, Tourism, Foreign Affairs, Communication and Information Technology, Disaster Managers, Marines			
Solomon Islands-Climate Bulletin	October	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	October	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 - MalClim	October	MEHRD Prime Minister's Office SIBC Solomon star Newspaper	7	7	0
Solomon Islands – Ocean Bulletin	October	Climate Change, NDMO, Environment, Tourism, Trade Co., Fisheries, Nature Conservancy, South Pacific Community	14	9	5
Tonga	October	No engagement for this month			
Tuvalu - Climate Bulletin	October	All civil servants and NGO's			
Tuvalu-Monthly climate briefing	October	All civil servants and NGO's			
Tuvalu-Ocean bulletin	October	All civil servants and NGO's			
Vanuatu- Early Action Rainfall Watch	28/10/19	62 Stakeholders 5 Outer stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum)	62	36	26
Vanuatu- Climate Update	23, 24 and 28/10/19	62 Stakeholders 20 Community Noticeboards 5 Outer stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum) Local farmers	92	36	26
Vanuatu-Monthly Climate Summary	28/10/19	62 Stakeholders 5 Outer stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum)	62	36	26
Vanuatu Ocean Outlook	28/10/19	62 Stakeholders 5 Outer stations (Sola, Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum)	62	36	26
Total			1644	1064	578

[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]