

Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction (COMP)

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No. 147 Summary Report

Date: Thursday 12 December 2019

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

Host: SPREP

Chair: Papua New Guinea

Apologies: Cook Islands, Tuvalu, Tonga, Kiribati

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 15 January 2020 and is to be chaired by **Samoa**.

Participants:

The Forum was attended by 19 climate officers (10 female) from 8 partner PIC NMSs.

Cook Islands:

Fiji: Terry Atalifo, Jasneel Chandra, Shweta Shiwagni and Arieta Daphne

Kiribati:

Niue: Hingano Laufoli-Hipa and Raquel Tanaki

Papua New Guinea: Kisolel Posanau, Nanao Bouauka and Kila Kila

Palau: Kikuko Mochimaru and Rick Bizon

Republic of Marshall Islands: Nover Juria

Samoa: Kotoni Faasau

Solomon Islands: Max Sitai and Lloyd Tahani

Tonga:

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

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Tuvalu:

Vanuatu: Glenda Pakoa, Niel Malosu, Albert Willy, Daphne Nalawas and Limona Nalpini

Australia: Grant Beard

SPREP: Philip Malsale and Tile Tofaeono

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

Observations and Verification of September to November 2019 outlooks:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending November 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
Labasa Airport, Fiji	November	40.0	6	61
Savusavu airfield, Fiji	November	89.9	6	63
Rotuma, Fiji	November	723.3	103	106
Udu Point, Fiji	Sep-Nov	781.5	62	69
Rotuma, Fiji	Sep-Nov	1349.4	99	102
Hanan Airport, Niue	November	340.9	105	114
Hanan Airport, Niue	Sep-Nov	681.8	103	111
Kavieng, PNG	November	557.4	92	92
Port Moresby, PNG	Sep-Nov	254.8	102	111
Taro, Solomon Islands	November	1099.2	38	40
Whitegrass, Vanuatu	November	0.5	1	49
Aneityum, Vanuatu	November	20.8	2	68
Aneityum, Vanuatu	Sep-Nov	1026.5	68	68

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

Validation of forecasts with observed rainfall for the months of September to November 2019 period showed 17 consistent, 23 near-consistent and 9 inconsistent outlooks (49 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 (N/A); Fiji (5C, 5NC, 3In); Kiribati (3NC, 1In); RMI (2NC); Niue (1C); Palau (1NC); PNG (4C, 2NC, 1In); Samoa (3C, 1NC); Solomon Islands (4NC, 3In); Tonga (N/A); Tuvalu (1C, 3NC) and Vanuatu (3C, 2NC, 1In).

Overall: 17C, 23NC, 9In.

January to March 2020 Outlooks:

SCOPIC outlooks: 56% of the 52 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 2% in tercile 2, 17% in tercile 3, 8% have near-equal probabilities in two terciles and 17% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

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POAMA outlooks: 29% of the 42 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 10% in tercile 2, 33% in tercile 3, 14% in near-equal probabilities in two terciles and 14% with near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

Other matters Discussed:

- Password to download SCOPIC provided to Solomon Islands to download new SCOPIC version
- OCOF 148 will be hosted by SPREP with Samoa as the chair

Observed Rainfall and Validation

Country	November 2019	September to November 2019	Verification [†] for September to November 2019 outlooks
Cook Islands			
Fiji	Mostly below normal and normal	Below normal to above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Kiribati	Mostly normal	Mostly normal	Near-Consistent and Inconsistent
RMI	Normal	Normal	Near-Consistent
Niue	Above 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	Most below normal	Mostly Consistent
Solomon Islands	Mostly normal	Normal and above normal	Near-consistent and Inconsistent
Tonga			
Tuvalu	Below normal to above normal	Below normal to above normal	Consistent and Near-Consistent
Vanuatu	Below normal and 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 November	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Cook Islands					
Fiji Climate Summary	12/11/2019	General public	140	106	34
Fiji Climate Outlook	15/11/2019	General public	124	93	31
Fiji -Climate Outlook for Monasavu	12/11/2019	EFL	13	13	-
Fiji- EAR Watch	07/11/2019	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26
Fiji - ENSO Outlook	25/11/2019	General public	142	116	26
Fiji-Ocean Outlook	15/11/2019	Reef Explorer Fiji limited, Maritime Safety Authority, World wildlife fun, wildlife conservation society and Tourism sector.	36	29	7
Fiji-Meteorological Data Requests	01/11/19 to 31/11/19	A range of stakeholders	57	49	8
Kiribati Climate bulletin	15th November	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, General Public and internal staffs.	+105	+41	+60
Kiribati -EAR Watch	15th November	OB, KMS, Disaster, Climate Change, WSEU, PUB, EHU, ECD, KRC, TTM, Lands, Aviation, Marine Guard, BPA, Mineral, Commerce, COSPAC, IFRC	33	11	22
Kiribati Ocean Outlook	15th November	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, General Public and internal staffs.	+105	+41	+60
Kiribati –Media Release	15th November	Media Collègues- Government and Non-Government entities. And Internal staffs.	43	28	15
Marshall Island - Climate Bulletin	22/11/19	Office of the Chief Secretary Office(CSO) and National Disaster Management Office(NDMO)	4	2	2
Niue - Climate Bulletin	07/11/19	General public	70	30	40
	14/11/19	Government officials	17	7	10
		Village council and Private sector	19	8	11

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Niue – Monthly Climate Briefing	25/11/2019	Private Sector, Government Officials, Government staff, Village Council	75	45	30
Palau		No Engagement			
PNG-EAR Watch	25/11/2019	Govt, UN Agencies, NGOs, Private sector, Media and Universities	115	76	39
PNG- EAR Watch (circulated by DMT secretariat)	26/11/2019	Humanitarian partners of DMT	28	16	12
PNG- Agricultural Meteorology & Climate Change Impact Survey (FAO)	12/11/2019	NDAL, NARI, NWS, other agriculture related sector	N/A		(2 from NWS)
Samoa – Climate Summary	8/11/19	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- Monthly climate briefing	11/11/19	Samoa Met Office	9	7	2
Samoa- Ocean bulletin	27/11/19	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-Seasonal Rainfall Outlook	27/11/19	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- Agro-Met briefing	26th	Farmer Association, Samoa MET officers	4	3	1
Solomon Islands- Climate Bulletin	November	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	November	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

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Solomon Islands - MalClim	November	MEHRD Prime Minister's Office, SIBC, Solomon star Newspaper	7	7	0
Solomon Islands – Ocean Bulletin	November	Climate Change, NDMO, Environment, Tourism, Trade Co., Fisheries, Nature Conservancy, South Pacific Community	14	9	5
Tonga	November				
Tuvalu - Climate Bulletin	November	Governments civil servants, including departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants and NGOs		
Tuvalu-Monthly climate briefing	November	Governments civil servants, including departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants and NGOs		
Tuvalu-Ocean bulletin	November	Governments civil servants, including departments, Tuvalu Red Cross and Media	All civil servants and NGOs		
Vanuatu- Early Action Rainfall Watch	28/11/19	VMGD-Van-KIRAP Staffs, Oxfam Vanuatu, Action Aid Vanuatu, University of the South Pacific (USP), Vanuatu Statistics Office, SPREP, Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Media-Vanuatu, Vanuatu Red Cross Society, Matevulu College, Onesua Presbyterian College, Aore Adventist College, Tafea College, CSU, Vanuatu Care International, Save the Children Vanuatu, UNDP, Shefa Education, Live & Learn, UN-Women, Vanuatu Christian Council (VCC), GCF Private Consultants, Vanuatu Society of People Living with Disability, Unelco Vanuatu, World Health Organization, Vanuatu Meteorology & Geo-Hazards Department (Staffs), Others.	206	104	102
Vanuatu- Climate Update	28/11/19	VMGD-Van-KIRAP Staffs, Oxfam Vanuatu, Action Aid Vanuatu, University of the South Pacific (USP), Vanuatu Statistics Office, SPREP, Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Media-Vanuatu, Vanuatu Red Cross Society, Matevulu College, Onesua Presbyterian College, Aore Adventist College, Tafea College, CSU, Vanuatu Care International, Save the Children Vanuatu, UNDP, Shefa Education, Live & Learn, UN-Women, Vanuatu Christian Council (VCC), GCF Private Consultants, Vanuatu Society of People Living with Disability, Unelco Vanuatu, World Health Organization, Vanuatu Meteorology & Geo-Hazards Department (Staffs), Others.	206	104	102
Vanuatu Ocean Outlook	28/11/19	VMGD-Van-KIRAP Staffs, Oxfam Vanuatu, Action Aid Vanuatu, University of the South Pacific (USP), Vanuatu Statistics Office, SPREP, Vanuatu National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Media-Vanuatu, Vanuatu Red	206	104	102

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		Cross Society, Matevulu College, Onesua Presbyterian College, Aore Adventist College, Tafea College, CSU, Vanuatu Care International, Save the Children Vanuatu, UNDP, Shefa Education, Live & Learn, UN-Women, Vanuatu Christian Council (VCC), GCF Private Consultants, Vanuatu Society of People Living with Disability, Unelco Vanuatu, World Health Organization, Vanuatu Meteorology & Geo-Hazards Department (Staffs), Others.			
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]