

Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction (COMP)

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No. 148 Summary Report

Date: Wednesday 15 January 2020

Time: Australian Eastern Daylight Time at 12:00PM (01:00 UTC)

Host: SPREP / BoM

Chair: Samoa

Apologies: Cook Islands, Solomon Islands

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 19 February 2020 and is to be chaired by **Solomon Islands**.

Participants:

The Forum was attended by 20 climate officers (12 female) from 8 partner PIC NMSs.

Cook Islands: N/A

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

Kiribati: Kamaitia Rubetaake and Miriam Kataunati

Marshall Islands: Samson Kanenko and Lee Jacklick

Niue: Raquel Tanaki

Palau: Kikuko Mochimaru

Papua New Guinea: Kisolet Posanau, Kila Kila, and Gabriel Tuno

Samoa: Koton Faasau (Chair) and Faapisa Aiono

Solomon Islands: Apology

Tonga: N/A

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

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Tuvalu: N/A

Vanuatu: Glenda Pakoa, Moirah Yerta, Niel Malosu and Stephen Tom

Australia: Grant Beard

SPREP: Tile Tofaeono

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

Observations and Verification of October to December 2019 outlooks:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending December 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
Vunisea, Fiji	December	387.9	80	83
Rotuma, Fiji	Oct-Dec	1285.8	94	104
Port Moresby, PNG	December	0.8	1	129
Madang, PNG	Oct-Dec	686.6	7	70
Munda, Solomon Islands	December	101.8	4	58
Munda, Solomon Islands	Oct-Dec	507.4	6	58
Port Vila, Vanuatu	Oct-Dec	164.5	5	67

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

Validation of forecasts with observed rainfall for the months of October to December 2019 period showed 17 consistent, 28 near-consistent and 8 inconsistent outlooks (53 stations across 11 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** (3C, 4NC, 6In); **Kiribati** (1C, 3NC); **RMI** (1NC, 1In);
Niue (1NC); **Palau** (1NC); **PNG** (3C, 4NC); **Samoa** (1C, 3NC);
Solomon Islands (4C, 3NC); **Tonga** (4NC, 1In); **Tuvalu** (1C, 3NC) and **Vanuatu** (4C, 1NC).

Overall: 17C, 28NC, 8In.

February to April 2020 Outlooks:

SCOPIC outlooks: 32% of the 59 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 8% in tercile 3, 2% in tercile 2, while 36% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles. The remaining 22% have near-equal probabilities in two terciles.

POAMA outlooks: 47% of the 47 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 28% in tercile 3, 4% in tercile 2, 13% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles, with the remaining 9% having near-equal probabilities in two terciles.

Other matters Discussed:

- OCOF 149 will be hosted by SPREP with Solomon Islands as the chair. Date: Wed 19 Feb.

Observed Rainfall and Validation

Country	December 2019	October to December 2019	Verification [†] for October to December 2019 outlooks
Cook Islands			
Fiji	Normal to above normal	Below normal to above normal	Mainly Near-Consistent to Inconsistent
Kiribati	Mostly above normal	Mostly normal	Mainly Near-Consistent
RMI	Normal	Normal to above normal	Inconsistent and Near-Consistent
Niue	Above normal	Normal	Near-consistent
Palau	Normal	Normal	Near-consistent
Papua New Guinea	Normal to below normal	Mainly normal to below normal	Consistent to Near-consistent
Samoa	Mainly above normal	Mostly normal	Mostly Near-Consistent
Solomon Islands	Mainly below normal	Normal to below normal	Consistent to Near-consistent
Tonga	Mixed: Below normal to above normal	Mixed: Below normal to above normal	Mostly Near-Consistent
Tuvalu	Mainly above normal	Normal	Mostly Near-Consistent
Vanuatu	Mainly below normal to normal	Mainly below normal	Mostly 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).

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Country	Date December	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Cook Islands					
Fiji Climate Summary	12/12/2019	General public	140	106	34
Fiji Climate Outlook	13/12/2019	General public	124	93	31
Fiji -Climate Outlook for Monasavu	12/12/2019	EFL	13	13	-
Fiji- EAR Watch	09/12/2019	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26
Fiji-Ocean Outlook	19/12/2019	Reef Explorer Fiji limited, Maritime Safety Authority, World wildlife fun, wildlife conservation society and Tourism sector.	36	29	7
Fiji-National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF)	02/12/19 to 06/12/19	Fiji Sugar Cooperation Sugar Research Institute University of Fiji National Fire Authority Fiji Times Ltd. Fiji Broadcasting Cooperation Fiji Sun Energy Fiji Ltd. Fiji Roads Authority Ministry of Rural & Maritime Authority Dep. Of Information Fiji Hotels & Tourism Ass. Dept. Of Energy Mins. Of Waterways Mineral Resources Dept. Fiji National University Fiji Red Cross Society Pacific Financial Inclusion Program Fiji Commerce & Employers Federation FemLINK Pacific Mins. Of Fisheries Water Authority of Fiji Fiji Crop & Livestock Council Mins. Of Education & Cultural Heritage Mins. Of Agriculture Fiji Television National Disaster Management Maritime Safety Mins. Of Health Tower Insurance Sigatoka Town Council Secrétariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	52	34	18
Kiribati					

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Marshall Islands - Monthly Climate Briefing	13/12/19	Chief Secretary Office (CSO) and National Disaster Management Office (NDMO)	4	2	2
Niue - Climate Bulletin	05/12/19	General public	84	36	48
	19/12/19	Government officials	36	15	21
	19/12/19	Village council and Private sector	62	34	28
Niue – Monthly Climate Briefing	24/12/2019	Private Sector, Government Officials, Government staff, Village Council	60	26	34
Palau		No Engagement			
PNG-EAR Watch	Dec	Govt, UN Agencies, NGOs, Private sector, Media and Universities	116	76	40
Samoa – Climate Bulletin	8/12/19	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- Ocean Bulletin	8/12/19	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	8/12/19	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
Solomon Islands – Climate Bulletin	Dec	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	Dec	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 – Ocean Bulletin	Dec	Climate Change, NDMO, Environment, Tourism, Trade Co., Fisheries, Nature Conservancy, South Pacific Community	14	9	5

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Solomon Islands – MalaClim	Dec	MEHRD, Prime Minister's Office, SIBC, Solomon star Newspaper	7	7	0
Tonga					
Tuvalu - Climate Bulletin	Dec	Senior staffs of TMS, Civil servant list, Kaupule Secretary	15	11	4
Tuvalu-Monthly climate briefing	Dec	Senior staffs of TMS, Civil servant list, Kaupule Secretary	15	11	4
Tuvalu-Ocean Bulletin	Dec	Senior staffs of TMS, Civil servant list, Kaupule Secretary	15	11	4
Vanuatu- Early Action Rainfall Watch	13/12/19	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	13/12/19	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
Total			1548	922	626

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

[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]