

Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction (COMP)

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No. 154 Summary Report

Date: Wednesday 15 July 2020

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

Host: SPREP

Chair: Kiribati

Apologies: Palau

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 August 2020 and is to be chaired by **Niue**.

Participants:

The Forum was attended by 27 climate officers (10 female) from 10 partner PIC NMSs.

Cook Islands: Bates Manea, Bouchard Solomona, Metua Ngaoire and Tinomana Naea

Fiji: Arieta Daphne, Jasneel Chandra and Shweta Shiwangni

Kiribati: Mwata Keariki, Miriam Kataunati and Ueneta Toorua

Niue: Maxine Edwards, Raquel Tanaki and Tamyrah Sioneholo

Papua New Guinea: Kisolet Posanau

Palau:

Republic of Marshall Islands:

Samoa: Koton Faasau, Junior Lepale, Mattaniah Salesa

Solomon Islands: Max Sita, Noel Sanau and Lloyd Tahani

Tonga: Mele and Selu Finaulahi

Tuvalu: Elifaleti Ene

Vanuatu: Glenda Pakoa, Daphne N. Kamut, Kalo Abel and John Reuben

Australia: Grant Beard

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

SPREP: Philip Malsale, Tile Tofaeono and Kwon Heekyoung

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

Observations and Verification of April to June 2020 outlooks:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending June 2020 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
Rarotonga, Cook Islands	June	17.4	2	122
Navua, Fiji	Apr-Jun	1616.8	75	76
Rotuma, Fiji	Apr-Jun	578.1	11	106
Butaritari, Kiribati	June	115.7	6	82
Tarawa, Kiribati	June	32.5	6	71
Beru, Kiribati	Apr-Jun	43.8	6	63
Hanan Airport, Niue	Apr-Jun	1000.9	112	114
Momote, PNG	June	110.6	6	66
Kavieng, PNG	June	109.0	3	90
Momote, PNG	Apr-Jun	448.8	3	64
Apia, Samoa	June	262.0	119	131
Nafanua, Samoa	June	319.5	46	49
Faleolo, Samoa	June	234.4	57	59
Henderson, Solomon Islands	June	23.5	4	46
Munda, Solomon Islands	June	126.8	5	59
Taro, Solomon Islands	June	148.4	3	45
Niutoputapu, Tonga	Apr-Jun	869.5	63	67
Vava'u, Tonga	Apr-Jun	833.3	68	74
Niulakita, Tuvalu	June	407.9	61	68
Sola, Vanuatu	June	718.0	45	46
Whitegrass, Vanuatu	June	9.5	3	49
Sola, Vanuatu	Apr-Jun	1895.1	46	46
Pekoa, Vanuatu	Apr-Jun	1516.5	50	50

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

Validation of forecasts with observed rainfall for the months of April to June 2020 period showed 5 consistent, 28 near-consistent and 24 inconsistent outlooks (57 stations across 12 countries). Note that there were more inconsistent forecast and that is to do with the transition to dry season.

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** (4NC, 9In); **Kiribati** (1NC, 3In); **RMI** (2NC,); **Niue** (1In); **Palau** (1NC); **PNG** (1C, 6NC); **Samoa** (2NC, 2In); **Solomon Islands** (2C, 2NC, 3In); **Tonga** (1C, 4NC, 1In);

Tuvalu (4NC) and **Vanuatu** (1C, 1NC, 4In).

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

Overall: 5C, 28NC, 24In.

August to October 2020 Outlooks:

SCOPIC outlooks: None of the 61 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 8% in tercile 2, no station in tercile 3, 13% have near-equal probabilities in two terciles and 79% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles. The highest percentage is in three terciles because of the rapid development of the La Niña event.

Other matters Discussed:

- OCOF 155 will be hosted by SPREP on the 19 August with Niue as the chair
- No SCOPIC issue from the countries
- One request for SCOPIC software from Simon White
- Cook Islands issue their first EAR Watch

Observed Rainfall and Validation

Country	June 2020	April to June 2020	Verification* for April to June 2020 outlooks
Cook Islands	Below normal and normal	Below normal and normal	Near-Consistent and Inconsistent
Fiji	Normal and above normal	Mostly normal and above normal	Near-Consistent and Inconsistent
Kiribati	Below normal	Mostly below normal	Mostly Inconsistent
RMI	Below normal and normal	Normal and above normal	Near-Consistent
Niue	Above normal	Above normal	Inconsistent
Palau	Below normal	Above Normal	Near-Consistent
Papua New Guinea	Below normal to above normal	Mostly below normal and normal	Mostly Near-Consistent
Samoa	Above normal	Normal to above normal	Near-Consistent and Inconsistent
Solomon Islands	Mostly Below normal	Mostly normal and above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Tonga	Below normal to above normal	Normal and above normal	Consistent to Inconsistent
Tuvalu	Below normal to above normal	Normal	Near-Consistent
Vanuatu	Below normal to above normal	Below normal and 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 countries engage with their stakeholders

Country	Date June 2020	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Cook Islands- Climate bulletin	June	Ministry of Transport	24	16	8
Cook Islands- EAR Watch	June	Ministry of Transport	24	16	8
Fiji – Climate Change map launch	08 June	Senior Government Officials	18	8	10
Fiji Climate Summary	05 June	General public	140	106	34
Fiji- EAR Watch	05 June	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26
Fiji -Climate Outlook for Monasavu	09 June	Energy Fiji Limited	13	13	-
Fiji Climate Outlook	11 June	General public	124	93	31
Fiji-Ocean Outlook	19 June	Reef Explorer Fiji Limited, Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji, World Wildlife Fund, Wildlife Conservation Society, Ministry of Fisheries and Tourism Sector	36	29	7
Fiji-Meteorological Data Requests	01-30 June	A range of stakeholders	57	48	9
Kiribati Climate bulletin	12 June	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs.	118	45	73
Kiribati -EAR Watch	12 June	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs.	118	45	73
Kiribati –Media release	12 June	Media Colleagues- Government and Non Government entities. And Internal staffs.	43	28	15
Kiribati Ocean Bulletin	12 June	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs.	118	45	73
Marshall Island – Monthly Climate Briefing	12 June	Office of the Chief Secretary Office(CSO) and National Disaster Management Office(NDMO)	5	2	3
Niue-Climate Bulletin	04 June	General public	40	20	20
	18 June	Stakeholders	20	15	10

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

	18 June	Government Officials	20	10	10
	18 June	Village Council	14	7	7
Niue – Monthly Climate Briefing	17 June	Stakeholders	20	15	5
		Weather group	20	5	15
		Government Officials	20	10	10
		Government staff	30	15	15
Palau – Climate briefing	June				
		<i>No Engagement</i>			
Papua New Guinea – Climate Bulletin	23 June	Govt: National Disaster Centre, Dept. of Agriculture and Livestock, Climate Change Development Authority, National Agriculture Research Institute, Dept. of Transport, Dept. of Mineral Policy and Geohazard Management, Dept. of Works, PNG Fire, National Maritime Safety Authority, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, PNG Forest Authority, National Capital District Commission, PNG Customs Authority, National Dept. of Health, Dept. of Education, Centre for Environmental Protection Authority. UN agencies: UNDP, IOM, UNOCH. Private: PNG Air Services Limited, ExxonMobil, Ok Tedi Mining Ltd, PNG Power Ltd, Global Construction Ltd, Datec, InterOil, Air Niugini, Bank South Pacific, PNG Ports, Media and Universities.	201	145	56
Papua New Guinea – EAR Watch	12 June	Govt: National Disaster Centre, Dept. of Transport, National Agriculture Research Institute, Dept. of Agriculture and Livestock, Provincial Disaster Coordinators, Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Climate Change Development Authority, Dept. of Mineral Policy and Geohazard Management, PNG DFAT, Centre of Environmental Protection Authority, National Capital District Commission, Dept. of Education. UN Agencies: UNDP, FAO, IOM, Oxfam. NGOs: Childfund, WVI, PNGRC. Private: Pacific Hydro Services, PNG Power, Ok Tedi Mining Ltd, Media. Aus DFAT	123	88	35
Papua New Guinea – EAR Watch recirculated by Disaster team	12 June	National Disaster Centre, UNRCO, IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, WHO, UNWomen, UNFPA, UNDSS, OHCHR, UNAIDS, WVI, WFP, PNGCC, Caritas, Care International, Child Fund, MSF,	121	70	51

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

		Oxfam, Plan International, PSI PNG, Save The Children, ICRC, IFRC, PNG Red Cross Society, World Bank, DFFAT, PRC, EU, JICA, MFAT, USAID, CDC, PNG DisabilitySector Coalition, Department of Education, Department of Agriculture and Livestock			
PNG- Disaster Management Team Virtual meeting	29 June	National Disaster Centre, National Weather Service, UNRCO, IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, UNFPA, WHO, UNWomen, PNGRCS, ICRC, UNRCO-AROB, UNAIDS, AHC, NZHC, EU, USAID, PNGDF, Child Fund, Oxfam, WVI, NDOH, NCC.	39	27	12
Samoa – Climate bulletin	26 June	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	26 June	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	29 June	Samoa Met Office (Mulinuu)	9	7	2
Solomon Islands – Climate bulletin	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 – 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 - Ocean Bulletin	June	Climate Change, NDMO, Environment, Tourism, Trade Co., Fisheries, Nature Conservancy, South Pacific Community	14	9	5
Solomon Islands – MalClim	June	MEHRD, Prime Minister's Office, SIBC, Solomon star Newspaper	7	7	0
Tonga- Climate bulletin	June	<i>No Engagement</i>			
Tonga- Ocean bulletin	June	<i>No Engagement</i>			
Tuvalu – Climate Bulletin	June	<i>No Engagement</i>			

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

Tuvalu-EAR Watch		<i>No Engagement</i>			
Tuvalu- Monthly Climate bulletin		<i>No Engagement</i>			
Tuvalu-Ocean Bulletin		<i>No Engagement</i>			
Vanuatu- Climate Update	25 June	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), General Public (Website and VMGD call-centre)	206	104	102
Vanuatu- Early Action Rainfall Watch	25 June		206	104	102
Vanuatu Ocean Outlook	25 June		206	104	102
Round island trip	25 June	Notice Boards: Pango, Eratap, Erakor, Teouma, Eton (6), Forari (2), Panpang , Epau, Ekipe (1), Epau (3), Onesua (1), Paunangisu (2), Emua, Sama, Siviri, Makatia (1), Malafau, Tanoliu, Mangaliliu (3), Mele (1).	20	6	14
Total			2,452	1,409	1021

[Note: The stakeholder data below may not total up due to lack of data from NMS or no participation