

Climate and Oceans Monitoring and Prediction (COMP)

Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum No. 155 Summary Report

Date: Wednesday 19 August 2020

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

Host: SPREP

Chair: Niue

Apologies: Marshall 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 15 September 2020 and is to be chaired by **Papua New Guinea**.

Participants:

The Forum was attended by 22 climate officers (12 female) from 11 partner PIC NMSs.

Cook Islands: Bates Manea

Fiji: Arieta Daphne, Jasneel Chandra and Shweta Shiwangni

Kiribati: Miriam Kataunati

Niue: Hingano Laufoli and Floyd

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

Palau: Kiku Mochimaru

Republic of Marshall Islands:

Samoa: Kotoni Faasau, Junior Lepale, Mattaniah Salesa

Solomon Islands: Max Sita

Tonga: Mele and Selu Finaulahi

Tuvalu: Elifaleti Ene

Vanuatu: Glenda Pakoa, Daphne N. Kamut, Albert Willy and Stephen Tom

Australia: Grant Beard

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SPREP: Philip Malsale and Tile Tofaeono

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

Observations and Verification of May to July 2020 outlooks:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending July 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
Penang Mil, Fiji	July	2.0	5	111
Rotuma, Fiji	July	517.6	104	105
Udu point, Fiji	May-July	682.0	65	70
Beru, Kiribati	July	9.9	4	62
Tarawa, Kiribati	July	33.3	9	86
Beru, Kiribati	May-July	39.0	2	61
Hanan Airport, Niue	May-July	580.9	106	113
Momote, PNG	May-July	476.8	4	66
Kavieng, PNG	May-July	460.8	6	88
Port Moresby	May-July	306.6	102	110
Apia, Samoa	July	221.7	122	131
Faleolo, Samoa	July	243.5	59	60
Apia, Samoa	May-July	700.1	121	131
Faleolo, Samoa	May-July	563.6	53	58
Henderson, Solomon Islands	July	41.0	4	46
Lata, Solomon Islands	July	584.5	43	46
Taro, Solomon Islands	May-July	652.7	3	41
Fua'amotu, Tonga	July	271.8	63	67
Nuku'alofa, Tonga	July	231.5	40	41
Nui, Tuvalu	July	421.1	70	75
Niulakita, Tuvalu	July	367.4	62	68
Sola, Vanuatu	July	595.2	45	46
Sola, Vanuatu	May-July	1484.8	44	45

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

Validation of forecasts with observed rainfall for the months of May to July 2020 period showed 11 consistent, 28 near-consistent and 20 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 (2NC); **Fiji** (1C, 7NC, 5In); **Kiribati** (1NC, 3In); **RMI** (1C, 1NC,); **Niue** (1In); **Palau** (1NC); **PNG** (2C, 4NC, 3In); **Samoa** (2NC, 2In); **Solomon Islands** (2C, 3NC, 2In); **Tonga** (3NC, 3In); **Tuvalu** (2C, 2NC) and **Vanuatu** (3C, 2NC, 1In).

Overall: 11C, 28NC, 20In.

September to November 2020 Outlooks:

SCOPIE outlooks: None of the 59 stations have their highest probability in tercile 1, 23% in tercile 2, no station in tercile 3, 13% have near-equal probabilities in two terciles and 64% have near-equal probabilities in three terciles.

Other matters Discussed:

- OCOF 156 will be hosted by SPREP on the 15 September with PNG as the chair
- SCOPIE software requested from PNG
- SCOPIE Bug- Drought report does not match the color in the time series. Issue registered in Gitlab
- Outlook summary statement for whole country using ACCESS-S

Observed Rainfall and Validation

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

Country	Date July 2020	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Cook Islands- Climate bulletin	July	Ministry of Transport	24	16	8
Cook Islands- EAR Watch	July	Cook Islands Government	24	16	8
Fiji - Stakeholder consultation to develop formal partnership agreement	16- 17 July	Water Authority of Fiji, Ministry of Agriculture, Fiji Hotel & Tourism Ass., University of the South Pacific, Energy Fiji Limited, Fiji Ports Corporation, Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment and Waterways, Fiji Roads Authority, Fiji Sugar Corporation Ltd., Sugar Research Institute of Fiji, Fiji Airports Ltd., Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji, Fiji Navy, Ministry of Infrastructure & Meteorological Service	16	12	4
Fiji- Meeting with Energy Fiji Ltd on climate services for hydro- electricity generation	24 July	Energy Fiji Ltd, BoM	9	7	2
Fiji Climate Summary	07 July	General public	140	106	34
Fiji- EAR Watch	04 July	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26
Fiji -Climate Outlook for Monasavu	09 July	Energy Fiji Limited	13	13	-
Fiji Climate Outlook	10 July	General public	124	93	31
Fiji-Ocean Outlook	19 July	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 – Sugarcane climate Outlook	24 July	Sugar Industry stakeholders	77	60	17
Fiji-Meteorological Data Requests	01-31 July	A range of stakeholders	50	43	7
Kiribati Climate bulletin	15 July	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs.	118	45	73

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Kiribati -EAR Watch	15 July	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs.	118	45	73
Kiribati –Media release	08 July	Media Colleagues- Government and Non Government entities. And Internal staffs.	43	28	15
Kiribati Ocean Bulletin	15 July	Government Sectors, Non-Government Organisations, Fisheries (coastal and offshore) Sector, SPREP, General Public and internal staffs.	118	45	73
Marshall Island – Monthly Climate Briefing	17 July	Office of the Chief Secretary Office(CSO) and National Disaster Management Office(NDMO)	5	2	3
Niue-Climate Bulletin	09 July	General public	60	20	40
	09 July	Government Officials	20	10	10
	28 July	Village Council	15	5	10
Niue – Monthly Climate Briefing	22 July	Stakeholders	25	10	15
		Weather group	20	5	15
		Government Officials	15	7	8
		Government staff	20	5	10
		Facebook Users			
		Village Council	15	5	10
Palau – Climate briefing	July	<i>No Engagement</i>			
Papua New Guinea – Climate Bulletin	27 July	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.	203	145	58
Papua New Guinea – EAR Watch	15 July	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,	124	38	86

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		Centre of Environmental Protection Authority, National Capital District Commission, Dept. of Education. UN Agencies: UNDP, FAO, IOM, Oxfam. NGOs: Childfund, WVI, PNGRC. Private: Pacific Hydo Services, PNG Power, Ok Tedi Mining Ltd, Media. Aus DFAT			
Papua New Guinea – EAR Watch recirculated by Disaster team	16 July	National Disaster Centre, UNRCO, IOM, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, WHO, UNWomen, UNFPA, UNDSS, OHCHR, UNAIDS, WVI, WFP, PNGCC, Caritas, Care International, Child Fund, MSF, 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	121	70	51
PNG- Disaster Management Team Virtual meeting	23 July	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.	40	26	14
Samoa - PICASO training	29-31 July	SPREP, Samoa Met climate officers	8	6	2
Samoa – Climate Summary	July	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	July	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	July	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	July	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 - Ocean Bulletin	July	Climate Change, NDMO, Environment, Tourism, Trade Co., Fisheries, Nature Conservancy, South Pacific Community	14	9	5
Solomon Islands – MalClim	July	MEHRD, Prime Minister’s Office, SIBC, Solomon star Newspaper	7	7	0
Tonga- Climate bulletin	July	General Public	132	66	34
Tonga- Ocean bulletin	July	General Public	132	66	34
Tuvalu – Climate Bulletin	July	Met staff	6	5	1
Tuvalu-EAR Watch		Disaster members	9	5	4
Tuvalu- Monthly Climate briefing		All civil servants and kaupule members			
Tuvalu- Ocean bulletin					
Vanuatu- Climate Update	22 July	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	22 July		206	104	102
Vanuatu Ocean Outlook	22 July		206	104	102
Total			2,797	1,556	1172

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