Seasonal Prediction Project (SPP)

Pacific Islands – Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum No. 203 Summary Report

Date: Thursday 15 August 2024

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

Host: SPREP (Virtual)

Chair: Fiji

Apologies:

Main purpose for the OCOF:

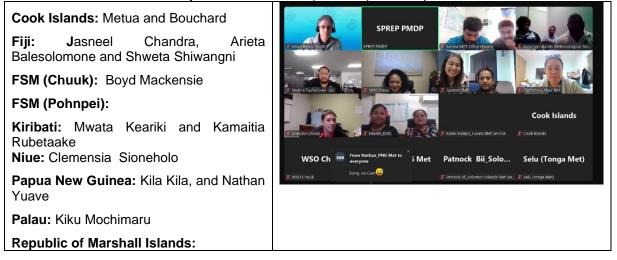
- To provide a regular forum for the 14 participating PIC NMSs to discuss the current ENSO status, recent one and three-month rainfall, drought (if present), their seasonal climate outlooks and stakeholders' engagement with other countries and the SPP (Bureau of Meteorology and SPREP) project team.
- In addition, it serves as an online training forum for recent ACCESS 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, SPC 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, CliKp and ACCESS-S
- 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 September 2024.**

Participants:

The OCOF 203 was attended by 23 climate officers (8 female) from 11 partner PIC NMSs.



Samoa: , Emannuel Etimani, Kotoni, Joshua, Junior and Mattaniah
Solomon Islands: Max Sitai, Martin Tugumana and Patnock Bii
Tokelau:
Tonga: Seluvaia Finaulahi
Tuvalu: Kaani Kalepo, and Eli Ene
Vanuatu:
Australia: Grant Beard, and Elise Chandler
NOAA: Brandon Burunt
SPREP: Philip Malsale
SPC: Moleni Tu'uholoaki

OCOF tables were received from 13 participating countries before the meeting.

Observations of May to July 2024:

Observed rainfall for the one and three-month periods ending July 2024 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
Nausori Airport, Fiji	July	9.6	10	115
Savusavu airfield, Fiji	May-July	637.5	58	64
Kiritimati, Kiribati	July	0.4	4	100
Kiritimati, Kiribati	May-July	36.1	7	100
Goroka, PNG	July	110.2	55	61
Kavieng, PNG	July	405.5	89	94
Port Moresby, PNG	July	1.0	10	125
Nadzab, PNG	May - July	558.8	45	48
Faleolo, Samoa	July	179.5	59	64
Apia, Samoa	May -July	713.7	126	135
Afiamalu, Samoa	May -July	1312.3	67	70
Nafanua, Samoa	May -July	964.5	51	52
Faleolo, Samoa	May -July	570.8	57	62
Auki, Solomon Islands	May -July	979.4	60	62
Lata, Solomon Islands	May -July	1432.6	47	50
Niuafo'ou, Tonga	May -July	177.0	5	51
Niu, Tuvalu	May -July	916.4	72	79
Niulakita, Tuvalu	May -July	1067.0	68	72

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

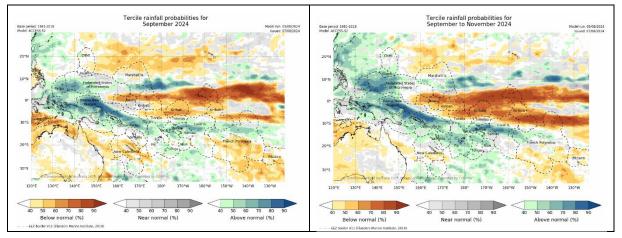
Australian Aid Project: Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)

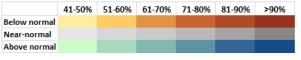
September to November 2024 Outlooks:

ACCESS-S outlooks:

The three-month ACCESS-S rainfall outlook for **September-November 2024** shows above normal rainfall is likely or very likely in a band stretching southeast from Palau and western FSM to the Cook Is and parts of French Polynesia. Another region favouring above normal rainfall extends east from central RMI.

Below normal is likely or very likely in zone situated very close to the equator extending east from far southeast FSM. Other areas where below normal is likely or very likely include patches in each of New Caledonia, Vanuatu and southwest Fiji, central French Polynesia, Pitcairn Islands, Guam, CNMI, and northern RMI.





Augus	t to October	r 2024	
	ACCESS-S	C3S	CLIKP
Cook Is North			
Cook Is South			
Fiji West			
Fiji Central			
Fiji East			
Fiji North			
Fiji Rotuma			
FSM West			
FSM Central			
FSM East			
Kiribati West			
Kiribati Central			
Kiribati East			
RMI North			
RMI Central			
RMI South			
Nauru			
Niue			
Palau			
PNG Momase			
PNG Is			
PNG South			
PNG Highlands			
Samoa			
Solomon Is West			
Solomon Is Central			
Solomon Is East			
Tonga North			
Tonga Central			
Tonga South			
Tuvalu North			
Tuvalu Central			
Tuvalu South			
Vanuatu North			
Vanuatu South			

Other matters Discussed:

 NMHS were encouraged to document climate and weather extreme impacts for the past 6 month. Australian Aid Project: Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)

- PICOF-15 is schedule for 14 and 15 October.
- OCOF 204 will be hosted by SPREP via zoom on the 19 September 2024.

Observed	Rainfall

Country	July 2024	May to July 2024
Cook Islands	Normal	Below normal to normal
Fiji	Below normal to above normal	Mostly normal to above normal
FSM (Chuuk)	Above normal	Normal
FSM (Pohnpei)	Above normal	Above normal
Kiribati	Mostly Normal	Mostly Normal
RMI	Below normal and above normal	Normal to above normal
Nauru	No Report	
Niue	Normal	Normal
Palau	Above normal	Normal
Papua New Guinea	Mostly above normal	Mostly above normal
Samoa	Above normal	Above normal
Solomon Islands	Mostly below normal and above normal	Normal to above normal
Tonga	Mostly normal	Mostly above normal
Tuvalu	Mostly above normal	Above normal
Vanuatu	No Report	

Ocean Conditions

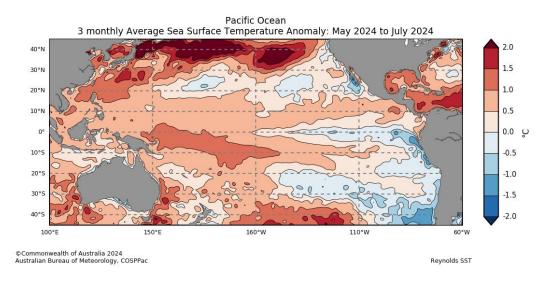
Observations of May to July 2024

Sea surface temperature (SST):

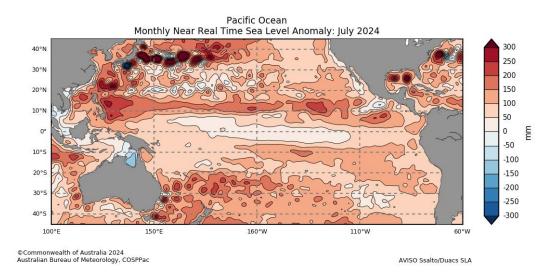
Above-normal SST anomalies were utmost 1.5°C in Nauru, PNG, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Tokelau, Samoa, Kiribati (Gilbert, Phoenix and southern Line Islands), FSM, Palau, Tonga, Niue and Cook Islands and utmost 1.0°C in Vanuatu and RMI. Comparing to the previous three months, generally the

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

SST anomalies relatively unchanged.



Sea levels observed in July were above normal over most COSPPac countries. Patches of anomalies from +200 to +300 mm were observed over northern Palau, along the southeastern Australian coast, southern New Caledonia, parts of southern Fiji, southern Tonga, and southern French Polynesia. Anomalies with utmost +150 mm were observed over PNG, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tokelau and +100 mm for the remaining countries.



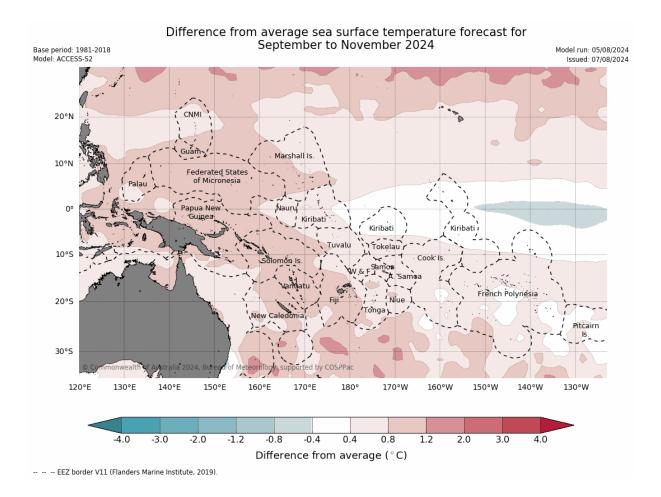
September to November 2024 Outlooks:

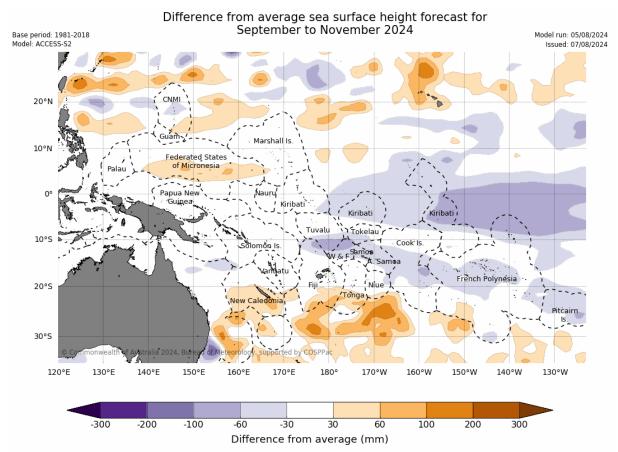
Sea surface temperature (SST) outlook: SSTs are generally forecast to be 0.4 to 1.2 °C above normal for most of the COSPPac countries except for near-normal SSTs over Kiribati (northern Line Islands

and northern Phoenix Islands), Pitcairn Island, part of French Polynesia and a few patches over Cook Islands.

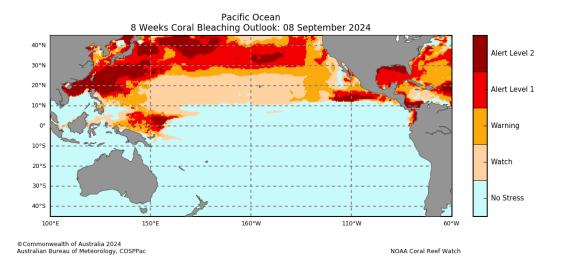
Sea level outlook: Sea level is generally near-normal for most of the COSPPac countries. Above normal and near normal sea level is forecast for central and southern parts of New Caledonia, parts of southern Fiji, southern Tonga, southern Niue, part of southern Cook Islands, part of FSM and far southern part of French Polynesia. Below normal and near normal sea level is forecast for part of Federated States of Micronesia, Solomon Islands, southern Tuvalu, southern Tokelau, Samoa, northern and part of central French Polynesia, northern Phoenix Islands and northern Line Islands (Kiribati). Note that this outlook does not include trends of sea level rise.

Coral Bleaching Outlook: For the outlook to 8 September, "Alert Levels 1, 2" and "warnings are forecast for southern FSM, "Alert Level 1" and "warning" for northern part of PNG and "watch" for Marshall Islands. The remaining countries are predicted to experience "no thermal stress".





-- -- EEZ border V11 (Flanders Marine Institute, 2019).



Observed Conditions

SST: sea surface temperature anomaly SLA: sea level anomaly BN: Below Normal NN: Near Normal AN: Above Normal

Country	July	2024
Country	SST	SLA
Cook Islands	AN/NN	AN/NN
Fiji	AN/NN	AN/NN
FSM (Chuuk)	AN/NN	AN/NN
FSM (Pohnpei)	AN/NN	AN/NN
Kiribati	AN/NN	AN/NN
Marshall Islands	AN	AN/NN
Nauru	AN	AN/NN
Niue	AN	AN/NN
Palau	AN	AN/NN
Papua New Guinea	AN/NN	AN/NN
Samoa	AN	AN/NN
Solomon Islands	AN/NN	AN/NN
Tonga	AN/NN	AN/NN
Tuvalu	AN	AN/NN
Vanuatu	AN/NN	AN/NN

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

Country	Date July	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participant S	Number of male	Number of female	Disability
	2024	Red Cross, Joland Council and				
Cook Islands – EAR Watch	July	Red Cross, Island Council and Executive Officers, To Tatou Vai	43	?	?	
Cook Islands – Monthly Climate Bulletin	July	Climate Change	10	?	?	
Cook Islands – Climate Data request	1-31 July	Ministry of Marine Resources, Local Newspaper	2		2	
Fiji - Climate Summary	05 July	General public	140	106	34	
Fiji - EAR Watch	09 July	Humanitarian partners	122	96	26	
Fiji - Climate Outlook	31 July	General public	124	93	31	

Fiji - Climate Outlook for Monasavu	31 July	Energy Fiji Limited	13	13	-	
Fiji - Ocean Outlook	19 July	A number of key ocean related stakeholders	36	29	7	
Fiji -ENSO update	24 July	General Public	142	116	26	
Fiji - Sugarcane rainfall outlook	05 July	Sugarcane Industry stakeholders	77	60	17	
Fiji - Meteorological data request	01-31 July	A range of stakeholders	33	25	8	
FSM (Chuuk) - Climate Bulletin	July	DEOC, DECCEM, CPUC, UN, IOM, Chuuk State Gov., CWC, DOE, EPA	15	8	7	
FSM (Chuuk) - EAR Watch	July	DEOC, DECCEM, CPUC, UN, IOM, Chuuk State Gov., CWC, DOE, EPA	15	8	7	
FSM (Chuuk) – Ocean Outlook	July	DEOC, DECCEM, CPUC, UN, IOM, Chuuk State Gov., CWC, DOE, EPA	15	8	7	
FSM (Pohnpei) – Climate bulletin	July	Pohnpei Municipal, Gov't, Kosrae, Municipal Gov't, Pohnpei and Kosrae DCO, Dept. Of Education, Red Cross, Fisheries, Environmental Protection Agency, DECEM, Mayors, Dept. Of Public Safety, Pohnpei Utility Corporation, Tourism, Fisheries.	60	49	11	
FSM – EAR Watch	July	Pohnpei Municipal, Gov't, Kosrae, Municipal Gov't, Pohnpei and Kosrae DCO, Dept. Of Education, Red Cross, Fisheries, Environmental Protection Agency, DECEM, Mayors, Dept. Of Public Safety, Pohnpei Utility Corporation, Tourism, Fisheries.	60	49	11	
Kiribati - Climate bulletin	08 July	Government and Non-Government Organisations and public subscribed to the products.	158	70	88	1
Kiribati – EAR Watch	19 July	Drought committee members	62	35	27	
Kiribati -Media release	08 July	Media Outlets in Kiribati (BPA, Government Communications, Church Faith Based).	53	23	30	
Kiribati - Ocean Bulletin	08 July	Government and Non-Government Organisations and public subscribed to the products.	158	70	88	1

Kiribati – Climate data request	1-31 July	MOE, MCIA	2	0	2	
Marshall Island – Climate briefing	12 July	Office of the Chief Secretary and the National Disaster Management Office	6	4	2	
Nauru	July	No report				
Niue – Climate Bulletin	31 July	Niue Government all staff Niue Government officials Village councils General Public	326	156	170	
Niue – Monthly climate briefing	04 and 11 July	Ekalesia Kerisiano Niue Womens Makefu Community	61	18	43	
Niue – Climate data request	1-31 July	Private sector	2	2		
Palau - Data Infographic of Monthly 24-Hour Rainfall and Average Temperatures across Manual and Automated Weather Stations	2 July	WSO Palau, WFO Guam, PEAC, climate scientists, Palau Public Utilities, US Drought Monitor, Coral Reef Research Foundation, social media platform	24+	17+	7+	
Palau - NIWA Island Climate Update (ICU) Video	3 July	Social media	1+	1+	0+	
Palau - ICU	3 July	WSO Palau and social media	15+	11+	4+	
Palau - PICASO and APCC local Climate bulletin	3 July	WSO Palau and social media	15+	10+	5+	
Palau - EAR Watch	9 July	WSO Palau and social media	14+	10+	4+	
Palau - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum Updates	17 July	WSO Palau and social media	16+	10+	6+	
Palau - Climate and Ocean Bulletin	18 July	WSO Palau and social media	13+	9+	4+	
PNG - Excursions/ visitations	All of July	Church, school/ partners agencies	85	27	58	
PNG - Drought Update	26 July	NGOs, Consultants, Construction Companies, Govt Agencies, Companies, General Public	219	178	41	
PNG – Climate data request	1-31 July	Consultants, and companies	2	2	0	
Samoa – EAR Watch	10 July	RED Cross, Water Authority (SWA), Media, Health, Works & Infrastructure, Land & Transport Authority, Agriculture & Fisheries, Fire Services, Ministry of Women, National University of Samoa,	65	27	38	

		Tourism, Foreign Affairs, Communication and Information Technology, Disaster Managers, Marines				
Samoa – Seasonal rainfall Outlook	10 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 Outlook	10 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, Glodridge Mining, Ministry of Mines and Energy, MEHRD, Forestry, Ministry of Health, Solomon Water, MECDM, Live and Learn, Tourism, Maritime Service, People with Disability, MID, Ministry of Fisheries, Sol Tuna Ltd, UN Women, Council of Women, Community Representatives	58	46	12	
Solomon Islands – EAR Watch	July	Red Cross, NDMO, Ministry of Agriculture, SIBC, Hydrology, Solomon star, Paoa FM, World Vision, Glodridge Mining, Ministry of Mines and Energy, MEHRD, Forestry, Ministry of Health, Solomon Water, MECDM, Live and Learn, Tourism, Maritime Service, People with Disability, MID, Ministry of Fisheries, UN Women, Council of Women.	53	39	14	
Solomon Islands - Ocean Bulletin	July	Red Cross, NDMO, Ministry of Agriculture, SIBC, Hydrology, Solomon star, Paoa FM, World Vision, Glodridge Mining, Ministry of Mines and Energy, MEHRD.	14	9	5	
Tonga – Climate Bulletin	3 July	Government ministries. NGOs, Media, Private Sector	155	118	37	
Tonga – Ocean Outlook	3 July	Government ministries. NGOs, Media, Private Sector	155	118	37	
Tuvalu – Climate Bulletin	26 July	MET Staff Disaster Dept TRC	43+	23	10	

	1	Total	2,918	1,795	1,520	2
Vanuatu	July	No report				
		All Civil Servants All Kaupule Secretary				
		Agriculture				
		TRC TuCAN				
Tuvalu – Ocean Outlook	26 July	MET Staff Disaster Dept	43+	23	10	
Climate briefing	210019				4.0	
Tuvalu – Monthly	21 July	MET staff	5	2	3	
		All Kaupule Secretary				
		Agriculture All Civil Servants				
		TuCAN				
Watch		TRC				
Tuvalu – EAR	26 July	Disaster Dept	434	25	10	
		All Kaupule Secretary MET Staff	43+	23	10	
		All Civil Servants				
		Agriculture				
		TuCAN				

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

The discussion can be found in the link below:

Link: <u>https://sprep.zoom.us/rec/share/HsFi2-</u> gkCRwzcPhrLz1p5eogY8TGBBMIO5cCvIOLeMxpt9zernbIpCZ5uo9vCJXy.IDrbBcjevIobaxWD

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