Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 109

Country Name: SAMOA

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			September 2016				
	July 2016 Total	August 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	69.5	271.6	186.9	117.2	219.0	152.1	37/64
Apia	24.0	163.4	97.1	93.3	174.0	123.2	46/127
Nafanua	82.0	132.1	131.1	105.1	176.5	156.5	18/44
Faleolo	36.7	122.8	47.5	56.6	116.9	82.6	13/54

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
July to September 2016
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #105]

Station	Three-month Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking	Forecast probs.* (include LEPS)	Verification* (Consistent, Near-consistent Inconsistent?
Afiamalu	528.0	461.8	671.9	590.2	23/62	**38**/29/33 (-1.4)	Near Consistent
Apia	284.5	250.3	423.3	345.3	51/127	**37**/31/32 (-0.2)	Near Consistent
Nafanua	345.2	302.7	507.7	404.0	17/44	32/28/**40** (-1.9)	Near Consistent
Faleolo	206.4	213.5	359.3	280.5	17/52	35/**36**/30 (-2.3)	Near Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for July to September 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #105):
Nino 3.4 values from March to May 2016

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*Forecast is underlined 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).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for November 2016 to January 2017

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 values from July to September 2016 period

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	40	1767.2	60		13.1%	67.3%
Apia	42	1056.0	58		9.5%	63.1%
Nafanua	39	1337.2	61		15.2%	69.2%
Faleolo	46	772.0	54		1.1%	61.1%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	29	1445.8	29	1993.1	42	14.2%	47.3%
Apia	27	968.6	36	1205.0	37	4.0%	41.5%
Nafanua	16	1083.4	41	1490.6	43	17.5%	56.4%
Faleolo	27	689.4	36	897.6	37	2.4%	46.3%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for November 2016 to January 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for September 2016: 'Normal' rainfall for all with **'below normal'** recorded at Faleolo station.

Accumulated rainfall for July to September 2016, including outlook verification:
All stations registered 'normal' accumulated rainfall with Faleolo received 'below normal'. The outlook was 'near consistent' in all stations.

Outlooks for November 2016 to January 2017:
1. SCOPIC:
The outlook for Afiamalu favours 'above normal' rainfall whereas the outlooks for Nafanua, Apia and Faleolo provide similar chances of 'above normal' and 'normal' rainfall; 'below normal' is the least likely outcome.

Confidence of the model is **'low'** at Apia and Faleolo, **'good'** at Afiamalu and **'high'** confidence for Nafanua.

2. POAMA:

NB: The X LEPS % score has been categorised as follows:

Very Low: X < 0.0   Low: 0 ≤ X < 5   Moderate 5 ≤ X < 10   Good: 10 ≤ X < 15   High: 15≤ X < 25

Very High: 25 ≤X < 35   Exceptional: X ≥ 35