Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 110

<u>**Country Name**</u>: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			October 2016				
	August 2016 Total	September 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	271.6	186.9	241.8	246.0	415.9	336.9	21/65
Nafanua	163.4	97.1	112.7	179.2	346.5	241.0	8/45
Apia	132.1	131.1	135.1	145.2	236.6	183.0	40/127
Faleolo	122.8	47.5	228.6	125.9	191.0	155.2	42/55

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
August to October 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #106]

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	700.3	582.2	832.5	720.7	28/62	**43**/32/25 (1.1)	Near consistent
Nafanua	373.2	471.8	619.0	549.1	12/44	**39**/29/32 (-2.2)	Consistent
Apia	398.3	361.3	529.1	439.2	50/127	**48**/28/24 (2.3)	Near consistent
Faleolo	398.9	281.8	421.8	350.7	31/53	**47**/26/27 (0.6)	Near consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

<u>Predictors and Period used for August to October 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #106)</u>**:**
Nino 3.4 value from April to June 2016.

---

[*] Forecast is <u>consistent</u> when observed and predicted (tercile with the highest probability) categories coincide (are in the same tercile).
Forecast is <u>near-consistent</u> 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 <u>inconsistent</u> 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 December 2016 to February 2017

Predictors and Period used: Nino 3.4 value from August to October 2016.

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	42	1925.3	58		9.2%	63.6%
Nafanua	35	1322.3	65		24.3%	69.2%
Apia	41	1137.0	59		12.1%	60.0%
Faleolo	45	842.7	55		2.6%	60.4%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	28	1620.4	30	2225.4	**42**	9.4%	49.1%
Nafanua	13	1166.0	**43**	1564.3	**44**	23.2%	51.3%
Apia	22	1005.2	**38**	1310.9	**40**	11.7%	46.2%
Faleolo	28	762.4	34	921.4	**38**	2.3%	47.2%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for December 2016 to February 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Apia	**58**	892	6	1361	36		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for October 2016: All station recorded "below normal" rainfall except Faleolo station which observed "above normal".

Accumulated rainfall for August to October 2016, including outlook verification: "Normal" rainfall received at all the stations except Nafanua which recorded "below normal" rainfall.

The outlook was "near consistent" for all stations and "consistent" for Nafanua.

Outlooks for December 2016 to February 2017:
1. SCOPIC:
  - The outlook for Afiamalu and Faleolo favours "above normal", with "normal" the next most likely.
  - Nafanua and Apia shows a near equal likelihood of "above normal" and "normal" rainfall.

    The confidence of the model ranges from high to low

2. POAMA: "Below normal" rainfall is favoured for Apia in the coming season.

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