Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 113

Country Name: Samoa

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			January 2017				
	November 2016 Total	December 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Afiamalu	372.4	834.2	497.5	552.1	760.8	645.4	18/64
Nafanua	156.8	757.3	338.8	352.0	720.2	442.5	13/43
Apia	111.6	560.4	270.4	355.8	489.1	399.6	23/128
Faleolo	231.8	382.7	226.5	213.8	361.9	293.5	22/57

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
November 2016 to January 2017
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #109]

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	1704.1	1445.8	1993.1	1767.2	30/62	29/29/**42** (14.2)	Near consistent
Nafanua	1252.6	1083.4	1490.6	1337.2	20/40	16/41/**43** (17.5)	Near consistent
Apia	942.4	968.6	1205.0	1056.0	41/126	27/36/**37** (4.0)	Inconsistent
Faleolo	841.0	689.4	897.6	772.0	34/55	27/36/**37** (2.4)	Near consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #109):

Nino 3.4 values from June to August 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 March to May 2017

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 indices from November 2016 to January 2017

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	57	1161.2	43		3.5%	60.0%
Nafanua	51	872.1	49		-2.2%	47.7%
Apia	52	763.9	48		-1.0%	53.0%
Faleolo	51	541.6	49		-1.7%	40.7%

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Afiamalu	**36**	1009.9	34	1298.6	30	-1.3%	50.9%
Nafanua	32	801.9	**39**	1001.1	29	-2.3%	20.5%
Apia	30	664.6	**39**	836.8	31	-0.5%	30.3%
Faleolo	**36**	487.7	31	621.3	33	-1.7%	25.9%

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for

March to May 2017

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

Summary Statements

Rainfall for January 2017: "Above normal" rainfall were observed for Afiamalu, Nafanua and Apia with an exception of Faleolo recorded "normal" rainfall.

Accumulated rainfall for November 2016 to January 2017, including outlook verification: "Normal rainfalls were recorded except Apia received "below normal".

The outlook verification was "near consistent" for Afiamalu,Nafanua and Faleolo. Inconsistent was registered for Apia station.

Outlooks for March to May 2017:
1. SCOPIC:
- The outlook for all sites offers little guidance for the coming season as the chances of above-normal, normal and below-normal rainfall are similar.

   The confidence of the model is "very low".

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