Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 124

Country Name: SOLOMON ISLANDS

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			December 2017				
	October 2017 Total	November 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Auki (1962 – 2017)	226	214	525	207	313	257	**50/54**
Henderson (1975 – 2017)	57	168	445	115	246	171	**40/43**
Honiara (1954 – 2017)	67	205	363	134	245	175	**54/62**
Kirakira 1965 – 2017)	224	286	550	196	328	243	**46/50**
Lata (197 5– 2017)	728	464	412	292	403	352	**31/43**
Munda (1962 – 2017)	176	272	306	216	321	277	**33/56**
Taro (1975 – 2017)	390	185	247	165	241	199	**30/40**

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
October to December 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #120]

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)?
Auki (1962 – 2017)	965	619	779	695	48/54	27/**38**/35(14.5)	Near Consistent
Henderson (1975 – 2017)	670	346	488	418	33/43	30/**35/35**(9.9)	Near Consistent
Honiara (1954 – 2017)	635	383	561	443	46/60	33/**36**/32(13.3)	Near Consistent
Kirakira 1965 – 2017)	1060	669	833	716	44/49	32/**34**/**34(**-0.5)	Near Consistent
Lata (197 5– 2017)	1604	978	1203	1082	42/43	20/**40/40**(17.0)	Near Consistent
Munda (1962 – 2017)	754	715	817	763	26/56	27/**37/**36(12.4)	Consistent
Taro (1975 – 2017)	822	644	788	700	27/38	29/35/**36**(10.3)	Consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #120): NINO3.4 July-Aug

*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).

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for February to April 2018

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 for November – December 2017

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	48	1029.8	52		-2.9	57.1
Henderson	28	713.4	72		28.8	74.3
Honiara	38	795.0	62		9.7	65.7
Kirakira	35	995.8	65		20.2	74.2
Lata	30	1170.5	70		21.6	70.6
Munda	54	1049.9	46		-1.6	45.7
Taro	44	814.9	56		-0.5	61.8

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Auki	32	924.1	**38**	1111.2	30	-3.1	25.7
Henderson	18	614.4	38	812.4	**44**	11.8	48.6
Honiara	20	677.8	30	863.3	**50**	19.7	54.3
Kirakira	14	849.0	38	1103.6	**48**	28.5	61.3
Lata	18	1044.9	29	1272.3	**53**	17.3	35.3
Munda	**43**	957.6	27	1140.8	30	2.8	40.0
Taro	30	777.9	26	932.0	**44**	2.5	35.3

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for February to April 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Honiara	30	642	9	801	**61**		
Kirakira	18	711	9	1066	**73**		
Lata	18	1010	18	1192	**64**		
Munda	24	937	18	1260	**58**		
Taro	**46**	793	15	944	39		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2017:

Rainfall in December was above normal for all the provinces except normal rainfall was recorded for Munda.

Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfall for the last three months was above normal except at Munda where normal rainfall was recorded. Verification of 3 month outlooks issued in September 2017 was consistent at Munda and Taro, and near-consistent at remaining sites.

Outlooks for February to April 2018:

1. SCOPIC:

The Outlook for the season shows most likely above normal rainfall for Honiara, Henderson, Kirakira, and Taro while above normal rainfall is favoured for Lata. However, the outlook for Munda is most likely below normal, while there is little guidance for the Auki outlook.

2. POAMA:

The Outlook from POAMA favours above-normal at all sites except at Taro where below-normal is the most likely outcome.

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			