

Pacific Islands - Ocean and Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 222

Country: Tonga

Part 1: Recent climate

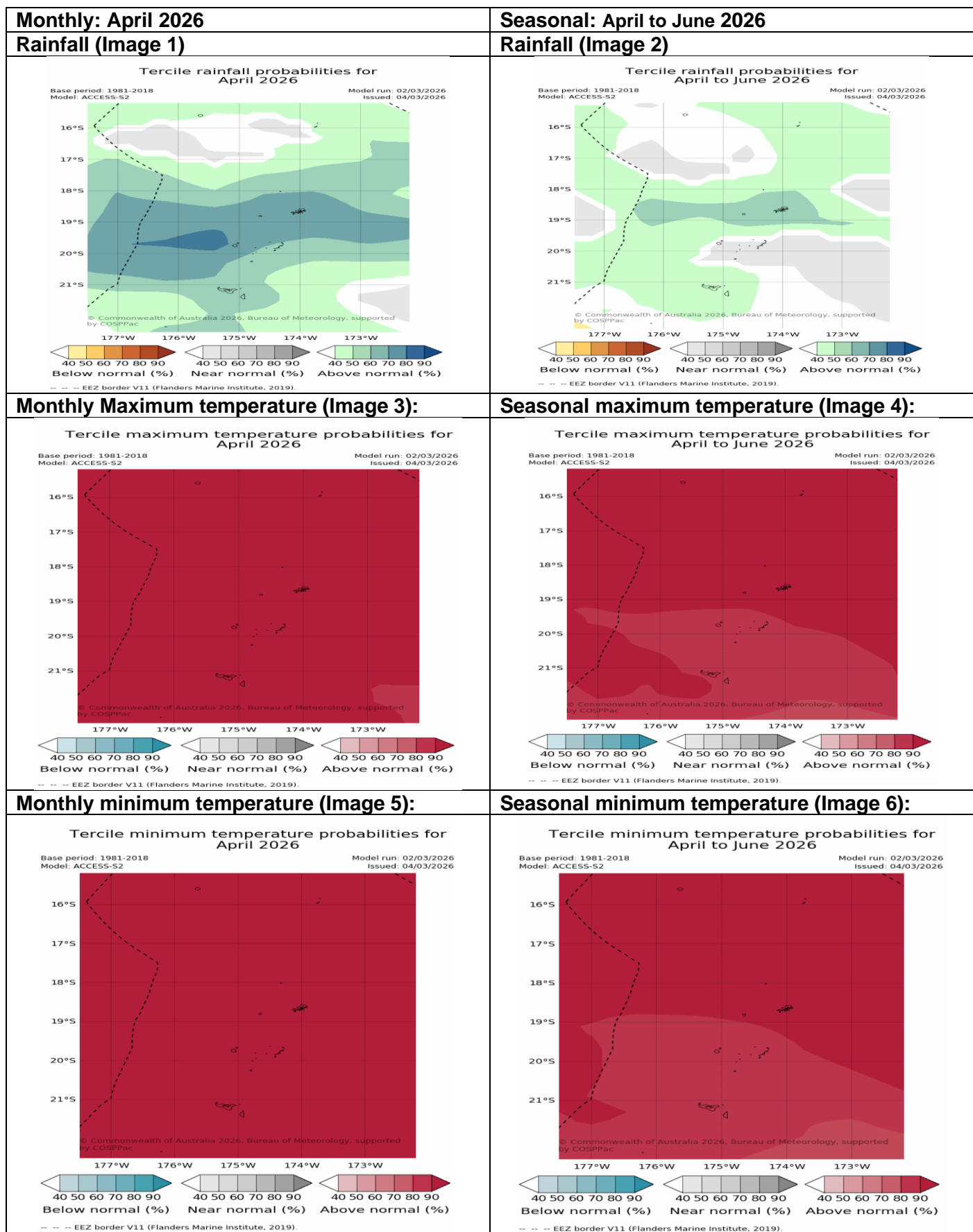
TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Dec-2025	Jan-2026	Feb-2026				Rank
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
<i>Northern Division</i>							
Niufo'ou (1971-2026)	155.5	192.5	253.0	215.7	322.3	244.7	27/52
Niuaatoputapu (1947-2026)	189.0	118.8	263.5	190.2	277.3	232.0	47/79
<i>Central Division</i>							
Vava'u (1947-2026)	451.5	158.9	368.4	201.0	311.0	224.0	63/80
Ha'apai (1947-2026)	57.8	125.6	257.9	137.0	262.0	191.8	53/80
<i>Southern Division</i>							
Fua'amotu (1979-2026)	127.8	162.9	285.7	147.0	269.0	204.0	33/47
Nuku'alofa (1944-2026)	115.0	86.5	154.0	162.0	284.0	228.8	27/82

TABLE 2: Three-month Total Rainfall for December 2025 to February 2026

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Rainfall (mm)					
<i>Northern Division</i>						
Niufo'ou (1971-2026)	601.0	Below normal	711.5	951.0	844.5	11/47
Niuaatoputapu (1947-2026)	571.3	Below normal	655.0	916.1	761.0	18/74
<i>Central Division</i>						
Vava'u (1947-2026)	978.8	Above normal	643.1	916.3	746.1	55/79
Ha'apai (1947-2026)	441.3	Normal	439.7	678.3	583.1	27/79
<i>Southern Division</i>						
Fua'amotu (1979-2026)	576.4	Normal	488.7	813.7	660.2	20/46
Nuku'alofa (1944-2026)	355.5	Below normal	456.0	729.7	578.0	15/82

Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2026

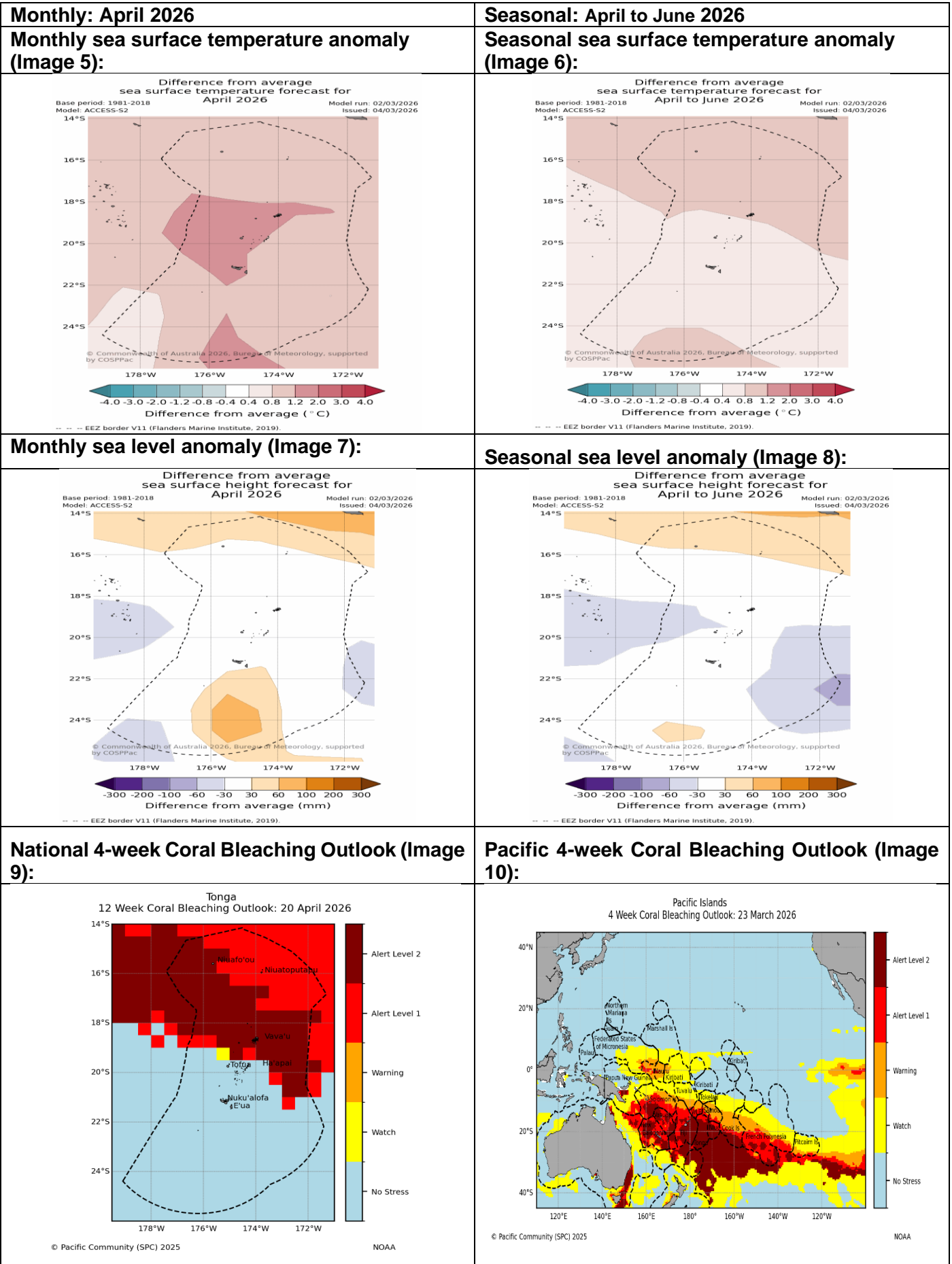


## Part 2: Recent Ocean Observation

### Monthly/Three months: February and December 2025 to February 2026

<h4>Monthly: February 2026</h4>	<h4>Last three months: December 2025 to February 2026</h4>
<h4>Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 1):</h4> <p>Monthly Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies: February 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025</p>	<h4>Sea Surface Temperature Anomaly (Image 4):</h4> <p>Seasonal Sea Surface Temperature Anomalies : Dec 2025 - Feb 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025</p>
<h4>Sea level anomaly (Image 2):</h4> <p>Monthly Sea Level Anomaly: February 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025</p>	
<h4>National daily coral bleaching alert (Image 3):</h4> <p>Tonga Coral Bleaching Alert: 1 March 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025</p>	<h4>Pacific daily coral bleaching alert (Image 5):</h4> <p>Pacific Islands Coral Bleaching Alert: 1 March 2026</p> <p>© Pacific Community (SPC) 2025</p>

## Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2026



## **Summary Statement**

### **Monthly and last three months: February/December 2025 to February 2026 statement**

The rainfall for February was above normal over Vava'u and Fua'amotu, near normal over Niuafu'ou, Niuaotupapu and Ha'apai and below normal over Nuku'alofa.

For the past three months' rainfall was above normal over Vava'u, normal over Ha'apai and Fua'amotu and below normal over Niuafu'ou, Niuaotupapu and Nuku'alofa.

## **Part 1i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2026**

### **Monthly /Seasonal rainfall and temperature Outlook statements**

The rainfall for April 2026 is likely to be above normal over Tonga.

The rainfall for April to June 2026 is likely to be above normal for most of Tonga. In Ha'apai the outlook shows April to June 2026 rainfall is likely to be near-normal.

Maximum and minimum temperatures during April 2026 are likely to be above normal over Tonga.

Maximum and minimum temperatures averaged over April to June 2026 are likely to be above normal over Tonga.

## **Part 2: Recent Ocean summary statement**

### **Monthly and last three months: February/December 2025 to February 2026**

February sea surface temperatures (SSTs) around Tonga were 0.4 to 2.0°C above normal.

Averaged over December 2025 to February 2026, sea surface temperatures around Tonga were 0.8 to 2.0°C above normal.

February sea levels around Tonga were -30 to 200 mm above normal.

A coral bleaching Alert Level 2 for Tongatapu and Ha'apai, Alert Level 1 for Vava'u and a Watch status are currently in effect for Niuafu'ou and Niuaotupapu.

## **Part 2i. Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for April and April to June 2026**

### **Ocean Variable statement**

April 2026 sea surface temperatures around Tonga are predicted to be 0.8 to 2.0°C above normal.

Averaged over April to June 2026, sea surface temperatures around Tonga are predicted to be 0.4 to 1.2°C above normal.

April 2026 sea levels around Tonga are predicted to be -30 to 30 mm near-normal.

Averaged over April to June 2026, sea levels around Tonga are predicted to be -30 to 60 mm above normal.

Coral Bleaching outlook indicates an Alert Levels 1 and 2 for most of the countries except Tongatapu with a No stress status for the next 12 weeks.

## In brief for Teleconference




- Rainfall was near-normal to below normal over most of the Tonga for February and December 2025 to February 2026, except Vava'u where rainfall was above normal for both periods.
- The rainfall outlook generally indicates above normal most likely in April 2026 but above normal to near-normal for total rainfall over April to June 2026.
- SSTs were above normal for February and December 2025 to February 2026. The outlook shows above normal SSTs for the next one and three months.
- Sea levels were above normal for February. Above normal sea levels are predicted for April and April to June 2026.
- Alert level 1 and 2 for most of the island countries except for No stress status for Tongatapu for the next 12 weeks.

**TABLE 3: Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders (February 2026)**

Product	Stakeholder	Total Number of Participants	Number of Male	Number of Female	Disability	Comments (If there are comments from you Stakeholders)
Climate Bulletin	Government Ministries, NGO's, Media, Private Sector		32	42	3	
EAR Watch						
Monthly Climate Briefing						
Ocean Outlook	Government Ministries, NGO's, Media, Private Sector		32	42	3	
Climate data request						
<b>Total</b>			64	84	6	

Stakeholder category	Do your products reach this group? (Y/N)	Tailored product? (Y/N)
<b>Agriculture sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Disaster Risk Reduction sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Energy sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Health sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Water sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Fisheries and Aquaculture sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Tourism sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Maritime sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Research &amp; education sector</b>	Y	N
<b>Women's [] organisations</b>	Y	N
<b>National disability organisations</b>	Y	N
<b>Community based organisations (e.g. councils)</b>	Y	N
<b>Products offered in local dialects/ languages</b>	Y	N

**Table 4: Impacts of Severe weather and climate events**

Period	Country	ENSO phase	Synoptic Situation	Hazard Type	Impacts (text/image)	Sector Affected	Number of Fatalities
28 <sup>th</sup> Feb – 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Tonga	Weak La Nina/ Neutral	Category 2 TC Urmil located west-southwest of Tongatapu moving SE with 50kt and gust up to 60-70kt	Tropical Cyclone	<p>* Heavy rain, strong winds, damaging swells, and flash flood risk across several island groups.</p> <p><u>Figure 1: Coastal Flooding:</u></p>  <p><u>Figure 2: Heavy rainfall:</u></p>  <p><u>Figure 3: Strong winds:</u></p> 	Infrastructure, Transport, Fisheries, Agriculture and Communities.	0