Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 129

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			May 2018				
	March 2018 Total	April 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Sola	474.4	496.4	348.0	278.6	458.2	374.8	21/46
Pekoa	194.3	90.3	100.5	123.0	238.1	203.4	15/48
Lamap	268.5	208.5	144.5	111.1	203.9	144.3	30/58
Bauerfield	469.6	55.0	100.9	101.2	222.3	165.2	15/46
Port Vila	265.5	72.5	71.5	100.5	185.0	148.0	13/66
Whitegrass	417.8	90.5	36.5	45.3	111.3	77.2	13/47
Aneityum	571.4	170.2	190.0	116.7	204.8	165.5	40/66

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
March to May 2018
[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #125]

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)?
Northern Region							
Sola	1318.8	1140.1	1376.9	1286.9	26/46	19:37:**44** (11.5)	**Near-consistent**
Pekoa	385.1	614.4	871.0	714.0	3/48	26:35:**39** (2.3)	**Inconsistent**
Lamap	621.5	572.3	724.3	636.1	29/57	24:34:**42** (4.0)	**Near -Consistent**
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	625.5	605.2	887.0	757.7	17/46	27:33:**40** (1.5)	**Near -Consistent**
Port Vila	409.5	635.3	824.9	720.9	5/66	25:34:**41** (4.1)	**Inconsistent**
Whitegrass	624.5	327.2	461.7	363.4	41/47	24:29:**47** (14.3)	**Consistent**
Aneityum	851.9	596.1	874.1	704.1	44/66	25:36:**39** (1.8)	**Near Consi**

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Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March to May 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #125):
NINO3.4 for Dec 2017- Jan 2018.

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*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
July to September 2018

Predictors and Period used: Nino3.4 SST Anomalies, April – May 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	42	619.4	58		15.4	67
Pekoa	35	300.6	65		45.7	81
Lamap	45	242.3	55		12.7	70
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	37	235.6	63		31.1	73
Port Vila	43	257.8	57		21.6	68
Whitegrass	45	128.5	55		15.5	67
Aneityum	47	337.6	54		6.9	65

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	25	530.0	37	846.7	**38**	8.4	42
Pekoa	25	202.0	38	393.2	**38**	16.0	47
Lamap	29	193.7	35	298.0	**36**	8.8	51
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	20	181.1	40	283.0	**40**	26.8	53
Port Vila	27	194.2	37	332.2	**36**	18.7	52
Whitegrass	*25*	*106.7*	*38*	*184.9*	***37***	*13.5*	*49*
Aneityum	28	267.4	36	373.9	**36**	7.2	58

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for

July to September 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	33	406	18	605	**48**		
Pekoa	**55**	198	24	351	21		
Lamap	**55**	197	24	282	21		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**61**	176	15	252	24		
Port Vila	**61**	171	15	256	24		
Whitegrass	***55***	*89*	*24*	*147*	*21*		
Aneityum	**52**	247	24	350	24		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2018:
Rainfall recorded for the month of May was normal for Sola, Lamap, and Aneityum. Below rainfall for Pekoa, Bauerfield, Port Vila, and Whitegrass.

Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2018, including outlook verification:
Accumulated rainfall for the period March – May was above normal for Whitegrass and Aneityum; normal rainfall for Sola, Lamap, and Bauerfield; below rainfall for Pekoa and Port Vila.
Forecast verification is near-consistent for Sola, Lamap, and Bauerfield; inconsistent for Pekoa and Port Vila; and consistent Whitegrass and Aneityum.

Outlooks for July to September 2018:
1. **SCOPIC:**
   The outlook for July to September offers near-equal likelihood of normal and above normal rainfall for all stations; Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum.

2. **POAMA:**
   The outlook for the season July –September shows above normal as the most likely outcome at Sola. Below normal is the most likely outcome for the season at Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum.

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

Very Low: $X < 0.0$ Low: $0 \leq X < 5$ Moderate $5 \leq X < 10$ Good: $10 \leq X < 15$ High: $15 \leq X < 25$

Very High: $25 \leq X < 35$ Exceptional: $X \geq 35$