Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 112

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			December 2016				
	October 2016 Total	November 2016 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	354	419.4	**339.1**	226.7	460.4	353.2	21/43
Pekoa	88.1	250.3	**149.5**	148.8	216.8	179.2	16/46
Lamap	217.4	201.5	**34.6**	99.3	172.4	122.4	2/54
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	195.4	275.6	**200.4**	115.9	205.1	164.5	29/44
Port Vila	142.2	118	**198.2**	112.8	212.2	171.6	39/64
Whitegrass	57.4	94.3	**42.2**	49.3	97.6	73.9	11/46
Aneityum	84.8	225.2	**54.6**	115.1	243.1	164.3	7/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
October to December 2016

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #108]

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	**1112.5**	899.1	1350.0	1178.0	19/43	27:**37**:36 (7.4)	**Consistent**
Pekoa	**487.9**	400.3	632.3	524.1	22/46	21:**43**:36 (34.7)	**Consistent**
Lamap	**453.5**	341.1	457.0	385.9	36/54	31:33:**36** (17.6)	**Near-consistent**
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**671.4**	286.5	558.1	395.8	38/44	24:**42**:34 (27.4)	**Near-consistent**
Port Vila	**458.4**	301.8	537.0	440.5	37/64	28:35:**37** (14.5)	**Near-consistent**
Whitegrass	**193.9**	311.1	500.4	428.2	27/45	27:**39**:34 (26.7)	**Near-consistent**
Aneityum	**364.6**	136.7	215.5	183.8	29/65	21:**42**:37 (36.3)	**Near-consistent**

*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).

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for October to December 2016 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #108):
NINO 3.4 SST, Jun-Aug

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for February to April 2017

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4 SST, Oct – Dec

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	45	1151.2	**55**		0.7	56.8
Pekoa	47	855.2	**53**		-1.1	54.3
Lamap	*40*	*700.9*	***60***		*7.6*	*61.8*
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	46	919.8	**54**		-0.5	52.3
Port Vila	42	858.8	**58**		4.4	64.1
Whitegrass	44	488.0	**56**		1.4	55.6
Aneityum	47	834.4	**53**		-0.7	55.4

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	27	1037.8	34	1326.5	**39**	2.0	43.2
Pekoa	33	750.4	**34**	959.8	33	-2.4	26.1
Lamap	29	635.3	30	755.7	**41**	3.6	40.0
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	25	790.8	**38**	999.8	**37**	1.9	22.7
Port Vila	26	771.4	32	925.8	**42**	6.9	46.9
Whitegrass	*27*	*411.8*	*33*	*579.7*	***40***	*3.4*	*40.0*
Aneityum	30	685.7	32	948.7	**38**	0.2	35.4

NOTE: Table 4 has been removed from this document as POAMA rainfall outlooks for the Pacific are currently unavailable.

Summary Statements

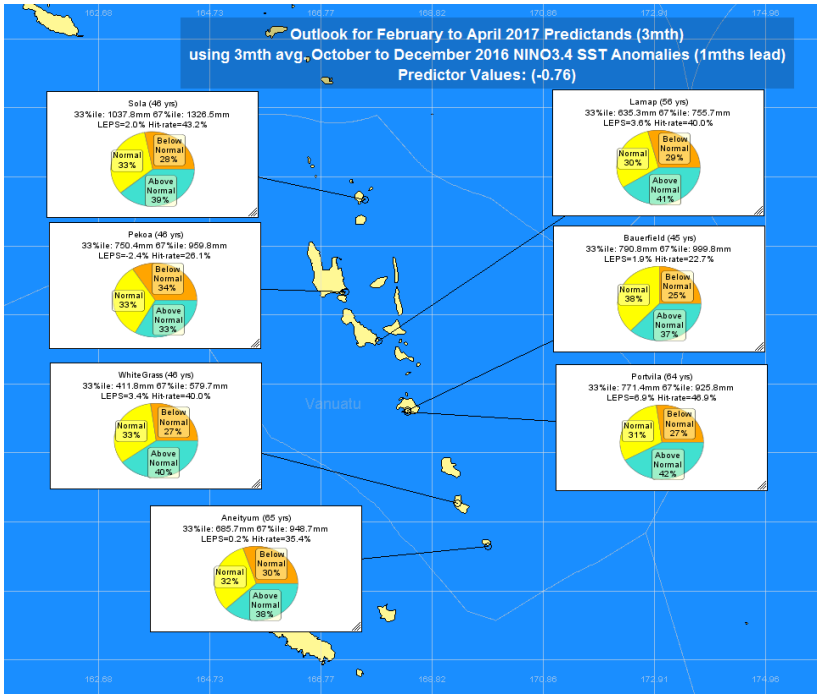
Rainfall for December 2016:
Rainfall for the past month (December) was; Below normal for Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum. Normal Rainfall was recorded at Sola, Pekoa, Bauerfield and Port Vila.

Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2016, including outlook verification:
Rainfall for the past three months was; below normal for Whitegrass, normal for Sola, Pekoa, Lamap and Port Vila, Above Normal for Bauerfield and Aneityum.

The outlook was consistent for Sola, Pekoa and Port Vila, near-consistent for Lamap, Bauerfield, Whitegrass and Aneityum.

Outlooks for February to April 2017:
1. SCOPIC:
Using NINO 3.4 SST Anomalies;
The outlooks for most stations (Sola, Lamap, Bauerfield, Port Vila, Whitegrass and Aneityum) favour above normal rainfall for the coming season with normal being the next most likely.

The outlook offers little guidance for the coming season for Pekoa as the chances of above normal, normal and below normal rainfall are similar.



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