Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 117

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			May 2017				
	March 2017 Total	April 2017 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Sola	185.6	500.0	689.1	276.1	454.8	370.6	44/45
Pekoa	259.0	201.8	527.9	122.2	225.8	200.6	47/47
Lamap	213.0	353.0	218.6	109.3	195.7	138.8	40/57
Bauerfield	255.0	598.0	403.0	101.2	221.3	156.9	41/45
Port Vila	286.8	320.0	257.7	100.5	186.2	143.3	41/65
Whitegrass	87.1	287.5	121.0	49.5	111.3	72.5	35/46
Aneityum	110.0	293.4	330.9	118.5	203.3	161.3	60/65

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
March to May 2017

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #113]

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?
Sola	1374.7	1134.0	1372.2	1274.9	30/47	23:36:**41**(11.8)	Consistent
Pekoa	988.7	610.8	866.8	707.0	43/47	26:36:**38**(2.3)	Consistent
Lamap	784.6	567.4	717.2	615.3	42/56	27:35:**38**(4.6)	Consistent
Bauerfield	1256.0	600.3	875.8	753.3	45/45	29:34:**37**(1.2)	Consistent
Port Vila	864.5	634.5	827.5	718.0	37/65	27:35:**38**(3.4)	Consistent
Whitegrass	495.6	323.9	451.4	358.8	34/46	28:29:**43**(14.6)	Consistent
Aneityum	734.3	596.1	874.1	704.1	35/65	29:34:**37**(1.1)	Near-consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

Predictors and Period used for March 2017 to May 2017 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #113):
December 2016 to January 2017

---

*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 July to September 2017

Predictors and Period used: NINO3.4, March - May

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%)	Hit-rate (%)
Sola	65	647	35		12	67
Pekoa	86	321	14		41	78
Lamap	69	243	31		13	*66*
Bauerfield	78	237	22		31	77
Port Vila	76	259	24		24	70
Whitegrass	72	130	28		15	64
Aneityum	64	342	36		7	63

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Sola	**48**	529	29	847	23	8	45
Pekoa	**52**	202	32	396	16	22	47
Lamap	**47**	197	38	299	15	12	48
Bauerfield	**57**	183	29	285	14	27	52
Port Vila	**54**	212	30	335	16	19	53
Whitegrass	**59**	107	22	188	19	19	59
Aneityum	**48**	274	30	381	22	9	57

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for July to September 2017

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	66%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Sola	30	406	28	605	42		
Pekoa	30	198	30	351	40		
Lamap	30	197	30	282	40		
Bauerfield	24	176	55	252	21		
Port Vila	24	171	55	256	21		
Whitegrass	30	89	49	147	21		
Aneityum	30	247	30	350	40		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for May 2017:

Rainfall for all stations was above normal.

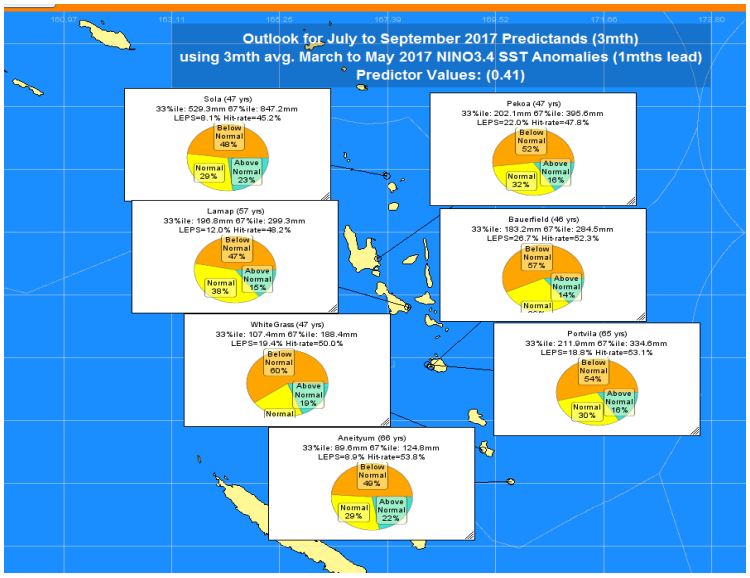
Accumulated rainfall for March to May 2017, including outlook verification:

Rainfall for the past three months was above normal for nearly all stations, the one exception being Aneityum which recorded normal rainfall. The outlook was consistent at all stations except Aneityum (near-consistent).

Outlooks for July to September 2017:

1. **SCOPIC:**

Using NINO 3.4 SST anomalies;
The outlook for all stations has below normal rainfall as the favoured or most likely outcome for the next three months.



2. **POAMA:**

   At Sola, Pekoa, Lamap and Aneityum, the POAMA outlook for the next three months shows above normal rainfall as the most likely outcome.

   At Bauerfield, Port Vila and Whitegrass, POAMA favours normal rainfall.

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