Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 128

Country Name: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)			April 2018				
	February 2018 Total	March 2018 Total	Total	33%tile Rainfall (mm)	67%tile Rainfall (mm)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Ranking
Northern Region							
Sola	165.7	474.4	496.4	341.7	493.7	432.7	31/46
Pekoa	50.5	194.3	90.3	190.9	301.6	242.7	3/48
Lamap	53.2	268.5	208.5	161.8	235.3	194.3	33/58
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	184.0	469.6	55.0	162.8	281.8	193.2	2/46
Port Vila	194.0	265.5	72.5	141.3	268.3	183.7	5/66
Whitegrass	56.5	417.8	90.5	54.9	143.9	95.3	24/47
Aneityum	52.2	571.4	170.2	151.0	272.7	200.8	27/67

TABLE 2: Three-monthly Rainfall
February to April 2018

[Please note that the data used in this verification should be sourced from table 3 of OCOF #124]

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	1136.5	1042	1325	1162	22/46	26:35:**39**(0.9)	Near-consistent
Pekoa	335.1	748	956	855	2/48	**34**:32:**34**(-2.4)	Near-consistent
Lamap	530.2	636	757	702	8/57	27:31:**42**(3.0)	Inconsistent
Northern Region							
Bauerfield	708.6	756	1001	934	12/46	24:37:**39**(2.3)	Inconsistent
Port Vila	532.0	775	924	857	7/66	24:34:**42**(6.5)	Inconsistent
Whitegrass	564.8	416	587	501	30/47	27:29:**44**(5.3)	Near-consistent
Aneityum	793.8	680	934	831	32/67	31:30:**39**(-0.5)	Near-consistent

Period:*below normal/normal/above normal

*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).

Predictors and Period used for February to April 2018 Outlooks (refer to OCOF #124):

NINO3.4 for Nov-Dec 2017.

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for June to August 2018

Predictors and Period used: NINO 3.4, March – April 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region						
Sola	33	768.1	67		12.2	61.9
Pekoa	26	393.5	74		28.6	74.5
Lamap	33	277.6	67		12.9	67.9
Southern Region						
Bauerfield	41	333.7	59		1.8	55.6
Port Vila	36	316.3	64		11.1	61.5
Whitegrass	37	164.4	64		9.1	60.0
Aneityum	40	388.0	60		4.5	57.6

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS	Hit-rate
Northern Region							
Sola	13	591.1	**45**	1017.9	42	11.4	42.9
Pekoa	14	244.9	42	460.1	**44**	13.4	42.6
Lamap	22	221.2	35	352.7	**43**	7.7	50.0
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	20	254.6	39	381.1	**41**	5.4	35.6
Port Vila	18	250.0	**41**	412.3	**41**	8.2	27.7
Whitegrass	22	136.3	37	231.7	**41**	6.2	40.0
Aneityum	23	307.9	34	447.3	**43**	6.3	45.5

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for June to August 2018

Station	Lower Tercile (prob)	33%ile rainfall (mm)	Middle Tercile (prob)	67%ile rainfall (mm)	Upper Tercile (prob)		
Northern Region							
Sola	**85**	510	5	739	10		
Pekoa	**76**	242	15	399	9		
Lamap	**76**	196	15	361	9		
Southern Region							
Bauerfield	**58**	320	24	373	18		
Port Vila	**58**	241	24	362	18		
Whitegrass	**55**	121	24	193	21		
Aneityum	**55**	291	24	429	21		

Summary Statements

Rainfall for April 2018:

Rainfall for the month of April was above normal for Sola, normal for Lamap, Whitegrass, and Aneityum, and below normal for Pekoa, Bauerfield, and Port Vila. Bauerfield recorded its second driest month of April in 46 years of record.

Accumulated rainfall for February to April 2018, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall was normal for Sola, Whitegrass and Aneityum, and below normal for Pekoa, Lamap, Bauerfield and Port Vila. The outlook verification was near-consistent for Sola, Pekoa, Whitegrass and Aneityum, and inconsistent for Lamap, Bauerfield and Port Vila.

Outlooks for June to August 2018:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   At Sola, Pekoa, Bauerfield and Port Vila, the outlook for the season shows a near-equal likelihood of normal and above normal rainfall.
   At Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum the outlook indicates above normal as the most likely, normal the next most likely, and below normal as the least likely.

2. **POAMA:**
   The outlook for the season favours below normal rainfall at all stations.

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