Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 136

Country: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Oct-2018	Nov-2018	Dec-2018				Rank
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Northern Region							
Sola (1971-2018)	209.0	92.8	630.9	234.0	441.3	353.2	39/45
Pekoa (1971-2018)	128.3	34.2	365.8	149.6	216.9	179.2	43/48
Lamap (1961-2018)	199.0	8.0	141.0	97.8	170.6	122.4	32/56
Southern Region							
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	336.0	163.0	157.2	122.4	202.0	178.6	21/46
Port Vila (1953-2018)	310.5	96.5	228.5	110.7	208.0	171.6	48/66
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	25.6	71.4	99.8	48.6	99.2	73.9	32/48
Aneityum (1952-2018)	234.4	161.7	105.9	112.7	240.2	164.2	22/67

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for October to December 2018

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities* based on NINO3.4 July-August 2018				Verification: Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?
	Rainfall (mm)						B-N	N	A-N	LEPS	
Northern Region											
Sola (1971-2018)	932.7	Normal	901.5	1340.6	1178.0	16/45	**38**	31	31	8	Near-consistent
Pekoa (1971-2018)	528.3	Normal	405.2	623.2	524.1	25/48	40	**42**	18	26	Consistent
Lamap (1961-2018)	348.0	Normal	342.1	455.6	385.9	22/56	**40**	**40**	20	16	Near-consistent
Southern Region											
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	656.2	Above normal	314.4	553.5	440.5	38/46	37	**38**	25	14	Near-consistent
Port Vila (1953-2018)	635.5	Above normal	312.0	493.6	428.2	57/66	**41**	38	21	20	Inconsistent
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	196.8	Normal	138.5	208.7	184.0	30/47	39	**42**	19	28	Consistent
Aneityum (1952-2018)	502.0	Normal	294.7	540.0	395.8	44/67	**42**	38	20	23	Near-consistent

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for February to April 2019
Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for November to December 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Northern Region						
Sola (1971-2018)	57	1151.2	43		0	57
Pekoa (1971-2018)	51	844.5	49		-2	42
Lamap (1961-2018)	63	700.9	37		6	61
Southern Region						
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	56	919.8	44		0	52
Port Vila (1953-2018)	61	856.2	39		3	64
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	60	513.8	40		2	60
Aneityum (1952-2018)	53	827.2	47		-1	54

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)	LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Northern Region							
Sola (1971-2018)	42	1047.7	32	1323.4	26	1	35
Pekoa (1971-2018)	29	738.5	38	952.5	33	-2	42
Lamap (1961-2018)	39	634.8	39	756.2	22	3	26
Southern Region							
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	42	786.0	32	1000.1	26	3	24
Port Vila (1953-2018)	44	770.6	36	922.3	20	6	49
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	45	421.7	38	587.5	17	8	45
Aneityum (1952-2018)	36	682.4	38	919.8	26	-1	33

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for February to April 2019

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)
Northern Region					
Sola	**73**	927.0	15	1315.0	12
Pekoa	**58**	719.0	27	976.0	15
Lamap	**58**	609.0	27	744.0	15
Southern Region					
Bauerfield	**64**	796.0	21	983.0	15
Port Vila	**64**	773.0	21	911.0	15
Whitegrass	**67**	427.0	18	580.0	15
Aneityum	**67**	733.0	21	979.0	12

Summary Statements

Rainfall for December 2018:

Rainfall was below normal for Aneityum, normal for Lamap & Bauerfield, and above normal for Sola, Pekoa, Port Vila & Whitegrass.

Sola recorded the seventh wettest December on record, and Pekoa recorded the sixth wettest.

Accumulated rainfall for October to December 2018, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall was normal for Sola, Pekoa, Lamap, Whitegrass & Aneityum, and above normal for Bauerfield and Port Vila.

The outlooks issued in September were Consistent at Whitegrass, Inconsistent at Port Vila, and Near-Consistent at remaining sites.

Outlooks for February to April 2019:

1. **SCOPIC:**
   At Sola, Bauerfield, Port Vila, and Whitegrass, the outlook for February to April 2019 shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with normal the next most likely. Above normal is the least likely.

   For Lamap and Aneityum, the outlook shows a near-equal likelihood of below normal and normal rainfall. Above normal is the least likely.

   For Pekoa, the outlook offers little guidance as the chances of above normal, normal and below-normal are similar.

2. **POAMA:**
   Outlook favours below normal rainfall for all stations in Vanuatu.

Table: 5 Stakeholder Engagement- Evaluations of how effective NMS engage with stakeholders

Country	Date: December 2018	Stakeholder	Purpose	Total Number of Participants	Number of male	Number of female
Vanuatu	4th Dec	VMGD and VIT (Vanuatu Institute of Technology)	Review of Certificate III Climate Change and Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction	23	13	10

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