Pacific Islands - Online Climate Outlook Forum (OCOF) No. 135

Country: Vanuatu

TABLE 1: Monthly Rainfall

Station (include data period)	Sep-2018	Oct-2018	Nov-2018				
			Total (mm)	33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank
	Total (mm)	Total (mm)	Rainfall (mm)				
Northern Region							
Sola (1971-2018)	357.0	209.0	92.8	306.1	487.5	422.0	**3/47**
Pekoa (1971-2018)	315.0	128.3	34.2	122.5	215.7	180.9	**3/48**
Lamap (1961-2018)	133.0	199.0	8.0	88.0	137.7	110.8	**3/58**
Southern Region							
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	146.4	336.0	163.0	98.9	179.4	125.7	27/46
Port Vila (1953-2018)	129.5	310.5	96.5	73.7	154.4	118.0	27/66
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	64.2	25.6	71.4	31.0	85.1	46.6	28/48
Aneityum (1952-2018)	138.7	234.4	161.7	58.5	145.0	102.1	47/67

TABLE 2: Three-month Rainfall for September to November 2018

Station	Three-month Total		33%tile	67%tile	Median	Rank	SCOPIC forecast probabilities* based on NINO3.4 June-July 2018				Verification: Consistent, Near-consistent, Inconsistent?
	Rainfall (mm)						B-N	N	A-N	LEPS	
Northern Region											
Sola (1971-2018)	658.8	Below normal	899.0	1161.5	1024.4	11/46	**41**	26	33	11	Consistent
Pekoa (1971-2018)	477.5	Normal	317.8	521.4	428.3	30/48	**42**	35	23	22	Near-consistent
Lamap (1961-2018)	340.0	Normal	266.0	413.0	326.9	31/58	**40**	36	24	13	Near-consistent
Southern Region											
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	645.4	Above normal	229.6	428.3	306.3	**43/46**	**40**	39	21	21	Inconsistent
Port Vila (1953-2018)	536.5	Above normal	232.8	389.2	301.6	58/66	**44**	33	23	20	Inconsistent
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	161.2	Normal	116.4	220.1	145.4	25/46	**43**	42	15	28	Near-consistent
Aneityum (1952-2018)	534.7	Above normal	262.0	422.7	340.2	56/67	**46**	35	19	24	Inconsistent

TABLE 3: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using SCOPIC for January to March 2019

Predictor and Period used: NINO3.4 for October to November 2018

Station	Below Median (prob)	Median Rainfall (mm)	Above Median (prob)		LEPS (%) [whole numbers]	Hit-rate (%) [whole numbers]
Northern Region						
Sola (1971-2018)	58	1112.9	42		-1	60
Pekoa (1971-2018)	52	805.7	48		-2	48
Lamap (1961-2018)	67	716.9	33		10	65
Southern Region						
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	67	961.4	33		12	70
Port Vila (1953-2018)	63	869.8	37		6	70
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	66	541.9	34		8	57
Aneityum (1952-2018)	57	846.8	43		1	58

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)	45	997.4	32	1218.9	23	4	47
Pekoa (1971-2018)	43	743.2	22	972.7	35	0	48
Lamap (1961-2018)	45	641.8	39	813.1	16	8	47
Southern Region							
Bauerfield (1972-2018)	48	794.9	24	1023.7	28	6	57
Port Vila (1953-2018)	51	753.8	32	996.1	17	11	55
Whitegrass (1972-2018)	43	496.3	33	673.4	24	3	36
Aneityum (1952-2018)	44	724.6	37	975.2	19	6	45

TABLE 4: Seasonal Climate Outlooks using POAMA2 for January to March 2019

Station	Below Normal (prob)	33%ile Rainfall (mm)	Normal (prob)	67%ile Rainfall (mm)	Above Normal (prob)
Northern Region					
Sola	64	907.0	24	1142.0	12
Pekoa	64	731.0	9	955.0	27
Lamap	64	623.0	9	722.0	27
Southern Region					
Bauerfield	55	798.0	21	1021.0	24
Port Vila	55	736.0	21	932.0	24
Whitegrass	55	433.0	24	661.0	21
Aneityum	55	715.0	24	975.0	21

Summary Statements

Rainfall for November 2018:

Rainfall recorded for the month of November was below normal for Sola, Pekoa & Lamap, normal for Bauerfield, Port Vila & Whitegrass, and above normal for Aneityum.

Sola, Pekoa & Lamap recorded the third driest November on record.

Accumulated rainfall for September to November 2018, including outlook verification:

Accumulated rainfall for the month of September – November was below normal for Sola, normal for Pekoa, Lamap & Whitegrass, and above normal for Bauerfield, Port Vila & Aneityum.

The outlook verification was consistent at Sola, near-consistent at Pekoa, Lamap & Whitegrass, and inconsistent at Bauerfield, Port Vila & Aneityum.

Outlooks for January to March 2019:

1. **SCOPIC:**

   At Port Vila, the outlook for January to March 2019 favours below normal, with normal as the next most likely.

   The outlook for Sola, Lamap, Whitegrass and Aneityum shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with normal as the next most likely, and above normal as the least likely.

   At Pekoa and Bauerfield, the outlook shows below normal as the most likely outcome, with above normal as the next most likely, and normal as the least likely.

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: November 2018	Stakeholder	Purpose	Total Number of Participants
Vanuatu	19th Nov – 23rd Nov	Vanuatu Meteorological and Geohazards Department (VMGD)	• Traditional Knowledge verification at Ureparapara Island • TK Indicators • Climate Indicators • TK Awareness	Community/ Villages [Lehali, Diverse Bay, Tano, Moi, Lekwyangue] Female – 4 Male - 21 Total = 25
Vanuatu	19th Nov – 14th Dec	Students (Aore Adventist College, Onesua Presbyterian College)	Attachment with the Vanuatu Meteorological and Geohazards Department.	Female – 2 Male – 4 Total = 6

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