

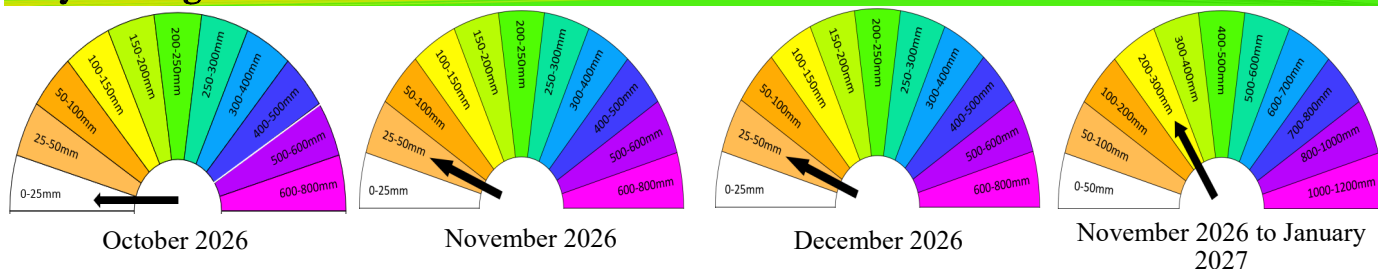
Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook For October, November, December 2026 and November 2026 to January 2027

Volume 4

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Key Messages



English

Hot and dry El Niño conditions are expected to continue. The following measures prioritize moisture conservation, fire risk reduction and early pest/disease control.

Harvesting and ratoon management

Ratoon/field management:

- Prioritize moisture conservation on ratoons – use trash blanketing/mulching to reduce evaporation and suppress weeds.
- Avoid burning standing cane and green trash after harvesting.
- Avoid unnecessary cultivation that exposes soil moisture.
- Maintain firebreaks to manage fire risk during prolonged dry spells.

New planting:

- Where possible, delay non-essential new planting until clearer rain signals emerge.
- If planting must proceed, consider irrigation-assisted establishment where available.

Soil, Water & Fertilizer

- Hold off “one-time” fertilizer applications in the driest zones (Sigatoka-Tavua) until rainfall improves.
- Split application remains preferred wherever rainfall allows.
- Control weeds early at the seedling stage by spot spraying or hand weeding. Avoid cultivation (ripper/tiller/cotton king) that exposes soil moisture.

Pest & Disease

- Hot, dry El Niño conditions favour outbreaks of dry-weather pests like sap-sucking pests (aphids, mealybugs, scale) and caterpillars (armyworm). Inspect fields twice weekly in the early morning. Spot treatment of affected patches of the plot shall be done early before insects spread.
- Water-stressed sugarcane quickly becomes weak, making it like a sick plant easily catching diseases. Rogue (dig out) any infected plants, place them in a sealed bag and completely burn them to ashes away from the field. If any tools are used, fully wash and disinfect between fields.
- Report major pest or disease issues to SRIF officers without delays for advice and guidance.

GENERAL ADVISORY

- Report any unusual sightings or crop challenges to SRIF on 8921839 for timely advice and support.

- Remain vigilant and follow all official weather advisories and warnings from relevant authorities.
- Contact SRIF for specific guidance on crop and input management under the changing patterns.

Hindi Version

El Niño ki vajah se garm aur jhure ke halat bane rahane ki ummeed hai. Neeche diye gaye upaayon mein nami banae rakhne, aag lagne ka khatra kam karne aur keeton ya bimariyon ko shuruaati daur mein hi niyantrit karne ko prathamikta di gai hai.

Katai aur Ratoon Prabandhan

Ratoon/Khet prabandhan:

- Khet mein nami sanrakshan ko prathamikta den – ghash ko niyantrit karne ke liye mulching ka upyog karen.
- Katai ke baad khadie ganne aur hare kachre ko jalane se bachien.
- Mitti ki nami ko banae rakhne ke liye, jutaai se bachien.
- Lambe samay tak sukhe ke dauran aag ke jokhim ko kam karne ke liye firebreak banae rakhen.

Nai Ropan:

- Jahan sambhav ho, jaruri na hone wale ropai ko tab tak roken, jab tak baarish ka sanket na mil jaen.
- Yadi ropai karni hi hai, to uplabdh hone par sinchai ki sahayata se ropan par vichar karen.

Mitti, Pani aur Khad

- Sabse sukhe ilakon (Sigatoka-Tavua) mein baarish behtar hone tak khad dalne ka kaam rok den.
- Jahan baarish thik-thak ho, wahan khad ko alg-alg baar mein (split application) dalna hi behtar rahata hai.
- Paudhe ki shuruaati avastha mein hi ghaas ko spre ya haath se ukhadkar control karen. Aisi jutaai (ripper/tiller/cotton king) se bachien jisse mitti ki nami khatm ho jaye.

Keet aur Bimari:

- El Niño ki garm aur sukhi sthitiyon mein sukhe mausam wale kiton, jaise ras chusne wale keet (aphids, mealybugs, scale) aur caterpillar (armyworm) ka prakop badh jata hai. Subah-subah hafte mein do baar kheton ki janch karen. Keeton ke failne se pehle hi khet ke prabhavit hisson ka turant ilaaj karen.
- Pani ki kami wale ganne ke paudhe jaldi kamzor ho jaate hain aur bimar paudhe ki tarah aasani se bimariyon ki chapet mein aa jaate hain. Kisi bhi sankramit paudhe ko ukhaad len, usse ek bag mein rakhen aur khet se dur le jaakar puri tarah jalakar raakh kar den. Agar kisi auzaar ka istemaal kiya gaya hai, to use kheton ke beech istemaal karne se pehle acchi tarah dhoe aur disinfect karen.
- Keet ya bimari ki gambhir samasyaon ke baare mein salah aur margdarshan ke liye bina deri kiye SRIF अधिकारियों को सूचित करें.

SAMANYA SALAH

- Samay par salah aur sahayata ke liye, kisi bhi asamanya keet ke dikhne ya fasal se judi samasyaon ki suchana SRIF ko 8921839 par den.
- Satark rahen aur sambandhit अधिकारियों द्वारा जारी मौसम संबंधी सभी सलाहों और चेतवनीयों का पालन करें.
- Badalte halat mein fasal aur input prabandhan ke baare mein vishesh margdarshan ke liye SRIF से संपर्क करें.

I- Taukei Version

E na rawa ni namaki me toso tiko ga na draki katakata ka mamaca e na veiyalava ni tei dovu e na noda vanua. E toka oqo e ra e so na I vakasala me vukei keda e na kena maroroi na suasua sa tiko rawa e na qele, vakalailaitaki na kena rawa kama na I teitei kei na kena rawa ni tarovi tale ga na dewa ni mate e na I teitei:

Tatamusuki kei na Qaravi ni I Tei ni Dovu:

Qaravi ni I tei ni dovu kei na I teitei:

- Vakabibitaki na kena sagai me maroroi na suasua e na loma ni qele e na I tei ni dovu, e na kena vakayagataki na benu ni dovu me ubia na dela ni qele, me rawa ni vakalaillaitaka na mamaca ni qele, ka vakaberaberataka tale ga na tubu ni co ca.
- Kerei me kakua ni vakamai na dovu se benu ni dovu, ni sa musu oti na dovu.
- Vakalailaitaki na cukiraki ni qele se I walewale ni teitei ka na rawa ni vakatotolotaka na kena mamaca vakalevu na qele.
- Ni levu tiko na vakamakama e na gauna oqo, vakalalai toka e so na vanua e na maliwa ni teitei, me na rawa ni vakalailaitaka na kena rawa ni dewa na kama e na gauna ni draki mamaca eda donumaka tiko oqo.

Teivaki vou ni loga ni dovu:

- Nanumi me wawa toka mada na teivaki ni vanua vou, me yacova ni sa tekivu vakilai na uca se laurai na I vakatakilakila ni rawa ni na tau na uca.
- Ia, kevaka sa tekivu na teitei, kerei me na vakayagataki na misini ni suisui se 'irrigation system'.

Qele, Wai kei na Vakabulabula ni Qele

- Tei tu vakawawa toka mada na kena vakayagataki vakadua se 'one time application' na I vakabulabula ni qele, me yacova ni tekivu vakilai tale na tau ni uca, e na veivanua ka sa vakilai kina na mamaca, me vakataka na maliwa ni vanua e Sigatoka kei Tavua.
- Rawa ni tomani tiko ga na vidai rua ni vakayagataki ni vakabulabula ni qele, e na veivanua ka se vakilai toka kina na tau ni uca.
- Samaki vinaka toka na veivanua ka sa tekivu lairai kina na tubu ni co ca, e na kena wereci se vakayagataki na wainimate. Vakalailaitaki na kena vakayagatki na I walewale ni teitei ka na rawa ni vakavuna na yali totolo ni suasua e na qele.

Manumanu kei na Mate ka rawa ni basika

- E na vuku ni mamaca ni draki eda donumaka tiko e na gauna oqo, e na rawa ni basika tale ga kina na veimataqali mate ka dau bula vakalevu e na gauna ni katakata, me vaka na sap-sucking pests (aphids, mealybugs, scale) kei na caterpillars (armyworm). Dodonu me na dau talevi wasoma na I teitei, vakabibi e na mataka lailai. Wali rawa na veimate lalai ka sa tekivu basika, ni bera ni teteva yani na vo ni I teitei.
- Ni dau tubu gogo na dovu e na vuku ni lailai ni wai, e na rawa ni totolo tale ga na kena tarai ira totolo na baca. Kerei me na vakawabokotaki se vakamai laivi ne I tei ka sa tekivu laurai kina na tauvimate, ka sava vinaka tale ga na I yaya ni teitei ka vakayagataki e na gauna e vakamai kina na I tei tauvimate.
- Kerei me vakadewataki vakatotolo ki vei iratou na Tabana ni SRIF ke laurai e so na manumanu se I vakatakilakila ni mate e na I tei, mo ni rawa ni vukei se vakasalataki e na gauna totolo duadua.

I VAKASALA RARABA

- Kerei me vakadewataki vei iratou na Tabana ni SRIF, ke laurai e so na i vakatakilakila ka rawa ni basika e na gauna ni teitei, mo ni rawa ni vakasalataki e na gaunaisala e so ka rawa ni wali kina na leqa.
- Sa kerei me da vakatudaliga tiko ki na veivakasala ni Tabana ni Draki, kei na veivakaro eso mai vei iratou na kena vakailesilesi.
- Ni sa kerei moni veitaratara vei iratou na Tabana ni SRIF me baleta na veidusimaki me baleta na kena maroroi se qaravi ni I teitei kei na veika e vakayagataki ena vuku ni veiveisau ni draki.

Climate Outlook

- During October 2026, prevailing dry conditions are favored, with a high (75%) chance at least **0-25mm** of rainfall in sugarcane growing areas from Sigatoka to Tavua and **25-50mm** of rainfall in Rakiraki and across Vanua Levu.
- Suppressed rainfall likely in November 2026, with a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **25-50mm** of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, and **50-100mm** in sugarcane growing areas in Dobuilevu and across Vanua levu.
- Dry conditions likely to continue in December 2026 with the outlook showing a (75%) chance of receiving at least **25-50mm** of rainfall generally from Olosara to Tavua and **50-100mm** in Rakiraki and across Vanua Levu. .
- For November 2026 to January 2027, the rainfall outlook shows a high (75%) chance of receiving at least **200-300mm** of rainfall in sugarcane belt areas from Olosara to Tavua. A high chance of receiving at least **300-400mm** of rainfall in Penang and from Seaqaqa to SRIF Batanikama, and **400-500mm** of rainfall in Dobuilevu, Wainikoro and Vunivutu.
- Strong El Niño event continues to persist in the tropical Pacific Ocean. Global climate models indicate that the event is likely to reach the very strong category and favored to continue into early 2027.
- El Niño events in Fiji are commonly associated with reduced or suppressed rainfall, leading to an increased risk of dry spells.
- As El Niño conditions continue, communities are requested to remain prepared for potential prolonged dry spells, declining water availability, and increased stress on crops and livestock.

Rainfall Outlook: October 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
October 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 12/09/2026
Issued: 14/09/2026

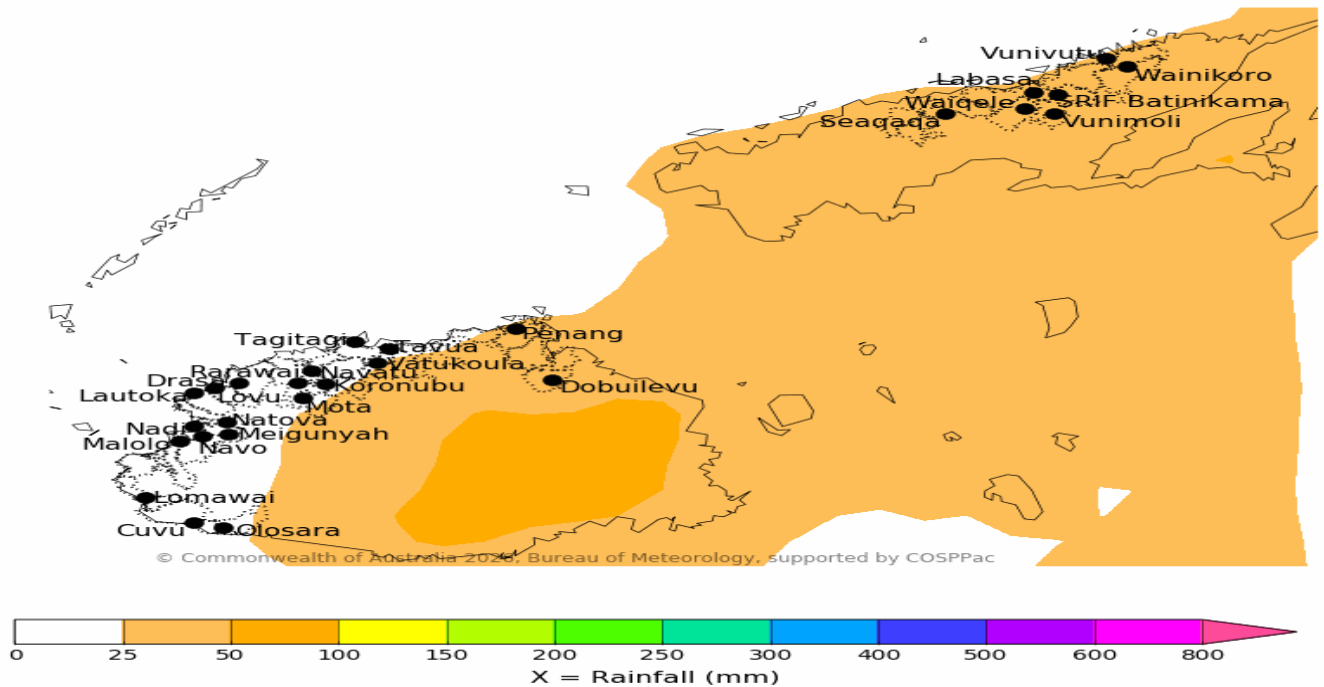


Figure 1: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 0-25mm of rainfall in sugarcane growing areas from Sigatoka to Tavua and 25-50mm of rainfall in Rakiraki and across Vanua Levu. There is low to moderate confidence in the outlook.

Rainfall Outlook: November 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
November 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 12/09/2026
Issued: 14/09/2026

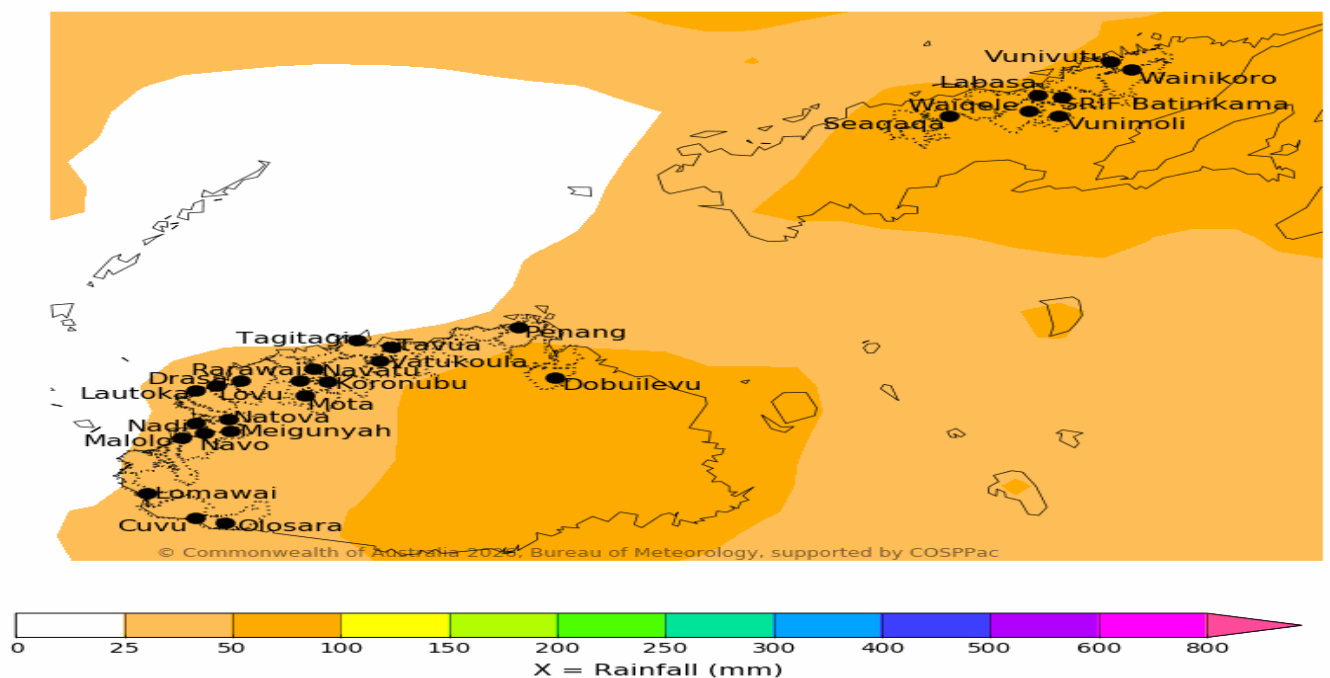


Figure 2: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 25-50mm of rainfall from Olosara to Penang, and 50-100mm in sugarcane growing areas in Dobuilevu and across Vanua Levu. Confidence in the outlook is very low to low.

Rainfall Outlook: December 2026

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
December 2026

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 12/09/2026
Issued: 14/09/2026

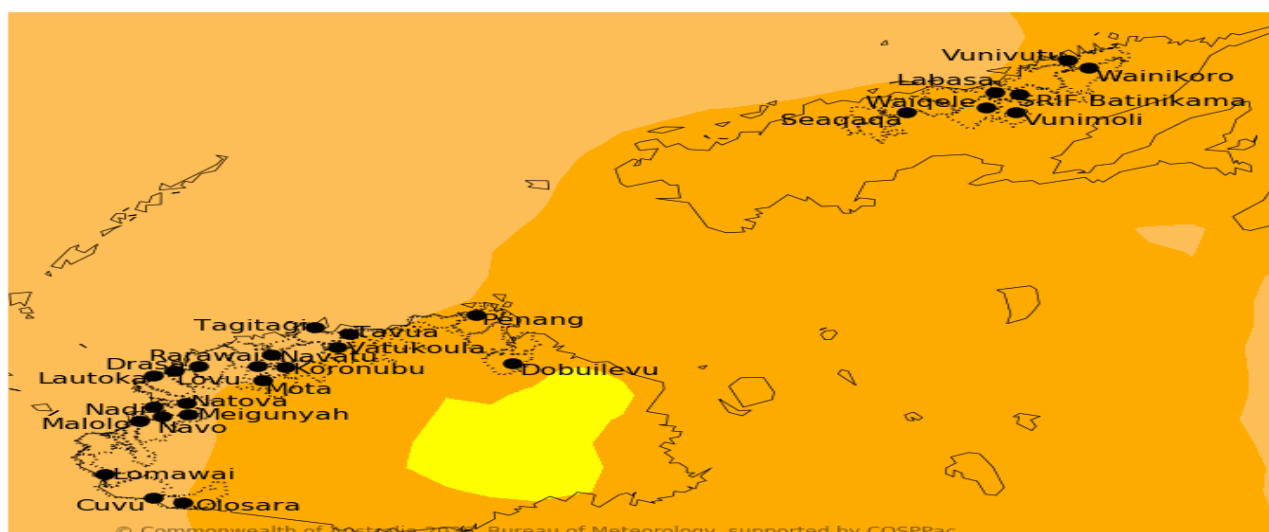


Figure 3: There is a high (75%) chance for sugarcane growing areas to receive at least 25-50mm of rainfall generally from Olosara to Tavua and 50-100mm in Rakiraki and across Vanua Levu. There is low to moderate confidence in the outlook.

Rainfall Outlook: November 2026 to January 2027

75% chance of rainfall exceeding X mm:
November 2026 to January 2027

Data source: ACCESS-S2
Observations: MSWEP

Base period: 1981–2018

Model Run: 12/09/2026
Issued: 14/09/2026

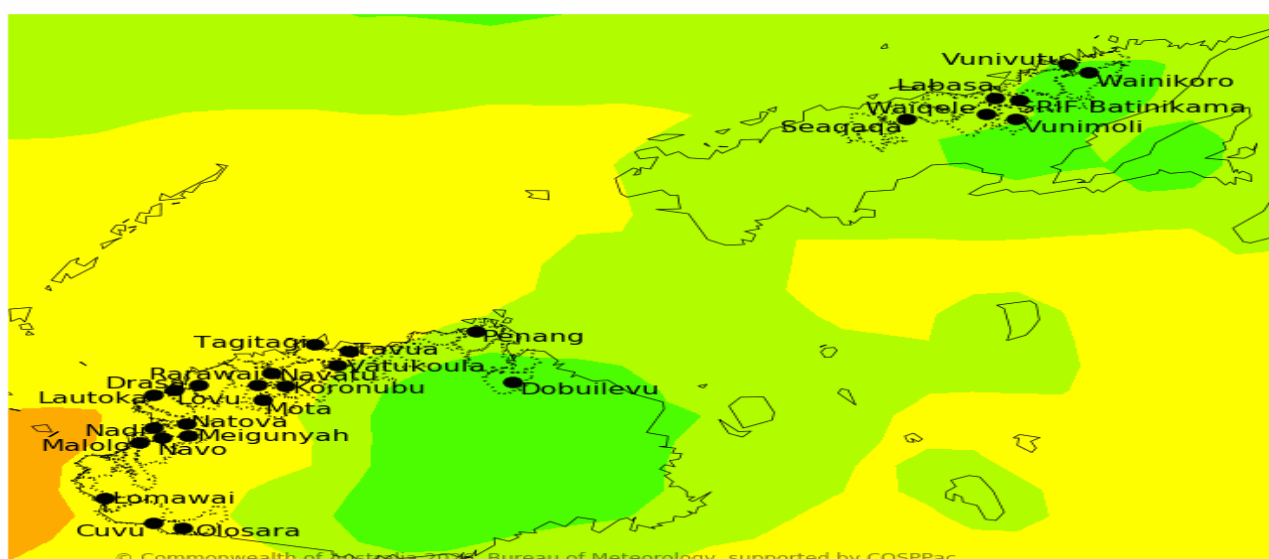


Figure 4: There is a high (75%) chance of receiving at least 200-300mm of rainfall in sugarcane belt areas from Olosara to Tavua. A high chance of receiving at least 300-400mm of rainfall in Penang and from Seagaqa to SRIF Batanikama, and 400-500mm of rainfall in Dobailevu, Wainikoro and Vunivutu. The confidence in the outlook is moderate to good.

Explanatory Notes

Fiji Sugarcane Rainfall Outlook

The Fiji Sugarcane Climate Outlook is a collaborative product of the Fiji Meteorological Service (FMS) and the Sugar Research Institute of Fiji (SRIF). It is produced to provide advisories to the farmers and other key sugar industry stakeholders. It aims to provide advanced warning on climate abnormalities for informed decision making. The product is issued on a monthly basis.

El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO)

ENSO is the principal driver of the year-to-year variability of Fiji's climate. There are two extreme phases of this phenomenon, *El Niño* and *La Niña*.

El Niño or La Niña events usually recur after every 2 to 7 years. It normally develops during the period April to June, attains peak intensity between December to February and decays between the period April to June the following year. While most events last for a year, some have persisted for up to 2 years. It should be also noted that no two El Niño or La Niña events are exactly the same. Different events have different impacts, but most exhibit some common climate characteristics.

Usually there is a lag effect on Fiji's climate with ENSO events, that is, once an El Niño or La Niña event is established in the tropical Pacific, it may take 2-6 months before its impact is seen on Fiji. Similarly, once an event finish, it can take 2-6 months for climate to normalise.

El Niño events are associated with warming of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. El Niño events usually result in reduction of Fiji's rainfall. Often the whole of Fiji is affected in varying degrees and it is quite unusual for one part of the country to experience a prolonged dry spell, while the other is in a wet spell. The relationship and level of rainfall suppression is greater in the Dry Zone (sugarcane growing areas) than in the Wet Zone. It is the suppression of rainfall during the Cool/Dry Season (May to October) that is normally of most concern. Dry Season mean monthly rainfall in the Dry Zone ranges between 40mm and 90mm. A reduction in Cool/Dry Season rainfall in the Dry Zone results in little or no rainfall until the next Wet Season. While usually the strength of an ENSO event is proportional to its impact on Fiji, at times weak event can also have a significant impact.

La Niña events are associated with cooling of the central and eastern tropical Pacific. Usually La Niña results in wetter than normal conditions for Fiji, occasionally leading to flooding during the Warm/Wet Season (November to April).

When ENSO is neutral, that is, neither El Niño nor La Niña, it has little effect on global climate, meaning other climate influences are more likely to dominate.

Lag effects – means that there is a delay in the impacts of some aspect of climate due to influence of other factors that is acting slowly.

Disclaimer: The seasonal climate outlook provided in this document is presented for the sugar sector and should be used as a guide only. While FMS and SRIF takes all measures to provide accurate information and data, it does not guarantee 100% accuracy of the forecast presented in this outlook. Please enquire with FMS and SRIF for expert advice, clarifications and additional information as and when necessary. The user assumes all risk resulting directly or indirectly from the use of the climate prediction information.