



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL (PMC-7)

AGENDA ITEM 12.1

Pacific Hydrological Services Panel Progress and Update

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Purpose of the Paper

- **Inform** the Council of the progress of the Pacific Hydrology Services (PHS) Panel.
- **Update** the Council on regional initiatives related to hydrology data and services, including flood and drought warning and management.
- **Inform** the Council of the Hydrology Forum in November 2024.



Background

- Call from countries to improve hydrological services (PIMS 2017-2026),
- Opportunity to establish a dedicated **panel in hydrology** to assist in addressing the region's and national hydrological needs,
- Provides a regional mechanism for **improved coordination** between meteorologists and hydrologists,
- Assist the PMC in the identification and development of new opportunities to **support national capacities in hydrological services.**



Progress – PHS Panel

- The Panel had its first Hydrological Outlook Forum July 2024 in Nadi, Fiji, participation for this was from 6 countries.
- WMO USAID Projects FFGS and EWS-F projects inception workshop took place in July 2024, Nadi, Fiji.
- The SPC, NIWA and PICTs are assessing hydrological database options suitable for the PICTs setting. The assessment is taking place in various stages including identification of requirements of Pacific hydrology database needs, evaluating hydrological database options compared to the minimum requirements identified, and reporting of options evaluation and recommendations.
- SPC conducted a workshop on the development of Hydrology Action plan for 4 countries.



Regional initiatives pipeline and ongoing projects

- Technical support in hydrology to enhance flood early warning systems (SPC funded by the Australian Water Partnership);
- Managing coastal aquifers in selected Pacific SIDS (SPC funded by GEF);
- Managing Water Scarcity through Strengthened Water Resources Management (SPC funded by New Zealand Ministry Foreign Affairs and Trade);
- Enhancing water and food security and climate resilience in volcanic island countries of the Pacific (GEF, FAO, SPC)
- WMO supported initiatives:
 - ✓ Hydro-SOS (Hydrological Status and Outlook System 2024);
 - ✓ Early warning system for floods (EWS-F);
 - ✓ Flash Flood Guidance System (FFGS).
- WMO CREWS Pacific SIDS 2.0 Project (WMO, SPREP).
- SPREP-GCF Pipeline – Upgrading Hydrometeorological services for climate resilience water security in the Pacific SIDS



Recommendations

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note** the works and progress of the PHS Panel.
- **Note** the hydrology related regional projects currently under implementation and pipeline projects.
- **Note** the need to support the continued cooperation, coordination and approach between regional and international bodies, national government agencies, civil society organisations to develop and implement regional initiatives related to hydrology; and
- **Encourage** alignment of the regional initiatives related to hydrology with the Weather Ready Pacific and 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.