



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

## Agenda Item 12.2

# Regional Hydrology Strategy Review

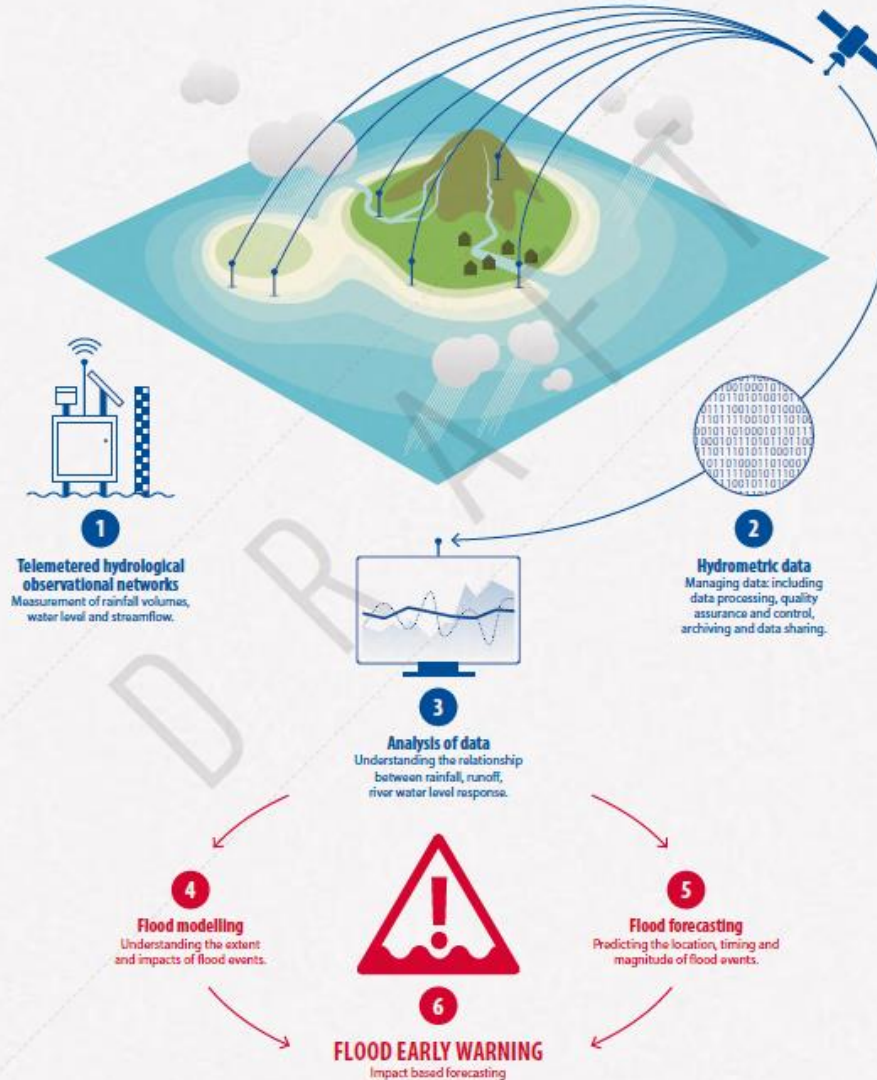
*Jacqui Reid, SPC (PHS Panel)*



# Purpose of the Paper

- 1. Inform** the Council of the development of a *Hydrology Action Plan for improved hydrological services to enhance flood early warning in selected PICs*;
- 2. Garner** support for the development of regional strategy to improve hydrological services for surface water and groundwater to increase climate resilience and support national development goals

# Background





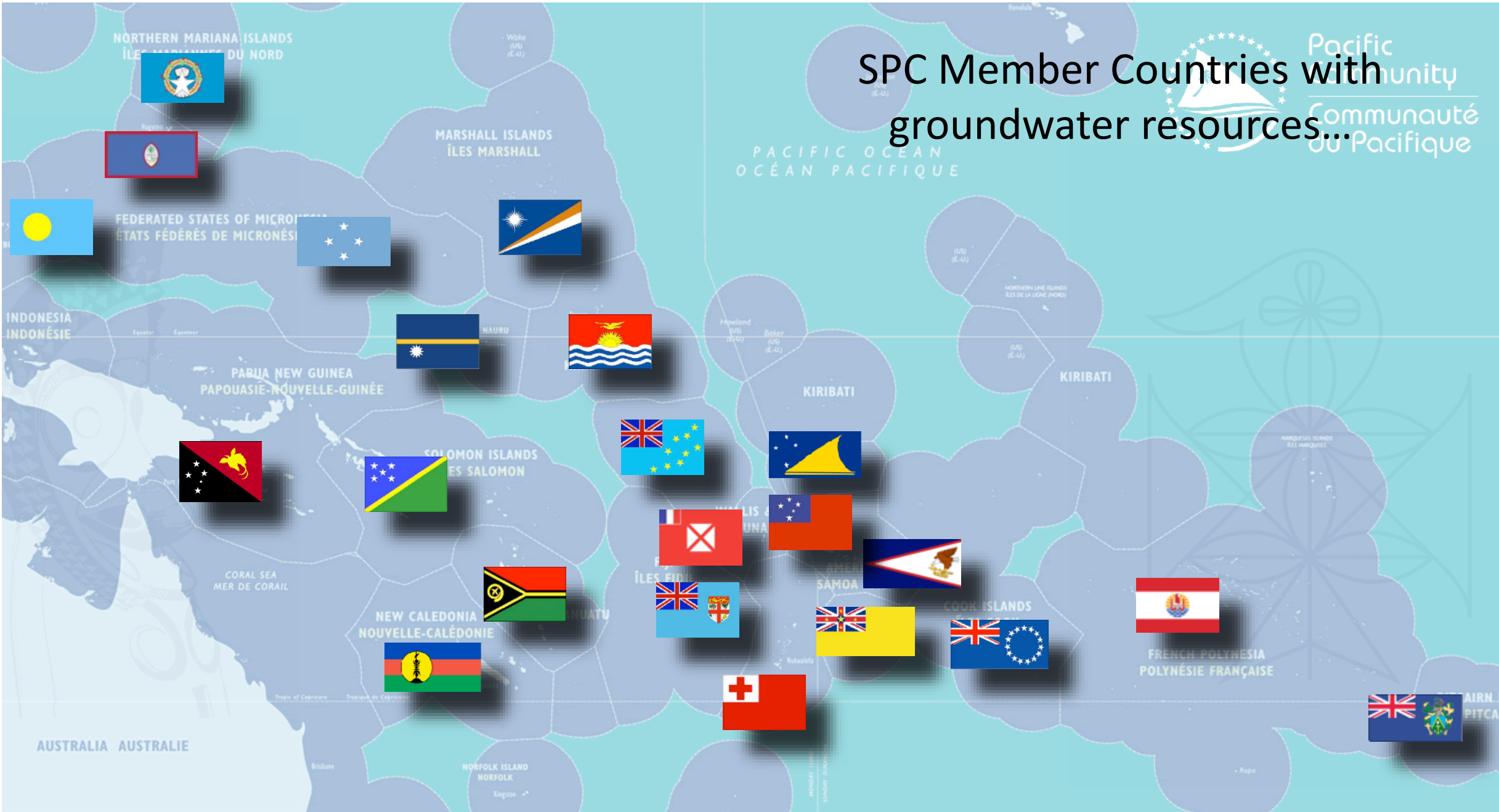
# Challenges

- **Lack of awareness** of the role of hydrological services
- Investment has been **ad-hoc** and **uncoordinated**
  - Lack of training pathways
  - Unsustainable infrastructure investments
  - Poor data quantity and quality
  - Lack of data to inform evidence-based decisions

The capacity and capability of NHSs across the region will be improved with a **regional strategic direction** to support NHSs to deliver for National Governments and communities



# SPC Member Countries with groundwater resources...



# PICs with river systems







## 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent

# Proposal

Regional dialogue into water  
security



9 PICTs



Strategy to support **surface water** hydrological  
services



22 PICTs

Strategy to support **groundwater** hydrological  
services



# Benefits

Regional strategy would assist PICTs to:

- Articulate the needs and priorities NHSs
- Support NHSs with strategic direction, action and coordination
- Guide partners and donors with their sustainability of their investments and efforts in supporting NHSs, water security and DRR



*Pacific Island Countries ... have similar needs, similar gaps and similar challenges, ... this strategy would help form a guideline that countries can take as a regional effort into looking for ways to address these challenges or to fill the gaps, also, ... it will help each of the individual countries draw from the experiences and what is working for other countries and expand on what the national level needs would be.”*



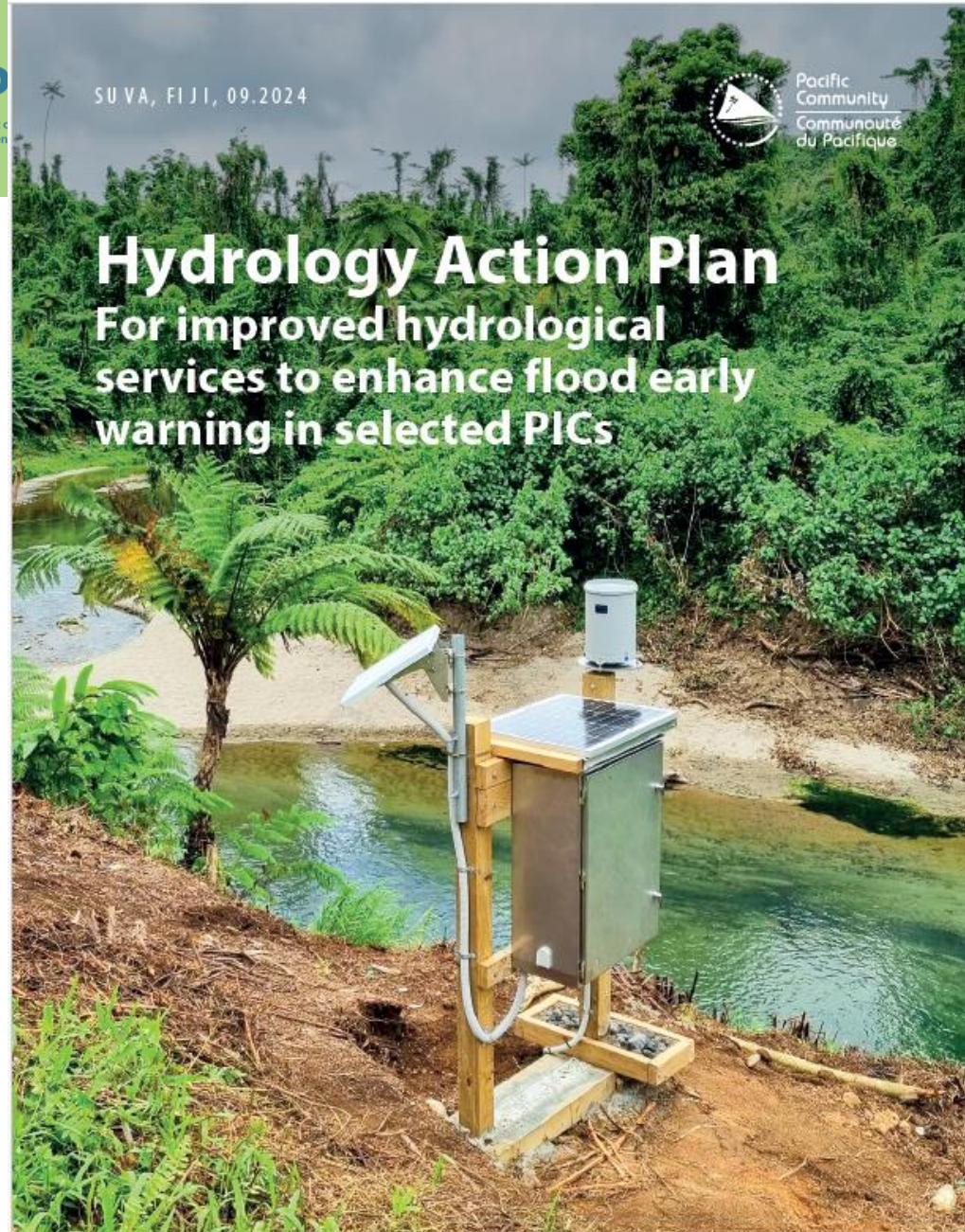


# Proof of concept

- Extensive engagement across a range of stakeholders
- In-depth understanding of NHS operations, capacity and needs
  - Field work
  - Standardised capacity assessment tools
  - Pilot studies
- Country led identification of shared goals and common approaches to achieve the goals

SUVA, FIJI, 09.2024

## Hydrology Action Plan For improved hydrological services to enhance flood early warning in selected PICs







# Objectives

1. For PICT NHSs to articulate their needs and priorities to be able to reach their full potential in contributing to national goals for climate resilience and development
2. For PICT NHSs to continue and strengthen collaboration with NMSs to improve climate resilience
3. Develop an approach to assist countries, regional organisations and development partners to effectively support the capacity of NHSs in surface water and groundwater hydrological services.





# Recommendations

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Acknowledge** that the PICs involved in the co-development of the *Hydrology Action Plan for improved hydrological services to enhance flood early warning in selected PICs* recognise the utility and proof of concept to support a regional approach to address challenges faced by hydrological services.
- **Recommend** for NHSs to develop regional strategies to improve hydrological services for both surface water and groundwater to increase climate resilience and support national development goals