



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

AGENDA ITEM: 19.2

Weather and Climate Traditional Knowledge for Cultural Tourism Development in the Pacific

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Purpose of the Paper

1. To inform the Members on the progress of the tourism sector's work on the development of regional guidelines for the integration of Culture (including Traditional Knowledge) across sector policies and programmes.
2. To provide the Meeting with an overview of the areas and opportunities where tourism intersect with weather, climate and traditional knowledge information.



Background

1. Cultural tourism has the potential to be a strong driver of economic activity in the Pacific.
2. A wealth of traditional knowledge and skills provide valuable resources for developing more sustainable communities.
3. The Pacific Sustainable Tourism Policy Framework outlines the tourism sector's vision, goals, policies and priorities for the period 2021-2030.



Background

1. The new direction for tourism is aligned to the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent, the Pacific Regional Culture Strategy led by SPC and SPREP's work in Traditional Knowledge.
2. The evolving developments and recognition of Traditional Knowledge to bridge the gap between science, communities and sectors' understanding directly impact the development of cultural tourism in the Pacific.
3. A shared approach is therefore fundamental in enabling cross sectoral collaboration for cultural tourism development.



Objectives

1. An opportunity exists to establish a clear strategic direction at the regional level to support the advancement of cultural tourism informed by Traditional Knowledge
2. Traditional knowledge associated with weather and climate services are expressed as:
 - a. **Cuisine and Food Traditions:** availability based on the changing flowering and fruiting seasons with these directly affecting menu options, types of food consumed, cooking techniques and food preservation practices
 - b. **Clothing and Fashion:** availability of traditional clothing and attire, which are common expressions of identity



Objectives

- a. **Arts and Craft** – access to raw materials needed for traditional crafts and impact on livelihoods
- b. **Education and Knowledge Transmission:** oral traditions, storytelling and folklore, music and dance
- c. **Environmental practices:** traditional ecological knowledge, traditional farming and fishing methods – niche activities



Recommendations

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note** the update on the linkages between weather and climate Traditional Knowledge and the development of sustainable cultural tourism in the Pacific region.
- **Consider** the Pacific Cultural Tourism Guidelines as a tool to inform future weather and climate Traditional Knowledge policies and programmes for the tourism sector.
- **Acknowledge** the efforts of the PMC and the Secretariat in engaging the tourism sector at national and regional level through the CROP mechanism.
- **Note** the need for guidance from the Members on the role of the tourism sector in supporting Traditional Knowledge aspirations.