



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

*"AT THE FRONTLINE OF WEATHER, CLIMATE, WATER, AND OCEAN ACTION IN THE PACIFIC"*

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*"At the Frontline of Weather, Climate, Water, and Ocean Action in the Pacific"*

17-19 September 2024, Warwick Le Lagon-Vanuatu Resort, Port Vila, Vanuatu

### Agenda Item 10.3: UNEP CIS-Pac5 [Enhancing Climate Information and Knowledge Services for 5 island countries of the Pacific Ocean]

#### Purpose:

1. To report on activities and achievements of the UNEP CIS-Pac5 since PMC-6.
2. Highlight recommendations from the Mid Term Evaluation for incorporation into other pipeline programmes and initiatives.
3. Highlight the need for strengthened streamlining and coordination of Climate Information Services programmes and projects for sustainability.

#### Background:

1. UNEP CIS-Pac5 was developed at the request of the 5 countries (Cook Islands, Niue, Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands and Tuvalu) and was endorsed by the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) at the 5<sup>th</sup> biennial meeting in July 2019.
2. Leadership and support from the PMC contributed to the Green Climate Fund (GCF) Board approving the programme at the 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board in November 2020.
3. Official implementation commenced in September 2021 known as the Effectiveness Date of the Funded Activity Agreement (FAA) between the GCF and UNEP, with the Regional Inception Workshop and First Programme Steering Committee (PSC) held in May 2022.
4. The programme is implemented through four inter-related **Programme Results**, based on the pillars of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GCFS) and the PIMS:
  - **Result 1:** Strengthened delivery model for climate information services and MHEWS covering oceans and islands.
  - **Result 2:** Strengthened observations, monitoring, modelling and prediction of climate and its impacts on ocean areas and islands.
  - **Result 3:** Improved community preparedness, response capabilities and resilience to climate risks.



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- **Result 4:** Enhanced regional knowledge management and cooperation for climate services and MHEWS.
5. The programme benefits from the expertise of a broad coalition of regional technical partners ensuring coherence and complementarity: APEC Climate Center (APCC), the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (Climate Centre), the East West Centre National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (EWC NOAA), the New Zealand National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), the Pacific Community (SPC), the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), and the University of Hawaii Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (UH PacIOOS).

### Progress/Update: Up to August 2024

1. **Mid Term Evaluation [Annex 1]:** Endorsed by GCF in June 2024 with an overall performance rating of "Satisfactory". The Programme is addressing recommendations from the evaluation with strengthened focus on "detailed review of all activities and outputs to realistically forecast propensity for full implementation and expenditure by September 2026."
2. **National Framework for Weather, Climate and Ocean Services (NFWCOS):** completed for Niue and Tuvalu; **National Strategic Plan for Weather, Water and Climate Services (NSPWWCS) Implementation Plan** completed for Palau and RMI.
3. **Annual National Climate Outlook Forums (NCOF):** implemented in Cook Islands, Palau, RMI and Tuvalu.
4. **Climate Services Market Assessment:** consultations completed in the 5 countries which will inform the development of the National Financing Policies and National Sustainability Plans.
5. **Land based Equipment Installation and Maintenance:** Nine (9) AWS installed in Niue (2), Tuvalu (2), Palau (2) and RMI (3), with remaining 32 to be installed in Cook Islands (2), Palau (2), Tuvalu (6) and RMI (21) during the programme. One (1) AWOS installed in Niue with up to 6 remaining for Cook Islands (up to 5) and Palau (1).
6. **X-Band Weather Radars: UNEP is currently conducting the procurement in close collaboration with the countries, working with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).** Procurement process in place with contract expected to be signed in December 2024 with the successful vendor.



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7. **Ocean observation and monitoring:** Seven (7) wave buoys deployed in Niue (3), Cook Islands (2) and Tuvalu (2), with three remaining for Cook Islands (2) and Palau (1). Procurement completed for unmanned drones, data loggers.
8. **Forecasting models:** Preliminary web-based coastal inundation forecasting system in place for [Cook Islands](#); [Operational high resolution atmospheric models](#) and operational ocean circulation models completed for Palau.
9. **Portals and Platforms:** A comprehensive climate data platform developed for Palau that includes the Palau Indicator Matrix, Palau Ocean Portal and dedicated Palau GitHub Repository; Climate Change Dashboard developed for RMI to collate climate information and data from all initiatives in country.
10. **Strengthened capacity of NMHS staff:** The programme supported the 5 countries through the provision of technical trainings, attachments, workshops delivered by the Regional Technical Partners and UNEP. These include: Pacific Island Countries Advanced Seasonal Outlook (PICASO) trainings, Young Scientist Support Programme (YSSP), Climate and Oceans Monitoring & Prediction (ACCESS-S), Early Action Rainfall Watch Training, Oceans Officer Attachment, AWS Technical Training, Quality Management Systems (QMS) Knowledge Sharing, Climate Data Training, Sector based Climate Services Training, Anticipatory Action Workshop, Weather Radar Knowledge Sharing, El Nino Knowledge Sharing, Ocean Science and Coastal Hazard Assessment, and Basic Instruction Package for Meteorological Technicians (BIP-MT).
11. **National Technical Programme Personnel:** Thirty-two (32) national fixed positions are to be funded from the programme. 84% of fixed positions are officially on board (28) with five more recruitments to be finalised. These positions include: Climate Officer, Climate Data Officer, Technical Officer, Oceans Officer, Traditional Knowledge Officer, National Programme Implementation Manager, and National Finance Officer.
12. **Community engagement:** Countries engaged with national partners to conduct community and outer islands educational campaigns and outreach on climate hazards, traditional knowledge, climate and weather: Kumiti Au Vaine (Cook Islands), Climate Change Cook Islands, Palau Red Cross Society, Marshall Islands Red Cross Society (MIRCS), National Council of Women (Niue), Girls and Boys Brigade (Niue), National Emergency Management Office (Palau), Marshall Islands Conservation Society (MICS).

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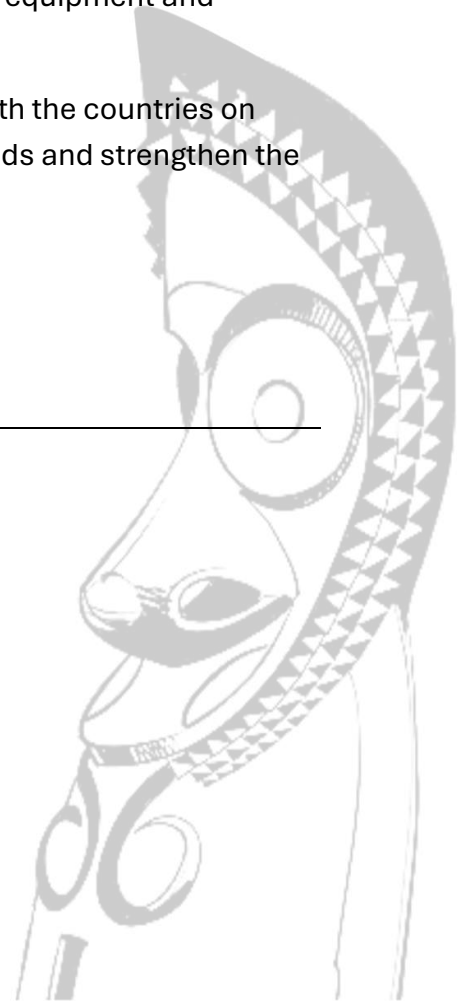
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### Recommendations:

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Acknowledge** the achievements and leadership of the five countries in the delivery and implementation of climate information services.
- **Note** the Mid Term Evaluation Recommendations to inform existing and new programmes and seek collective engagement in the stock take exercise for the 5 countries.
- **Request** strengthened collaboration and information sharing between UNEP CIS-Pac5, Weather Ready Pacific and all other programmes for accessibility, streamlining and sustainability of tools, systems, training, equipment and maintenance.
- **Request** Regional Technical Partners to engage closely with the countries on activities and priorities for implementation to address needs and strengthen the 5 NMHS.



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**Annex 1: Mid Term Evaluation Report (Attached)**

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