

FOURTH PACIFIC MINISTERIAL MEETING ON METEOROLOGY

PMMM-4

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 15, 16 September 2026



Agenda Item

3

METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES SUPPORTING THE BLUE PACIFIC AGENDA

3.2

Overview, progress and update of the
Weather Ready Pacific Programme

‘Ofa Fa’anunu – Weather Ready Pacific Program Manager

Weather Ready for a Secured and Sustainable Pacific



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COUNCIL



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Why Weather Ready Pacific?

Stronger, safer and more resilient Pacific communities through people-centred early warning systems.



THE CHALLENGE

High risks. Limited capacity. Unsustainable systems.



Increasing multi-hazard risks

More frequent and severe weather, climate, ocean and geophysical hazards, worsened by climate change.



Limited capacity

Many NMHSs operate with small teams and constrained operational and technical resources.



High infrastructure and maintenance costs

Critical equipment, power and transport costs are high, with significant ongoing maintenance needs.



Fragile communications and last-mile systems

Warnings do not always reach everyone, everywhere.



Dependence on short-term project financing

Many systems are project-based, with limited and unpredictable long-term funding.



Difficulty sustaining and replacing equipment

Ageing infrastructure and limited local maintenance capability put services at risk.



On average,
Pacific Island Countries lose

3 – 5%

of GDP each year
due to natural disasters.

Source: World Bank (2021).
Pacific Possible.



THE WRP RESPONSE

A Pacific-led regional solution for a safer, more resilient future.

Weather Ready Pacific (WRP) is the Pacific-led mechanism to strengthen end-to-end, people-centred multi-hazard early warning systems.

It brings together Pacific countries, regional organisations and development partners to build stronger, more sustainable meteorological, hydrological, ocean and climate services for the benefit of all Pacific people.



OBSERVE

Collect and share
trusted data



FORECAST

Turn data into
credible, timely
forecasts



WARN

Issue clear
and actionable
warnings



COMMUNICATE

Reach everyone,
everywhere



ACT

Enable early
action and
preparedness



SUSTAIN

Maintain and
grow capability
for the long term

Prepared People. Safer Communities. A Stronger Pacific.

Weather Ready for a Secure and Sustainable Pacific

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Our People
Our Islands
Our Weather
Our Future

Weather Ready
for a Secure and
Sustainable
Pacific



The Vision and Ambition

A safer, more resilient and prosperous Pacific through effective, timely and actionable warnings.

OUR VISION

A Weather Ready Pacific

where all Pacific people are
protected by effective, timely
and actionable warnings.

*Stronger services.
Safer communities.
A more resilient Pacific.*



OUR 5 AMBITIONS TO 2033

1

Human and economic losses are reduced.

Fewer lives lost, less damage and quicker recovery from hazards.

2

Pacific economies and livelihoods are climate and disaster resilient.

Stronger and more diverse economies, food security and sustainable livelihoods for all Pacific people.

3

Pacific people have access to safe and reliable transport and communication systems.

Connected communities, safer travel, stronger economies and improved access to services.

4

Pacific security is stronger.

Safer communities, secure borders and a more stable and resilient Pacific.

5

Hydro-met and MHEWS services are more integrated, impactful and sustainable.

Better data, better forecasts, better decisions and lasting benefits for people, economies and the environment.

OUR 5 GUIDING PRINCIPLES

PACIFIC-LED

Driven by Pacific priorities, owned by Pacific countries and responsive to Pacific needs.

PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

Working together with countries, regional organisations and development partners for greater impact.

TRANSFORMATIONAL

Innovative solutions that strengthen end-to-end early warning systems and build long-term resilience.

SUSTAINABLE

Solutions that last — with people, systems and financing for the long term.

INCLUSIVE

Leaving no one behind, with a focus on GEDSI and the needs of the most vulnerable.

Weather Ready for a Secure and Sustainable Pacific





How Weather Ready Pacific Works

A Pacific-led regional framework that connects national priorities and partner support for greater impact.

*Countries lead.
The region
coordinates.
Partners invest.*

WRP does not replace national priorities or partner programmes.

It provides the regional framework through which countries identify priorities, partners align investments, and regional solutions are used where they provide greater efficiency and sustainability.



FROM FRAGMENTED PROJECTS TO LASTING IMPACT

Current situation

- Project-by-project funding
- Fragmented investments
- Duplication and gaps
- Difficult to sustain

With Weather Ready Pacific

- Coordinated investment
- Greater efficiency and value
- Stronger national and regional capability
- Sustainable, long-term impact



National ownership



Regional coordination



Coordinated investment



Sustainable capability

One Pacific framework — nationally led, regionally coordinated and collectively supported.

Weather Ready Pacific

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What We Invest In – The Six Key Result Areas (KRAs)

Building end-to-end, people-centred multi-hazard early warning systems for a safer, more resilient and prosperous Pacific.



KRA 1

Coordination & Management

Strong governance, planning, partnerships and programme management.



KRA 2

Hydrometeorological Observation Infrastructure

Reliable, fit-for-purpose weather, climate, water and ocean observations across land, sea and air.



KRA 3

Forecasts & Warnings / Integrated Forecasting System

Accurate, timely and impact-based forecasts and warnings through an integrated forecasting platform.



KRA 4

Dissemination, Telecommunications & Last Mile

Timely, reliable and inclusive dissemination of warnings to ensure the last mile is reached everyone, everywhere.



KRA 5

Capacity & Training (including RTC/RIC)

A skilled and resilient workforce through regional training, technical support and knowledge sharing.



KRA 6

Risk Information & Hazard Preparedness

Multi-hazard risk information, impact-based services and support for anticipatory action and preparedness across all hazards.



CROSS-CUTTING ENABLERS



Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL / MERLA)

Evidence, accountability and continuous improvement.



Gender Equality, Disability and Social Inclusion (GEDSI) & Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS)
Inclusive, safe and people-centred services.



Communications & Knowledge Management
Sharing knowledge, amplifying impact and building a weather ready Pacific.

From stronger systems to safer people, resilient communities and a prosperous Pacific.

Weather Ready Pacific

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What Weather Ready Pacific Has Delivered

From Inception: June 2024 – June 2026

Investing in people, systems and services for a safer, stronger and more resilient Pacific.

Benefiting
21 Countries
Across the Pacific Islands
region

**Tonga & Solomons Radar
& Last Mile Communications**
USD 4.2M



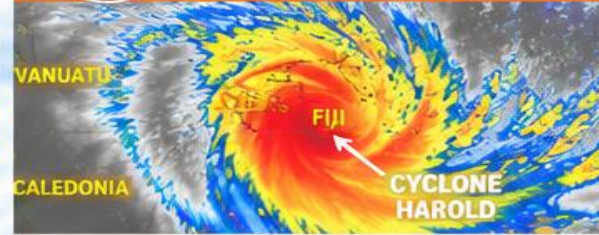
Tonga radar commissioned and Solomon Islands radar under construction, along with last mile communications to improve data and warning delivery.

Program Management
USD 2.1M



Established the Programme Management Unit, implemented governance arrangements and hosted Steering Committee meetings.

**Severe Weather Pilot
(Tonga, Fiji, Niue)**
USD 1.3M



Piloting impact-based severe weather forecasting and early warning services in Tonga, Fiji and Niue to strengthen community preparedness.

Training & Capacity Development
USD 1.0M



Built the skills and capability of Pacific people through training, technical assistance and community education.

**Observation Network Planning
and Refurbishments**
USD 5.0M



Planned and refurbished surface, upper-air, ocean and hydrological observation networks to strengthen data for weather, climate and hazard monitoring.

Forecast Systems Upgrades
USD 0.7M



Advanced regional forecasting capability through an Integrated Forecasting Platform, WIS2.0 and improved data management systems.

Service Delivery & Preparedness
USD 0.5M



Enhanced early warning service delivery, community preparedness and outreach across the region, including support to schools and communities.

Total Spent
(June 2024 – June 2026)
USD 10.3M

A safer, stronger and more resilient Pacific through early warnings for all.

Weather Ready Pacific

People | Ocean | Resilience | Our Shared Future



The Sustainability Challenge for WRP

From capital investment to lasting capability and safer Pacific communities

Substantial investments have strengthened our services. The next challenge is ensuring that capability **continues working after projects finish.**



Maintenance & Lifecycle Financing

Plan and finance the full lifecycle – operations, maintenance, spares and replacement.



Sustainable National Capability

Strengthen NMHS institutions, systems and service delivery to endure beyond project cycles.



Energy Costs & Resilient Power

Reduce operating costs and ensure reliable, renewable and resilient power for critical infrastructure.



Technical Workforce

Invest in training, retention and specialised skills to operate and maintain modern systems.



Asset Management

Know what we have, track performance, plan maintenance and replacements, and maximise the value of our assets.



Coordinated Investment

Align partner support behind national priorities through a coordinated pipeline and the One Pacific approach.



Pacific Hydro-Met MHEWS Sustainable Maintenance Facility

From concept to implementation



Powering a Weather Ready Pacific

Renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable operations

INVEST TODAY
SUSTAIN TOMORROW
A SAFER BLUE PACIFIC

2027–2033: From Projects to Sustainable Capability

A stronger, safer and more resilient Pacific through a coordinated and sustainable Weather Ready Pacific

Our Ocean
Our People
Our Future

Early warnings
today.
A more resilient
Pacific tomorrow.

SUSTAINABLE
PACIFIC CAPABILITY
FOR GENERATIONS
TO COME

2027

Consolidate and scale

Implement and sustain

2033

A Weather Ready
Pacific for future generations



One Pacific-owned Investment Pipeline

Country-driven
priorities, coordinated
regionally, aligned
with PIMS 2027–2036.



Coordinated Partner Investment

Aligned and
complementary support
through WRP, SOFF,
CREWS, PRF and others.



Sustainable Maintenance and Lifecycle Financing

Keeping infrastructure
and services working
for the long term.



Operationalising Regional Training and Technical Support

A strong regional
training and technical
support system
(RTC/RIC).



Stronger Risk Information and Preparedness

Multi-hazard risk
information, anticipatory
action and community
readiness (KRA6).



Integrated Forecasting and Warning Systems

Modern, integrated
forecasting platforms,
data systems and
last-mile delivery.



Stronger National Ownership

Sustainable national
institutions, policies,
financing and
people.



*"The next phase of Weather Ready Pacific is not simply about installing more equipment.
It is about building sustainable Pacific capability—owned by countries, supported by the region
and financed for its full lifecycle."*



WRP Financing: Strong Start — Major Gap Remains

Pacific partners have invested strongly. Reaching the 2033 ambition now requires a major second wave of financing — and Ministerial leadership.



USD 41.9M

RECEIVED / SECURED

With grant support from

AUSTRALIA

NEW ZEALAND

UNITED KINGDOM



USD 150M

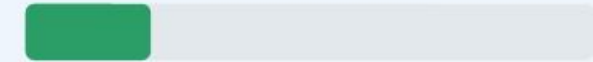
REMAINING FUNDING GAP

The scale of the gap requires WRP to move beyond project-by-project fundraising to a coordinated Pacific investment proposition.



≈22%

of the combined funding requirement is secured



USD 41.9M secured

USD 150M gap



THE MINISTERIAL ASK

Own WRP. Raise its profile. Help unlock the remaining USD 150M.

OWN

Champion WRP as the Pacific-led mechanism for sustainable hydro-met and MHEWS investment.

ADVOCATE

Use Ministerial and Leaders-level platforms to raise WRP's political visibility.

ALIGN

Encourage partners and climate/development finance to invest through one Pacific-owned pipeline.

MOBILISE

Help attract new donors, financing institutions and strategic partners for the 2027–2033 phase.

From stronger systems to safer people, resilient communities and a prosperous Pacific.

Weather Ready Pacific

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Thank You

To all who have supported Weather Ready Pacific

PEOPLE | PARTNERSHIPS | PROGRESS | A STRONGER PACIFIC

Malo Aupito

TOGETHER FOR A SAFER,
STRONGER BLUE PACIFIC



Ministers

For your leadership,
ownership and advocacy



Your commitment drives a safer,
more resilient Pacific.



WRP Champion

The Right Honourable
Lord Fakafanua
Prime Minister of Tonga



Your vision and leadership
inspire action across our ocean nations.



Partners & Stakeholders

For your trust, collaboration
and investment



Your support is building lasting
impact for Pacific people and places.

*Together, we are building a Weather Ready Pacific —
owned by the Pacific, sustained by the Pacific, for the Pacific.*

Thank you for bringing Weather Ready Pacific this far.
The next chapter is ours to build together.



SAFER COMMUNITIES



STRONGER LIVELIHOODS



A SUSTAINABLE BLUE PACIFIC