

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PACIFIC METEOROLOGICAL COUNCIL

PMC-8

Nuku'alofa, Tonga • 10, 11, 14 September 2026

Eighth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-8) **Weather Ready for a Secured and Sustainable Pacific** 10, 11, 14 September 2026 | Nuku'alofa, Tonga

Agenda Item #: 10 - Weather Ready Pacific Programme Update; Progress Update (FY2025 and 1 January – 30 June 2026)

Purpose:

1. This paper updates PMC-8 on the progress of the WRP Programme — summarising the position reported in the FY2025 Annual Report and the progress recorded in the first half of 2026. It is submitted for information and noting only. The full WRP FY2025 Annual Report is available separately and provides the complete detail behind this summary.

Objectives:

1. To present the FY2025 programme position and the foundations established in WRP's first full year of implementation.
2. To highlight the progress recorded across the first half of 2026, including the first measured capability gains and the adoption of the programme's core regional strategies. The full WRP 1 January 2026 – 30 June 2026 report will be presented at the WRP SC-5.

Background

WRP is a Pacific-owned and led decadal programme, endorsed by Pacific Leaders in 2021 and by Pacific Meteorological Ministers in 2023 as the regional vehicle for Early Warnings for All (EW4All). It is directed by the Pacific Meteorological Council and delivered through five executing agencies under SPREP coordination, organised around six interconnected Key Result Areas (KRAs).

WRP Support

Support available to the programme is summarised below. These funds and contributions are being programmed for implementation right across the region.

(1) Direct Funding Assistance from Donors — 2024 to 31 December 2029

Donor	Committed/Pledged Amount
UK WISER	USD \$0.614 million
DFAT	AUD \$30 million
NZMFAT	USD \$1.328 million
	NZD \$32 million
TOTAL (USD equivalent)	USD \$39.047 million

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(2) In-kind Support

Contribution	Partner
Construction of the Regional Training Centre in Fiji	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

The FY2025 position – Key Highlights

2025 was WRP's first full year of implementation, with an overall status of Amber: strong foundations were built across the six result areas, while the most demanding delivery work remained ahead. A “year of firsts” included:

- **First weather radar in Tonga** in daily operational use — the first WRP-funded infrastructure asset in active operation.
- **Nine BIP-M and BIP-MT graduates** returned home to Tonga, Kiribati, Samoa, Cook Islands, PNG, Tuvalu and Vanuatu — each a permanent uplift in national forecasting capacity.
- **Regional Observation Networks Workshop** — 65 representatives from 14 Pacific Island countries mapped the region's observation infrastructure for the first time.
- **WRP GEDSI Strategy 2025–2033 approved** six months ahead of target, with an MOU signed with the Pacific Disability Forum.
- **IFP Peer Review completed** and Phase 1 endorsed (Fiji Met Service as regional hub); MHEWS Technical Working Group made operational.

Progress since — 1 January to 30 June 2026 – Key Highlights

In the first half of 2026 the overall status improved to Amber, improving. The foundations laid in 2025 are beginning to translate into early, output-level results. The rating is deliberately not Green: evidence of change remains early and concentrated, outcome-level effects are not yet observable, and the most demanding work — warning communication and the integrated forecasting platform — still lies ahead.

Governance and strategy foundations locked in

- **Steering Committee 4 (Honiara, 29 May – 2 June 2026)** adopted the Pacific Regional Observation Strategy, the Radar Strategy, the Standards and Procurement Guidelines, and the Communications and Engagement Strategy 2026–2033 to name a few.
- **GEDSI Strategy formally launched** on 14 March 2026; the Operations Manual's GEDSI chapters endorsed on 2 June 2026.

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- **PMU reached eight of its nine target positions** — the Communications and Knowledge Management Officer and the MERL and Adaptation Officer both joined this period.

First measured capability gains

NZ Met Service's Common Alerting Protocol training across five countries was the period's standout capability result, delivering strong measured gains in participants' knowledge and confidence — with the biggest improvements in the countries that started furthest behind. CAP warning capability is now operational in all five.

Delivery reaching the ground

- **Four coastal sensors deployed** across Tokelau's three atolls (Fakaofu, Nukunono, Atafu) in April 2026 through a multi-agency joint mission.
- **Integrated Forecasting Platform (IFP)** advanced from concept to a validated, build-ready design, endorsed at PICI (19 May) and SC4.
- **Tonga radar maintained at 100% system uptime** and now woven into daily forecasting.
- **SPC Pacific Hydrological Diagnostic Assessment Framework** applied across 13 countries against an original scope of three.
- **COPE community-education series** (seven titles) translated into Vagahau Niue and Gagana FakaTokelau and launched across Niue and Tokelau.

Programme status by KRA

KRA	Result Area	FY2025	H1 2026
1	Governance, Management & Coordination	Amber	Amber ↑
2	People Capability	Amber-Green	Amber-Green
3	Observation Network Infrastructure	Green	Green
4	Forecast & Warning Production	Amber	Amber ↑
5	Communication & Delivery to End Users	Amber	Amber ↑
6	Risk Information & Preparedness	Not Active pending Investment Plan Development	Not Active pending Investment Plan Development

Status derived from output-level indicators. ↑ denotes an improving trajectory within the same band.

KRA-by-KRA summary from FY2025 to 30 June 2026

- **KRA 1 — Governance, Management and Coordination (Amber — foundations in place, financing facility still to be finalised).** The governance and financing

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foundations built in 2025 moved into full operational phase, with PMU staffing nearly complete, the GEDSI Strategy launched, and the Sustainable MHEWS Financing Facility approved in principle. Finalising that facility is the key forward priority.

- **KRA 2 — People Capability (Green — strong results, measurement still to be standardised).** The programme's strongest area continued to deliver, headlined by the Common Alerting Protocol training and its strong measured gains, alongside specialist hydrology and meteorologist cohorts progressing toward graduation. The main task now is standardising how capability results are measured across the region.
- **KRA 3 — Observation Network Infrastructure (Green — 2 more radars in progress).** Strong 2025 preparation carried into delivery and regional architecture in 2026, with the observation and radar strategies adopted, new sensors deployed in Tokelau, and the Tonga radar performing reliably. The Solomon Islands and Samoa radars and the asset-management system are the focus for the second half.
- **KRA 4 — Forecast and Warning Production (Amber — IFP design done, build and timing the key risks).** The Integrated Forecasting Platform advanced from concept to a validated, build-ready design, with regional hydrology diagnostics and pilot forecasting tools progressing well. The IFP build and its timing are the key forward risks.
- **KRA 5 — Communication and Delivery to End Users (Amber — delivery accelerating, warning comms the top priority).** Delivery accelerated sharply, with CAP alerting now operational in five countries, community-education materials translated and launched, and last-mile connectivity expanding. Continued acceleration of warning communication remains the programme's most important near-term priority.
- **KRA 6 — Risk Information and Preparedness (Not active — awaiting Investment Plan to stand it up).** KRA 6 is not yet stood up, by design, with its activation tied to the WRP Decadal Investment Plan under review. In the interim, related work is delivered through KRAs 3, 4 and 5.

Looking ahead — priorities for the second half of 2026

The foundations laid in 2025 and consolidated in the first half of 2026 now set the agenda for the period ahead, where the emphasis shifts from establishment to delivery at pace and to converting outputs into durable, Pacific-owned capability.

Priority activities include:

- progressing the Integrated Forecasting Platform from build-ready design into Phase 1 construction;
- standing up the Asset Management Information System; and
- finalising the Sustainable MHEWS Financing Facility approved in principle at SC4.

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Several key infrastructure milestones are anticipated in this period, including the:

- completion of the Regional Training Centre in Fiji,
- Solomon Islands and Samoa weather radars; and
- a broadcast studio in Samoa to strengthen the delivery of weather information to communities.

Warning communication remains the most important near-term priority, with continued rollout of the Common Alerting Protocol, community-education materials and last-mile connectivity across more countries. Underpinning all of this, the PMU will build and resource a standardised, region-wide monitoring and evaluation framework to measure outcomes consistently, fill the remaining ESS/GEDSI Officer position, and progress the WRP Decadal Investment Plan that will formally activate KRA 6. The full WRP 1 January 2026 – 30 June 2026 report will be presented at WRP SC-5, with the full 2026 WRP Annual Report to be submitted to WRP SC-6.

Recommendations:

The Meeting is invited to:

- I. **Note** the FY2025 programme position and the progress recorded across the first half of 2026.
- II. **Note** the funding of USD \$39.047 million (equivalent) available to the programme from the United Kingdom (WISER), Australia (DFAT) and New Zealand (MFAT), programmed for implementation across the region.