

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 5.2: CREWS: financing early warning at scale and cooperation with Weather Ready Pacific (WRP)

Purpose:

1. To provide information on CREWS support to weather, climate and water intelligence.

Objectives:

1. To provide background information on CREWS financing modalities and new Strategy.
2. To further elaborate and strengthen cooperation between CREWS programmes and Weather Ready Pacific (WRP), including multi-year programme at regional and national level, the CREWS small-grant Accelerated Support Window, and GCF/CREWS Framework for scaling up early warning financing.

Background:

1. CREWS enters the 2026-2030 programming phase from a position of demonstrated impact: since its establishment in 2015, CREWS has mobilized USD 155 million, including over USD 20 million for the Pacific, and catalysed over USD 900 million in leveraged financing. Currently, 4 Pacific Island countries are developing GCF/SAP proposal through the CREWS Scaling-up Framework for a total of USD 100 million.
2. CREWS also enters the next programming phase with an active and open pipeline, currently comprising 29 endorsed projects valued at USD 124.25 million.
3. CREWS recognizes the value of country and regional driven programmes. An MOU was signed with SPREP and the Weather Ready Pacific programme at COP30, in Belem, Brazil. It recognizes WRP as the programming framework for initiatives related to the EW4All initiative in the Pacific. The modalities to channel CREWS three financing pathways, and related pipelining, technical assistance and monitoring and evaluation through WRP need to be established.
4. CREWS has 3 strategic priorities are:
 - ✓ Priority 1 builds the institutional, technical, and policy prerequisites that every other investment depends on.
 - ✓ Priority 2 translates those foundations into access to climate finance at scale from climate funds such as the GCF, AF, FRLD, multilateral development banks, and other financial institutions.

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✓ Priority 3 pushes the frontier of what early warning systems can do, operating in impact-based forecasting, cell broadcast alerts for communities with no mobile network coverage, anticipatory action frameworks with pre-agreed financing triggers, and indigenous knowledge integration.

5. In July 2026, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) were successfully accredited to the CREWS Financial Intermediary Fund administered by the World Bank.

Recommendations:

The Meeting is invited to:

- I. Note the Strategy 2030 for the CREWS initiative and related Operational Plan 2030, adopted by its Steering Committee. Also note the ongoing review of the CREWS pipeline that informs future financing decisions.
 - II. Note with satisfaction the Memorandum of Understanding signed between SPREP/WRP and CREWS at COP30
 - III. Invite SPREP/WRP and the CREWS Secretariat to further advance the modalities to translate the MOU into concrete programming mechanisms.
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