



*"Sustainable Weather, Climate, Oceans and Water Services for a Resilient Pacific"*

## **Fourth Meeting of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC-4) Working Papers**

14-18 August 2017  
Honiara  
Solomon Islands

### **Agenda Item 24.1: Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services 2017-2026**

#### **Purpose:**

1. To table the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services 2017-2026 final report; and
2. To get support of PMC on the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services 2017-2026 and its implementation of activities.

#### **Background:**

Requested by 3rd Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) and the First Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology at their meetings in 2015 for the development of a draft Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services.

- The Roadmap (see attachments) provides overall guidance for the generation and delivery of climate services in the Pacific region.
- Each country and territory with its different priorities and starting points can begin to develop its own particular route map or implementation plan to deliver the climate services it requires.
- It recognises further the need to expand on the five original GFCS focus areas:
  - Agriculture and food security;
  - Disaster risk reduction;
  - Sustainable energy;
  - Health; and
  - Water.by adding tourism, fisheries and aquaculture explicitly.

#### **Overview of the Roadmap Vision:**

- Climate services provide information about the climate in a way that assists decision-making by individuals and organisations, including government, industry and civil society sectors.
- Climate services are built on a foundation of high-quality data from national and international databases on temperature, rainfall, wind, soil moisture, and ocean conditions.

- To be effective, there must be close collaboration between the providers and users of climate information.
- The Roadmap was noted as a priority by the 1<sup>st</sup> Pacific Meteorology Ministers meeting.

#### Rational for a Roadmap:

- A "road map" is distinct from a "route map". On a road map, one can typically see several alternative routes between a starting point and a destination.
- A route map in contrast describes the details of a particular journey.
- It is important to understand that there will be a need to change course, as needs change as well as impacts, and address them accordingly.
- Climate change present major challenges to the PICs, and climate services are needed to help reduce the impacts and support adaptation.
- Climate services must build on existing platforms and activities.
- NMHS are qualified and committed to providing climate services but lack human and financial resources to develop and deliver those services.
- Targeted capacity building for NMHSs in the Pacific and national partner organisations are crucial for improving the provision of climate services.
- Climate services will assist the development of effective government policies, meeting the needs of communities in general, and supporting the specific needs of industry and commerce.

#### Key Principles:

- Pacific focus within a global context;
- Gender and minorities empowerment;
- Value for money;
- Sharing information;
- Partnerships;
- Continuing research;
- Stakeholder engagement; and
- Utilising open-source systems.

#### Global Framework for Climate Services into the Pacific:

The GFCS has five "pillars" which have been used as structural building blocks for the Roadmap. The pillars are:

1. User Interface Platform: a structured means for users, researchers and information providers to interact at all levels;
2. Climate Services Information System: through which information about climate (past, present and future) will be routinely collected, stored and processed to generate products and services that inform decision-making;
3. Observations and Monitoring: climate observations and other data necessary to meet the needs of end-users are collected, managed and disseminated;
4. Research, Modelling and Prediction: research to improving the scientific quality of climate information, evidence base for impacts and for the cost-effectiveness of using climate information; and
5. Capacity Development: particular capacity development needs identified in the above and the basic requirements for enabling the Framework related activities to occur.

#### What will the Roadmap support?

- Communication of what has worked well in the region; Traditional knowledge – database, sharing, linking with forecasts and science; Pacific Islands Climate Outlook – access and share climate change science information and forecasting for the region;

- Climate early warning systems;
- Cooperation with regional partners;
- Regional and national users platform – linked to Pacific Climate Change Portal; and
- New tools and further training on existing – CLIDE, OSCAR, CLEWS, etc

**Challenges:**

- Most sector specific studies or models require lengthy periods of standardised, quality checked digitised data, which is almost non-existent in the Pacific Islands.
- Most NMHSs do not have institutional arrangements with other national agencies on data and information exchange.
- The remoteness of rural areas and outer islands often hinders access to information.
- Many sectors do not understand even basic climate information or are unaware of the kinds of data and information their NMHS can provide and its potential uses.

**Consultation process:**

There was a workshop with the representatives in Nadi in October 2016. Questionnaires were sent out to all NMHSs, regional partners and national sector agencies. The consultation process involved attending five regional meetings – UNDP’s Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management in October, SPREP and WMO’s second PICOE in October, FAO’s Reducing Risk and Strengthening Resilience in Pacific Agriculture in November, and UNDP’s Introductory Training for Met Technicians and RESPAC Board Meeting in March.

- The need for a Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services (PRCS) was identified at the Regional Consultation on Climate Services for Pacific Small Island States meeting held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands from early 2014.
- The concept was further refined in subsequent Pacific Islands Climate Services (PICS) Panel meetings.
- The PRCS was further discussed at a workshop in Nadi, Fiji, October 2016.
- The PRCS was further discussed in a workshop in Nadi in May 2017.

**Recommendations:**

1. The Meeting is invited to:
  - **Note:** The extensive consultative process that was used for the development of the Roadmap and the alignment of actions presented in the Roadmap with the WMO Strategic Plan and RA V Operating Plan (2016-2019), the Global Framework on Climate Services (GFCS), the Sendai Framework and other relevant regional and international initiatives;
  - **Request:** PMC to endorse the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services 2017-2026; and
  - **Request:** NMHSs, donors and partners to support the implementation of suggested actions within the Roadmap.

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**Attachments**

- Annex 1 - Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services 2017-2026

[17/07/17]