Annual Report

Year 3

1 June 2023- 31 May 2024

ClimSA
INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME
An initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States funded by the European Union

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

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Our

Team

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Abbreviations

ACCESS-S	Australia Community Climate Earth's System Simulators – Seasonal Model
ACP	African Caribbean and Pacific
APCC	APEC Climate Centre
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation
AWPB	Annual Work Plan and Budgets
BoM	Australian Bureau of Meteorology
Cb-EWS	Community-based Early Warning System
C3S	Copernicus Climate Change Service
CDMS	Climate Data Management Systems
CAL	Computer Aided Learning
COSPPac	Climate and Oceans Support Programme in the Pacific
CCl	Commission for Climatology
CDMS	Climate Data Management Systems
CIMH	Caribbean Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology
CIP	Climate Information Products
ClimSA	Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications
CliDE	Climate Data for the Environment
CPT	Climate Predictability Tool
CoCO	Consensus for Climate Outlook
CREWS	Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems Initiative
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
CSIS	Climate Service Information System
CSOs	Civil Societies Organisations
CST	Climate Services Toolkit
DARE	Data Rescue
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
e-SIAC	Statistics in Applied Climatology (electronic version)
ECCC	Environment and Climate Change Canada
EAR Watch	Early Action Rainfall Watch
ECMWF	European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting
EU	European Union
EUMETSAT	European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorology Satellites
EWISACTs	Early Warning Information Systems Across Climate Timescales
f-SIAC	Statistics in Applied Climatology (face-to-face version)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nation
FFGS FRDP	Flash Flood Guidance System Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific
GA	GeoScience Australia
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GFCS	Global Framework for Climate Services

Abbreviations

GPC	Global Producing Centres
GUAN	Global Upper Air Network
ICA&D	International Climate Assessment and Dataset
IDA	International Development Association
IFRC	International Federation for Red Cross
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
Intra-ACP GCCA	Intra-Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Global Climate Change Alliance
IRI	International Research Institute for Climate and Society
IT	Information Technology
JRC	European Commission's Joint Research Centre
KMS	Kiribati Meteorological Services
KRA	Key Result Areas
LFR	Long Range Forecasts
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
Meteo-France	French National Meteorological Service
MSLP	Mean Sea Level Pressure
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCOF	National Climate Outlook Forum
NCSC	National Climate Services Committees
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFCS	National Frameworks for Climate Services
NFWWCS	National Frameworks for Weather, Water and Climate Services
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
NIWA	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research New Zealand
NMHS	National Meteorological and Hydrological Service
NOAA	National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration USA
NWP	Numerical Weather Prediction
OA	Ocean Acidification
OS	Operating System
PACRES	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building
PCCC	Pacific Climate Change Centre
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PICASO	Pacific Island Countries Advanced Seasonal Outlook
PICs	Pacific Island Countries
PICS Panel	Pacific Island Climate Services Panel
PICOF	Pacific Island Climate Outlook Forum
PIFS	Pacific Island Forum Secretariat
PIMS	Pacific Island Meteorological Strategy
PMC	Pacific Meteorological Council
PMDP	Pacific Meteorological Desk Partnership
PMMM	Pacific Ministerial Meeting on Meteorology
PNG	Papua New Guinea

Abbreviations

PMU	Project Management Unit
POSTECH	Pohang University of Science and Technology
PPCR	Regional Track of the Pilot Project for Climate Resilience
PPOA	New Zealand Pacific Partnership on Ocean Acidification
PRSCS	Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services
PSC	Project Steering Committee
QC	Quality Control
WMO RA-V	World Meteorological Organization Regional Association Five (South West Pacific)
RASOR	Rapid Analysis of Spatialization of Risk
RCC	Regional Climate Centre
RCOF	Regional Climate Outlook Forum
RESPAC	Disaster Resilience for Pacific Small Island Developing States
RFCS	Regional Frameworks for Climate Services
RFWWCS	Regional Frameworks for Weather, Water and Climate Services
ROK PI CLIPS	Republic of Korea Pacific Island Climate Prediction Services Project
SMD	Samoa Meteorology Division
SCOPIC	Seasonal Climate Outlook for the Pacific Island Countries
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SLR	Sea Level Rise
SPC	The Pacific Community
SPI	Standardised Precipitation Index
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
SST	Sea Surface Temperature
TK	Traditional Knowledge
UH	University of Hawaii
UIPs	User Interface Platforms
UKMO	United Kingdom Met Office
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UoR	University of Reading
UPNG	University of Papua New Guinea
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USP	University of the South Pacific
WB	World Bank
WCRN	Weather and Climate Ready Nations
WIGOS	WMO Integrated Global Observing System
WIS	WMO Information System
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRF	Weather Research Forecast

Preamble

The Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Application Programme (ClimSA) is a EUR 85M initiative focused on reinforcing the climate services value chain, spanning from data procurement to information synthesis and the distribution of climate services. It strives to bolster the competency and involvement of climate services users, thereby enriching the utilization of climate services and corresponding solutions.

Achieving ClimSA's goals entails the development and refinement of tools geared towards empowering stakeholders and users in climate-sensitive sectors. All these endeavours align with the directives laid out in the Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) at various levels.

ClimSA strongly aligns with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement, making a direct impact on addressing SDG (Sustainable Development Goal) 13, which focuses on climate change. Its contributions extend to secondary impacts on SDG 2 for zero hunger, SDG 3 for good health and well-being, SDG 5 for gender equality, SDG 6 for clean water, SDG 14 for life below water, and SDG 15 for life on land.

ClimSA represents a collaborative effort, drawing on a diverse pool of expertise at global, regional, and national levels. It is jointly implemented by the OACPS Secretariat, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as the UN specialised agency, and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC).

The primary beneficiaries of the programme are the Regional Climate Centres (RCCs), the African Union Commission, the African Regional Economic Communities, the Caribbean Institute for Meteorology and Hydrology (CIMH), and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP).

The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) has taken the initiative to lead the implementation of the Pacific component of the ClimSA programme, funded with a dedicated budget of EUR 9m.

The latest Sixth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) highlights the urgent risks tied to exceeding a 1.5°C increase over pre-industrial levels. Every rise in global temperatures intensifies the frequency and severity of extreme weather events, including heatwaves, heavy rainfall, and droughts in various regions.

This programme's relevance and urgency for the Pacific region originate from climate variability and change's current and projected impacts, which hold significant implications for national economies and primary socio-economic sectors. The Pacific region is exceptionally vulnerable to climate change's adverse effects due to its distinctive environment and particular socio-economic challenges. Without substantial resilience interventions like ClimSA, the ability of Pacific ACP (African, Caribbean, and Pacific) countries to mitigate their susceptibility and exposure to climate change impacts is severely constrained.

Pacific National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) play a crucial role as keepers of weather, climate, hydrological, and environmental information and are essential for monitoring and predicting weather and hydrological hazards. However, many NMHSs face operational and personnel constraints that limit their effectiveness. A 2017 needs and gaps survey for Climate Services in the Pacific underscored common challenges across Pacific NMHSs, including the need for institutional support for climate services, capacity building, improved tools and products, data management, research and modelling for better skills, real-time climate extreme data from remote locations, and data.

The Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications is supporting Pacific ACP Countries to address five Outputs on 1) Structured interaction between the users, researchers and climate services providers in Pacific ACP region ; 2) Effectively guaranteed provision of climate services at regional and national level; 3) Improved access to climate information; 4) Enhanced capacity of Pacific ACP region to generate and apply climate information and products relevant to their particular concerns, and 5) Enhanced climate informed decision making and mainstreamed climate services into policy processes at regional and national level.

All Pacific ACP members, including Cook Islands, Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu, will indirectly benefit from this initiative.

Additionally, Samoa, Kiribati, Nauru, and Tonga will have the opportunity to upgrade their weather observation stations, thereby enhancing the quality of climate data and enabling the creation of custom products that aid informed decision-making processes.

Image:
Training for Kiribati Meteorological Services staff on how to use climate information to develop early warning messages using online tools on mobile devices.

Executive

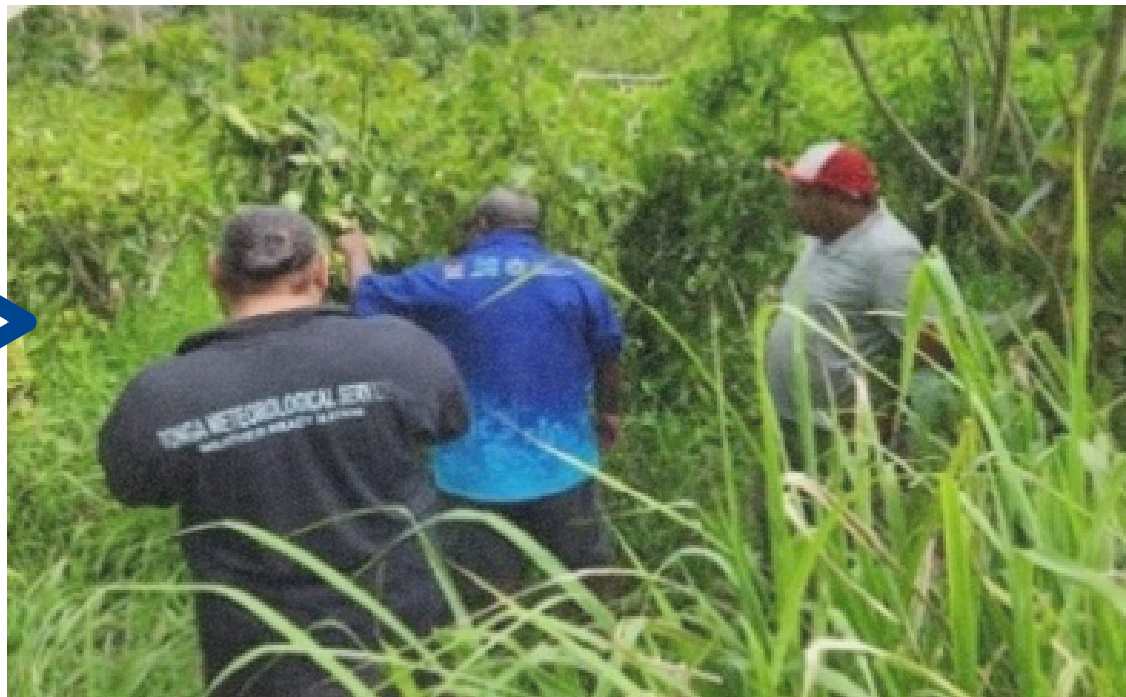
Summary

This section summarizes key highlights during Year 3 implementation, covering the period from 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024. Despite a slow start in Year 2 due to COVID-19 challenges, Year 3 saw significant improvements in activities at both regional and national levels.

Like other regional projects, ClimSA faced variables beyond its control, particularly in planning national-level activities. With the easing of travel restrictions, numerous other projects targeting similar beneficiaries have impacted ClimSA's ability to achieve planned activities within the anticipated timeframe. Nevertheless, significant progress has been made. The core project team has employed adaptive management strategies to continue striving for successful implementation.

At the regional level, ClimSA's involvement in the Pacific Meteorological environment has become increasingly evident. Key activities, notably those involving Ministers, have elevated ClimSA's visibility and impact. The project's contributions were notably recognized during the Pacific Meteorological Council meeting held in Nadi in August 2023, affirming ClimSA's role in the region. Some notable progress is summarised as follows:

Strategic Country Visits: In July 2023, the ClimSA team conducted an insightful visit to Nauru, followed by a visit to Tonga in November 2023. These visits were conducted in close collaboration with the National Meteorological Services (NMS) of each country. The primary aim was to better understand the status of operations in these NMSs and identify the support needed. A significant outcome of the visit to Tonga was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SPREP and the Tongan government, detailing the support to be provided by ClimSA. For Nauru, it was agreed that a gap assessment is necessary, which will be concluded in the first six months of Year 4.



Enhancement of Regional and National User Interface Platforms:

(a) Establishing New Regional User Interface Platform (UIP) with Disaster Risk Reduction: A key accomplishment was the establishment of a Joint Working Environment between the Disaster Management and Meteorology communities under the auspices of the UIP (User Interface Platform). This significant collaborative effort was facilitated through partnerships with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Pacific Community (SPC), and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), with the UNDRR contributing to logistical costs.

Since its inception, the two communities have strengthened their relationship, working closely at both the national and regional levels. ClimSA also supported a smaller gathering during the April 2024 PICOF & Anticipatory Action Meeting at Shangri-La Fiji. Currently, the communities are collaborating on several initiatives, including the "Early Warning for All" programme.

ClimSA has been recognized for initiating this UIP, which has fostered positive outcomes and enhanced regional cooperation in disaster risk reduction and meteorology.

(b) Initiating UIP with South Pacific Tourism Organisation: The tourism sector is one of the world's largest economic sectors (World Travel and Tourism Council, 2021). In the pre-COVID-19-times, international tourism growth continued to outpace the global economy; 1.5 billion international tourism arrivals were recorded in 2019 globally, a 4% increase on the previous year.

Despite the high vulnerability of tourism to climate variability and change, the actual use of climate services among tourism stakeholders in the Pacific is rather limited. The main barriers to the use of climate services in tourism include low levels of risk awareness and rather short business decision cycles, which lead to a low prioritization of climate issues. Furthermore, lack of knowledge of existing services and their benefits and lack of applicability of climate services restrict their use.

The use of weather services – in particular, publicly available and tailored forecasts of up to ten days – is quite common in the tourism sector, but the use of climate services is still rather limited.
Overall, tourism stakeholders show higher interest in short-term and seasonal services than in long-term projections. This holds true in particular for tourism service providers, but also for tourism associations and public authorities, since their planning horizons usually do not exceed five to ten years (e.g. in tourism development plans and tourism strategies).

Established in 1983 as the Tourism Council of the South Pacific, the Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) is the mandated organisation representing Tourism in the region.

Image:
Country inception visit to Tonga on November, 2023.

A core recommendation of the Global Framework of Climate Services (GFCS) and several published studies state that stakeholders' participation is the basis for a productive and effective application of climate services, where effective user engagement and the co-production of climate services are key. To this end, SPTO was invited to participate in the PICOF-14. This initial engagement with the SPTO proved to be beneficial for both the ClimSA project and SPTO because of the insights that were exchanged, and opportunities for future collaborations were explored.

With the aim of co-developing a climate product for the Pacific, it was important to engage further, and resulted in our participation in the South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) Board Director's Workshop for Sustainable Tourism. In alignment with the Pacific Sustainable Tourism Policy Framework and the broader goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Pacific 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific, SPTO's Division of Sustainable Tourism convened these consultations to advance regional sustainable tourism initiatives.

This forum was an ideal opportunity to get a clear identification of stakeholders and share the value proposition (advantages gained by users) of climate services to the tourism sector, with the aim to engage users as equal and integral partners in the for the dissemination of climate information. Representatives from twelve (12) SPTO Member Countries, totaling 32 participants along with the SPTO Division of Sustainable Tourism team, attended the consultations.

(c) Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forums (PICOF-13 & PICOF-14): ClimSA successfully sponsored and supported the delivery of the 13th and 14th sessions of the PICOF in October 2023 and April 2024, respectively. This platform is used to validate past seasonal climate outlooks and develop a regional statement to guide national climate outlooks for the next six months. The 13th PICOF was co-funded by the Bureau of Meteorology Australia through its Climate & Oceans Support Programme (COSPPac).

Stakeholder days were organized to raise awareness of the climate outlook for the next six months, helping stakeholders understand, apply, and make sound climate-sensitive decisions.

In addition, ClimSA initiated discussions with the agriculture and fisheries sectors to explore their needs. Following PICOF-13, an Agro-climatic bulletin was co-developed, which is currently in draft stages and awaiting feedback from the SPC Land Resources Division for further refinement and promotion. A similar approach is planned for the Pacific Disability Forum after PICOF-14.

(d) National Climate Outlook Forum: ClimSA supported two NCOFs during the reporting period: one in Samoa in November 2023 and another in Kiribati in April 2024. Samoa hosted its second NCOF after a two-year lapse, with the first one held in 2021. The forum included representatives from various sectors with a total of 20 participants.

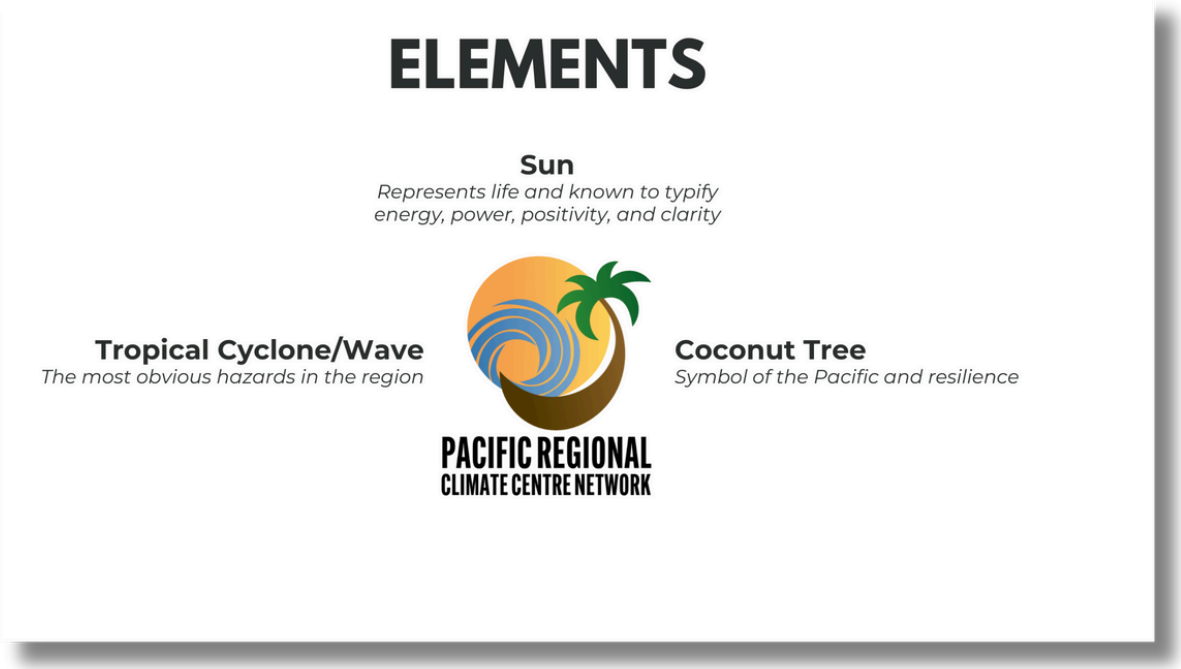
It provided a platform for stakeholders to assess forecasts and actions undertaken, give feedback to the meteorological services on sector experiences, recommend ways to enhance forecast generation and application, and respond to users' forecast information needs and requirements.

ClimSA supported the Kiribati (Tarawa) NCOF in April 2024, a joined mission between ClimSA and COSPPac program. The team from SPREP guided and supported the team from KMS on their NCOF with regards to the formulation of agenda, interaction with the stakeholders, the regional outlook for the upcoming season including the reporting of the event. Twenty recommendations were developed after this forum and are reflected in the report (Kiribati NCOF Trip-Report Final). Fifty-seven participants from fifteen outer island communities attended this forum in Tarawa.

Capacity Building: ClimSA ventured into several capacity-building initiatives. There were four targeted capacity-building activities:

1. ACCESS-S (Australian Community Climate and Earth-System Simulator - Seasonal). ACCESS-S is a seasonal prediction system used by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) in Australia. ClimSA partnered with the COSPPac project to support the delivery of this training. It was attended by representatives from 14 Pacific Island countries, including National Meteorological Services, Agriculture, and Fisheries sectors. By the end of the training, participants developed agriculture and fisheries products using ACCESS-S information. Each country was able to generate two specific products, allowing the sectors present to provide feedback on the generated outputs.
2. ClimSA partnered with the Australia Pacific Climate Alumni Network to deliver a 2-day technical workshop on the use of Kobo Toolbox and Canva to staff of the Samoa Meteorology Services and Samoa Water Resources Division.
3. Tungaru Youth Action Network Learn How to Read Tide Predictions and Produce Early Warnings for Social Media - On World Meteorological Day (23 March, 2024), ClimSA partnered with the Tungaru Youth Action Network to conduct a one-day training on how to interpret a tide predictions calendar and use online software to create early warning graphics on mobile devices. Participants were trained on how to use social media to share the early warning alerts to their social networks to encourage their family and friends to take early action.
4. An outcome of the 3rd Global ClimSA Forum in Seychelles was to deliver the final session of the training and capacity building support of the ClimSA Socio-Economic Benefit Tool. It was discussed and proposed that the training session to be held in person with virtual preparatory sessions commence in January 2024. The virtual sessions started off well with two (2) hours session in a week, learning how the Vensim tool works. The training is still in progress. ClimSA Pacific is funding the participation of Terry Atalifo (RCC Coordinator) and Ms Shweta Shiwangni (Scientific Officer) Fiji Met Representative for this training. A specific outcome for the Pacific was to calibrate the Vensim Model for Fiji and we are getting support from the Vensim team, running the model template of the tool for priority sectors in Fiji.

Pacific Regional Climate Centre (RCC) Development: WMO technical expert conducted an in-depth review of the Pacific RCC-N's status, identifying gaps and making recommendations. During this fiscal year, ClimSA, in collaboration with WMO, planned to organize a workshop to present the findings of the above assessment to the Nodes, along with some technical training, which was unfortunately unsuccessful. It is now confirmed that this workshop will take place in October 2024. A series of Pacific RCC-N Management Committee meetings were held during this fiscal year to further progress the work of the Pacific RCC-N. Significant achievements include the development and endorsement of a new logo for the Pacific RCC-N in April 2024, new guidelines for membership (both existing and new members), updated Terms of Reference (ToR), and the initial stages of an operational plan, to name a few. Additionally, work is underway to develop a new website for the Pacific RCC-N and to meet the requirements for designation.



Graphic:
Elements of the Pacific RCC-N logo.

Systematic Assessment of Climate Observing Networks: The gap assessment for Tonga has been completed. This was conducted by the ClimSA team in collaboration with the senior team from Tonga Meteorological Services (TMS) and the SPREP Climate and Meteorology Advisor. The support package developed is in line with TMS needs and aligns with their strategic plan. An MOU has been signed with Tonga Meteorological Services for this ClimSA support. The gap assessment for Samoa has also been conducted, and the ClimSA team, along with Samoa Met, is awaiting the report from WMO, which is expected to be submitted in June 2024. NIWA has been approached to conduct the assessments for Kiribati and Nauru. NIWA has been advised to consider the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF) assessment and the current investment plan for both Nauru and Kiribati under SOFF, which includes an investment of USD 9 to USD 10 million to address some of their needs.

Third Global ClimSA Forum: The Third Global ClimSA Forum was held in Seychelles in September 2023, with the theme "Building Bridges for Climate Services: Advancing Stakeholder Dialogue to Enhance Regional Resilience in Vulnerable Countries." The Pacific region was well represented by the Pacific ClimSA team, including two ClimSA staff (the Knowledge Brokerage Officer and RCC Coordinator), and supported the participation of four NMHS representatives from Samoa and Kiribati. This participation provided an opportunity to share and exchange learnings and experiences in the production and uptake of climate information and applications, with a notable equal gender balance in the Pacific delegation.

ROM & Audit Exercise: ClimSA Pacific will undergo a ROM exercise in June. The team has conducted its first meeting with the consultant and is preparing documentation for the review to commence. Similarly, for the audit, the team has been mobilized and will support the upcoming audit starting in June 2024.

Image:
A father carrying his child across the road during a King Tide event in Samoa.

Project

Performance

Performance against Logical Framework

Below is a summary of the project's performance relative to its key indicators. The details within the Logical Framework will be updated following the upcoming Steering Committee Meeting.

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
Overall Objective: The overall objective of the project is to foster sustainable development.				
	1. Progress towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts. Indicator: 13.2.1 Number of Pacific member countries that have communicated the establishment or operationalization of an integrated policy/strategy/plan which increases their ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a regional and national adaptation plan, NDC, national communication, biennial update report or other).	1. Baseline (2019) to be agreed upon commencement of projects in ACP participating member countries.	1. Target (2024) - to be agreed upon commencement of projects in SPREP participating member countries.	1. Baseline to be 0 for this indicator (2024) 2. Target (2027) – 4 participating member countries will establish/upgrade integrated policy/strategy/plan to address SDG 13. Progress Summary Achievement – 10% The project team has identified 2 countries that requires assistance in developing Strategies Plan towards addressing SDG 13 Goal: 1. Nauru – Update t and upgrade of National Disaster Response Plan aligning to Nauru National Disaster Risk Management Plan (NDRM) 2008 to NDRM Act 2015. 2. Tonga - 1) Review of National Drought Response plan. 2) Establish new district drought plans for 6 Islands. 3) Develop drought sector plans for DRM Clusters.

Project

Performance

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
Specific Objective - To strengthen the climate services value chain.				
	1. Number of final users (disaggregated by gender) of climate services value chain served by the project (disaggregated by priority sector and Pacific region). 2. PI- RCC is a designated WMO RCC.	1. To be defined	1. To be defined	1. Baseline – 0 (2024) to start with 1. Target – To be defined by 2024 when Addendum for Extension is submitted. 2. Baseline – Demonstration (2024) 2. Target – Operational (2027) Progress Summary Indicator 1 Achievement – 0% Indicator 2 Achievement – 30% with the current level of work being done. The website is now the main deliverable which has been contracted and work has started.
OUTPUT 1 - Interaction between the users, researchers and climate services providers in the Pacific region is structured and strengthened				
1.1 Overall co-ordination for the conception and development of the User Interface Platform (UIP) delivered	1.Number of UIP platforms active at national level following the guidelines developed by this Action	1 (2017)	1. 1 UIP established and active at the national level by 2024	Indicator 1 Achievement – 100%. Activated NCOF for Kiribati & Samoa.

Project

Performance

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
OUTPUT 1 - Interaction between the users, researchers and climate services providers in the Pacific region is structured and strengthened (continued)				
1.2 Regional UIP for selected priority sector(s) established /Strengthened and promoted 1.3 National UIP for selected priority sector(s) established /strengthened and promoted 1.4 Impact of the service at user level and effectiveness of UIP to collect user feedback assessed.	2.Number of UIP platforms active at regional (Pacific RCC) level following the guidelines developed by this Action	0 (2017)	2. 1 UIP established and activate in the Pacific RCC by 2024	Indicator 2 Achievement - 200%. Activated 2 Regional UIP. Through PICOF, a specific Stakeholders Day covering Regional and National Sector focused partners discussing climate services and co-development of products and needs. Established Joint Met & Disaster Risk Reduction Platform since 2023 for the 2 communities to jointly implement EW4ALL and development of specific Regional Products. Established since 2023 and endorsed for this UIP by Pacific Meteorological Council Ministers under Namaka Declaration 2023.

Project

Performance

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
OUTPUT 2 - Provision of climate services at regional & national levels is effectively guaranteed and secured				
2.1 Pacific RCC capacities to produce, deliver and improve Climate Service, through Climate Service Information System (CSIS) at regional level enhanced 2.2 Facilitated implementation and coordination of the CSIS 2.3 E- (climate) Station 2.0 and relevant training for the data reception, processing and visualization adapted at the regional and national level 2.4 Climate Data Management Systems (CDMS) established and improved 2.5 Defined regional thematic products for Climate Services supported 2.6 National Climate Services production chain developed and demonstrated	1. Number of CSIS providing climate services at regional level implemented by this action 2. Number of E Station adapted by this action at regional level (Pacific RCC at SPREP) 3. Number of new climate services products developed by this action delivered at regional level 4. Number of new climate services products developed by this action delivered at national level	0 (2017) 0 (2017) 0 (2017) 0 (2017)	1. 1 CSIS providing climate services in the Pacific region (2024) 2. 2 E Stations adapted for the Pacific RCC and 1 NMHSs, SPREP (2024) 3. 2 new climate services established in at least two different priority areas (2024) 4. 1 new climate service developed by 2024	1. Baseline – 0 (2024) to start with 1. Target – To be defined by 2024 when Addendum for Extension is submitted. 2. Baseline – Demonstration (2024) 2. Target – Operational (2027) Progress Summary Indicator 1 Achievement – 0% Indicator 2 Achievement – 30% with the current level of work being done. The website is now the main deliverable which has been contracted and work has started.

Project

Performance

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
OUTPUT 3 - Access to Climate Information is improved				
3.1 Assess the impact of existing gaps in climate observing networks on the produced Climate services by this programme and invest in ground-infrastructure to improve such services 3.2 Ensure that RCCs and NMHSs operational access to climate information made available at global level by international partners (Copernicus, ECMWF, EUMETSAT, others), is improved 3.3 Define and consolidate requirements for user driven services and provide feedback to international data providers for the Pacific region 3.4 Ensure Pacific RCC have operational access to existing climate information produced at national level through NMHSs, including data rescue (recovery and digitalisation) 3.5 Methods and tools for observational datasets and model inter- comparison at the regional scale to RCCs provided (WMO & JRC lead)	1. Number of agreements /Memorandum of Understanding between international partners and Pacific RCC signed within the scope of this action 2. Number of agreements /Memorandum of Understanding between international partners and NMHS or SPREP signed within the scope of this action 3. Number of NMHS with Pacific RCC having monthly operational access to existing climate information in a priority area within the scope of this action	0 (2017) 0 (2017) 0 (2017)	1. 1 Agreement /MOU between Pacific RCC and international partner(s) – disaggregated by partner (2024) 2. 1 Agreement /MOU between NMHS or SPREP and international partner(s) – disaggregated by partner (2024) 3. Pacific RCC having monthly access to climate information produced by at least 4 NMHS in one priority area	Indicator 1 Achievement – 25%. We are working with CIMH to sign an agreement with SPREP incorporating working relationship between PI-RCC and CIMH - RCC Indicator 2 Achievement – 0%. Indicator 3 Achievement – 25%. PICOF, currently serves that RCC role to provide this climate information twice per year delivered by RCC Nodes. Therefore, work is being delivered through different delivery mode. Once Website is up – all 15 NMHS will have access.

Project

Performance

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
OUTPUT 4 - Capacity of Pacific region is enhanced to generate and apply climate information and products relevant to particular concerns				
4.1 Capacity building plan on strategic and thematic issues at the regional (Pacific RCC) and national levels developed and implemented to augment the capacity of stakeholders in every step of the climate services value chain in line with the Competency Framework for Climate Services 4.2 Setup a master scholarship programme for Pacific students 4.3 Dedicated information platform/portal to exchange best practice setup; information available for specific need and cooperation between the region encouraged 4.4 Intra-ACP Climate Services ACP yearly fora organised	1. Number of training sessions provided to improve competencies of RCC and NMHSs staff in the provision of quality climate services 2. Number of RCC and NMHS staff (disaggregated by gender) trained by this in the provision of quality climate services 3. Number of master students funded through this action, disaggregated by gender 4. Number of new publications produced with the support of this project and available at the dedicated Information platform/Portal 5. Number of ACP yearly for a climate service organised by this action	0 (2018) 0 (2018) 0 (2018) 0 (2018) 0 (2018	1. 1 training course per year for Pacific region 2. 15 Pacific RCC and NMHS staff trained (20% are to be women) 3. At least 1 master students funded 4. 2 publications available at the dedicated Information platform/Portal 5. 1 ACP yearly fora organised at the Pacific and all Intra-ACP fora attended (25% are to be women)	Indicator 1 Achievement – 100% for 2023. Training was provided to 14 PICS countries, included Climate Services, Agriculture reps & Fisheries Reps. The training was on ACCESS-S and development of tailored Agriculture and Fisheries product using ACCESS-S. Indicator 2 Achievement – 100% for 2023. Climate & Ocean services training was provided in October 2023 using the PICOF opportunity. The training was attended by 19 PICs. The training included understanding ACCESS_S model and generating specific tailored products for Agriculture. A total of 48 PICS representative out of which 12 were women (25%) Indicator 3 Achievement – 25%. Universities with existing MOU's with SPREP to be considered. Then identification of courses offered by 2 Universities completed. The negotiation of mode, fees, management and administration is being finalised. Indicator 4 Achievement – 0%. No publication was done in 2022 and 2023 by ClimSA Pacific.

Project

Performance

Description	Indicators	Baseline (inc. ref year)	Target (inc. ref year)	Progress/Update
OUTPUT 5 - Climate-informed decision-making is enhanced, and climate services are mainstreamed into policy processes at regional and national levels				
5.1. Communication s and knowledge management for effective climate services developed 5.2. Climate services are mainstreamed into national and regional policies and programmes 5.3. Bring added value to climate services through integration of socio-economic elements, analytical components and visualization tools	1. Number of communication material produced with the support of this action, disaggregated by type (videos, flyers, brochures and stories) 2. Number of workshops organised by this action with final users on the use of climate services in policy making, disaggregated per priority sectors, gender and region 3. Number of policy- making decision support tools developed by this action at national or regional level 4. Number of climate change impact assessment reports covering various socio-economic data publicly available per region based on climate services produced by this action 5. Number of national or regional government representatives that can give at least 2 examples of having used the new climate information applications developed within this action	0 (2018) 0 (2018) 0 (2018) 0 (2018) 0 (2018)	1. At least 30 communication materials publicly available on the dedicated website by 2024 2. Four regional workshops and 6 national workshops with policymakers 3. At least 2 policy making decision support tools developed, one at regional and 1 at nationals 4. 1 climate change impact assessment reports covering various socio- economic data publicly available 5. 7 national or regional government representatives that can give at least 2 examples of having used the new climate information applications developed within this action	Indicator 1 Achievement – 100% for 2023. Training was provided to 14 PICS countries, included Climate Services, Agriculture reps & Fisheries Reps. The training was on ACCESS-S and development of tailored Agriculture and Fisheries product using ACCESS-S. Indicator 2 Achievement – 60% for 2023. Workshops organised were: National – Kiribati (2), Samoa (1) Regional – UIP DRR, UIP Agriculture, SPTO Board Directors Meeting. Indicator 3 Achievement – 80% Policy making decision support tools initiated and currently under development beginning in 2023 are: Regional – Agriculture and Tourism National – Samoa (Agri-met Bulletin), Kiribati (Ocean Bulletin) Indicator 4 Achievement – 0% No climate change impact assessment report has been developed in 2023.

Strengthening Climate Services in the Pacific

Intra-African Caribbean Pacific Climate Services and Related Applications Programme

This European Union-funded programme was developed to support the Climate Information Services value chain in the Pacific with technical and financial assistance, infrastructure and capacity building.

Pilot Countries


Kiribati


Samoa


Nauru


Tonga

Project Components

- 14 Pacific ACP States
- Improved understanding and use of Climate Information
- Understanding end users of Climate Information

Focus Areas

- Agriculture & Fisheries
- Disaster Risk Reduction

ClimSA
INTRA-ACP CLIMATE SERVICES AND RELATED APPLICATIONS PROGRAMME
An initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States funded by the European Union

SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

www.sprep.org/climsa

Project Coordination

Output 0

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Our project team, consisting of the Project Manager, Finance & Administration Officer, Knowledge Brokerage Officer, and the Regional Climate Centre (RCC) Coordinator, has been fully mobilized. This core team is supported by national staff in Samoa and Kiribati, including a National Technical Support Officer for each country and a Project Assistant in Kiribati.

A noteworthy aspect of our team is the gender balance, as illustrated in the accompanying graphic, the team is comprised of 4 female and 3 male staff. This balance reflects our commitment to the EU's overarching goals of promoting equal participation of women and men in the labour market and an equal sharing of care responsibilities.

1. Finance and Admin Officer
2. Knowledge Brokerage Officer
3. NTSO Kiribati
4. Project Assistant Kiribati

1. Project Manager
2. RCC Coordinator
3. NTSO Samoa

ClimSA, with its demanding work, still requires additional support to fully lead and implement its initiatives. The core ClimSA team, led by the Project Manager, RCC Coordinator, and Knowledge Brokerage Officer, met with EU counterparts (EU ClimSA Programme Manager and Finance & Contract focal person for ClimSA) in April 2024 in Suva, Fiji. The purpose of the meeting was to provide updates on activities and seek guidance from the EU on certain matters.

Two issues were discussed, and a way forward was agreed upon:

1. SPREP Staff Cost under ClimSA: The total amounts to USD 164,236.00, based on cost recovery. Some of the staff, particularly the Pacific Met Desk staff (USD 73,600), identified for cost recovery are project-based staff. Instead of charging, we are promoting the modality of reciprocity, with support and collaboration within the Pacific Met Desk. The remaining recovery amount of USD 90,636.00 is for ICT support. Unfortunately, ClimSA has received minimal IT support from SPREP due to resource shortages.

As a result, approximately USD 164,236.00 remains unutilized and may not be utilized. It was recommended that ClimSA hire a Technical Support person for ICT and operations. The budget modality will remain the same, with only the description of the budget changing to provide a clear justification for the work needed from this person under each activity. This will have no impact on the overall budget or the 25% required threshold under the project.

2. Updating Descriptions of Activities: Some activities under the Description of Action and other related documents have progressed through other projects and no longer require ClimSA's support. Additionally, some activities that need to be implemented now have new approval parameters that ClimSA needs to follow. Therefore, it is essential to revise these descriptions. However, these changes will not impact or alter the scope of ClimSA's objectives. The ClimSA team plans to make these changes through an amendment to the contract when the project extension amendment is proposed.

ClimSA will be hosting its first Steering Committee meeting from August 21st to 23rd, 2024. We have utilized the Global Steering Committee meetings to provide strategic guidance for the project over the past years. Noting the progress and volume of implementation by ClimSA, it is now appropriate to host the Project Steering Committee meeting.

The proposed Steering Committee members include representatives from the European Union (EU), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Pacific Community (SPC) - Agriculture & Fisheries, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) - Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), Samoa, Kiribati, Tonga, Nauru, Fiji (Melanesian Representative), RCC Management Committee Chair/Vice Chair, World Meteorological Organization (WMO), European Commission Joint Research Centre (EU JRC), Pacific Disability Forum, and South Pacific Tourism Organization (SPTO). Samoa and Kiribati, as our pilot countries, are nominated to provide four representatives each:

1. NMHS Director or nominee
2. Senior Agriculture nominee
3. Fisheries nominee
4. National Disaster Officer nominee

During this fiscal year, the ClimSA team managed to conduct two strategic in-country visits to Nauru and Tonga. These missions provided opportunities to learn more about each country's NMHS capability and their level of climate services towards the sectors and its people.

The ClimSA team also gained an understanding of their observation network capabilities and identified some key needs:

- Capacity building of staff
- Reviewing, developing, and tailoring weather and climate information
- Supporting stakeholder engagements
- Improving observation networks
- Developing national and sub-national drought plans
- Historical data rescue

Nauru: The Nauru Meteorological Service (NMS) was established in 2015 under the Ministry of National Emergency Services (NES) and is still a young organization. The staff roll has increased from one to twelve since its establishment. However, most staff need specialized technical and professional training and work attachments to become a competent workforce. Operationally, equipment donated by the UNDP Disaster Resilience for Pacific SIDS (RESPAC) project needs to be brought out from storage and installed. Proper forecasting systems are required for both weather and climate, and new products need to be developed, including a review of existing products. Sectors such as National Emergency Services, Agriculture, and Fisheries need a better understanding of the products disseminated by the NMS to support weather and climate-sensitive decision-making.

Tonga: The mission was undertaken by the ClimSA Project Manager, RCC Coordinator, Meteorology & Climate Advisor for SPREP, and a senior team from TMS led by Director Ofa Fanunu.

Image: Tonga country mission.

The mission focused on:

1. Assessment of Tonga Meteorological Services (TMS): An assessment was conducted to support Tonga's targeted activities under ClimSA, especially under Activity 3.1, which focuses on upgrading weather observation stations to improve the quality of climate data for tailored decision-making products. A holistic approach was adopted, examining all support ClimSA can provide aligned with each output. Consultations with agriculture, fisheries, and disaster management communities helped tailor the support to make it more valuable for TMS and other sectors. The Tonga Meteorological Services Strategic Plan, developed through wide stakeholder consultation, served as the basis for this support.
2. Consultation: Three days were allocated for consultations, with one day dedicated to each ClimSA sector. The goal was to enhance TMS services to these sectors and identify additional required products.
3. Packaging the Support: Post-consultation, the TMS and ClimSA teams analyzed all identified needs, mapped out activities, aligned them with the TMS strategy, and identified outputs under ClimSA for funding purposes. A budget was derived to ensure all associated costs were accounted for.

ClimSA's role and influence within regional climate initiatives have been significantly bolstered by the invitation extended to the ClimSA Project Manager to join the Pacific Islands Climate Services (PICS) Panel.

This panel operates under the governance of the Pacific Meteorological Council, a key regional body for meteorological services and collaboration. This strategic inclusion recognizes the importance of ClimSA and presents a valuable opportunity for the project to execute its objectives within a collaborative environment.

It aligns ClimSA with other funded programs in the same space, fostering synergies and integrated efforts across the Pacific region. The involvement in the PICS Panel enables ClimSA to contribute more effectively to regional climate service initiatives and enhances its ability to work in concert with other key players in the Pacific climate services landscape.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Concentrating on Accelerating Delivery: Guided by the Project Steering Committee and aligned with the ClimSA workplan, focusing on the specific needs of each country.
- Increasing Visibility and Collaboration: The ClimSA team will continue to enhance its visibility while taking a collaborative approach towards implementing activities, offering the necessary guidance and supervision.
- Seeking EU Approval: Obtain EU approval to utilize the SPREP Staff Cost for hiring a dedicated ICT & Operations Support person.
- Operationalizing Support: Continue to work with countries to operationalize their support.

Image:
World Met Day public information booth in partnership with KMS and Red Cross.

Project Coordination

Output 1

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Activity 1.1 - Overall coordination for the conception and development of the User Interface Platform delivered (WMO lead).

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Progress has been made under this activity. The relationship between WMO is gradually improving. However, it is still unclear as to who is the ClimSA focal person. Activities led by WMO under the DOA has been shared with WMO. The ROM consultant will be notified of this disengagement. We hope to map out the activities with WMO so that implementation from ClimSA as one is properly coordinated.
Here is a summary of progress for each planned sub-activity:

Sub-activity 1.1.1 – This activity was completed during the COVID-19 phase and delivered virtually. Unfortunately, there was no Pacific participation. Noting that this relates to the UIP, which ClimSA has already adapted and used as a guide to establish the DRR UIP and will use to establish UIPs with Agriculture and Tourism, this training is deemed unnecessary. Therefore, for ClimSA, we will regard this activity as closed.

Sub-activity 1.1.2 – Specific UIPs for the Pacific have been developed, using DRR and Agriculture as case studies. ClimSA used these guidelines to establish a Regional UIP between DRR and NHMS. Similarly, the same guide was used to initiate UIPs with Agriculture and Fisheries. ClimSA has convened three meetings to introduce the Pacific UIPs to the sectors (DRR, Agriculture & Fisheries, and Tourism). This was accomplished through hosting and facilitating workshops, as illustrated in the accompanying table.

UIP	Date & Location	Partners	Participant Data
DRR	10–11 August, 23 Fiji	UNDRR, WMO, SPC, NMHS, NDMO, Pacific Disability Forum	14 PICS. Total – 120.
Agri-Fisheries	24-25 October, 23 Fiji	SPC, National Agri-Fisheries representatives & NMHS	14 PICS. Total – 48. Female 12 (25%) & Male 36 (75%)
Tourism	1 - 2 May, 24 Fiji	South Pacific Tourism Organisation	12 PICS. Total – 32. Female 12 (25%) & Male 36 (75%)

Sub-activity 1.1.3 – A Terms of Reference (ToR) to hire a consultant was developed in early January 2024, and the request for tender was advertised on 15 January 2024. The tender closed a month later, and the Technical Evaluation Committee evaluated the submissions. A contract was awarded to Dr. Geoff Love, who signed on 16 April 2024. Dr. Geoff commenced work immediately with the support of the ClimSA Pacific RCC Coordinator and completed the desktop review report on 12 May 2024.

We (ClimSA) organized a stakeholder consultation workshop with 14 NMHSs and other relevant stakeholders to seek feedback and guidance on areas for update. Work is in progress and planned to complete the review and update of the Pacific oadmap for Strengthened Climate Services, including its Implementation Plan and a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, by August 2024.

Additionally, at the request of the Pacific Meteorological Desk at SPREP, the Pacific ClimSA team drafted another ToR for the review and update of the Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy (PIMS) during this fiscal year. PIMS is the guiding document for the Pacific NMHS, and PRSCS is one of the components delivering key areas under PIMS. Therefore, it is essential to review PIMS to incorporate the updated PRSCS.

Image: Schematic for the new (updated) roadmap.

Sub-activity 1.1.4 – Although the Assessment and Guidelines of UIPs for the Pacific have been completed, these documents are still in draft format and need to be finalized and published. The finalization and publication of these Guidelines will be carried out in Year 4, based on initial feedback obtained from trialling three of the guidelines (DRR, Agriculture and Tourism).

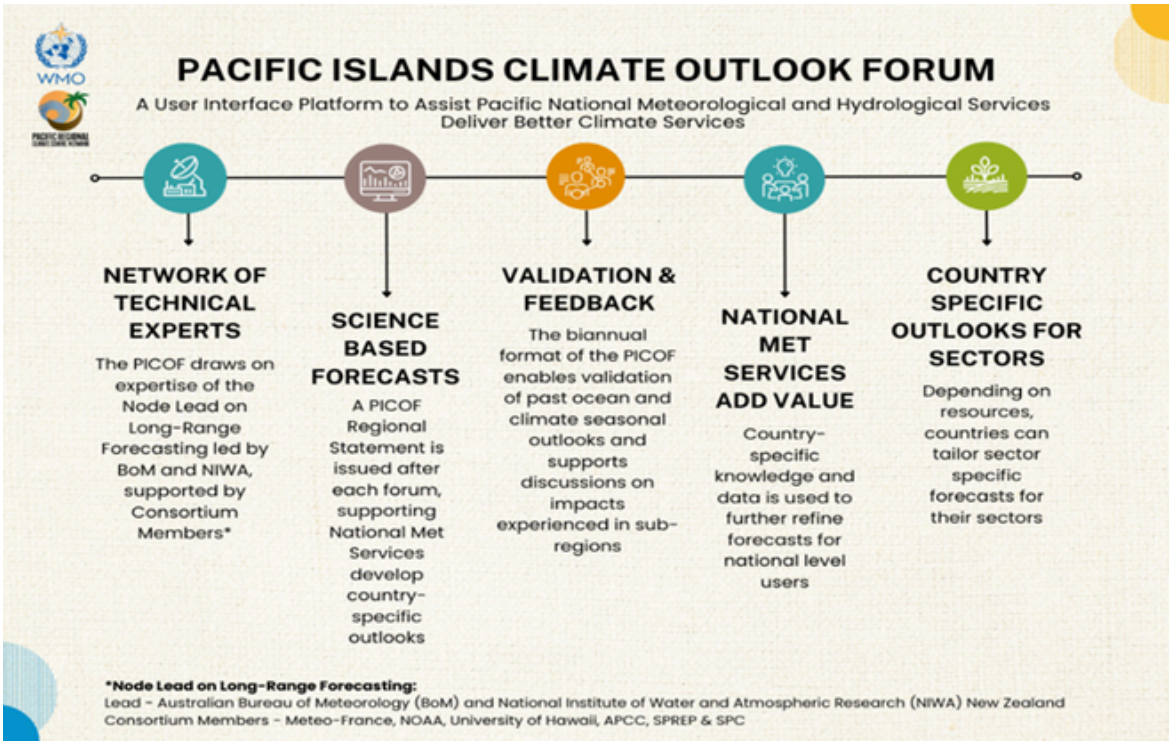
Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- The PRSCS has been finalized, presented during the Pacific Meteorological Council, and endorsed.
- The PIMS has been reviewed and updated.
- The UIP Guidelines for the Pacific have been finalized and published.

Activity 1.2 - Establish/strengthen and promote the use of the Regional User Interface Platforms (UIPs) for selected priority sector(s).

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

PICOF has been serving as a crucial platform for fostering dialogue between climate information providers and users across the Pacific region since its establishment in 2015. The PICOF has been held annually in the Pacific since 2015, and biannually since 2020. The current biannual format of the PICOF enables validation of past climate seasonal outlooks and predict the climate outlook for the coming season. Each season is approximately three to six months. PICOFs are held twice a year, in April (virtual) and October (in-person), and attended by all Pacific NMHSs, who thereafter convene National Climate Outlook Forums where information from the PICOF containing country-specific knowledge is shared across all sectors such as Agriculture, Fisheries, Disaster Management, Maritime to name a few.



Graphic: Key elements of the PICOF and how it is designed to support the NMHSs in the Pacific

Here is a summary of progress for each planned sub-activity:

Sub-activity 1.2.1 – PICOF has undergone several reviews over the last decade, with incremental improvements applied over time. Requests for changes have come from WMO, the Node on Long-Range Forecasting (LRF), and the Pacific Islands Climate Services (PICS) Panel for the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC). These reviews have directed changes to better deliver PICOF. For example, WMO requested that PICOF summarize the Global State of Climate Update, which is now done after the ENSO summary. WMO also requested the inclusion of climate change monitoring and projections information.

Other changes included moving to objective seasonal forecasting instead of the old consensus approach and ensuring that we verify the outlooks from the previous PICOF. Additionally, WMO emphasized that the Node on LRF and Node on Climate Monitoring member products be central in providing information to NMHSs. The PICS Panel suggested holding two PICOFs a year, and RCC-N members requested that the April PICOF be virtual only due to limited resources and busy schedules. The PICS Panel also recommended that each presentation be followed by adequate time for discussion to confirm the usefulness and application of the information.

As a result, PICOF is gradually adapting to these changes and the new format, delivering as recommended.

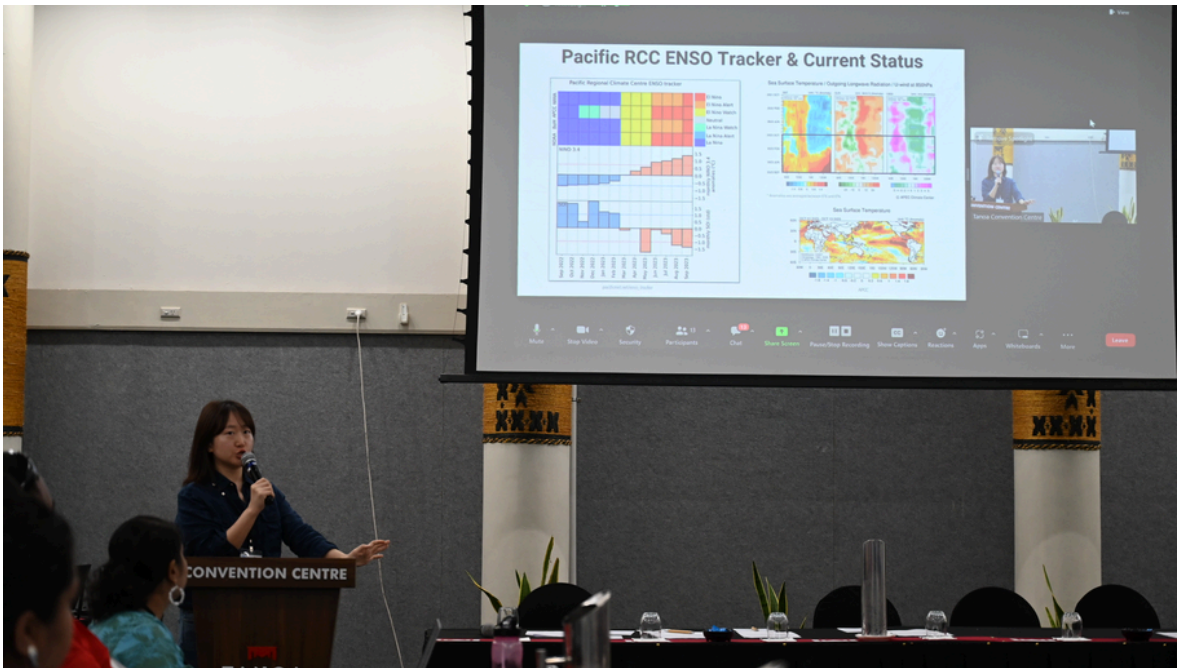


Image: PICOF-13

Sub-activity 1.2.2 – The delivery of PICOF is based on the suggested reforms by WMO, Nodes, and the PICS Panel. As reviews will continue to happen due to the changing environment and needs, no separate review by an external consultant is necessary by ClimSA. The feedback mechanism integrated as part of PICOF delivery should be sufficient to guide its implementation, with WMO providing technical guidance to ensure compliance with standards.

During this fiscal year, we (ClimSA, COSPPac, and other programs) organized and successfully delivered the 13th and 14th sessions of the Pacific Island Climate Outlook Forums (PICOFs) in October 2023 and April 2024. PICOF-13 was a face-to-face engagement where NMHSs', RCC-N members and key stakeholders gathered in Nadi Fiji. On the other hand, PICOF-14 was organized in a hybrid-mode and was hosted in Sigatoka Fiji. The sessions generally included a review of past climate seasonal outlooks, the development of the climate outlook for the upcoming season, and the creation of a statement, which was published through media and social media channels. The official statements for the PICOF-13 and the PICOF-14 have been uploaded to the Pacific Met Desk website.

A week leading up to PICOF-13, COSPPac programme hosted a workshop to develop tailored NMHS agrometeorological and fisheries bulletins to better support food security in the region which is supported by ClimSA Pacific. Such collaboration efforts enhance the working relationship between ClimSA, COSPPac and NMHSs. The needs of the agriculture and fisheries sectors at the national level were explored, and sample product templates were developed during the meeting. The findings were presented during the stakeholder engagement for further refinement.

PICOF	Date and Location	Thematic Scope	Participant Data	Format
PICOF-13	23–25 October, 23 Fiji	Agriculture & Fisheries	14 PICS. Total – 48. Female 12 (25%) & Male 36 (75%)	In-Person
PICOF-14	16 April 2024 Fiji	El Nino and La Nina	14 PICS. Total – 74. Female 32 (44%) & Male 42 (56%)	Virtual

One of the sectorial outcomes of PICOF-13 was to co-explore and later co-develop an Agro-Climatic bulletin. This work is currently in progress, and a sample has been provided. After PICOF-14, we are now co-exploring the needs of the Pacific disability community and hope to co-develop a product with the Pacific Disability Forum, a regional organization, soon.

At the end of the PICOF-13 in April 2024, an evaluation survey has been initiated and led by the KBO, with the actual survey to be administered before the PICOF-14 to establish a baseline for the formal review of the PICOF.

Sub-activity 1.2.3 – This activity will start in Year 4.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

Support the delivery of PICOF 15th & 16th sessions as per the suggested feedback.
Assessment on the application of Climate Services Value focused on Agriculture and DRR completed, with entry points identified.

1.3 - Establish/strengthen and promote the use of the National User Interface Platforms (UIPs) for selected priority sector(s)

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

There has been continued progress under this activity, especially supporting NCOF for both Samoa and Kiribati. During our mission to Nauru, there was a special request from Nauru to have this forum delivered, but at a very lower scale, something that they can deliver. Additionally, it must be noted, that while we promote ownership, and plan to gradually pass the funding baton to Samoa and Kiribati to self-sustain the organizing of the NCOF, we are recommending that allocation for NCOF under ClimSA budget needs to be relooked and increased. This request will be submitted through the addendum. The update of each activity is summarised below:
Activity 1.3.1 – ClimSA has supported convening 2 NCOFs for Kiribati. The Kiribati Meteorological Services reconvened the first Kiribati National Climate Outlook Forum in Tarawa after a lapse of 8 years, bringing together over 25 participants for two days (13 to 14 June) of in-depth discussions. An additional Climate Outlook Forum was also held on Kiritimati Island on 22 and 26 June for the Line and Phoenix Islands.

The main objectives of this NCOF were to provide a platform that will allow the stakeholders and KMS to discuss the type of information stakeholders view as important and how it should be delivered.

It is interesting to note that this NCOF was reconvened after a lapse of 8 years, and there was alot of feedback provided by participants. The recommendations of notable interest are listed as follows:

- Provide more simplified illustrations and explanations of the movement of the ITCZ.
- Use simplified infographics for easier and clearer dissemination of information to the public and tourists.
- Increase the promotion of products and services to the public using social media.
- Include the private sector on the distribution list of climate and ocean products.
- Use print as the primary medium for communicating climate information (pamphlets, flyers and booklets).
- Develop alternative ways to include persons with disabilities through the use of sign language or interpreters.
- Include the Water and Sanitation Unit on the dissemination list for predicted extreme spring tides for the monitoring of the desalination machine.

The Kiribati (Tarawa) NCOF in April 2024 was a joint mission between ClimSA and COSPPac. The president of the Republic of Kiribati was the chief guests during this forum, and he acknowledged Pacific ClimSA support for the current and future forums including past support from the COSPPac program.

The main objectives of the NCOF were to provide the latest weather forecast and climate outlook for the upcoming dry season, and to understand the needs of users (sectors, community, and government agencies) and their preferred modalities for communicating weather and climate information.

The team from SPREP guided and supported the team from KMS in the formulation of the agenda, interaction with stakeholders, the regional outlook for the upcoming season, and the reporting of the event. Twenty recommendations were developed after this forum and are reflected in the report.

Image: KMS Climate Team facilitating breakout discussions during the NCOF.

Making real-time and historical weather and climate data including tide calendars accessible online (website), developing a joint climate-fisheries bulletin with Tuna movement, conducting a survey of existing communication modalities, identify gaps and recommend and develop solutions, raising awareness and developing capacity building programs for users are the main recommendations of the forum. Fifteen outer island communities attended this forum in Tarawa, represented by Island Mayors & Clerks including government agencies, National Red-Cross, Tourism and Fishery sectors. In the case of Samoa, with the assistance of ClimSA, a scheduled NCOF was held in November, where all sectors were invited.

The Samoa NCOF was attended by 30 participants (7 females (24%) and 23 males (77%)) over the course of 2 days, and the key highlight was that Samoa was experiencing El Nino, which brought below normal levels of rainfall and higher than normal temperatures in the next three months. The Ocean Outlook for the coming three months were also shared and discussed; of particular concern is a Coral Bleach Warning present for the next three months over Samoa.
Samoa was expected to experience 2 – 3 tropical cyclones during the season, reaching intensities of up to Category 3.

On the second day of the National Climate Outlook Forum, participants visited sites on Upolu, to get a better understanding of how climate information is used by various stakeholders. One of the sites visited, Afulilo Dam, was built in the 1990s to generate hydropower, especially during the dry season (May through October), with the goal of reducing the islands' reliance on imported fuel.

Image: Site visit to Afulilo Dam during Samoa's NCOF.

Activity 1.3.2 – Through SPREP's partnership with the University of Newcastle and CSIRO, the ClimSA KBO has been awarded a PhD scholarship to publish academic papers on the outcomes of some of ClimSA's activities. With the support of the University of Newcastle and CSIRO, this sub-activity will benefit from guidance on developing a relevant and effective methodology, and subsequent questionnaires to ensure that a robust gap assessment is carried out.

This sub-activity provides critical data which will be used to publish insights on what the user needs are in the DRR and Agriculture sectors in Samoa and Kiribati.

A literature review and consultations with NMHSs have commenced in this reporting year to inform the Terms of Reference which will be developed for the consultant who will carry out the assessments.

Activity 1.3.3 – Through the NCOFs held in Kiribati and Samoa during the reporting period, this deliverable has been achieved. The NCOFs have provided a platform for engaging with priority sectors and better understanding their ways of working.

This is reflected in the workshops held within the NCOFs, which are themed around the priority sectors, and through ensuring that representatives from these sectors are invited to participate and lead discussions.

Both the Kiribati and Samoa NCOFs focused on impacts to food security (agriculture and fisheries) and disaster risk reduction planning. Workshop sessions were conducted to forecast the potential impacts of the seasonal outlooks presented to the participants. The NCOF agendas for Kiribati and Samoa are provided in the Annex, reflecting the mainstreaming of sectors in the NCOF.

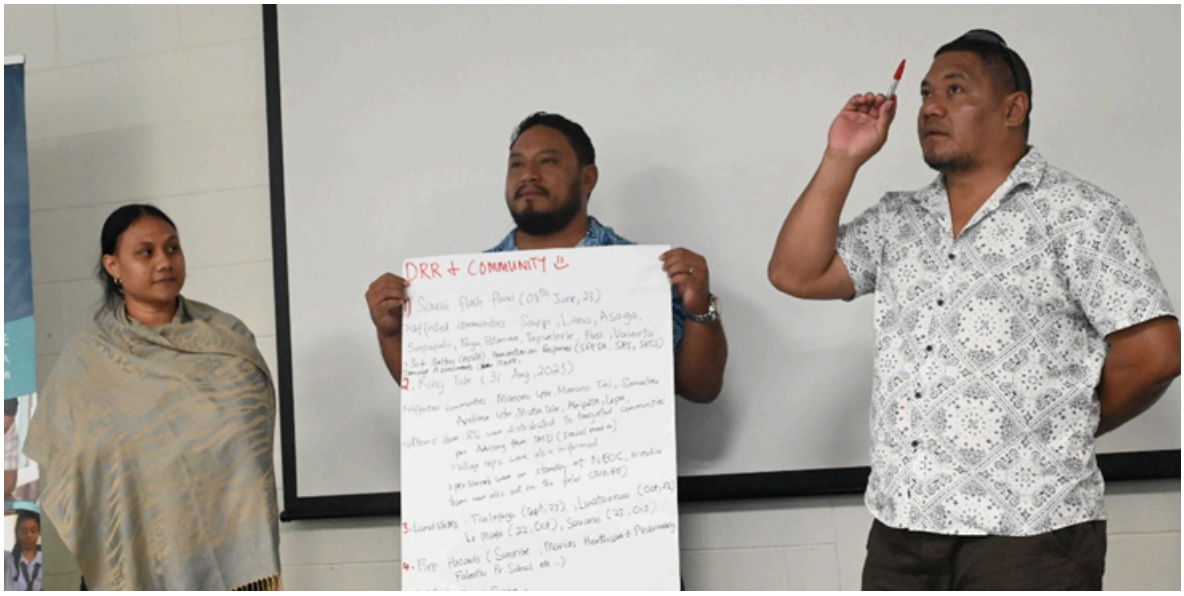


Image: Breakout groups discussing potential impacts for the DRR community during Samoa's NCOF.

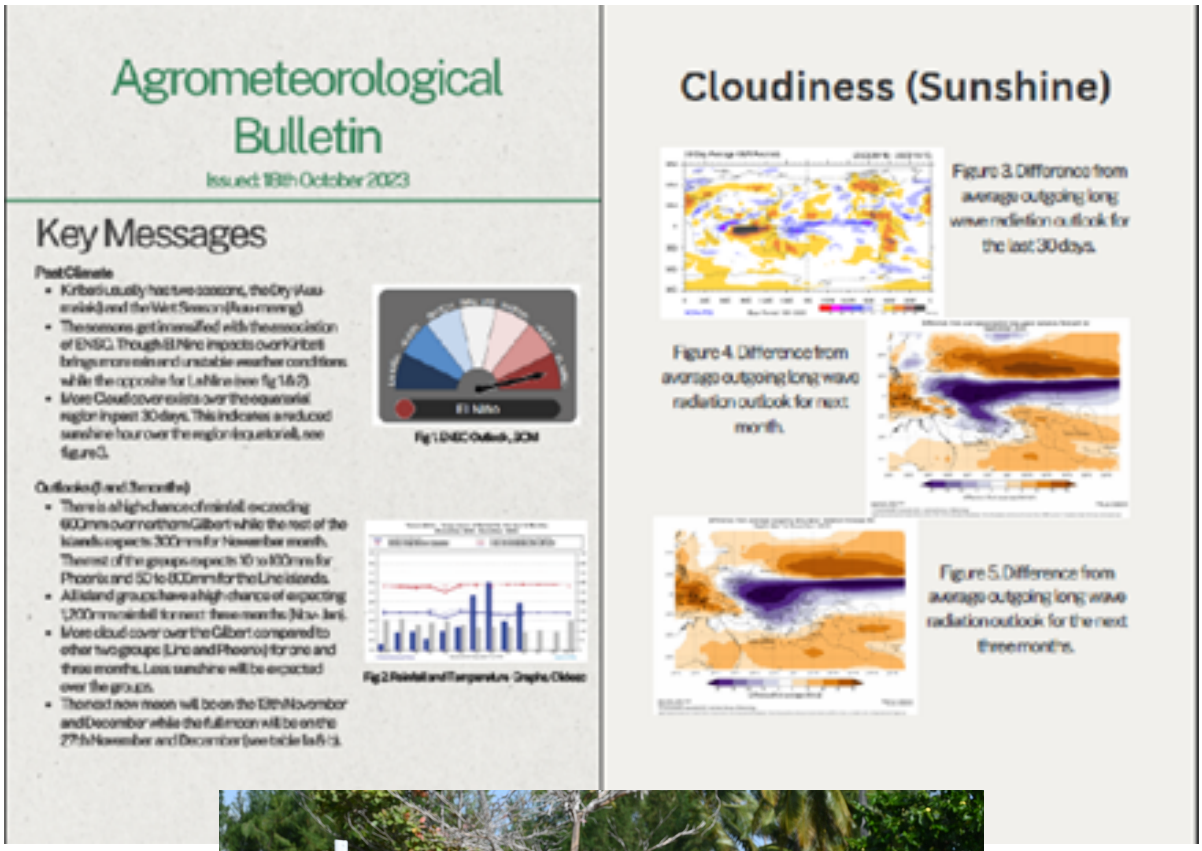
1.Activity 1.3.4 –Both Samoa Met and Kiribati Met have begun the process of co-producing sector specific climate information products. Both have been working with the Agriculture Sector in their countries to scope the type of information that would be useful for the end users (farmers).

Immediately after the first NCOF in 2023, both met services have developed a draft climate product, which was shared with stakeholders in the next NCOF (early 2024).

Feedback has been received and the products will be further refined in time for the next NCOF planned for the end of 2024, to begin trialling the products and establish the effectiveness of these products.

Samples of the products are shown as follows.

Image: KMS Agri-Met Bulletin (Draft)



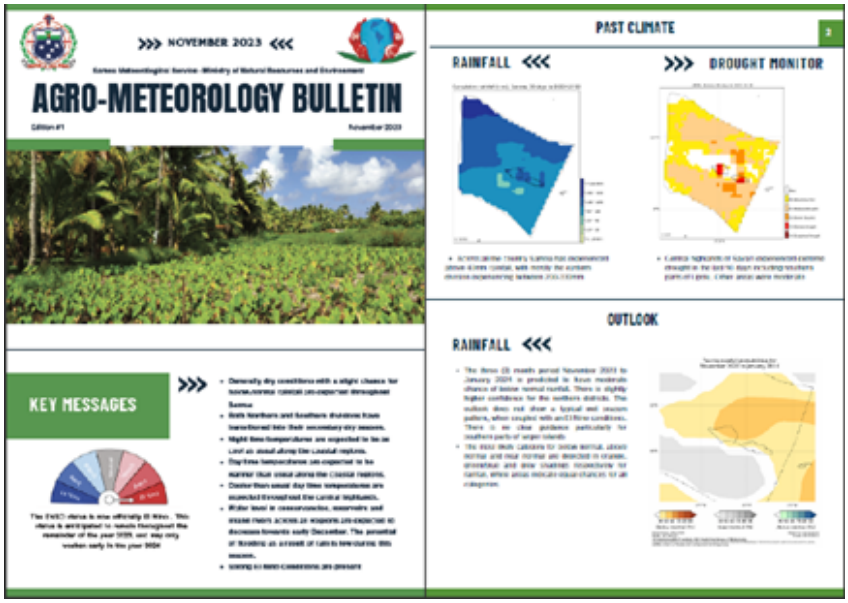


Image: SMD Agri-Met Bulletin (Draft)

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Continue to support NCOFs and propose to the EU the potential support for Nauru as well. Additionally, reallocate more funds for NCOFs.
- Ensure that Agriculture, DRR, and other priority sectors of a country are mainstreamed into the NCOF.
- The Knowledge Brokerage Officer (KBO), through her PhD research, will conduct a survey and finalize the climate information needs and gaps for Agriculture and DRR that can be supported through ClimSA.
- Co-develop and finalize at least one product for one of the sectors, either in Samoa or Kiribati.

1.4 - Impact of the service at user level and effectiveness of UIP to collect user feedback is assessed in an organised manner and should feed the UIP and the service development cycle.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Although anticipated to start in Year 3, this activity has not commenced. EU JRC will collaborate with SPREP in the implementation of this activity. Since the project is currently focused on strengthening relationships between sectors and NMHS, leading to the co-development of products, obtaining feedback mechanisms and measuring the impact and value of these climate products is a top priority. Greater emphasis is placed on the co-development of products and understanding user needs through the gap assessments that have yet to be carried out. This activity can only proceed once activities 1.2 and 1.3 are completed

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Develop a Terms of Reference and initiate the contracting of a consultant to undertake a review of existing methodologies and propose recommendations for a methodology that will be used to monitor the value of information delivered through climate services in the priority sectors.


DENSE FOG AREA
PUĀO MĀFIAFIA
EMERGENCY ALERT
MATAĀLA MO
FA'ALAVELAVE FA'AFUASE'I
YOU ARE NOW ENTERING
A DENSE FOG PRONE AREA
UA E ULUFALE NEI I NOFOAGA
E A'AFIA GŌFIE I PUĀO MĀFIAFIA
SCAN ME!
ClimSA
SPREP


LANDSLIDE AREA
ELE'ELE SOLO
EMERGENCY ALERT
MATAĀLA MO
FA'ALAVELAVE FA'AFUASE'I
YOU ARE NOW ENTERING
A LANDSLIDE PRONE AREA
UA E ULUFALE NEI I NOFOĀGA
E A'AFIA GŌFIE I ELE'ELE SOLO
SCAN ME!
SCAN CODE FOR WEATHER UPDATES
ClimSA
SPREP

Output 2

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Achievement under this output has been minimal. Most activities are linked to the RCC, and the RCC's governance structure has made it challenging to fast-track these activities. Additionally, the RCC operates in a virtual mode, raising questions about its effectiveness, future, ownership, and sustainability.

The Nodes also struggle to contribute effectively to RCC functions as their involvement is voluntary and resource limited. In many cases, the Nodes have indicated that this role is an additional responsibility for them. Therefore, the commitment to accelerate activities to reach a level of acceptance is a challenge.

However, ClimSA is strengthening its working relationship with the Nodes and utilizing the structure of the PMC to pursue commitment in delivering the set activities. The performance under this output is also affected by WMO leading some activities. It is unclear whether WMO is aware of the activities they are required to implement in the Pacific under our DOA. ClimSA is still trying to identify a committed focal person from WMO, noting that several technical people are leading different activities.

There have been some positive shifts during the last month of Year 3. The ClimSA team is hopeful that through the Global ClimSA Forum, ClimSA Pacific will be able to better reengage with WMO.

2.1 Enhance RCC capacities to produce, deliver and improve climate services, through Climate Service Information System (CSIS) at regional level

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Centered around enhancing the capacity of the Pacific RCC-N to deliver its mandate effectively and efficiently, we hosted two Pacific RCC Management Committee meetings during the fiscal year to review and progress the work of the RCC-N: the first in October 2023 and the second in April 2024. There has been notable progress under this activity, which is further detailed under each sub-activity.

Activity 2.1.1 - Completed. RCC coordinator joined the ClimSA team on 14th of July 2023.

Activity 2.1.2 & 2.1.3 - In the early days of the Pacific RCC-N, an implementation plan was developed to guide the work of the centre towards designation. A lot of work has been done and warrants an update of the plan. During our last RCC Management Committee (MC) meeting in April 2024, we began developing the operational plan for the Pacific RCC-N, transitioning from the initial implementation plan.

The members updated the RCC-N Leads and Co-Leads contact information, populated data for the Node on operational climate data services, this work will be replicated to other nodes. In addition, the training node consolidated a list of all the trainings including needs across other nodes. This will make up the section of the training node in the RCC-N operational plan. However, this work was put on hold by the Chairman of the MC due to other competing priorities. One of these priorities is to develop the Pacific RCC-N website first. We have engaged an expert to develop the Pacific RCC-N website in July 2024 so now we can pick up the work in further developing the RCC-N operational plan.

Activity 2.1.4 - This update focuses on developing a methodology to evaluate climate models for objective seasonal climate forecasting and determine which model(s) best fit each PICS. A draft Terms of Reference (ToR) was developed in April 2024. However, discussing the ToR with experts from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology has taken longer than anticipated due to the complexity of the subject and concurrent consultancy work. We hope to resume this work after completing the consultancy for the review and update of the PRSCS.

Activity 2.1.5 - no progress during this fiscal year given that WMO has not conducted its training. We will continue to liaise with WMO and hope to make progress in the next financial year.

Activity 2.1.6 - A series of consultations were held with all the lead nodes of the RCC to provide input into the Terms of Reference for improving the current website. SPREP's IT team was also part of this process, as they will be providing support for the general upkeep of the website. All lead nodes provided input and commented on the documents from inception to the final version, offering insights into why certain features of the website were necessary. Websites from RCCs in other regions were reviewed and used as points of reference in drawing up the Terms of Reference for the Pacific RCC website, as they offered valuable good practices and lessons. The Terms of Reference were approved by the consulted teams, and the supplier is now onboard. Work on the website has already begun, with a draft website ready for testing by the end of September 2024.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Launch of RCC website
- Operational Plan finalised and relevant agreements in placed
- Updated Implementation Plan is reviewed, validated and endorsed by the RCC Management Committee.
- Engage with WMO on the review of climate models and develop methodology for consensus climate forecasting.
- Evaluation of models for objective seasonal climate forecasting completed and provide the necessary trainings to 14 NMHSs on the application and use of methodology.
- Launch the RCC website and logo.

2.2 Facilitate Implementation and Coordination of the Climate Services Information System (CSIS).

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

This WMO-led activity facilitates the implementation and coordination of the Climate Services Information Systems (CSIS) at the regional and national scales, including the Climate Services Toolkit (CST). There has been no progress, or the implementation has not commenced for all the subactivities from 2.2.1 – 2.2.4. There has been no progress, or the implementation has not commenced for all the sub activities from 2.2.1 – 2.2.4. During the Global ClimSA forum in Jamaica on June 2024, we made recommendations for WMO to expedite their work on implementing Pacific ClimSA activities. Pacific ClimSA will provide a list of all WMO-lead activities to WMO soon followed by a virtual meeting.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Hold a planning meeting with WMO to look at the WMO-led activities under ClimSA and agree on a timeline for implementation. This is essential so that the Pacific ClimSA team are aware and can plan for the execution.
- Support the participation of all Pacific RCC Node and NMHS representatives to attend the workshops for CSIS and CST organised by WMO.
- Trainings for Kiribati and Samoa NMHSs on CST which will include seasonal climate forecasting, climate monitoring and the use of the WMO CST.

2.3 Ensure the adaptation of the e- (climate) Station 2.0 and relevant training for the data reception, processing and visualisation at the regional and national level.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

As part of our broader initiative, the activity to install Climate E-Stations at SPREP and the Samoa Meteorology Division has commenced but has been deferred to Year 4 due to the procurement process involved in purchasing a high-performance server to house the tool.

The EU Joint Research Centre (JRC) facilitated regional training on Climate E-Station in March 2023, which the Samoa Meteorology Division attended to gain useful insights. ClimSA has engaged in fruitful discussions with the Meteorology Division and the SPREP ICT Engineer regarding server specifications, requirements, and sustainability. We have re-advertised the tender to procure a server stationed at SPREP and the Samoa Meteorology Division.

As part of our commitment to long-term project sustainability, we have concluded discussions on license costs and server maintenance post-project with SPREP ICT. Once a clearer timeframe is established for the purchase and installation of the server, we will embark on the next phase to install the E-Station for use by the RCC and Samoa Met. Despite these setbacks, we are in continuous engagement with the EU JRC.

The rollover of the Climate E-Station has been initiated with the Samoa Meteorology Division after a team from SPREP and the Samoa Meteorology Division attended a two-week training at the EU Joint Research Centre to provide input into the customization of the E-Climate Station 2.0.

Following the two-week training, an information session and report were conducted for the entire Samoa Meteorological Division. This was followed by in-depth discussions on sustainability options, and the Samoa Meteorological Division confirmed their request for support to install the E-Climate Station 2.0 and training for their team on maximizing the tool for improved operations.

Further discussions were held with the EU-JRC (virtually) specifically regarding the mapping capabilities of the climate station, and recommendations were sought from the expert team on the type of server that would be best for the installation.
SPREP is in the process of purchasing a server to host the E-Station, after which the installation of the E-Station and subsequent training will take place.

Progress on the Sub activities:
Activity 2.3.1 – In progress, procurement stages.

Activity 2.3.2 – this activity is dependent on the completion of the installation of the Climate E-Stations. Although the installation has not yet commenced, significant groundwork has already been carried out to introduce the climate station to regional NMHSs during regional forums and discussions on innovative tools. During the joint meeting of DRR and NMHS directors in August 2023, a specific session on the climate station was delivered, attracting significant interest from various Pacific countries.

Activity 2.3.3 – Through existing forums, the climate station is promoted as an innovative tool supported by ClimSA and the EU JRC. As aforementioned, during the joint meeting of DRR and NMHS directors is an example of opportunities that are used to promote the climate station to the Pacific region.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Installation of E Station Completed for SMD & RCCC with proper training provided by JRC.
- Supporting the participation of 14 NMHSs at the JRC-led training on Climate stations in Samoa.
- Support study on fisheries application in Kiribati and Samoa using the e-station.

2.4. Establish and Improve Climate Data Management Systems (CDMS).

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

CDMS is a WMO-led activity. As mentioned in all our previous updates, WMO's engagement has been minimal. The team is optimistic that the meeting scheduled in Year 4 with WMO will help clarify their approach and commitment to these activities. Apart from CDMS, some progress has been made on other sub-activities:

Activity 2.4.1.1 - No Progress. This will be done after receiving confirmation from WMO. Target for Year 4.

Activity 2.4.1.2 & 2.4.1.3 - The activity focuses on engaging an expert to provide IT scripting and programming training, as well as establishing a community of practice. ClimSA recommends implementing this activity in partnership with the University of the South Pacific (USP).

Taking a sustainable approach, we discussed with the ClimSA team and agreed to work with USP, as they have similar plans and limited resources to develop and provide scripting training for NMHS in the region. We are currently awaiting USP's guidance on mobilizing resources for this joint venture to develop scripting training materials for all NMHS in the region.

Additionally, USP has allocated USD 80,000 to conduct research and a scoping exercise to better understand the gaps and needs related to IT scripting. ClimSA has agreed to invest funds in hiring an expert to develop the course materials and to fund participants for training at USP. The process will take some time, as the course needs to be accredited. It is anticipated that this activity will commence in September 2024.

Activity 2.4.2.1 - This activity focuses on engaging an expert to assess and explore the integration of hydrological data into CliDE at the national level. COSPPac project funded by DFAT Australia has a similar activity, with NIWA responsible for its implementation.

The ClimSA team had discussions with the NIWA team, both virtually and in a face-to-face meeting in Samoa in May 2024. We agreed that NIWA will implement this activity first, and ClimSA Pacific will support and implement the recommendations from the assessment that follows.

Activity 2.4.3 - There have been discussions regarding this activity. Data sharing is a sensitive issue, and there has not been any formal agreement or matter raised to make data available for RCC. While the activity is supposed to be led by SPREP and WMO due to their secretariat role of PMC, it has yet to be brought to PMC for countries' deliberation or agreement. Currently, RCC is not housed anywhere, making it unclear who will host the data. However, the ClimSA team will put forward this proposal to PMC after conducting all necessary work to determine its feasibility.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Confirmation from WMO on the rollover of CDMS. Regional training on the Climate Data Management System (CDMS) was delivered to the 14 National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) in the Pacific region, as well as the Regional Climate Centre (RCC) nodes and consortium members.
- Feasibility of Hydro data in CliDE conducted with recommendation.

2.5 Thematic Priority Support to define Regional products for Climate Services. (JRC/SPREP)

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

After Christoph's departure from R+EU JRC, it has been challenging to initiate work with JRC. During the Global ClimSA Forum in Jamaica in June 2024, we recommended that JRC expedite their work on implementing Pacific ClimSA activities. Pacific ClimSA will soon provide JRC with a list of all JRC-led activities, followed by a virtual meeting.

As of this reporting period, there are no updates available for activities 2.5.1 through 2.5.3. However, it is noteworthy that Samoa has drafted its Drought Plan, which is currently under cabinet approval. Additionally, Tonga and Nauru have requested assistance to draft or update their drought plans, with these activities scheduled to commence in 2025. Kiribati has not yet confirmed their support.

Further scoping exercises will be conducted for the Drought Early Warning Systems to ensure comprehensive planning and implementation.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Implementation arrangement with JRC agreed
- Drought National Plan for Tinga and Emergency Plan for Nauru started.
- Hire experts to assess and develop drought early warning systems for 4 selected countries.

2.6 Development and Demonstration of a National Climate Services production chain.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Some progress has been made under this activity. The NTSOs for both Samoa and Kiribati are onboard. Samoa is in the implementation stages, with the NTSO fully working with sectors to be part of the NCOF and co-develop products. Both NTSOs for Kiribati and Samoa have a set of national activities that form their workplans. The sustainability of the NCOF is one of the key deliverables of their assignments. As ClimSA phases out, the NTSOs will be absorbed by their respective NMHSs. This is crucial as both NTSOs are promoting the sustainability of the NCOF.
In terms of addressing gaps along the value chain, this work will commence in 2024. The project team has taken the opportunity through the NCOF to understand some of the potential gaps.

Here is a brief update on the sub-activities:
Activity 2.6.1 - The NTSOs are onboard and leading national-level activities, starting with the NCOF.
Activity 2.6.2 - This is targeted to be conducted in Year 4. The NTSO will lead this exercise, followed by tailored training from Year 4.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Capacity gaps: Capacity gaps across the six components of the climate services value chain will be identified and training will be delivered from Year 4.
- Annual Workplan submitted by NTSOs.

Project Coordination

Output 3

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

There has been some progress under this Output, especially Activity 3.1, “Assessing the impact of existing gaps in climate observation network.” While the actual plan for Year 3 was to start implementing the country support through completed gap assessments, this assessment was put on hold due to the rollout of a major global initiative known as the Systematic Observations Financing Facility (SOFF).

SOFF was established to support the sustained collection and international exchange of essential weather and climate observations, particularly from the most data-sparse regions. SOFF aims to address gaps in surface-based weather and climate data, which are crucial for accurate weather forecasts, early warning systems, and climate information services.

In the Pacific, SOFF assessments are being carried out for Samoa, Nauru, Kiribati, and later Tonga. Some countries, such as Nauru and Kiribati, are already in the Investment phase, receiving grants and advisory support to establish their GBON stations and strengthen the human and institutional capacity required to implement the GBON National Contribution Plan.

The investment plans signed by these countries are substantial, so it made sense to conduct ClimSA assessments after SOFF assessments to ensure that ClimSA investments add value to the countries and meet their local needs, which SOFF, focusing on global requirements, may not fully address.

For Samoa and Tonga, they are yet to finalize their investment plans. However, the WMO assessment for Samoa has incorporated SOFF interventions and identified contributions from ClimSA. Similarly, the SOFF assessment for Tonga has been completed, and the support identified addresses national needs.

In summary, Tonga and Samoa assessments are completed. Tonga is in the advanced stage with a signed MOU with SPREP to start execution. The assessment report for Samoa has been submitted by WMO. The team (SMD and ClimSA) is liaising with WMO colleagues to itemize the support and mobilize resources from both Pacific ClimSA and WMO ClimSA to support the recommendations.

Since Nauru and Kiribati have approved SOFF investment plans (signed in Q2 2024), it now makes sense to conduct ClimSA assessments to ensure that we are adding value to the observation system requirements and needs to improve climate services.

Regarding other activities under Output 3, most are yet to commence and are targeted to start in Year 4.

3.1 Assess the impact of existing gaps in climate observing networks on the produced climate services by this programme and invest in ground-infrastructure to improve such services.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

The summary for each country is provided below:

Samoa: WMO has conducted the assessment, and the report is currently being finalized, with an expected completion date of August 2024. The ClimSA team has advised SMD to itemize the support, as the recommendations from WMO are general. A copy of the report can be shared with the EU upon request. Since the report is intended for the country, it is not made public and therefore not uploaded on ClimSA's website.

Additionally, SMD, through the Director, has submitted an official request for the rehabilitation of their AWSs (Automatic Weather Stations), the procurement of four new AWSs, and support for a vehicle for repair and maintenance (Annex XXX). These requests are included as recommendations in the WMO report. While the report mentions two new AWSs, since SOFF is already supporting the upper air observation systems, SMD has requested that ClimSA fund four AWSs. We hope to start the implementation of these activities in Year 4.

Tonga: The Tonga assessment has been completed. The mission was led by the ClimSA team, supported by the Pacific Met Desk (SPREP), and the Tonga Meteorological Services (TMS) under the leadership of its director. The team adopted a holistic approach, examining all possible support that ClimSA can provide, aligned with each output. Consultations were conducted with the agriculture, fisheries, and disaster management communities to better understand their needs, thereby tailoring the support to be more valuable for TMS and other sectors.

The Tonga Meteorological Services Strategic Plan served as the basis for this support, developed through extensive consultation with stakeholders. Three days of consultations were held, with each day dedicated to a different ClimSA sector. The aim was to enhance TMS services to these sectors and identify additional products required. ClimSA support is based on these discussions.

Following the consultation, the TMS and ClimSA team analysed all identified needs, mapped out activities, aligned them with the TMS strategy, and identified outputs under ClimSA for funding purposes. A budget was derived to ensure all costs associated with the activities were accounted for. The support table is provided as an Annex to this document.

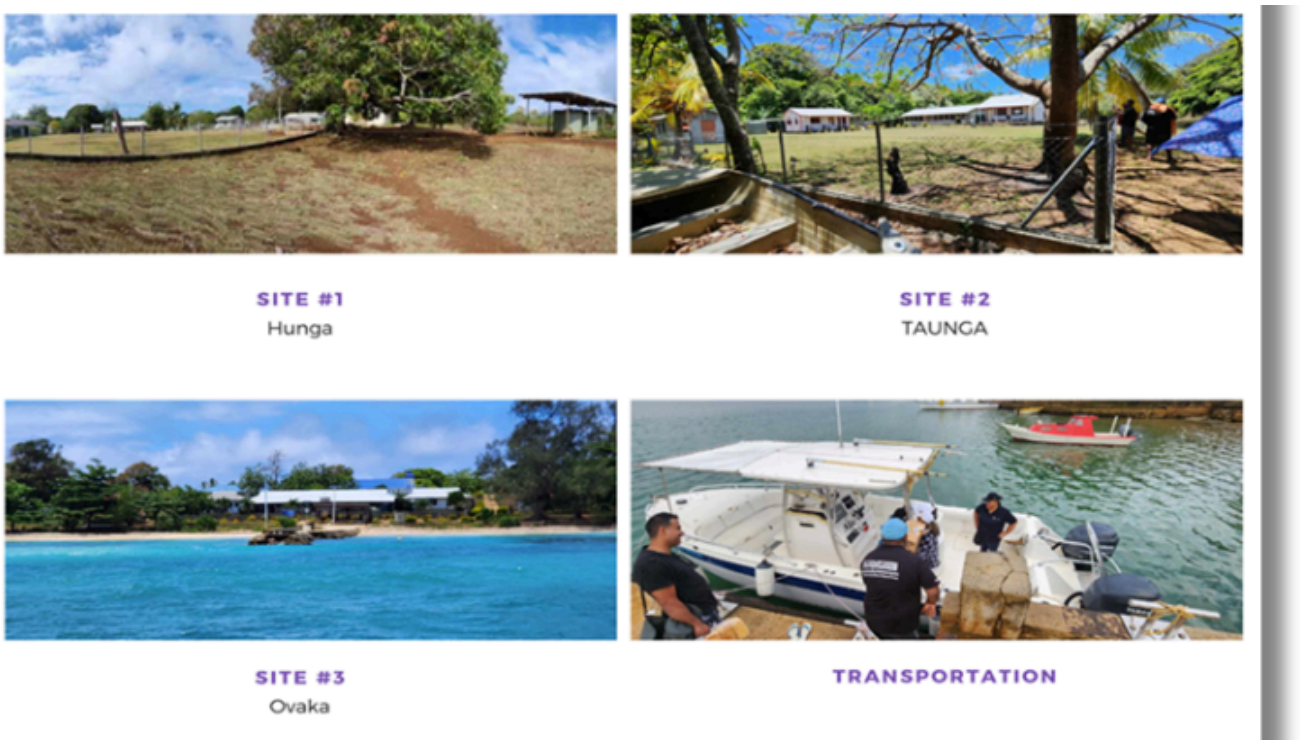


Image: Sites where Automated Weather Stations are installed in Tonga

Kiribati & Nauru: The assessment will be conducted in Year 4, following a similar approach to WMO by incorporating the findings of SOFF and the details of the investment plan. The ClimSA team has already approached the Bureau of Meteorology Australia and the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), as stated in the Annex III Budget for Action document.

BoM has recommended that NIWA take the lead, as they concluded most of the SOFF assessments. This positioning allows NIWA to provide a more compatible report to align the support.

Since both countries have signed the Investment Plan, it is crucial that ClimSA's investment aligns with national priorities, particularly sector needs.

Sub activities Summary:

Activity 3.1.1 – The summarised progress below:

- Kiribati & Nauru: Assessment is yet to commence. This will be done in Year 4.
- Tonga: Assessment conducted. Implementation to start in Year 4.
- Samoa: Assessment completed. Report to be finalised by August 2024.

Activity 3.1.2 - Yet to commence. Will start in Year 4

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Implementation of Tonga and Samoa support.
- Assessment of Nauru and Kiribati with implementation.
- Detailed procurement plans are in place for each country to efficiently execute the necessary support.
- Back-to-back training on data observation and communication or instrumentation maintenance and calibration or IT relating observation communication systems

3.2 Ensure that RCCs and NMHSs operational access to climate information made available at global level by international partners (Copernicus, ECMWF, EUMETSAT, others), is improved including the promotion of agreements between RCCs and global information providers to sustain access to global data.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

No progress has been made with this activity. However, we established contacts with colleagues from EUMETSAT (Mr. Herve Trebossen) and ECMWF (Mr Chris Stewart) during the 4th Global ClimSA Forum. We will attempt to progress this activity in the next fiscal year.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Support four (4) officers (one from SPREP, one from SPC and two from selected NMHSs) to participate in hybrid of e-learning and study mission to EUMETSAT, ECMWF, WMO, JRC, BoM, NIWA, APCC and C3S on the mainstreaming and use of Copernicus products and services that are relevant to the Pacific region.
- Tailored products for NMHSs and RCC Nodes using products relevant to Pacific from Identified EUMETSAT, ECMWF, WMO, JRC, BoM, NIWA, APCC and C3S.

3.3 Define and consolidate requirements for user driven services for the Pacific region and provide feedback to international data providers.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

JRC/WMO-led activity. We will be having discussions with JRC & WMO in August to secure their commitment to the activities they are leading and to plan for implementation. There has been no implementation progress to date.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Support WMO with coordinating the in-situ assessments and implementing recommendations. The in-situ assessment of the data availability by the Pacific RCC-Network and the development of recommendations and necessary agreements for increasing the availability of both data provided by the NMHSs and data products provided by the Global Producing Centers of Long-range Forecasts (GPCLRFs)

3.4 Ensure Pacific RCC have operational access to existing climate information produced at national level through NMHSs, including data rescue (recovery and digitalization).

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

We made some progress on activity 3.4.1.3 with regards to the update and upgrade of the Southern Hemisphere Tropical Cyclone Portal in which Prof Yuriy Kuleshov from the Bureau of Meteorology in Australia oversees. We have planned to implement this activity in 2025. For the update and upgrade of the Pacific Climate Change Data Portal, COSPPac has taken up the responsibility.

Here is a brief update on the sub-activities:

Activity 3.4.1 - WMO has conducted assessment on what are the gaps in SMD regarding data homogenisation. The report is yet to be shared.

Activity 3.4.1.1 - For data rescue and digitisation, Samoa, Kiribati, and Tonga have shown interest. Nauru has not requested support yet. However, Fiji, as one of the major hubs for the Pacific, has also requested if the support can be extended to them due to their significant role. The proposal was submitted to WMO but has not yet received any feedback. Fiji has transmitted that request to ClimSA (Refer to the Annex for a Proposal from Fiji on DARE) and we recommend supporting them as well. This activity will commence in Year 4.

Activity 3.4.1.2 - There has been no progress on this activity. It shall be undertaken while data homogenisation is happening to add value to the training.

Activity 3.4.1.3 - This activity is being implemented by COSPPac as their product. ClimSA will support if needed; however, the COSPPac lead, BoM, has confirmed that no support is required as COSPPac has sufficient funding to manage this activity. The funds will be reallocated to a much-needed activity, supporting Fiji on DARE, as they also service Nauru. However, ClimSA will support the much-needed Tropical Cyclone portal. Discussion has already commenced with partners.

Activity 3.4.2 - The work on integrating the hydro database into CliDE is led by COSPPac. A feasibility study has been commissioned. ClimSA has agreed to allocate resources to partner with all institutions involved in this initiative.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Support data rescue and digitisation of hydro-met data and equipping NMHSs with proper storage and hardware (computer) in Samoa, Kiribati, Tonga, and possibility of Fiji upon approval.

Support a regional training on data homogenisation techniques TC portal upgraded and data utilised to develop products and inform national UIPs/NCOFs Support the Hydro Database initiative.

3.5 Methods and tools for observational datasets and model inter-comparison at the regional scale to RCCs provided (WMO & JRC lead).

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

No updates. The activity is yet to commence, as led by WMO and JRC. The team will continue to seek guidance and approach from the 2 leading technical organisations. The focus is to start the activity by the second half of Year 4.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Support training of twelve staff (from RCC Lead Nodes and NMHSs) on model inter-comparison and state-of-the-art methods for seasonal forecasting facilitated and delivered by JRC and WMO.

Image: SPREP and Samoa Met Division participated in a customisation and practical training workshop on the use of the EU Climate Station.

Project Coordination

Output 4

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

4.1 Develop and implement a capacity-building plan on strategic and thematic issues at ACP, regional sub-regional and national levels to augment the capacity of stakeholders in every step of the climate services value chain in line with the Competency Framework for Climate Services.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

ClimSA has delivered some trainings in Year 3 to its members. A regional training on ACCESS-S was delivered in partnership with Bureau of Meteorology Australia. The training was hosted in Nadi, Fiji. This was a joint ClimSA and COSPPac event. Training session and facilitations during the event were conducted by BOM, SPREP, SPC and NIWA. Pacific NMHSs were invited to undergo training that would allow the national meteorological services to produce tailored Agrometeorological and Fisheries bulletins to support the relevant sectors.

The initial training sessions and exercises were designed to communicate available climate related tools and services that NMHS's would be interested to include as an element in the bulletins. Information such as the types of climate products, functions, uses and ways of accessing it were addressed. Additional training was provided to produce tropical cyclone bulletins, which is a necessary product considering the active status of El Niño in the Pacific.

Communications training was provided as well, to assist NMHS's in producing bulletins that are comprehensible to the end users it was designed for. At the end of the training sessions, the NMHS's were able to produce draft Agro-Met and fisheries bulletins as well as receive feedback from the workshop facilitators and fellow Pacific NMHSs. The Met services will be given the opportunity to work with their own stakeholders that were invited for the PICOF-13 workshop the following week.

Canva and Kobo Toolbox Training

18 staff from the Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment based within the Samoa Meteorology Division and the Water Resource Division received Certificates of Achievement after successfully completing a customised training programme on Using Kobo Toolbox and Canva to improve the delivery of climate services to the public.

The training was made up of 2 days of classroom-based learning, field visits and the completion of assessments. During the training, the Samoa Met Division trialled a few graphics on their Facebook Page and saw an immediate increase in user engagement, which indicated that the training was helpful for the team and the followers of the social media platform.

The Australia Pacific Climate Alumni Network in partnership with ClimSA, designed and delivered the training programme. Interesting Fact: One of the posts curated by Samoa Met Division as a result of this training attracted more than 50,000 engagements within a 24-hour period.

Image: Staff of Samoa Met & Hydrology at the training on Canva and Kobo Toolbox

Here is a brief update on the sub-activities:

Activity 4.1.1 - No progress. This will be done in Year 4 in partnership with other Climate Services programmes.

Activity 4.1.1.2 - This initiative is ongoing and currently in the discussion stages as we explore ways to best move it forward. The solution for sustaining the course delivery is still being discussed with USP. We anticipate that an agreement will be reached in Year 4. Additionally, SPREP has signed an MOU with USP, providing the legal framework for our collaboration.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Engage an expert to conduct capacity needs assessment and update/formalise a capacity development plan for climate services across the value chain in consultation with RCC members, the PICS panel, WMO, JRC and the OACPS Secretariat.
- Work with partners to identify training packages on immediate, medium and long-term priorities
- Plan with USP on rolling out a formal course with climate science

4.2 Organize Intra-ACP Climate Services ACP yearly fora (OACPS & WMO Lead)

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

The ClimSA forum is an annual event organized every September, spearheaded by OACP and WMO. Each year, it revolves around distinct themes and objectives. Two such forums have already been successfully held.

Through ClimSA funding, the Pacific was represented at the 3rd Global ClimSA Forum in the Seychelles in September 2023 by the Pacific RCC and two representatives each from the Samoan and Kiribati Meteorological Services. The theme of the Third Global ClimSA Forum was "Building Bridges for Climate Services: Advancing Stakeholder Dialogue to Enhance Regional Resilience in Vulnerable Countries."

In addition to the two ClimSA staff who attended (the KBO and RCC Coordinator), ClimSA supported the participation of four NMHS representatives from Samoa and Kiribati. These representatives had the opportunity to share and exchange learnings and experiences in the production and uptake of climate information and applications. It is notable that there was an equal gender balance in the Pacific delegation.

The Steering Committee Meeting was held after the 3rd Global Forum and outcomes of the meeting are captured in the Report.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Support 2 representatives to the next ClimSA Forum. Use the next ClimSA forum to strengthen our relationship with WMO and JRC.

Image: Gender balanced representation by the Pacific at the ClimSA Forum, with the OACPS Director General, Ms. Cristelle Pratt

4.3 Setup a dedicated information platform/portal to exchange best practice, make information available for specific needs and encourage cooperation between the regions.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

In this reporting period, the ClimSA Pacific team relayed challenges with accessing the Knowledge Management Platform and its limitations for use. This was acknowledged by the OACPS Secretariat and further action is to be taken to address these issues.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- The Knowledge Management Platform will be promoted as an effective tool for practitioners in the climate services sector during the sub-regional trainings (Activity 5.2.2.1) once the issues of accessibility will be addressed

4.4 Setup a Masters scholarship programme for Pacific students.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

An internal review was conducted of all existing partnerships that SPREP currently has with universities, both regionally and internationally. It was established that SPREP had entered into partnership agreements with a range of different universities for various reasons in previous years. Currently, SPREP has MOUs with the following universities:

- The University of the South Pacific
- Griffith University
- Victoria University of Wellington

Simultaneous to the internal review of SPREP's partnership agreements with universities, research was carried out to establish which universities in the region offer existing programmes on climate and agriculture, climate and water, and climate and DRR, including details of the programmes and their costs.

A comprehensive list of programmes and universities was drawn up from the research. However, given the limited implementation time of the ClimSA project, it was recommended that the scholarships be arranged with the universities with which SPREP already has existing partnerships. This will eliminate the process of engaging with new universities and drawing up MOUs solely for a once-off scholarship.

Given that another EU-funded programme at SPREP (PACRES) had also offered master's scholarships, the Project Manager for PACRES was consulted and provided insights on the lessons learned from implementing the PACRES scholarship with the University of the South Pacific. These lessons and recommendations were considered when making the final decision.

After consultations and research, it was decided that the scholarship would be offered in partnership with the universities with which SPREP already has MOUs. It was confirmed that these universities do offer existing master's programmes on climate and agriculture, climate and water, and climate and DRR.

ClimSA is currently liaising with these universities to operationalise how the scholarships will be administered.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Publish an Expression of Interest for student applications in September 2024, with the aim of funding more than two scholarships within the allocated funding. The selection process should conclude by November, and partnership agreements with the universities are expected to be finalised by year-end, with the chosen students commencing their studies in Semester 1, 2025.

Image: Kiribati Youth attending a training on mainstreaming climate information

Project Coordination

Output 5

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

The ClimSA Pacific project has a full-time staff (KBO) dedicated to supporting the mainstreaming of climate information to internal and external stakeholders, through communications materials, events, forums and innovative platforms.

Whilst there was initial support from the OACPS to support the adaptation of global communications and visibility initiatives for the Pacific region, there has been a turnover of 2 resource personnel within the timeframe that the KBO has been recruited and this support has been absent.

Despite the hurdles with the lack of outreach from the global ClimSA communications team, ClimSA Pacific has been carrying out a range of activities to ensure relevant visibility for the project and its deliverables.

Based on using an integrated communications approach, the ClimSA Pacific project has been actively involved in engaging both internal and external and external stakeholders in the Pacific, and beyond.

5.1 Communications and knowledge management for effective climate services developed.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

A Knowledge Broker is onboard full time to deliver this action. A review of the Visibility Strategy has been completed and is currently aligned with the latest OACPS's revised strategy. Implementation of the revised Visibility Strategy is already in effect.

Sub-activity 5.1.1 - A range of communications and visibility activities have been implemented, a few of which are listed as follows:

- A project brochure
- A webpage under the SPREP main website
- Promotional banners
- Promotional items (shirts, hats, water bottles, jackets)
- Articles published in key newspapers and publications

Image: Visibility materials developed for the ClimSA Project

Kiribati Youth Master New Life Skills

Early Warning Systems & Climate Science Communication

Born and raised in Kiribati with a passion for ocean conservation and youth mobilisation for ocean-based climate action, Tiein Taebo assists with the coordination of the Tungaru Youth Action network – the first youth-led organisation in Kiribati, serving as Vice President.

Tiein vehemently believes that the I-Kiribati culture and the identity of people from the Big Ocean State are strongly connected to the ocean. As a young woman on the frontline of severe hazards, such as drought, king tides and marine heatwaves, she spends her weekends and evenings organising training and knowledge exchange programmes to support the youth of Kiribati.

"As a young person in this era, basic life skills also include knowing how to interpret climate information and how to use digital communications tools."

- Tiein Taebo, Tungaru Youth Action

On World Meteorological Day (23 March) this year, Tiein organised a one-day training on how to interpret a tide predictions calendar and use online software to create early warning graphics on mobile devices.

Participants were also trained on how to use social media to share the early warning alerts to their social networks to encourage their family and friends to take early action. This training was funded by the European Union-funded Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications Programme (ClimSA) and delivered by Patricia Mallam, Knowledge Broker for the Pacific Project. The training was supported by Eriatara Aram, Country Coordinator for the Australia Pacific Climate Alumni Network (APCAN).

Held in the American Corner at the Kiribati National Library and Archives in Bairiki, Tarawa, twenty-two youth aged between 14 to 25 years attended the training, of which twenty were female. Despite the seriousness of the training, it was peppered with sporadic bursts of jokes and laughter, as the young participants learned to interpret a tide predictions calendar.

The tide predictions calendar used for this training was specific to Betio and provided by the Climate and Oceans Support Programme in the Pacific (COSPPac). These tide prediction calendars are available in printed versions from National Meteorological Services in most Pacific Island countries and online on the Pacific Oceans Portal Library.

After successfully grasping the skill to interpret the tide predictions calendar, the youth were introduced to Canva, a versatile graphic design tool used to create visually engaging content. Each of the youth developed compelling graphics and some even created short videos, with detailed information about the upcoming king tides in Betio.

TE ONIIA

During this practical activity, all the participants shared images and videos of king tide events that they had captured previously illustrating the interest and skills in content creation that youth in this information age possess. In less than forty-five minutes, more than 10 digital communications products were created.

The final session in this training focussed on identifying distribution channels and the members of the community who needed the easy-to-understand information. Group chats for family and friends, Facebook Groups and TikTok followers were quickly identified as most appropriate for these messages. Most importantly, the youth highlighted that persons with disabilities needed to receive this information, and in doing so, adapted some of the content created by adding sub-titles, audio and colours.

"I strongly believe that the training on interpreting climate information products and using online apps on mobile devices are crucial for information dissemination in a generation where the internet and social media are more commonly used to communicate," reflected Tiein at the end of the training.

Tiein shared that youth in Kiribati are constantly accessing information online, no matter where they are, as long as they have an internet connection. This has become a basic life skill – one that has the potential to save lives when used with intention.

"This training is so timely because the next king tides occur in 2-weeks time, and according to the tide predictions calendar, they occur at in the early hours of the morning (around 4:46am) when most are in deep sleep and least likely to be prepared. We have time to send out early warning messages and ensure our families and communities are prepared," she explained.

As a result of this training, at least 80% of the youth trained were able to successfully develop early warning messages in the form of videos and graphics on their mobile devices and send them using their online social networks to their families, friends and members of their community.

From interpreting climate information, to creating compelling content and sharing it with those who would be able to act, this youth-led activity provides insight into how the landscape of early warning systems is evolving and where interventions can be made to save lives.

By Patricia Mallam, Intra-ACP ClimSA - SPREP

- To find out more about the Intra-ACP Climate Services and Related Applications Programme, visit www.sprep.org/climsa.
- For more information on Tide Prediction Calendars, please contact the National Meteorological Services in your country.

Image: Publication of activites in key regional publications (Islands Business magazine)

Image: Innovative social media campaign designed and implemented with SMD to increase awareness on World Met Day and ClimSA

Sub-activity 5.1.2 - ClimSA participated in the Pacific Regional Board Directors Workshop hosted by the South Pacific Tourism Organisation, which resulted in positive outcomes for the development of a regional Pacific Tourism Product.

With the aim of co-developing a climate product for the Pacific, it was important to engage further, and resulted in our participation in the South Pacific Tourism Organisation (SPTO) Board Director's Workshop for Sustainable Tourism. In alignment with the Pacific Sustainable Tourism Policy Framework and the broader goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Pacific 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific, SPTO's Division of Sustainable Tourism convened these consultations to advance regional sustainable tourism initiatives.

This forum was an ideal opportunity to get a clear identification of stakeholders and share the value proposition (advantages gained by users) of climate services to the tourism sector, with the aim to engage users as equal and integral partners in the for the dissemination of climate information. Representatives from twelve (12) SPTO Member Countries, totaling 39 participants along with the SPTO Division of Sustainable Tourism team, attended the consultations.

Due to the timing of planning required to participate in forums such as the UNFCCC COP and other global events. This activity will be delivered in Year 4.

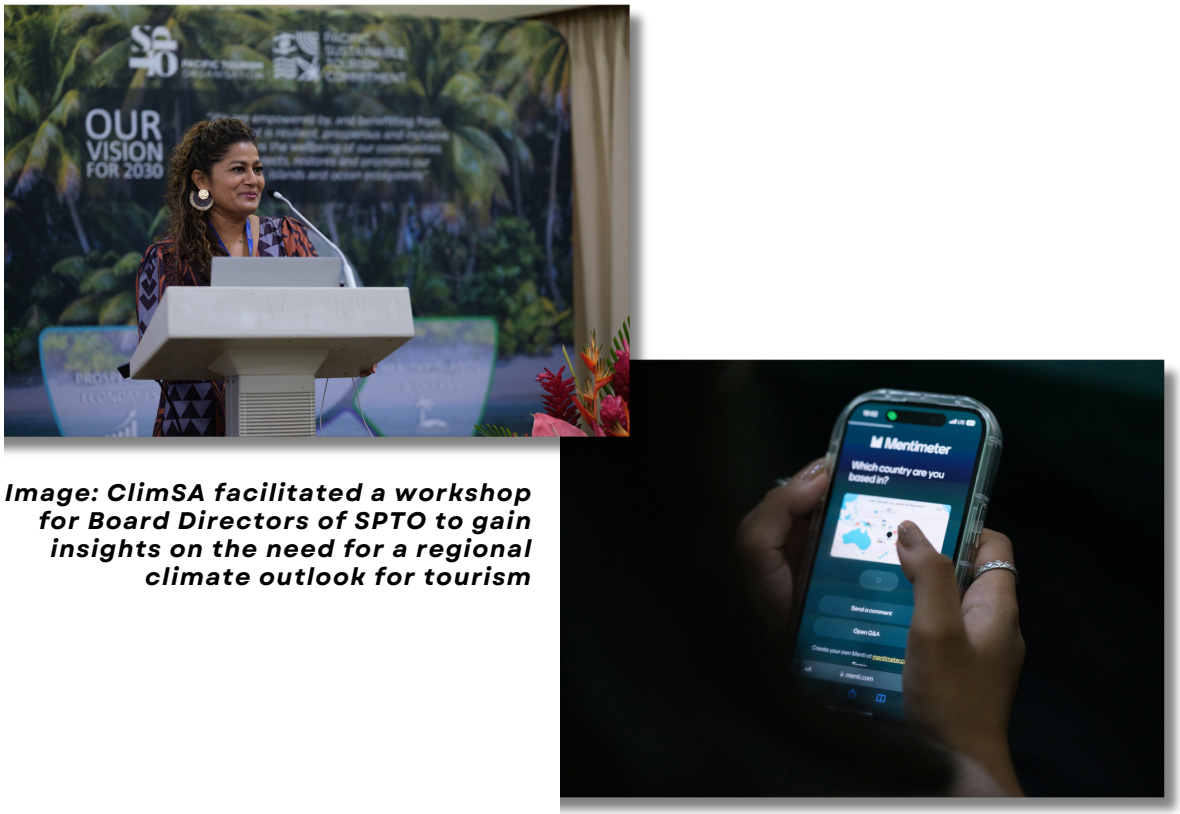


Image: ClimSA facilitated a workshop for Board Directors of SPTO to gain insights on the need for a regional climate outlook for tourism

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Host a side event at COP29
- Attend an EUMETSET User Forum

5.2 Climate services are mainstreamed into national and regional policies and programmes.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

This activity is heavily dependent on the support of existing regional mechanisms (such as the Pacific Meteorological Council and the Pacific Islands Climate Services Panel) and the pilot NMHS, who are crucial to enabling engagement with other regional and national stakeholders. Of notable mention is the process of engaging these regional and national stakeholders, which must be considerate of diplomatic and organisation protocols.

In the reporting period, considerable efforts have been made to engage with these sectors on a national and regional level, and most usually done so by providing capacity and advisory support during meetings and forums, to establish a good rapport.

Sub-activity 5.2.1.1 – 2 trainings have been delivered at national levels in both Samoa and Kiribati, supported by the NMHS. In Samoa, this sub-activity did not have a budget, and it was imperative to collaborate with a partner to deliver training on how to use communications and knowledge management tools to improve how climate services are delivered to the end users.

ClimSA Pacific partnered with the Australia Pacific Climate Alumni Network to design and customise a 3-day training programme for the Samoa Meteorology Division and the Water Resources Division on how to use Kobo Toolbox (an online open-source data management application to monitor and measure disasters and their impacts) and Canva (an online graphics and video design application to communicate alerts and scientific information in a more digestible format). The training was delivered by lead facilitators from ClimSA-SPREP and APCAN, and successfully completed by 18 participants.

The training was made up of 2 days of classroom-based learning, field visits and the completion of assessments. During the training, the Samoa Meteorology Division trialled a few graphics on their Facebook Page and saw an immediate increase in user engagement, which indicated that the training was helpful for the team and the followers of the social media platform. Interesting Fact: One of the posts curated by Samoa Met Division as a result of this training attracted more than 50,000 engagements within a 24-hour period.

In Kiribati, ClimSA partnered with the Tungaru Youth Action Network on World Meteorological Day (23 March) to deliver a one-day training on how to interpret a tide predictions calendar and use online software to create early warning graphics on mobile devices. 22 participants, aged between 14 to 25 years, were also trained on how to use social media to share the early warning alerts to their social networks to encourage their family and friends to take early action.

Both these initiatives will be curated as case studies for academic publication and have already been publicized in mainstream media and received extensive coverage. These initiatives have been praised in both countries at the Ministerial level during meetings, and positive verbal feedback relayed to ClimSA.

Sub-activity 5.2.1.2 – Due to the timing of events and the current implementation phase of these activities, this sub-activity will be delivered in the coming years, when there is enough content to be showcased at global and regional platforms.

Sub-activity 5.2.2.1 – The training modules for the sub-regional knowledge management and media training have been developed and basic needs assessments have been carried out to inform the effective delivery of training to mainstream climate services into national and regional policies.

However, because the sub-regional training needs to be carried out in each of the sub-regions with approval from host countries and support, this has been a challenge in Years 2 and 3, although planning and negotiation with host countries has already commenced. The first sub-regional training is expected to be conducted for Polynesia in October 2024.

Sub-activity 5.3.1 – No progress was made during this reporting year. However, we have a plan to engage an expert this year to conduct a socio-economic assessment of tailored climate information for the DRR or Agriculture sector in Kiribati or Samoa.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Support the implementation of national workshops in the two pilot countries to showcase the process and value of mainstreaming climate services into national policies and strategies.
- Support the delivery of two sub-regional and one national media and communication trainings related to seasonal and sub-seasonal forecasting, sector-specific forecasts and climate monitoring products.

Image: Regional participants at the ACCESS-S Training.

Activity 5.3 - Bring added-value to climate services through integration of socio-economic elements, analytical components and visualization tools.

0%	25%	50%	75%	100%
Yet to start	Initiation with few tasks	Implementation phase	On track and near completion	Completed

Sub-Activity: 5.3.1 - An outcome of the 3rd Global ClimSA Forum in Seychelles was to deliver the final session of the training and capacity building support of the ClimSA Socio-Economic Benefit Tool. It was discussed and proposed that the training session to be held in person with virtual preparatory sessions commence in January 2024.
The virtual sessions started off well with two (2) hours session in a week, learning how the Vensim tool works. The training is still in progress. ClimSA Pacific is funding the participation of Terry Atalifo (RCC Coordinator) and Ms Shweta Shiwangni (Scientific Officer) Fiji Met Representative for this training.

A specific outcome for the Pacific was to calibrate the Vensim Model for Fiji and we are getting support from the Vensim team, running the model template of the tool for priority sectors in Fiji. The results will be published in the next report.

However, there are some challenges faced during the training period to date. The hours required to undertake the training are significant and the workload is heavy, especially when you must find time outside of your normal working hours. Similarly, there are some concerns about the practicality of the tool and have been communicated to the facilitators and organizers during the 4th Global ClimSA forum.

Planned Activities for the next 12 months

- Engage an impact assessment consultant to assess the impact of the action and the socio-economic valuation of tailored climate information for DRR and agriculture sectors in Kiribati and Samoa and provide feedback through information sessions.

Challenges & Measures

- SPREP needs to upgrade its systems and policies to effectively support the delivery of the project such as procurement, travel, and finance. As a result, timelines for deliverables will need to be adjusted due to significant delays in providing support for basic functions such as procurement, organizing DSAs, making payments to suppliers, and leading administrative processes. Many of these tasks are being executed by team members, occupying a substantial amount of time that could otherwise be spent on technical work.

- Duplication of climate project activities amongst climate projects (COSPPac & ClimSA) in the region: Often at times, we find same or similar project activities from projects operating in the climate space in the Pacific. As a result, ClimSA had to re-program its activities and find other means of implementation.

- Dependency on other Technical Partners: With the dependency on other technical partners in the region as well as our global technical partners, we find delays in the implementation of ClimSA activities for many reasons. To avoid further delays, we had to work very closely with these technical partners.

- Bureaucratic constraints at the regional and national levels: From our experience with the Pacific RCC-N activities, we cannot implement activities unless and until the members agree to it. This slows down the implementation of activities

- Due to other similar projects being implemented by partners, for example the UNEP CISPac-5 and COSSPac, the NMHSs are unable to accommodate all the requests from ClimSA within the given timeframe. There is also an element of 'training/workshop' fatigue that is becoming apparent within the NMHS where the same officers are attending numerous trainings and, in some instances, unable to respond to or deliver on requests that are necessary for ClimSA activities to be carried out.

- There are major competing events at the national level which inhibit the project's ability to plan national level activities, for example, elections in Kiribati and the restrictions on gatherings, and for Samoa, the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

- Technological challenges: the available resources at SPREP are rather limited to effectively use online platforms. For example, the internet connection at the office is slow and it is a real challenge to upload/download files. At times, it is impossible to perform simple tasks like opening a web browser. The other technical challenge is the limitation of support from the IT division, who are slow in responding to requests for support.

- Working across time zones and meetings being scheduled at hours that are not conducive for good work-life balance for Pacific professionals. Despite numerous requests for meetings to be scheduled in Pacific-friendly time zones, the Pacific plea remains unheard/ignored. The engagement with the OACPS is on many occasions set between 3:00am – 5:00am Pacific time, which severely impacts the effective participation of the Pacific team. Furthermore, the engagement of consultants outside the region also needs to be looked at, so that the meetings organised are at times which fall within a reasonable hour.

  The recent ROM review was held at the end of the day and ran from 7:00pm – 9:00pm over a period of 2 weeks. This places additional and unnecessary stress on the team, who are also required by the Director CCR to be present at from 8:00am to 5:00pm to showcase to SPREP's member countries that we are working to support them. There needs to be a healthy balance between delivering outputs and physical attendance in the office, especially if the ClimSA team is working odd hours and travelling on duty missions.

Financial Performance

Expenditure Analysis

- The total direct eligible expenditure for Year 3 amounted to USD769,616.00. This represents the tangible costs directly related to the execution of activities.
- On top of the direct expenditure, the administrative cost, considered an indirect expense, stood at USD53,873.00. This cost, amounting to 7% of the direct expenditure, includes overheads such as management and operational costs that are not directly attributable to any activity but are necessary for the general functioning of the organization.
- When combined, the total eligible expenditure for Year 3, incorporating both direct and indirect costs, totaled USD823, 489.00
- The total commitment for Year 3 (in the system), or the amount of funds pledged for expenses, was reported as USD156,290.00. It's important to note that this figure represents a financial obligation and is a key factor in budget planning and management.
- Total expenditure, inclusive of commitment for Year 3 (as of May 2024) equates to USD823,489.00 + USD156,290.00 = USD979,779.00
- ·Delivery rate against the overall budget is:

Total Project Allocation	Year 1 Expenditure	Year 2 Expenditure	Year 3 Expenditure with Commitment	Total Expenditure with Commitment	Delivery %
USD 10,916,100.00	USD 19,587.00	USD 334,805.00	USD 979,779.00	USD 1,334,171.00	12%

During the period under review, the project focused its implementation on activities under Output 1 & 2. This included the delivery of National Outlook Forums in Kiribati and Samoa, the Pacific Islands Climate Outlook Forum and Regional User Interface Platform in Fiji. The project also carried out inception meetings in Nauru and Tonga who are also part of the projects 4 pilot countries. The project also tendered and successfully secured the two consultancies as follows: **Kiribati Meteorological Services – AUD110,000;** and **Geoff Love – USD21,000.**

Funds Analysis

Total funds received from the EU

Tranche 1 2021	Tranche 2 2023	Total Funds Received	Total Expenditure with Commitment	Delivery Against Funds Received
USD 732,533.00	USD 2,757,024.00	USD 3,489,557.00	USD 1,323,819.00	38%

Funds remaining with the EU:

Total Project Funding	Total Funds Received from EU to date	Funds Remaining with the EU
USD$10,916,100.00	USD$3,489,557.00 (32%)	USD$7,426,543.00 (68%)

Projection (End of Year 2024)

For the remaining months of 2024, the project team will focus on accelerating delivery by prioritizing activities under each output. Below is the detailed commitment:

RCC Website	USD 24,000.00
Pacific Road Map for Strengthened Climate Services	USD 21,000.00
Procurement of 4 AWS for Tonga	USD80,000.00
Procurement of 4 AWS for Samoa	USD80,000.00
Samoa AWS Repair & Maintenance with spare parts	USD35,000.00
Samoa Weather App	USD25,000.00
Transportation for Samoa Met Division	USD30,000.00
Master's Scholarship Programme	USD100,000.00
Pacific Meteorological Council Meeting	USD15,000.00
NCOF x 2 (Samoa and Kiribati)	USD20,000.00
ClimSA Steering Committee Meeting	USD57,000.00
PICOF Meeting (October)	USD57,000.00
Comms & Visibility Materials	USD35,000.00
COP participation and associated cost	USD15,000.00
Total	**USD$654,000.00**

Summary of project execution rate by end of 2024 against the funding received:

Total eligible expenditure (year 1, 2 & 3) inclusive of commitment	USD$1,334,171.00
Anticipated Commitments (June – Dec 2024)	USD$654,000.00
Total Funding Utilized and Committed by Dec 2024	USD$1,988,171.00
Total funding income received	USD$3,489,557.00
Project execution against funding received	57%
Total Funding Balance carried over to year 2025	**USD$1,501,386.00**

It should be noted that this balance does not encompass operating expenses such as salaries, consumables, etc.

The funding balance of USD 1,511,737.83 will be carried over to the remaining months of Year 4 in 2025 (January – May). Along with the Year 4 report, the project will also submit a request for the release of the 3rd tranche.

The project will be requesting a no-cost extension until November 2027. This request is planned to be submitted as soon as the Global Financing Agreement is signed by EU Brussels and OACP.

Indicative

Workplan

Refer to the following pages for the indicative workplan for the next year (July 2024 - May 2025)

ANNEX 1: CLimSA YEAR 4 WORKPLAN

Description	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	May-25
Output 0 - Programme Coordination												
(1) Steering Committee Meeting			X									
Output 1 - Interaction between the users, researchers and climate services providers in Pacific regions is structured												
Activity 1.1 - Overall coordination for the conception and development of the User Interface Platform. (WMO Lead)												
(1) SPREP IT, RCC consortium members to participate in the UIP and RFWWCS Guideline development training	Completed											
(2) NMHSs, DRR and Agriculture sectors, RCC Consortium members participation at the WMO Kick-off workshop on regional UIPs	Completed											
(3) Development of the Pacific regional UIP based on WMO UIP Guidelines					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(4) Review and update of the PRSCS 2017-2026	X	X	X	X								
Activity 1.2 – Establish/strengthen and promote the use of the Regional User Interface Platforms (UIPs) for selected priority sector (s)												
(1) Review of institutional arrangements for climate services and other related platforms					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(2) Annual face-to-face and online PICOFS					X						X	
(3) Review of existing Pacific regional platforms of CSIS to include Pacific regional agriculture and DRR sectors												X
Activity 1.3 - Establish/strengthen and promote the use of the National User Interface Platforms (UIPs) for selected priority sector (s)												
(1) NCOFs in Kiribati and Samoa	X	X				X						X
(2) Survey to establish needs of DRR and agriculture and mapping of gaps and needs in Kiribati and Samoa				X	X	X	X					
(3) Mainstreaming DRR and agriculture into National UIP/NCOFs in Samoa and Kiribati	X	X				X						X
(4) Development of DRR and agriculture tailored climate information products for Samoa and Kiribati								X	X	X	X	X
Activity 1.4 - Impact of the service at user level and effectiveness of UIP to collect user feedback is assessed in an organised manner and should feed the UIP and the service development cycle												
(1) Methodology/tool to monitor and report on use of climate information and products						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(2) Assessment of added value of climate information provided by NMHSs to agriculture and DRR sectors										X	X	X
(3) Survey and assessment of effectiveness of national and regional UIPs and tailored national and regional products											X	X
OUTPUT 2 - Provision of climate services at Regional and National level is effectively guaranteed and secured												
Activity 2.1 – Enhance RCC Capacities to produce, deliver and improve Climate Services through Climate Services Information Systems at regional level												
(1) Review of appropriate mechanisms to enhance operation of Pacific RCC and development of framework to operationalise identified mechanisms. Development of Pacific RCC Implementation Plan						X						
(2) Development of methodology to evaluate models for objective seasonal climate forecast			X	X		X						
(3) WMO-led training, training of RCC Members on the development of methodologies to generate and produce regionally focussed high-resolution products; development of guidelines and methodologies to guide development of standardised climate products												X
(4) Upgrade to the Pacific RCC website	X	X	X	X		X						
Activity 2.2 – Facilitate Implementation and Coordination of the Climate Services Information System (CSIS)												
(1) Regional workshop on CSIS and CST (WMO-led) supported by the Action												X

(2) Deploy and customise the CST in Kiribati												X
(3) Trainings for Kiribati and Samoa NMHS on CST												X
(4) National workshops for sectors in Kiribati and Samoa on the interpretation and application of climate information												X
Activity 2.3 – Ensure the adaptation of the e-station (climate) 2.0 and relevant training for the data reception, processing, and visualisation at the regional and national level												
(1) Assessment of capability of pilot NMHS and SPREP PCCC resources and infrastructure to host e-Station				X								
(2) Implement recommendations from the assessment report						X						
(3) Acquire two e-Stations, install and commission	X	X	X	X								
(4) Participation of NMHSs at JRC-led training on e-Stations and regional training on use of e-Station data/outputs										X	X	X
(5) Promote awareness of e-Station and its benefits to the Pacific region												X
Activity 2.4 - Established and Improved Climate Data Management Systems (CDMS)												
(1) International workshop on open source CDMS; Regional and national trainings for NMHSs on IT scripting and programming; development of database of trained NMHSs on IT scripting and programming							X	X	X	X	X	X
(2) Assessment of how to ingest hydrological data into CliDE; demonstration of integration through training for NMHSs and follow up reviews of the capacity of NMHSs to integrate hydrological data.						X	X	X	X			
(3) Investigation of potential to host MNHSs data and implementation of recommendations					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 2.5 - Thematic Priority to define Regional thematic products for Climate Services supported												
(1) Training workshop on thematic priorities organised by the JRC; Collection of feedback on tailored products and services through regional and national UIPs; Implementation of recommendations of feedback analysis report.												X
(2) Case studies and training demonstrating the application of climate science to support decision making focusing on cash crops in selected Pacific countries												X
(3) Drought early warning information systems in the context of drought preparedness and mitigation developed Samoa, Kiribati, and two other countries to be selected.							X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 2.6 - Development and Demonstration of a National Climate Services Production Chain												
(1) Engagement of National Technical Project Officers in Samoa and Kiribati	Done											
(2) Assessment of capacity gaps across six components of climate services value chain, conduct trainings and establish national climate services value chains								X	X			
OUTPUT 3 - Access to Climate Information is improved												
Activity 3.1- Assess the impact of existing gaps in climate observing networks on the produced climate services by programme and invest in ground infrastructure to improve such services												
(1) Assessment of data gaps in observation networks conducted and improvements to the observation infrastructure	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(2) Regional trainings workshop for NMHSs on data observation and communication; instrumentation maintenance and calibration and IT relating to observation communication systems											X	X
Activity 3.2 - Ensure RCCs and NMHS operational access to climate information made available at global level by international partners (Copernicus, ECMWF, EUMETSAT, others) improved												
(1) Attachments of 4 officers from SPREP, SPC and 2 NMHSs to EUMETSAT/ECMWF	YEAR 5											
(2) Tailoring of Copernicus and EUMETSAT products for use by the Pacific NMHSs and RCC Nodes and training and mentoring on use of these products	YEAR 5											

Activity 3.3 – Define and consolidate requirements for user driven services and provide feedback to international data providers												
(1) SPREP support to WMO in coordinating in-situ assessment of Pacific RCC nodes and implementation of recommendations												X
Activity 3.4 – Ensure Pacific RCC have operational access to existing climate information produced at national level through NMHS, including data rescue (recovery and digitisation)												
(1) Data rescue and digitisation of hydro-Climatic data and trainings on data homogenisation techniques for Tonga, Samoa, Kiribati and Nauru												X
(2) Development of hydro databases in Samoa, Kiribati, Tonga and Nauru	YEAR 5											
Activity 3.5 - Methods and tools for observational datasets and model inter-comparison at the regional scale to RCCs provided (WMO & JRC lead)												
(1) Participation at 2 workshops on model inter-comparison and state of the art methods for seasonal forecasting; and regional training on objection seasonal forecasting.	YEAR 5											
OUTPUT 4 – Capacity of Pacific region is enhanced to generate and apply climate information and products relevant to particular concerns												
Activity 4.1 – Develop and implement Pacific-wide capacity building plan for climate services value chain												
(1) Review and updating of Pacific regional capacity development plan								X	X	X	X	
(2) Implementation of the immediate priority needs based on the updated capacity development plan												X
Activity 4.2 – Organise Intra-ACP Climate Services ACP yearly fora (ACP & WMO Lead)												
(1) Participation at annual Intra-ACP Climate Services forum	X											
Activity 4.3 – Setup a dedicated information platform/portal to exchange best practice, make information available for specific need and encourage cooperation between the region												
(1) Development and submission of best practice, newsworthy materials and lessons learned from the Pacific via the information platform to be developed by OACPS Secretariat and WMO	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Activity 4.4 - Masters scholarship programme for Pacific students established												
(1) Masters scholarship programme						X	X	X	X	X	X	X
OUTPUT 5 - Climate-informed decision-making is enhanced and climate services are mainstreamed into policy processes at regional and national levels												
Activity 5.1 - Communications and knowledge management for effective climate services. (ACP & EUMETSAT Lead)												
(1) Finalise Actions communication and visibility plan	DONE (LIVING DOCUMENT)											
(2) Implementation of the Action's communication and visibility plan	X	X	X	X		X						X
(3) Pacific participation at biennial EUMETSAT forum and other relevant global and regional forums e.g. UNFCCC COP, Pacific Resilience Meeting	YEAR 5											
Activity 5.2 - Climate services are mainstreamed into national and regional policies and programmes.												
(1) Promote and showcasing of mainstreaming climate services	X	X	X	X		X						X
(2) Sub-regional and national media trainings					X							
Activity 5.3 - Bring added-value to climate services through integration of socio-economic elements, analytical components and visualization tools												
(1) Impact assessment of the outputs/activities of the Action to identify the successes, best practices and learning							X	X	X	X	X	X

Annex II

Kiribati NCOF Report 2024

3rd Global ClimSA Forum Report

Fiji DARE Concept Note

Fiji DARE Project

Pacific AA Regional Workshop Report 2024

Pacific EW4All-WRP Meeting Report 2024

PICOF 13 Report

PICOF 14 Report

PMC 6 Report

PMMM 3 Report

Samoa AWS Request

Sustainable Tourism Regional Consultation Report 2024

Tonga ClimSA Support Overview

WMO Assessment Report