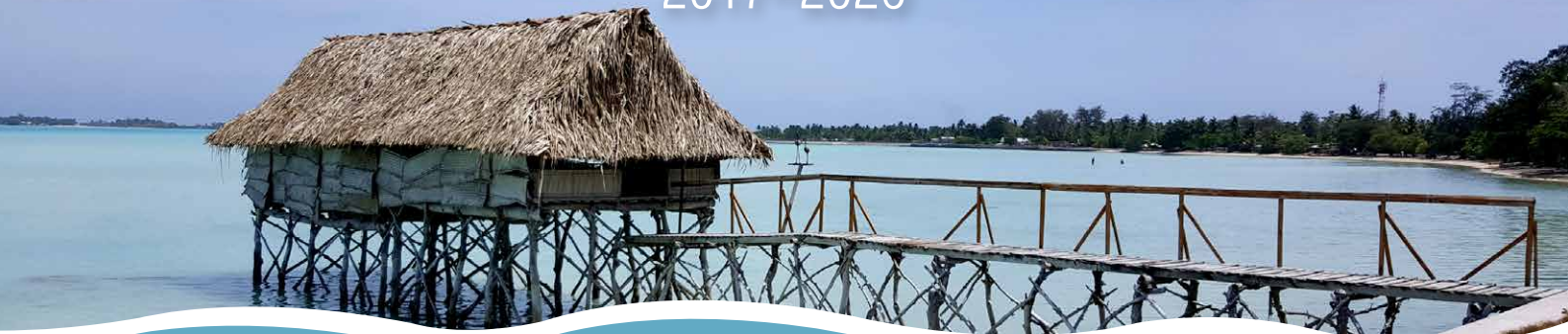


# PACIFIC ISLANDS METEOROLOGY STRATEGY (PIMS)

## 2017–2026



Healthy, resilient communities rely on accurate information, early warning, and a solid understanding of climate and weather patterns from a national team they trust.

The Pacific Islands Meteorological Strategy 2017–2026 provides the development priorities of the Pacific Island National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs). PIMS sets out the strategic context and direction for strengthening NMHSs.

### VISION OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS METEOROLOGY STRATEGY 2017–2026

**National Meteorological and Hydrological Services of the Pacific island countries and territories provide relevant weather, climate, water and ocean services to their people to make informed decisions for their safety, socio-economic well-being, prosperity and sustainable livelihoods.**

### Serving Pacific People

The PIMS is produced by the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC). The PMC supports the people of the Pacific region with essential weather, climate, hydrological and ocean services, and is the primary custodian of the PIMS together with the regional and international partners to strengthen and sustain these services.

### Supporting partner engagement

The clear presentation of ocean, climate, hydrological, and meteorology priorities of Pacific island countries guides efficient, effective collaborative efforts. PIMS 2017–2026 can help development partners connect with countries to reach shared goals.

### National Meteorological and Hydrological Services in action

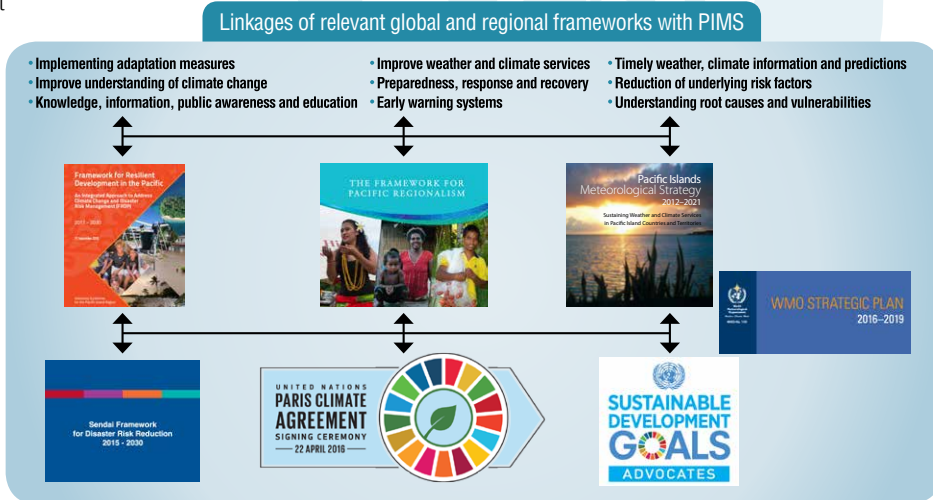
PIMS 2017–2026 also assists Meteorological Directors demonstrate the value of their NMHSs' work in providing essential services to national governments, businesses, and communities and in contributing to regional and international goals.

Some of these services provide essential contributions to aviation, marine and public weather services as well as disaster risk reduction and climate services. There is a growing need to include NMHSs in climate change adaptation policy and implementation.

Action is required to enable NMHSs to meet their mandates and serve their nations effectively. PIMS 2017–2026 outlines priority resourcing and capacity building measures, based on regional and national consultation and consensus.

With added support, NMHSs will be able to meet the growing demands for improved weather, climate, water and ocean services that serve their people and environment, contribute to socio-economic development, and fulfil the PMC member countries' commitments and obligations under relevant regional and international agreements, conventions, and the Sustainable Development Goals.

#### Linkages of relevant global and regional frameworks with PIMS



## PIMS 2017–2026 objectives

- Guide national governments to support NMHSs through national efforts;
- Guide action to meet NMHS priorities through strengthened coordination;
- Guide NMHSs toward critical activities to build or strengthen capacity and planning and to implement national projects;
- Guide donors and partners to focus on priority capacity building activities and transfer of technology identified by NMHSs and delivered either bilaterally or through regional approaches; and
- Guide the PMC and Pacific Meteorological Desk Partnership (PMDP) with respect to sustaining priority actions at the regional level.

## FIVE PRIORITY AREAS

Priority key outcomes (PKO) in the five priority areas to grow Pacific services, defined in consultation with national and regional users.

### **PRIORITY 1: IMPROVED WEATHER SERVICES**

#### **PKO 1: Improved aviation weather services**

Through technology, stakeholder engagement, and partnerships.

#### **PKO 2: Improved marine weather services and establishment of ocean services**

Through observation, communication and forecasting systems, with capable staff and supportive frameworks.

#### **PKO 3: Improved public weather services**

Accurate and useful to all, delivered by confident and capable forecasters and advisors.

### **PRIORITY 3: IMPROVED CLIMATE AND HYDROLOGICAL SERVICES**

#### **PKO 6: Improved climate information and prediction services**

Through the implementation of the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services at the national and regional level.

#### **PKO 7: Strengthen collaboration between meteorological and hydrological services to better manage water resources and reduce the impact of water related hazards**

With response to climate variability and change.

### **PRIORITY 2: DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

#### **PKO 4: Strengthened NHMSs capacity to implement Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems**

With clear roles and responsibility for effective detection, monitoring, mapping, forecasting, and informing for prepared communities, equipped with traditional and innovative knowledge.

#### **PKO 5: NHMSs contribution to climate change activities**

Including national climate change plans, policies and forums as well as research.

### **PRIORITY 4: INTEGRATED OBSERVING AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS**

#### **PKO 8: Integrated observing and communication systems**

With broad network coverage, Pacific capacity for use and long-term maintenance, and integration with existing observing systems

### **PRIORITY 5: COORDINATED SUPPORT FOR NMHSs and PMC**

#### **PKO 9: NMHSs institutional strengthening and capacity development**

Through effective governance, communication, knowledge management and financial management using training and technology.

#### **PKO 10: Support to NHMSs is coordinated**

For donors and technical agencies interacting with NHMSs and regional agencies.

#### **PKO 11: PMC is efficient and effective via partnerships, inclusivity, and consideration of staff safety, with funding support.**

## Pacific Islands Meteorology Strategy as a guide

PIMS 2017–2026 is a guide for the NMHSs, their governments, technical agencies in the region, and development partners about what is required to enable their steady provision of essential weather, climate, water and ocean services.

WEATHER SERVICES	CLIMATE SERVICES
<p>Many NMHSs in the region operate with poor infrastructure and with staffing constraints. Meteorology services are well developed in most Pacific countries and territories, while the rest rely on external support to provide basic services. Communication to communities and other user groups requires strengthening. In addition to training in technical areas, NMHSs would welcome public financial management and IT training.</p>	<p>As highly qualified collectors and analysers of national and local climate data, NMHSs have a thorough understanding of climate processes and change and of the practical implications for their countries. NMHSs work with other national agencies responsible for adaptation planning, aid coordination, disaster preparedness and risk reduction, and to international advocacy and negotiation. The value of their expertise and local knowledge should be reflected in the allocation of funding for climate change data collection and analysis and adaptation planning.</p>
HYDROLOGY SERVICES <b>NEW!</b>	OCEAN SERVICES
<p>In May 2017, it was agreed that a priority Pacific Key Outcome on Hydrology would be added to PIMS to support the needs of NMHSs for drought and flood forecasting.</p> <p>Priority needs include data management and sharing, technical support, downscaling modelling on water resource uses, and integration of climate science in water resource planning.</p>	<p>In many Pacific island countries and territories, there is no official purveyor of ocean information, and enquiries are directed to the NMHS. Through climate projects such as COSPPac<sup>1</sup>, tools on ocean climate information for sectors as diverse as tourism, fisheries and shipping have been made available and are being disseminated via NMHSs. PIMS has identified ocean services as a long-term goal. Technical skills for ocean services are a priority.</p>

## Strategy to boost inclusion

Communication with communities remains challenging: Pacific meteorologists and climatologists have established relationships with other technical agencies but struggle to present information in ways accessible to more general audiences. This has consequences in particular for the access of women and vulnerable groups to climate and weather information. PIMS 2017–2026 sets out action areas to strengthen inclusive NMHS services following demonstrated successes.

## Monitoring and evaluation

PIMS 2017–2026 sets out monitoring and evaluation processes that assist countries to meet existing reporting requirements under regional and global agreements. Actions using the PIMS will therefore have additional, external benefits.

Regional monitoring and evaluation will be conducted through the agreed implementation plan with the assistance of the PMDP Secretariat. The PMDP Secretariat will also report on the activities of the PMDP itself. The PMDP will coordinate with NMHSs to provide a biennial report of progress toward the key outcomes.

Climate services will be monitored through the Pacific Roadmap for Strengthened Climate Services and its corresponding implementation plan.

## Managing the PIMS

SPREP and WMO (the Pacific Meteorology Desk Partnership) provide secretariat services for the PMC and manage the publication and revision of the PIMS, its main policy document. The PIMS is reviewed every five years to ensure alignment with Pacific priorities. The last review was in 2017.

<sup>1</sup> Climate and Ocean Support Programme for the Pacific

## Institutional arrangements for Pacific meteorology services

