Investment Phase:
Annual Narrative Report

Solomon Islands
Year 1

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility



Weather
and climate
data for
resilience

General Information

Country	Solomon Islands	
Implementing Entity	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	
Agreement effectiveness date	01 July 2024	
Duration	60 Months	
Anticipated end date	01 July 2029	
Reporting period	**From:** 01 March 2024	**To:** 31 March 2025
Approved amount	USD 8,488,524 Per participating UN entity: UNDP – USD 7,916,074 WMO – USD 572,450	
Disbursed amount	USD 5,732,049 Per participating UN entity: UNDP – 5,541,252 WMO – USD 190,798	
Signature of Implementing Entity	Ms. Raluca Eddon, PhD Deputy Resident Representative UNDP Solomon Islands Date: April 30, 2025	

Summary

Highlight main achievements during the reporting period, lessons learned, and any relevant information.
Upon funding request approval, the SOFF Solomon Islands Investment Phase officially started on July 1, 2024, under the project name Advancing Meteorological Observations Network for Resilient Development (AMOS-RD). SOFF Solomon Islands Investment Phase is a five-year, $8.2m initiative supporting the Solomon Islands Meteorological Services (SIMS) department under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM), with UNDP as the Implementing Entity and the Bureau of Meteorology Australia (BOM) as the project's peer advisor. In the reporting period between July 1, 2024 and March 31, 2025, UNDP and its partners have made the following progress: • In August 2024, conducted the Local Project Appraisal Committee meeting focused on introducing the project to relevant stakeholders and collectively discussing priorities and opportunities for the planned implementation phase; • In February 2025, organized the official project signing ceremony. The event included signing of the project document by the Permanent Secretary of MECDM and the UNDP Pacific Office Resident Representative; • Conducted several planning meetings between UNDP, SOFF Secretariat, BOM, and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office discussing implementation strategy, priorities, milestones and timeline; • Recruited members of the project management unit (PMU), including the Technical Specialist, Civil Engineer and Project Associate. National Project Manager is expected to join in early May 2025; • Prepared annual work plan for 2025 outlining expenditure projections for the year, including plans to commission construction works and instrumentation equipment for all surface and upper-air stations targeted under the project; In 2025, UNDP and its partners are prioritizing fast-tracking the project implementation, with procurement of the weather observation equipment, services and construction works as the key priorities. Additionally, the project plans to conduct several basic observation and specialized trainings for SIMS staff at both national and provincial level. The trainings will be delivered jointly by SIMS and BOM.

Progress of implementation

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
1. GBON institutional and human capacity developed														
1.1 **National and provincial consultations**, including with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders conducted	# of consultation workshops and % of female participants attendance in each workshop	6 10%	6 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track	Planned for Q2-Q4 2025 (2 national & 4 provincial)	Current gender balance at SIMS heavily skewed toward male (only 5 women out of 62 staff)
1.2 **NMHS institutional capacity** required to operate the GBON network developed	# of staff trained	10	10	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	On-track	Planned for Q2-Q4 2025	Lack of interest from SIMS staff, unplanned staff turnover or access and logistical challenges
1.3 **NMHS human capacity** required to operate the GBON network developed	# of specialized staff trained	5	10	10	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	On-track	Planned for Q2-Q4 2025	Same as above
2. GBON infrastructure in place														
2.1 **New land-based stations** and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations upgraded to GBON standards and shared internationally	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track		Delayed procurement of instrumentation equipment; operations & maintenance issues
2.2 **New upper air stations** and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new GBON-compliant upper-air stations constructed, operating and internationally sharing data	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track		Same as above
3. Sustained compliance with GBON														
3.1 **GBON land-based stations' commissioning period completed**, country-specific standard cost for operations and	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track		O&M issues, SIMS staff turnover

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority														
3.2 **GBON upper air stations' commissioning period completed**, country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established, and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track		O&M issues, SIMS staff turnover

Gender

Please indicate how the Gender Policy of your organization (Implementing Entity) was applied to SOFF Operations.

Gender mainstreaming considerations in AMOS-RD will be guided by UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy 2022 – 2025 and will form an integral part of relevant project components. The project's gender mainstreaming lens will involve the following components:

(1) Development of Gender Gap Analysis and Gender Action Plan: This activity focuses on identifying gender disparities and creating actionable plans to integrate gender considerations into the SOFF initiatives.

(2) Partnerships Strengthening with CSOs and Private Sector: Collaborating with civil society organizations and private sector entities can help ensure gender-sensitive approaches are adopted.

Where possible, AMOS-RD outputs include gender markers that measure the degree to which the project invests in gender equality and women's empowerment.

The project will also strengthen collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Youth, Children and Family Affairs (WMYCFA) to support gender-sensitive approaches across relevant project components.

Ultimately, AMOS-RD will seek to enhance availability of timely and action-oriented climate information to build resilience of people from marginalized backgrounds to the impacts of extreme weather events.

Social and environmental safeguards

Please indicate how environmental and social safeguards standards are observed in the execution of activities.

The AMOS-RD project will observe environmental and social safeguard standards by implementing a comprehensive Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and adhering to targeted assessments such as geotechnical evaluations at the sites selected for rehabilitation of existing surface stations and construction of new upper-air stations.

The project will also ensure compliance with national and international environmental regulations, promote resilient infrastructure design, and establish safe practices for fuel transportation and storage. Social safeguards will include tailored training programs to enhance gender equality, a grievance redress mechanism to address community concerns, and strict enforcement of codes of conduct to prevent gender-based violence. Regular monitoring, stakeholder engagement, and adaptive

management will ensure transparency, accountability, and minimal environmental and social risks throughout the project lifecycle.

Civil society and private sector participation

Please indicate any engagements to date with civil society and private sector during Investment Phase implementation.

The AMOS-RD project will ensure engagement with civil society and the private sector through structured stakeholder consultations, collaboration with local women's organizations, NGOs, and community groups, and active involvement of private sector entities such as certified fuel transporters and aviation/maritime industries. It will foster open dialogue to incorporate community input into project planning, provide training opportunities, and establish transparent grievance mechanisms. Regular progress meetings and compliance reports will maintain active engagement, ensuring shared ownership and alignment with project objectives.

Complementary financing and leverage

Please indicate any complementarity with ongoing and future projects/programmes with other climate funds.

AMOS-RD will seek complementarity with the following initiatives:

(1) **Weather Ready Pacific (WRP).** The WRP programme is a Pacific-led initiative which aims to enhance the resilience of the Pacific region by helping countries adapt to the impacts of climate change, while reducing the human and economic toll of severe weather, water, and ocean-related events.

(2) **Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac).** Funded by the Australian Government, COSPPac supports the Solomon Islands by providing climate and ocean information, capacity building, and data monitoring systems to enhance resilience against climate variability and tidal events. They also engage communities to integrate traditional knowledge with scientific data, ensuring relevant and accessible information.

(3) **Advancing Climate Services in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ClimSA).** Initiative of the Organisation of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) funded under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) to strengthen the climate services value chain. ClimSA supports the Solomon Islands by promoting sustainable development, enhancing international cooperation, and providing capacity-building programs. They also advocate for

the Solomon Islands' interests on global platforms and support climate action initiatives to help mitigate and adapt to climate change.

(4) **CREWS Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) 3.0.** The project's objective is to scale up people-centred and end-to-end multi-hazard early warning systems across the region building on outcomes, results and lessons learnt from CREWS investments phase 1 and 2. Over the next four years, this USD 5.6 million project will strengthen resilience across 14 Pacific SIDS, home to more than 2.3 million people.

(5) **Early Warning for All (EW4All).** UNDP will leverage the parallel GCF-funded EW4ALL project in Fiji to collaborate across all pillars of the EW4ALL initiative, including weather observations and forecasting.

Implementation of grievance redress mechanism

If applicable, please provide description of any issues or complaints received, along with the current status of their resolution.

The project's grievance redress mechanism (GRM) will provide accessible and transparent channels for reporting concerns, including phone hotlines, in-person reporting points, and community representatives, ensuring anonymity for complainants. It will address grievances promptly, maintain trust with stakeholders, and include tailored components to handle gender-based violence and other sensitive issues effectively.

Success stories

Please share any success stories and links to news and publications relevant to Investment Phase implementation.

Project signing ceremony, Honiara, February 2025. AMOS RD Project to Transform Weather Monitoring in Solomon Islands | United Nations Development Programme