Systematic Observations Financing Facility

Investment Phase:
Annual Narrative Report

Solomon Islands
Year 2

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility



Weather and climate data for resilience

General Information

Country	Solomon Islands	
Implementing Entity	UNDP	
Agreement effectiveness date	18 June 2024	
Duration	60	
Anticipated end date	18 June 2029	
Reporting period	**From:** 01 January 2025	**To:** 31 December 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 – USD 5,541,252 WMO – USD 190,798	
Signature of Implementing Entity		

Summary

As of December 31, 2025, UNDP and its partners continued implementation of the Advancing Meteorological Observation Systems for Resilient Development (AMOS-RD)[1] project across all workstreams. The **progress** and **achievements** are summarized below:

- As of December 2025, **land transfers** to the Solomon Islands Meteorological Service (SIMS) in Tulagi, Taro and Lata were approved by the respective provincial governments pending final sign-off by the Commissioner of Lands. The site in Makira has already been registered under SIMS.
- **National stocktake of meteorological equipment** was finalized by SIMS with the support from AMOS-RD. The final report informed procurement of the specialized meteorological equipment for land-based and upper-air stations.
- **Ten (10) junior SIMS staff completed a six-month training** under the WMO-accredited Basic Instruction Package for Meteorological Technicians (BIP-MT). The training was a pre-requisite for the new staff to take up their duties as observers and technicians at SIMS provincial offices nationwide.
- **Preparatory works** for the planned construction of three (3) new upper stations and rehabilitation of the SIMS provincial station in Kira Kira were completed. This included a preliminary technical feasibility study, environmental impact assessment, topography and cadastral surveys, and an unexploded ordnance assessment.
- **Engineering and architectural designs** led by NAL Engineers Inc. were ongoing. The civil works tender is planned for Q2 and start of construction in Q3 2026.
- UNDP finalized the contract with Campbell Scientific Inc to purchase **equipment for the upgrade of existing land-based stations,** including a set of manual instruments, spare parts and post-installation services. Procurement of the specialized upper-air technology was scheduled for Q1 2026.

The following **lessons learnt** were presented at the AMOS-RD Project Steering Committee meeting in November 2025:

- Insufficient **funds for travel and logistics** limit the operational capacity of SIMS and should be reflected in the project's resource allocation and beyond in the SOFF Compliance Phase.
- Provisions for **unexploded ordnance** surveys and the potential cost of clearance are a crucial part of pre-construction preparatory works specific to the Solomon Islands context.

[1] Official project name for the SOFF Investment Phase used by UNDP and its partners.

- Utilization of UNDP's **long-term agreements** with pre-negotiated, competitive commercial terms for meteorological goods and services has significantly shortened procurement lead times and allowed UNDP to fast-track implementation.
- Market analysis and cooperation with other international organizations, such as the World Bank Group, on **vetting local suppliers and contractors** will be utilized to bring in business partners with adequate capacities and know-how.

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 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	5 30%	12 n/a	-	-	-	Achieved	4 provincial consultative meetings for the environmental impact assessment, UXO survey & upper-air design works	
1.2 **NMHS institutional capacity** required to operate the GBON network developed	# of staff trained	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	Achieved	10 new SIMS staff completed a six-month, WMO-accredited Basic Instruction Package for Meteorological Technicians (BIP-MT)	
1.3 **NMHS human capacity** required to operate the GBON network developed	# of specialized staff trained	5	10*	0	0	0	0	10	-	-	-	Achieved	Part of the same training program under A1.2 *Cumulative targets	
2. GBON infrastructure in place														
2.2 **Improved land-based stations** and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	On track	Preparatory work completed Purchase order to source automatic weather stations, manual equipment and services processed with Campbell Scientific Australia	
2.3 **New upper air stations** and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	On track	Pre-design assessments completed Engineering and architectural designs ongoing	
3. Sustained compliance with GBON														
3.1 **GBON land-based stations' commissioning period completed**, country-specific standard	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	0	8	8	0	0	-	-	-	On track		

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
cost for operations and 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	-	-	-	On track		

Gender

Gender mainstreaming considerations in AMOS-RD have been guided by UNDP's Gender Equality Strategy 2022 – 2025.

In Q4-2025, UNDP commissioned an **expert study to analyse gender, social inclusion (GESI) and protection risks** relevant to the AMOS-RD project. The study was completed in February 2026 and **includes a costed Implementation Roadmap** that aims to prevent sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH) throughout the construction cycle.

Highlights from the GESI and SEAH risk analysis are presented below:

- The project operates in a high-risk environment for SEAH due to entrenched gender inequality, economic vulnerability, and weak protective infrastructure in the Solomon Islands.
- Key recommendations for project management include implementing strict contractual safeguards, such as mandatory Codes of Conduct, age verification for workers, and formalized hiring and payment processes. Physical safeguards like gender-separated accommodations, solar lighting, and buddy systems for women should be prioritized.
- A community-embedded detection mechanism, such as hiring a female liaison officer, is critical for monitoring and addressing SEAH risks.
- Leveraging existing community structures like the Provincial Women's Councils and Family Support Centres can enhance awareness and monitoring. Proactive and resourced safeguarding measures are vital to prevent the project from exacerbating existing inequalities and SEAH risks.

Key **recommendations** in the SEAH Implementation Roadmap include:

- Mandatory SEAH compliance for contractors
- Comprehensive worker training
- Robust reporting and response mechanisms
- Community engagement through advisory committees
- Strict enforcement of zero-tolerance policies for SEAH violations.

The roadmap emphasizes accountability, confidentiality, and protection against retaliation to build community trust and ensure project safety.

Social and environmental safeguards

The project follows UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards as articulated in the Social and Environmental Sustainability Plan that was endorsed by the Project Steering Committee in November 2025.

The following social/environmental risks and mitigation strategy have been applied by the project:

Risk	Mitigation measures & status
Vulnerability to natural hazards	Environment and Social Management Plan (ESMP) developed as part of the project's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). ESMP includes guidance on natural hazard monitoring and has informed the engineering and architectural design of the planned upper-air stations to bolster resilience to extreme weather and structural integrity.
Construction-related environmental degradation	ESMP provides guidance on a safe disposal of hazardous material, sewage system standards and options for local upcycling.
Low participation of women in project activities	Stakeholder engagement plan developed as part of the EIA alongside the SEAH Implementation Roadmap. Three (3) female technicians were recruited and trained by SIMS as part of the six-month BIP-MT program.
Risk of gender-based violence	GESI and SEAH risk analysis and SEAH Implementation Roadmap provide both a detailed assessment of risks and a set of mitigation strategies to be followed during the construction cycle – from tendering to field construction monitoring. Minimum requirements for a functional grievance redress mechanism are also available.
Stakeholder ownership	Stakeholder engagement plan developed under EIA and regular coordination with key stakeholders have been applied across all project activities.
Occupational safety hazards	Covered under ESMP and will be highlighted in initial orientation with the general contractor.
Unexploded ordnances (UXOs)	Four (4) UXO assessments were carried out in Q4-2025 by a specialized local

	company. All project sites have been cleared for construction.

Civil society and private sector participation

The GESI and SEAH analysis involved extensive consultations with civil society in Makira-Ulawa province. This included interviews with representatives of the Provincial Women's Council, the Family Support Center, and local youth, women groups and church leaders. These groups were identified as existing structures that could be leveraged for safeguarding measures during the project's implementation.

Private sector engagement involved commissioning NAL Engineers to lead design works for the planned upper-air stations and SIMS staff facility in Makira. UNDP also largely finalized the contract with Campbell Scientific Australia for sourcing six (6) automated weather stations, six (6) sets of manual equipment and recommended spare parts, and a long-term service support package to be provided by Campbell Scientific for the lifetime of the project (and possibly beyond).

Furthermore, specialized local companies were contracted to lead expert assessments such as UXO surveys, topography and cadastral mapping, and EIA.

Complementary financing and leverage

AMOS-RD has sought complementary approach with several ongoing initiatives:

- **Twinning Program.** In March 2025, the Australian-funded partnership between BOM and SIMS prioritized several existing manual station sites to be upgraded to semi-automated weather stations. UNDP/AMOS-RD and BOM have coordinated this process to ensure the Twinning station locations do not overlap with the sites prioritized under AMOS-RD.
- **Australia-Pacific Partnership for Aviation (P4A).** Led by BOM, a new Automated Weather Observing System (AWOS) is being installed at the Munda Aerodrome.

  As a result, UNDP decided not to instal the automated weather station (AWS) originally planned for Munda to avoid duplication and promote efficiency. UNDP and BOM teams have coordinated this process and will ensure that the data from the new AWOS will be ingested into the SIMS data management system (CliDE) and exchanged via WIS2 as per the GBON requirements and the National Contribution Plan.

  Furthermore, earlier in August 2025, P4A with technical support from BOM upgraded the AWOS at Henderson airport in Honiara, Guadalcanal province. Similarly to Munda, funds for the originally planned AWS under AMOS-RD have been moved to Activity 2.3 (upper-air stations).

- **Weather Ready Pacific (WRP).** UNDP coordinates closely with SIMS and BOM who have been involved in several regional initiatives under WRP. A key priority for 2026 will be to harmonize the AMOS-RD and WRP approaches to implement WIS2 in Solomon Islands. Currently, conversations about WIS2 and related topics have been ongoing between WRP and SOFF Geneva with WRP working on early design concepts for the WIS2 in the Pacific. UNDP will continue to work with BOM and WRP in a complementary approach and provide support through AMOS-RD where required.
- **Solomon Islands Roads and Aviation Project 2 (SIRAP 2).** The World Bank-managed project plans to construct a new Air Traffic Control Tower and an Aviation Complex Building at Henderson airport in Honiara, including a new AWOS. Data from the AWOS will be available to SIMS and the national aviation authorities. AMOS-RD and SIRAP 2 management have agreed to work together to ensure that the new AWOS data are ingested into CliDE and thus serve as another important data observation point shareable within the global GBON network.

Furthermore, AMOS-RD management coordinates with the following weather and climate initiatives in the Pacific:

- Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac)
- Advancing Climate Services in Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ClimSA)
- CREWS Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) 3.0
- Early Warning for All (EW4ALL) – UNDP participated in the EW4ALL Roadmap validation in October 2025. The Roadmap is now pending final government endorsement

Implementation of grievance redress mechanism

As part of the GESI and SEAH implementation roadmap and risk analysis, an implementation plan for the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was developed based on the following pincipals:

- Survivor-Centered: Survivor's rights, needs, and wishes guide all actions
- Confidential: Information shared only on need-to-know basis
- Safe: No retaliation against those who report
- Accessible: Multiple channels available to all community members
- Responsive: Timely acknowledgment and action on all complaints
- Accountable: Clear responsibilities and escalation pathways

This implementation plan highlights several potential reporting channels given in the following table, as well as several reporting pathways for different grievances:

Channel	Details	Accessibility Features

Hotline	[Number to be assigned] 24/7 availability Toll-free	Pijin and English operators; can request callback; anonymous option available
WhatsApp	[Number to be assigned] Text, voice, or image	Good for areas with limited phone network; allows documentation; can use voice notes
Email	[Email to be assigned] Monitored daily	Allows detailed written accounts; attachment capability; audit trail
Complaint Box	Locations: [site-specific] Checked daily Locked with dual keys or code lock	Anonymous; no phone/literacy required; accessible locations; forms available in multiple formats
In-Person (COW)	Name: [to be assigned] Schedule: [location-specific]	Face-to-face support; can assist with documentation; trained in trauma-informed approach
Community Leaders or CAC members	Designated trained leaders Varies by community	Trusted local option; familiar to community; can provide cultural mediation

Pathway A: PSEAH Allegations (Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, Harassment)

1. Immediate (within 24 hours): Acknowledge receipt; ensure survivor safety; provide information on support services; obtain consent for any actions; refer to health/psychosocial services if needed
2. Assessment (within 48 hours): Conduct initial risk assessment; determine if interim protective measures needed; decide on investigation approach; notify project safeguarding lead
3. Investigation (timeframe varies): If appropriate, initiate investigation per protocol; coordinate with authorities as required; maintain confidentiality throughout; keep survivor informed (with consent)
4. Resolution: Implement disciplinary measures; provide survivor with outcome information; document lessons learned; close case with survivor consent

Pathway B: Other Complaints (Non-PSEAH)

1. Acknowledge receipt within 48 hours
2. Categorize and assign to appropriate responsible party
3. Investigate/address within 14 days
4. Provide complainant with response
5. Close case and document

Survivor Support Services

Referral partnerships should be established with the following services prior to construction:

For these, IOM GBV referral pathways can be used and updated to include:

- Health services: [Local health facility name and contact]

- Psychosocial support: [Provider name and contact]
- Legal assistance: [Provider name and contact]
- Police assistance (dpt. focusing on GBV): [Provider name and contact]
- Safe shelter: [Provider name and contact if available]
- Livelihood support: [Provider name and contact if available]

Service mapping should be completed for each project site and included in the COW's referral directory.

Confidentiality and Data Protection

- All complaint information stored in password-protected systems with restricted access
- Paper documents kept in locked cabinets with controlled access log
- Information shared only on strict need-to-know basis
- Survivor consent required before sharing any identifying information
- Reports to stakeholders anonymized and aggregated
- Data retention: 5 years following project completion, then secure destruction

Protection Against Retaliation

The project guarantees:

- No complainant will face adverse consequences for making a good-faith report
- Retaliation against complainants or witnesses is itself a sanctionable offense
- Complainants can request enhanced protection measures
- Anonymous reporting options available for those concerned about identification
- Regular monitoring for any signs of retaliation

Success stories

In Quarter 4 of 2025, AMOS-RD onboarded a Communications Specialist under the International UN Volunteer modality to support visibility efforts following project inception. This early integration uniquely positioned the project to embed communications at the outset, demonstrating the critical role of sustained storytelling, documentation, and outreach in strengthening project visibility and engagement.

As a result, three feature stories were produced, capturing grounded, community-level impact and project progress. These were published across UNDP platforms, generating strong social media engagement and further amplified through regional

channels, including UNDP and SOFF newsletters, as well as coverage in a national newspaper in Solomon Islands.

Beyond publications, a content library of photographs and video footage has been established to support ongoing and future communication needs. The project also strengthened community engagement through participation in key events such as International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Meteorological Day, where visibility materials and exhibits contributed to increased outreach, particularly among youth audiences.

Links to Stories:

- Faces Behind Weather Forecasting: Training the Next Generation of Weather Observers in Solomon Islands
- Facebook promo
- Clearing the Path to Safer Climate Infrastructure in Solomon Islands
- SOFF Website
- NextGen Weather Watchers: Young Solomon Islanders Step into Public Service
- SOFF Website
- World Meteorological Day 2026 LinkedIn promo