



WMO OMM

World Meteorological Organization
 Organisation météorologique mondiale
 Organización Meteorológica Mundial
 Всемирная метеорологическая организация
 المنظمة العالمية للأرصاد الجوية
 世界气象组织

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22 October 2020

Subject: Assessing capacities, gaps and needs of national (multi-hazard) early warning systems in selected Pacific Island States – Introducing the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) as Implementing Partner of WMO

Action required: Nominate a Focal Point from within your National Meteorological and Hydrological Service (NMHS) to help facilitate online and in-country (face-to-face) consultations by 29 October 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) is implementing the Project *Strengthening Hydro-Meteorological and Early Warning Services in the Pacific*, known as the CREWS Pacific SIDS Project. Respective funds have been granted by the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) Financial Intermediary Fund and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) as part of its contribution to CREWS.

Under this Project, an assessment of the current capacities, gaps and needs for producing, delivering and acting on early warnings of different natural hazards is foreseen in six Pacific Island States and one Territory – Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Tuvalu, and Tokelau – to inform further on-going and planned capacity development activities in the region under various projects and programmes. The National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) of WMO Members and their global and regional WMO support mechanisms play a key role in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) along the value chain multi-hazard early warning systems (MHEWSs). Regular evaluations of organizations' and countries' respective capacities to support DRR, including multi-hazard early warnings, are an essential prerequisite to maintain and improve these capacities and showcase the socioeconomic benefits of investing in them.

I am pleased to inform you that WMO has partnered with the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) to conduct this assessment over the coming months. It will include a desk study of ongoing/recently completed MHEWS and DRR programmes and projects (including assessments) at national and regional levels, stakeholder workshops, and the preparation of a regional status report and country-specific technical briefs. While the in-country activities such as Key Informant Interviews, Focus Group Discussions and Shared Learning Dialogues would normally be face-to-face consultations, given the travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ADPC, WMO and other international colleagues will only be able to facilitate and/or participate in these events remotely (preferably via Microsoft Teams).

To: Permanent Representatives of Members with WMO (limited distribution)

cc: Hydrological Advisers

Directors of National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs); Directors of National Hydrological Services (NHSs); SPC; SPREP; UNDP Pacific Office, Fiji; UNDP MCO, Samoa; FAO Subregional Office for the Pacific Islands, Samoa; UNESCO Office for the Pacific States, Samoa; UNDRR Pacific Subregional Office, Fiji

To allow the WMO Secretariat and ADPC colleagues to plan and organize these activities, especially in these circumstances, may I request you to nominate a Focal Point from your Service/Country for this activity no later than 29 October 2020. Kindly send his/her contact details to Ms Erica Allis, (Senior Programme Manager, Email: eallis@wmo.int) with a copy to Ms Lina Sjaavik (Project Manager CREWS Pacific SIDS, Email: lsjaavik@wmo.int) and Ms Tessa Tafua, (Associate Project Support Officer, Email: ttafua@wmo.int). The following ADPC experts will then reach out to your nominated focal point: Dr Senaka Basnayake (Director Climate Resilience Department, Email: senaka_basnayake@adpc.net) and Mr Lalit Kumar Dashora (Senior Early Warning Systems Specialist, Email: lalit.dashora@adpc.net).

I appreciate your continued support for the activities under the CREWS Pacific SIDS project.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Elena Manaenkova
for the Secretary-General