

 <p><b>United Nations Development Programme</b> <b>Pacific Office</b></p>	<p><b>BACK TO OFFICE REPORT (BTOR)</b></p> <p>Submitted by: Navin Bhan Title: Associate Project Manager Date Submitted: December 9, 2019 TA Serial Number:</p>
<p>1. Practice Area: RESPAC Project, Pacific Office 2. Service Line(s): Climate Early Warning, Disaster Preparedness and Recovery</p>	
<p>3. Mission Period (incl. of travel days):</p> <p>From: 18 November 2019 To: 29 November 2019</p>	
<p>4. Type of Service/Mission</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy <input type="checkbox"/> Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Policy Advice <input type="checkbox"/> Programme / Technical Backstopping <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional Technical Consultations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training / Capacity Development <input type="checkbox"/> Others (specify):</p>	<p>5. Client(s)</p> <p>Kiribati Meteorological Services National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) Nauru Emergency Services</p>
<p>6. Purpose of Mission: Mission to Kiribati and Nauru</p>	<p>7. Documents, Materials, Resources from Mission - IBFWS Agenda</p>
<p>8. Mission Member(s) (include consultants if any)</p> <p>Navin Bhan – Associate Project Manager (APM) – RESPAC Adil Ali – Senior Systems/IT Officer – Fiji Meteorological Services</p>	<p>9. Cost (for RCC staff only)</p> <p>Air ticket = USD2,100 DSA and Terminals = USD1,800</p>
<p>10. Brief Summary of the Mission: 10A. Findings</p> <p><b>Kiribati Mission</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The purpose of the assessment mission which was to further analyze and refine the installation requirements of the Automated Weather Stations (<b>AWS</b>) in 5 outer island sites paving the way for the insertion of climate data from these 5 sites to a central server based in Tarawa. The result was that the mission exposed additional requirements which was not centered around technical competencies but focused on improving human resources skills.</li> <li>- On the positive side, the recruitment of the Information and Technology (IT) Officer (Mr. Tiben Teannaki) is a positive step since it gave Kiribati Met Services capacity to handle IT related queries more proficiently and at a higher technical level than before. Moreover given Mr. Teannaki's experience with Amalgamated Telecom Kiribati (ATK), it gives him a distinct advantage in terms of understanding and supervising the installation of AWS and peripheral equipment that will be necessary to transform KMS into a professional Met outfit.</li> <li>- Another positive development, although it was forced by circumstances outside of KMS control, was the need to shift the construction of the extension of the KMS Office from just near the current boundary fence to an area outside the main office complex. With this new relocation, it will be possible to construct a 2-storey building that would be capable of hosting a training room with amenities as well as new offices for the Director, his Deputy and the Forecasting Division.</li> <li>- The FMS IT expert was able to undertake a thorough assessment of the existing KMS IT infrastructure which is attached as a separate report. It is expected that most of the recommendations from this report will be incorporated into the design of the new building. Primary amongst the recommendations will be:</li> </ul>	

- Dedicated Server Room to accommodate a File Server which in turn will store critical data such as CLiDE, Himawari Satellite feeds, Email, scanned field books, etc.
  - Proper ventilation to allow for cooling of hardware equipment.
  - Data Archival and Rescue
  - Internal secured network protected against viruses and bugs.
  - Wide Area Network connecting Tarawa with outposted stations and critical airport locations in Bonriki, Christmas Islands and Kanton.
- There is an immediate need within the KMS to improve exposure of its staff on forecasting and weather prediction services. Therefore, the upcoming training to be held in Nadi on the Himawari satellite operations conducted by JICA will present an opportunity for KMS staff to be exposed to the forecasting and IT capabilities of the Nadi Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC). With confirmation of the KMS Director, 3 staff were nominated to attend the training in Nadi. UNDP will fully sponsor 2 and will partially sponsor the third participant.
  - Discussions were also held with an Architect (Mr. Toromon) on a 2-storey building concept and a preliminary design concept has been submitted. Further administrative paperwork is required to contract Mr. Toromon with a Civil Engineer so that work can start on designing and costing on the new building.

### **Kiribati Tsunami Support Project**

- A meeting was requested with the National Disaster Management Office under the Office of the President however all senior personnel were out of the country for the upcoming COP 25 meeting in Madrid.
- Nonetheless, a meeting was held with one of the NDMO Officers (Ms. Sally Rimon) who shared the operational plans with regards to tsunami preparedness. The activities of the NDMO and the tsunami warning and trigger mechanisms will need to be thoroughly reviewed as Kiribati geographical context dictates that any tsunami warning or coastal wave inundation be taken with maximum alertness/preparedness.
- The Tsunami Coordinator within RESPAC will be briefed and activities under the Tsunami Support Project will need to be better coordinated with other RESPAC activities as both share the same stakeholders i.e. the KMS and the NDMO.

### **Nauru Mission**

- As with Kiribati, the Nauru mission was undertaken to gauge the level of preparedness on the part of the Nauru Emergency Services to receive and install an Automated Weather Station at the top site (formerly used for phosphate mining).
- Contractual works undertaken early in 2019 were inspected and unfinished work at both the main office and the top site were identified to the contractor who promptly took action and fixed the issues.
- The FMS IT expert also did his appraisal of the IT system that is supporting the CLiDE infrastructure and in time, will receive data fed from the AWS. His recommendations are contained in a separate report.
- NES also formally submitted its recommendation for Mr. Graymea Ika to attend the Himawari Satellite training in Nadi to be conducted by JICA but financially sponsored through RESPAC.
- An assessment of NES in terms of the immediate expansion plans and recruitment of 5 more offices as also discussed. Amongst some of the needs will be desk furniture, meeting room, IT equipment, printer and scanning devices. The conversion of the entire NES Office to solar technology was also discussed and included in the FMS IT expert's report.

### **10B. Results Achieved (concrete outputs)**

- The reconfigured design of the Kiribati Met Office extension is a major outcome of this mission. Once the tender is approved, the new premises will be a major upgrade and a catalyst for the KMS to deliver improved services for Kiribati and the entire region.

- Similarly the proposed switch to solar technology will create maximum benefits and provide sustainable solution to the operations of NES. The revamped office space, while not to the same standards as what was expected under the EU BSRP project will still be sufficient to deliver a working space to NES officers working in Hydrology and Climate.

#### 10C. Expected Outcome(s) and Impact

A major target of the RESPAC project was to create sustainable and working solutions for the enhancement of the Climate Early Warning Systems. While the project has over-estimated the effectiveness of training outcomes given the under investment in technical facilities, RESPAC continues to invest in solutions which are budget friendly and create impetus for improved approach towards setting up of CLEWS. As a project, RESPAC objectives were founded on the notion that most of the technical apparatus required to initiate a sophisticated CLEWS was in place. The reality is that most NMHS are still far from having the ideal conditions to sustainably manage a CLEWS. Hence RESPAC's approach in Solomon Islands, Nauru and Kiribati will hopefully create a better foundation for CLEWS operations in these countries.

#### 11. Key counterpart (s) and persons you met in each location and their contact details:

Name:

##### **Kiribati Meteorological Services**

Mr. Ueneta Toorua – Director, Kiribati Met Services

Mr. Tiban Teanaki – IT Officer

##### **National Disaster Management Office – Kiribati**

Ms. Sally Rimon, Officer

##### **Nauru Emergency Services**

Mr. Roy Harris, Secretary – NES

Mr. Graymea Ika - NES

##### **Contact Information:**

#### 12. Follow-up Action Matrix

##### 12.1 Disaster Resilience for Pacific SIDs (RESPAC)

Actions to be taken	By Whom	Expected Completion Date
Prepare TOR for the recruitment of the Architect, Civil Engineer, Renewable Energy Specialist to prepare the building plans for Kiribati and Solomon Islands and finalize recruitment.	Navin Bhan	13 January
Prepare ITB for the building tender and installation of solar systems	Navin Bhan	13 January
Advertise ITB, evaluate bids and finalize building plans	Navin Bhan	29 January
Follow up on AWS Suppliers to procure AWS for Kiribati and Nauru	Navin Bhan	29 January

13. Distribution List (BTOR sent to): Internal Clients: - RESD Group Email, MET Directors