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*18-20 September 2024
Honolulu, Hawaii*

PTWS Steering Committee

**Working Group Pacific
Islands Countries and
Territories**

WG-PICT REPORT

Chair: *Esline Garaebiti*

Vice-Chair: *Mathew Moihoi*

Outline

- **TOR & Governance Structure**
- **Progress Update**
- **Way Forward and Recommendations**



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Terms of Reference

Pacific Island Countries and Territories (WG-PICT) ^

1. continually review and evaluate capabilities of and make recommendations for improvements to countries in the Pacific Islands and Territories (PICT) Region for providing end to-end tsunami warning and mitigation services.
2. support the involvement and contribution of PICT countries in the activities of the ICG/PTWS.
3. promote and facilitate the tsunami hazard and risk studies in the PICT region.
4. facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of seismic and sea level stations and networks in the region, and the interoperability of these systems in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements.
5. facilitate training and capacity building in the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system in the region.
6. encourage the sharing of tsunami information, including but not limited to the free and open exchange of data.
7. facilitate tsunami awareness in school curricula, and development and dissemination of public educational materials.
8. work in cooperation with PTWS Working Group 1, 2 & 3, and relevant task teams especially on activities that strengthen country capacity in tsunami warning, risk mitigation & emergency response.

Members composed of representatives from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) Agencies, ITIC and WMO. Chair and Vice Chair elected by the members of the Working Group and endorsed by the ICG.

Governance



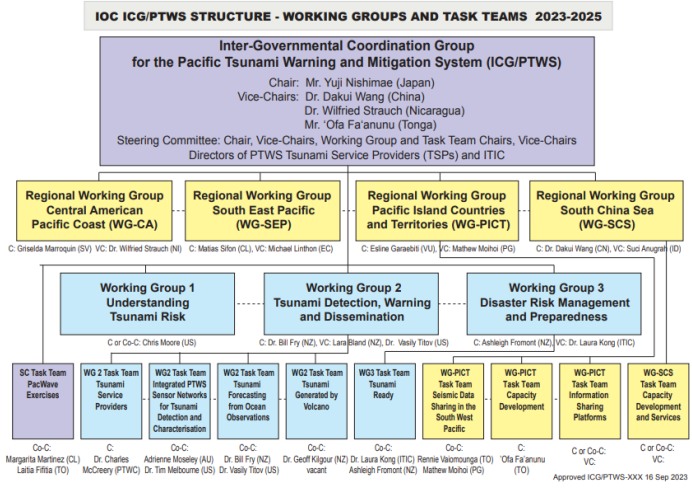
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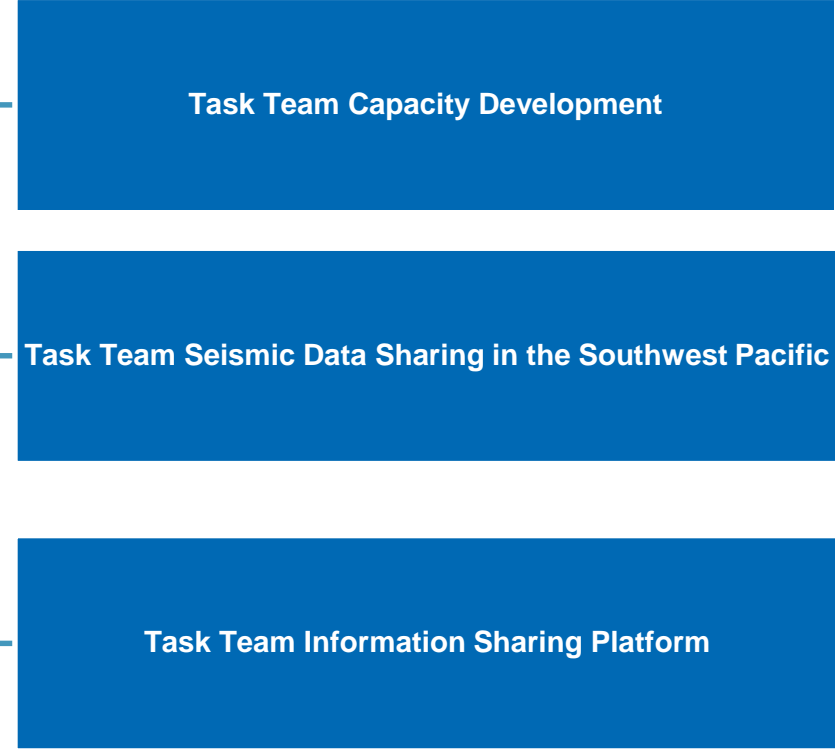
Working Group Pacific Island Countries and Territories

Chair: *Esline Garaebiti (Vanuatu)*

Vice-Chair: *Mathew Moihoi (Papua New Guinea)*



WG PICT



Members composed of representatives from Pacific Island Countries and Territories (~20 PICTs), Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP) Agencies, SPC, ITIC and WMO.

Last meeting : Online 4th July 2024

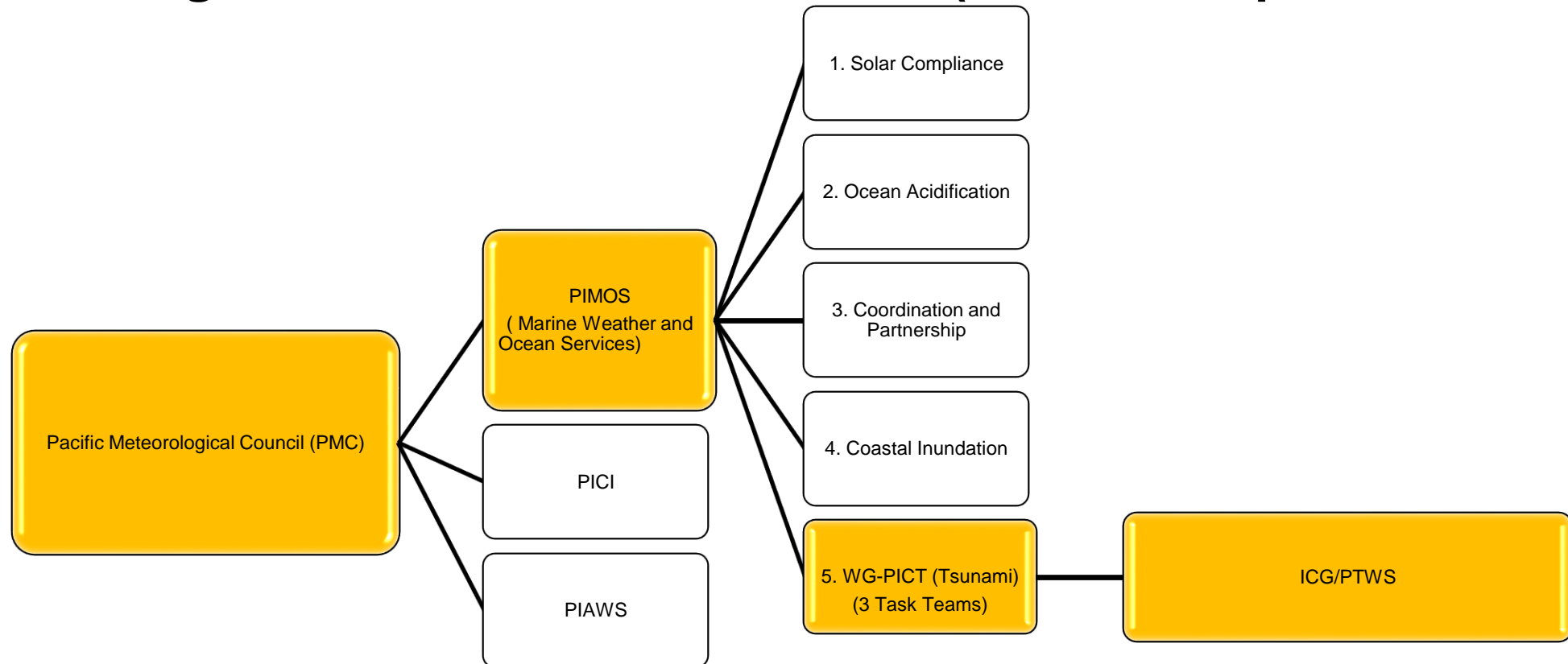
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- **WG-PICT and its current TOR has been submitted for Endorsement as the 5th Task Team under the PIMOS Panel of the Pacific Meteorological Council (PMC) at the 7th Meeting of PMC in Port Villa, Vanuatu (17th- 19th September 2024).**



PROGRESS UPDATE



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• Task Team Seismic data Sharing in the Southwest Pacific

Co-chairs : Rennie Vaiomunga (Tonga), Mathew Moihoi (PNG)

Related actions to be consider as sharing opportunities:

- **ORSNET – All members have SeisComP5 Operational since 2023 (A Seismic **Monitoring** Tool for data acquisition, sharing, analysis **and archive**).**
- **Delivery of workstation and online training for ORSNET member countries undertaken in 2023**
- **Geoscience Australia (GA) provided technical support to *Vanuatu* and *Fiji* to configure SeisComP5. GA delivered a 4 weeks SeisComP training**
- **In December 2023, USGS installed a new BB station in Fiji “**OI.FNUL**” available through IRIS. By end of 2024, 2 new open shared BB stations will be installed in Tonga Eua and Va’vau islands.**
- **Tonga – upgrade ongoing over 5 BB stations to be completed by end of 2024; 3 installations completed and two remains.**
- **Progressing the seismic data sharing agreement for ORSNET member countries**

PROGRESS UPDATE



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• Task Team Capacity Development

Co-chairs : 'Ofa FA'ANUNU (Tonga) , Vacant ?

Relevant events to be consider :

- Preliminary Gap Assessment completed for **Fiji**, **Tonga** and **Solomon Islands** to inform National Consultation on UNDRR EW4ALL and Weather Ready Pacific Programme (WRP).
- PTWS NTWC Minimum Staff Competency Training Pilot - kick-off meeting coordinated by ITIC and hosted by NEMA NZ on 15-17th July 2024 (WG-3 TT-TR).
- Tsunami Awareness Sessions at the UNSG visit to Samoa on 21st -22nd August 2024 and at the 53rd Pacific Leaders Meeting on 26th -30th August 2024 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga.
- ICG/PTWS Tsunami Capacity Assessment Validation Workshop for India and Pacific Oceans– Bangkok on 4th -6th September 2024. Outcome of this workshop to inform the PICT MS Capacity Assessment in coordination with ITIC.

PROGRESS UPDATE



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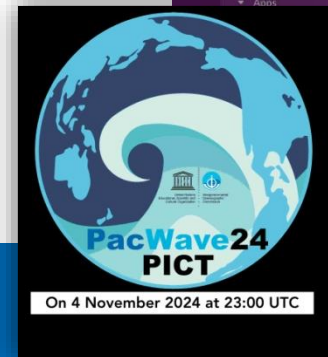
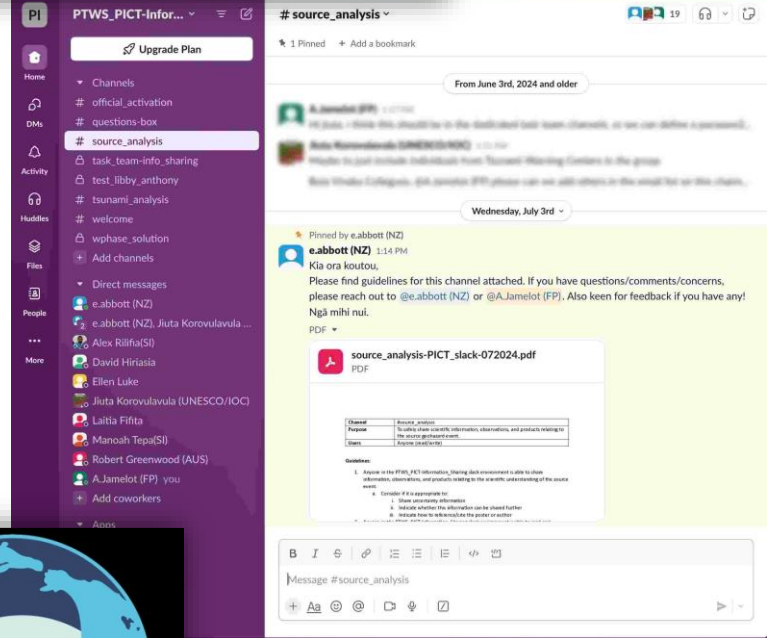
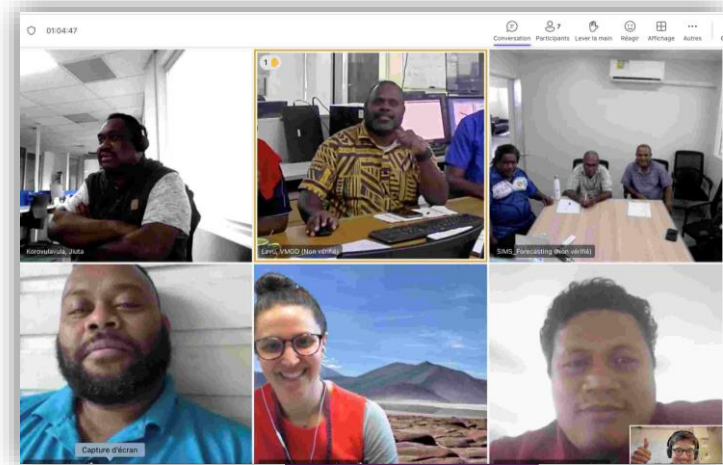
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• Task Team Information Sharing Platforms

Co-chairs : Anthony Jamelot (French-Polynesia), Jonathan Tafiarki (Solomon)

• 3 online meetings since March 2024 with the following outcomes :

- A new application identified called “**SLACK**”. A dedicated workspace has been build and currently tested by the TT members.
- This new platform (available on web/desktop & mobile phone app) will be introduced and tested during the WG-PICT Regional Pacwave24 Exercise on 4th November 2024 at 23:00 UTC.
- Update Guidelines for each communication platforms including as well, email and HF radio
- Preparation of dual earthquake source scenario for the WG-PICT Regional PacWave24 Exercise.



PROGRESS UPDATE



TOR

PROGRESS UPDATE

1. To continually review and evaluate capabilities of and make recommendations for improvements to countries in the Pacific Islands and Territories (PICT) Region for providing end to end tsunami warning and mitigation services within the multi-hazard framework.

Review and Update of SOPs in Solomon Island's, Tonga, Vanuatu and Fiji – Done

2. To support the involvement and contribution of PICT in the activities of the ICG/PTWS

- 2024 ITP-Chile Training attended by 3 PICT participants
- PTWS NTWC Minimum Staff Competency Training Pilot - kick-off meeting coordinated by ITIC and hosted by NEMA NZ on 15-17th July 2024.
- Solomon Islands National Stakeholder Workshop on UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Program conducted on 30th-31st July 2024.

3. To promote and facilitate the tsunami hazard and risk studies in the PICT region.

- Expert Meeting on Tsunami Sources, Hazards, Risks and Uncertainties Associated with Vanuatu, San Cristobal and New Brittain Trench completed in May 2024.
- Tsunami Hazard Modelling completed in Fiji (Coral Coast), FSM (Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap) and RMI (Majuro). Tsunami Hazard Modelling in progress for Solomon Islands

PROGRESS UPDATE



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| <p>4. To facilitate cooperation in the establishment and upgrading of earthquake and tsunami monitoring networks in the region and the interoperability of these systems in accordance with ICG/PTWS requirements.</p> | <p>Tonga National Seismic Network Upgrade to 5 Broadband Stations (3 installed and 2 remains to be installed)</p> <p>In December 2023, USGS installed a new open shared Broadband Station in Fiji (Labasa)</p> <p>By end of 2024, USGS install two new Broadband Station in Eua and Va’vau in Tonga. These 2 new stations will be available and shared through IRIS and connected to Tonga National Seismic Network as well as ORSNET.</p> <p>GA (Australia) supported the configuration of SeisComP Application in Fiji and Vanuatu.</p> <p>In 2024-2025, Vanuatu embarking on upgrade of National Seismic Network through the support of SPC BSRP Project.</p> <p>In PNG, with the support of SPC BSRP Project a new local server (Data Hub) to be installed to enable data sharing with ORSNET members.</p> <p>WG-PICT embedded within PMC PIMOS Panel. WG-PICT to leverage PMC PIMOS Panel on new Ocean Services that strengthens Tsunami Watch Operations.</p> |
| <p>5. To facilitate training and capacity building in the end-to-end tsunami warning and mitigation system in the region.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024 ITP-Chile Training attended by 3 participants from PICT’s members • PTWS NTWC Minimum Staff Competency Training Pilot - kick-off meeting coordinated by ITIC and hosted by NEMA NZ on 15-17th July 2024. • Solomon Islands National Stakeholder Workshop on UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready Recognition Programme conducted on 30th -31st July 2024. • In June 2024, Geoscience Australia (GA) conducted a 4 weeks training on SeisComP operations in Fiji. |
| <p>6.To encourage the sharing of tsunami information, including but not limited to the free and open exchange of data</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ORSNET Data Sharing Agreement have been signed by Fiji, Tonga and PNG. Other Countries to be encouraged to be sign the ORSNET Data Sharing Agreement • In December 2023 meeting, ORSNET members to consider at least one operational (1) local station to join International Federation of Digital Seismograph Networks (FDSN) • WG-PICT embedded within PMC PIMOS Panel. WG-PICT to leverage PMC PIMOS Panel on new Ocean Services that strengthens Tsunami Watch Operations. • WG-PICT - TT ISP is testing a NDMO & NTWC regional platform dedicated to share tsunami information between stakeholders in a warning context => PICT Pacwave24 exercise. |

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7. To facilitate tsunami awareness in school curricula, and development and dissemination of public educational materials

- In collaboration with UNICEF and Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon reviewed and updated the **Schools DRR Handbook and Policy** to include UNESCO/IOC Tsunami Ready indicators and methodology
- **WTAD23** Celebrated as reported in Fiji, Vanuatu, Samoa, Tonga

8. To work in **cooperation with PTWS Working Group 1, 2, & 3 and relevant task teams**, especially on activities that strengthen country capacity in tsunami warning, risk mitigation & emergency response. Support the implementation of Tsunami priorities under the UN Decade.

- **Vanuatu** hosted the **PTWS WG-1** Expert Meeting on Tsunami Sources, Hazards, Risks and Uncertainties Associated with Vanuatu, San Cristobal and New Britain Trench.
- **WG-2** - Task Team Seismic Data Sharing in SW Pacific participating in the GNSS Enhancement of Tsunami Early Warning Systems (GTEWS).
- **Task Team TGV – 3** PICT member states are funded under JICA SATREPS project to develop national TGV SOPs. Outcomes and development in collaboration with WG-2
- **WG-3** - TWS NTWC Minimum Staff Competency Training Pilot - kick-off meeting 15-17 July 2024
- **WG-3** - PTWS Task Team Tsunami Ready Online Meeting 12th July 2024. (Tsunami Ready Implementation Survey – seek approval from Next ICG/PTWS and roll out April 2025).
- **TT-Pacwave Exercise & WG-PICT TT-ISP** Updating Pacwave24 manual for PICT regional exercise.

Way Forward & Recommendations



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- **Promote** installation and maintenance of observation instruments (seismic, sea-level, BPR, ...) including data sharing, data management and events data analysis to strengthen National and Regional TEWS.
- **Promote** National internal agency cooperation to strengthen monitoring, detection and warning of non seismic tsunami.
- **WG-PICT is encouraged** to share technical & expertise competency among its members at every levels with regional and international collaboration as occurred already between Geoscience Australia, GNS-NZ, JICA, CPPT, USGS and PTWC.
- **Encourage**, MS to strengthen national and regional end-to-end communication platforms via CAP, IBFWS, including national strategies/plans (NETP) through collaboration with ICT sector (relevant national agencies and private sector).
- **Continue to encourage**, PICT to set up National Tsunami Ready Boards and National Tsunami Ready Implementation Plans including the application of Tsunami Ready Communities.
- **WG-PICT MS to increase collaboration and support**, in the development of National and Regional Geohazard policy through coordination with regional initiatives under ORSNET, MVN, JICA, USGS, GA, Pacific Weather Ready Programme of the PMC and UNEW4ALL project

2024 WG-PICT meeting (in person) schedule by the end of 25-29 November