



## CREWS Accelerated Support Window (ASW) Action Interim Report (October 2022 - May 2023)

<b>1. Action Title</b>	Tonga Mobile Applications Community MHEW and Response System (MACRES).	<b>2. Action Reference</b>	CREWS/ASW/03/Tonga Community MHEW and Response.
<b>3. Implementing Partner</b>	World Meteorological Organization (WMO).	<b>4. Other Partners (i.e., Sub-contracted)</b>	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP); Tonga Meteorological Service (TMS-MEIDECC); and Mr. Finau Kaufusi, Consultant.
<b>5. Action Duration /</b>	October 2022 to September 2023.		
<b>6. Reporting Focal Point(s)</b>	Henry Taiki, WMO Representative for the South-West Pacific Email: <a href="mailto:htaiki@wmo.int">htaiki@wmo.int</a> Telephone: +685 7525706 (Mobile); +685 25706 (Landline) & +685 21929 Ext 241		
<b>7. Action Type</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyses and Assessment and Advisory Services.</li> </ul>		

<p><b>8. Specific Action</b></p>	<p>The Tonga MACRES Action’s objectives are presented below:</p> <p>(1) To strengthen the capacity of the Tonga Meteorological Service (TMS) for disseminating hydro-meteorological and geological risk information and warnings to all users of mobile telephone (UoMT) (men, women, youth, children and people living with disability) in communities and villages and urban areas.</p> <p>(2) To strengthen the capacity of UoMT (men, women, youth, children and people with disability) in communities, villages, and urban areas: (a) To have access to, and receive hydro-meteorological and geological risk information and warnings; (b) To record and provide reports on potential and actual slow-onset and rapid developing hydro-meteorological hazardous events and related risks; and (c) To record and provide reports on earthquakes for early tsunami alerts (crowdsourcing shake intensity) and other geohazard events like volcanic eruptions.</p> <p>(3) To strengthen the capacity of TMS and the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) in partnership with other agencies for disseminating disaster management and reduction information including awareness material and evacuation procedures and locations to UoMT (men, women, youth, children and people with disability) in communities, villages and urban areas.</p> <p>To procure expert(s) / consultant(s) services to carry out the works and procure equipment and software for each component presented in the Section on ‘Timeframe’ of the Action Presentation Note – to assess, analyze, design, develop, set up, operate, host and provide training that will assist maintain and sustain Tonga’s Mobile Applications Community MHEW and Response System.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procured the consultant to assess, design and develop the mobile app for Tonga.</li> <li>• Prepared the implementation agreements for Tonga Meteorological Service and the SPREP to implement specific tasks in line with MACRES objectives.</li> <li>• Review and finalise the workplan and inception report by the consultant.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>9. Progress Summary</b></p>	<p><b>Progress:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing arrangements established between WMO and SPREP, and between WMO and TMS of the Ministry of Meteorology, Energy, Information, Disaster Management, Climate Change and Communication (MEIDECC). To provide in-country logistics, arrangements and assist the consultant and SPREP to conduct assessments, national and communities' consultations, training, testing and official launching of the mobile apps. Consultations, training, testing, operationalize and launching of apps conducted and completed as per schedule; and participants included men, women, youth, children and people with disability).</li> <li>The selection process for hiring the consultant to design and develop the mobile application started in March 2023 after consultations with TMS/MEIDECC and SPREP since November 2022.</li> <li>The consultant, Mr. Finau Kaufusi, was hired by WMO in May 2023, and is expected to conclude his services in September 2023. A first draft inception report has been submitted for TMS/MEIDECC and WMO to review and clear before proceeding.</li> </ul> <p><b>Challenges encountered</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The conclusion of Implementing Arrangements was delayed due to necessary legal clearances between WMO and the regional partners. This extended process has delayed considerably the disbursement of funds for project implementation. At the time of writing, both agreements have been signed and funds should be disbursed and available in the partners accounts by the end of May 2023.</li> <li>The selection process for the consultant took longer due to the technical requirements of the assignment. In addition, the evaluation panel in charge of the process chose to conduct interviews after the technical assessment to better select the right candidate for this assignment. The consultant has been hired and is already carrying out his work.</li> </ul>							
<p><b>10. Action Performance</b></p>	<p><i>Interpretation of Coding</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="448 1176 1422 1384"> <tr> <td data-bbox="448 1176 544 1227">●</td> <td data-bbox="544 1176 1422 1227"><i>Good progress; on track in most or all aspects of delivery.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="448 1227 544 1279">●</td> <td data-bbox="544 1227 1422 1279"><i>Moderate progress or on track in some aspects of delivery.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="448 1279 544 1384">●</td> <td data-bbox="544 1279 1422 1384"><i>Less than moderate or poor progress. Not on track in critical areas of its delivery. Requires remedial attention.</i></td> </tr> </table>		●	<i>Good progress; on track in most or all aspects of delivery.</i>	●	<i>Moderate progress or on track in some aspects of delivery.</i>	●	<i>Less than moderate or poor progress. Not on track in critical areas of its delivery. Requires remedial attention.</i>
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	<p><b>Rate of Expenditure</b></p> <p>●</p>	<p><b>Rate of Action Delivery</b></p> <p>●</p>						
<p><b>Narrative</b></p>	<p>The delay in signing the Implementing Arrangements have delayed the disbursement of funds to TMS/MEIDECC and SPREP. Disbursement of funds to TMS/MEIDECC and SPREP is expected to take place in the first week of June 2023. The next reporting period will indicate the rate of expenditure. Regular discussions between the Technical Team including the consultant, TMS IT and SPREP software developer and project management. By July 2023 prototype be available, followed by consultations and testing.</p>	<p>Project implementation so far has been focused on planning, including organizing implementing arrangements with SPREP and TMS/MEIDECC; and hiring and developing the contract for the selected consultant.</p> <p>The Action remains aligned to its objectives.</p>						

<b>11. Other Information (Optional)</b>	Following discussion(s) with the consultant, TMS/MIEDECC and SPREP, Tonga MACRES Action's objectives will be met before the set deadline. Training and awareness of the mobile application for users may likely to go beyond the timeframe of the MACRES Action, and this will be monitored carefully. The project team has discussed and agreed that by end of July 2023, a clear progress on this application development should be available to allow for a better assessment on whether more time is required to complete the project or not.
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