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# **Investment Phase:** Progress update

## **Solomon Islands** July 2025

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Systematic Observations  
Financing Facility

**Weather  
and climate  
data for  
resilience**



## General Information

<b>Country</b>	Solomon Islands	
<b>Implementing Entity</b>	UNDP	
<b>Agreement effectiveness date</b>	01 July 2024	
<b>Duration</b>	60	
<b>Anticipated end date</b>	<b>01 July 2029</b>	
<b>Reporting period</b>	<b>From:</b> 01 January 2025	<b>To:</b> 30 June 2025
<b>Approved amount</b>	USD 8,488,524 Per participating UN entity: UNDP – USD 7,916,074 WMO – USD 572,450	
<b>Disbursed amount</b>	USD 5,732,049 Per participating UN entity: UNDP – USD 5,541,252 WMO – USD 190,798	

## Summary

In the reporting period between January and June 2025, UNDP and its partners continued to fast-track implementation across several workstreams. Details of the progress are as follows:

- In May, the project's national inception workshop was organized by UNDP and SIMS in Honiara. The workshop was chaired by Ms. Susan Sulu, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology (MECDM) and was attended by 40 participants, including Provincial Secretaries from Choiseul, Central, Makira and Temotu Provinces who expressed early support for the project's construction plans in those locations. The audience also learned about the findings and recommendations from the SOFF Readiness Phase from a BOM expert, and the project's implementation timeline and expected milestones.
- In June, UNDP together with SIMS, Ministry of Lands and Housing (MLHS), Ministry of Communication and Aviation, Civil Aviation Authority of Solomon Islands (CAASI), Solomon Islands Airports Corporation Limited (SIACL) and Ministry of Infrastructure Development (MID) conducted provincial visits to Taro (Choiseul province), Munda (Western), Auki (Malaita) and Tulagi (Central). The objectives were to (a) Identify sites for the constructions of three (3) Upper Air Stations and a surface observation station (b) secure provincial endorsement to transfer land ownership for the prospective upper-air sites from the provincial governments to SIMS; and (b) to carry out stocktake of existing manual observation equipment to facilitate planned procurements and upgrades. Both Tulagi and Taro provincial authorities approved the land transfer to SIMS, which is now pending final approval by the Commissioner of Lands. The equipment stocktake will be finalized in August following trips to Lata (Santa Cruz), Kira Kira (San Cristobal), Tinggoa (Rennell) and both Guadalcanal locations (Henderson airport and SIMS HQ at Vavaya Ridge).
- In line with developing NMHS human capacities to operate the GBON network, SIMS recruited 10 new weather observers to be stationed across the country. As part of the process, SIMS and UNDP designed a specialized training program modelled on the WMO Basic Instruction Package for Meteorological Technicians (BIP-MT). The training will take place over six months in July-December 2025 and will be financially supported by the project.
- UNDP also initiated preparatory works to support design of the planned upper-air sites (Taro, Tulagi, Lata) and the staff station in Kira Kira (San Cristobal). This includes commissioning of the site-specific environmental impact assessments (EIA), unexploded ordnance (UXO) clearance surveys and development of a comprehensive tender dossier, including geo-technical

survey, engineering/architectural plans, designs and bills of quantities, to facilitate procurement of required construction works planned for Q4.

Plans for Q3-Q4 include:

- Tendering construction works for the prospective upper-air stations in Taro, Lata and Tulagi, and the SIMS staff station in Kira Kira;
- Procurement of automatic weather stations and a set of manual equipment for 8 SIMS observation sites;
- Completion of specialized BIP-MT training for new SIMS staff;
- Annual project steering committee;
- Development of the project's gender analysis and action plan; and
- Support to SIMS for endorsement of the new Meteo Act, including the national aviation cost-recovery plan as proposed in the Readiness Phase.

Links to project documents and publications

- "Faces Behind Weather Forecasting: Training the Next Generation of Weather Observers in Solomon Islands" ([link](#))
- "Solomon Islands Launch Weather and Climate Resilience Project to Strengthen National Preparedness" ([link](#))
  - All inception workshop slides & documents can be accessed [here](#)

## 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 <b>National and provincial consultations</b> , 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	0	5 23%	0	0	0	On-track	1 national inception workshop 4 provincial meetings		
1.2 <b>NMHS institutional capacity</b> required to operate the GBON network developed	# of staff trained % of female participants	10	10	10	10	10	0	10 30%	0	0	0	On-track	10 new staff recruited; trainings ongoing until Dec-25		
1.3 <b>NMHS human capacity</b> required to operate the GBON network developed	# of specialized staff trained % of female participants	5	10	10	10	10	0	10 30%	0	0	0	On-track	Part of the same training program under A1.2		
2. GBON infrastructure in place															
2.2 <b>New land-based stations</b> and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations upgraded to GBON standards and shared internationally	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track	Preparatory work underway (see summary narrative)		
2.3 <b>New upper air stations</b> and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new GBON-compliant upper-air stations constructed, operating and internationally sharing data	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track	Preparatory work underway (see summary narrative)		
3. Sustained compliance with GBON															
3.1 <b>GBON land-based stations’ commissioning period completed</b> , country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established.	# of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	0	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	On-track			

Output	Indicator	Target					Actual					Status	Milestones achieved	Challenges and risks
		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
and data sharing verified by WMO Technical Authority														
3.2 <b>GBON upper air stations' commissioning period completed</b> , 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	0	0	0	On-track		