



Investment Phase:

Peer Advisor Semi-Annual Report

Solomon Islands

January 2026

Submitted by



Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**



General Information

Country	Solomon Islands	
Peer Advisor	Australian Bureau of Meteorology	
Implementing Entity	United Nations Development Programme	
Agreement effectiveness date	21 August 2024	
Duration	56 months	
Anticipated end date	1 April 2029	
Reporting period	From: 1 July 2025	To: 31 December 2025
Approved peer advisory fee	535,000 USD	
Disbursed peer advisory fee	178315.5 USD	
Percentage of financial implementation	33.33%	
Peer advisors' focal point signature		
Country's focal point signature (to confirm timely and quality delivery)		

Summary

The SOFF Investment Phase in Solomon Islands made significant progress during the second half of 2025, with procurement activities advancing steadily toward execution. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology (Bureau), in its capacity as Peer Advisor, provided strategic and technical expertise to support infrastructure planning and design, ensuring alignment with GBON requirements and maximising the value of SOFF investment funds.

1. Key Contributions and Activities

The Bureau shared upper-air station design documents, reviewed maintenance cost estimates, and assessed spare parts inventory lists to inform procurement strategies. Technical specialists conducted detailed reviews of equipment specifications being prepared for supplier contracts, ensuring compliance with SOFF standards and delivering high-quality infrastructure outcomes.

Frequent engagement between the Bureau's Pacific Observations Infrastructure Lead, technical experts, UNDP, and the Solomon Islands Meteorological Service (SIMS) facilitated productive meetings with potential contractors and suppliers. These interactions provided valuable insights into draft design documentation, accurate costing tables, and contractor selection, promoting harmonisation with complementary initiatives and avoiding duplication of efforts.

Communication with other regional projects identified opportunities for collaboration, particularly ensuring that weather stations under installation or planned comply with GBON requirements. This approach supports cost efficiencies and leverages synergies across initiatives.

The Bureau participated remotely in the first Project Steering Committee meeting and contributed to in-country meetings held in Honiara (27–30 July 2025). These sessions provided opportunities to align SOFF activities with other infrastructure projects led by the Bureau, identify potential savings, and ensure strategic complementarity.

Following the July mission, the Bureau continued to provide remote advisory services to UNDP and SIMS, including:

- Reviewing contractor justification cases to harmonise equipment standards regionally.
- Providing technical consultation on manual and automatic weather stations and upper-air station design and construction.
- Reviewing preliminary site feasibility reports and equipment specifications.
- Sharing Bureau-owned upper-air design and costings to assist with budgeting and timeline planning.
- Facilitating virtual interactions between Bureau experts and potential contractors to share operational knowledge and best practice.

**2. Impact**

These contributions have strengthened procurement readiness, improved technical design quality, and ensured alignment with GBON compliance requirements. The Bureau's advisory role has helped harmonise efforts across regional initiatives, reduce duplication, and position the Solomon Islands project for successful infrastructure implementation in 2026.

Implementation progress

Services or activities listed in the peer advisor's ToR and assignment agreement must be included in the category "activities conducted/contribution" below. Sections that are not relevant or covered in the TOR can be left blank.

Output	Indicator (Please copy the indicators from RBM section of the funding request)	Activities conducted/contributions (Please list all activities that will be conducted by the peer advisor relevant to the output. Please add rows if more than one activity will be conducted)	Implementation plan ¹					Status	Challenges and risks
			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
1. GBON institutional and human capacity developed									
1.1 National consultations , including with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders conducted	# of consultation workshops	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remote or in-person attendance and participation at inception workshop, project steering committee meetings and stakeholder consultations 	1	1	1	1	1	On-track	
	% of female participants attendance in each workshop	-						-	
	# of high-level dialogue conducted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in discussions and consultations with relevant stakeholders Ongoing support, technical guidance and advice to SIMS and UNDP 						On-track	
	Implementation Plan in place	-						-	
1.2 NMHS institutional capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	# of new/ updated processes	-						-	
	# of established agreements	-						-	
	Gender Analysis and Action Plan	-						-	
	Years of regional collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional engagement support – The Bureau will assist SIMS to connect and engage with other meteorological services, regional bodies, WMO and other hydromet initiatives in the region. Activities include facilitating introductions and multi-party discussions. Annual in-country visit 						On-track	

¹ Indicate which year the activity is targeted to be conducted

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			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
1.3 NMHS human capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	% increase of female staff	-						-	-
	# of staff trained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continue supporting SIMS with In person and remote training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration ○ The Bureau may also have some involvement in some activities related to capacity building 						On-track	
	# of specialized staff trained	-						-	-
2. GBON infrastructure in place									
2.1 New land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	-						-	
2.2 Improved land-based stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	<p>On-call consultation, advice and technical support to SIMS via telephone or videoconference. This could include topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration ○ Suggestions for suppliers of equipment and services ○ Assistance with budgeting for operation and maintenance of stations ○ Station siting and exposure assessment 						On-track	
2.3 New upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of new stations installed as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	<p>On-call consultation, advice and technical support to SIMS via telephone or videoconference. This could include topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration ○ Station siting and exposure assessment ○ Suggestions for suppliers of equipment and services ○ Assistance with budgeting for operation and maintenance of stations ○ In-country peer review 						On-track	

Output	Indicator (Please copy the indicators from RBM section of the funding request)	Activities conducted/contributions (Please list all activities that will be conducted by the peer advisor relevant to the output. Please add rows if more than one activity will be conducted)	Implementation plan ¹					Status	Challenges and risks
			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
2.4 Improved upper air stations and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place	# of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan	-						-	
3. Sustained compliance with GBON									
3.1 GBON land-based stations' commissioning period completed , 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	On-call consultation, advice and technical support to SIMS via telephone or videoconference. This could include topics such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration o Assistance with budgeting for operation and maintenance of stations during compliance phase o Equipment or communications issues o Quality management o WIS2.0 configuration and setup o In-country peer review 						Not yet started	
3.2 GBON upper air stations' commissioning period completed , 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	On-call consultation, advice and technical support to SIMS via telephone or videoconference. This could include topics such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration o Assistance with budgeting for operation and maintenance of stations during compliance phase o Equipment or communications issues o Quality management o WIS2.0 configuration and setup o In-country peer review 						Not yet started	