



Concept Note and Agenda

Nineteenth Pacific Islands Climate & Ocean Forum (PICOF-19)

20-21 October 2026

Hybrid: Port Moresby and via Zoom

The Pacific Islands Climate & Ocean Forum (PICOF) is based on the [World Meteorological Organization \(WMO\) Regional Climate Forum](#) concept.

The PICOF is co-organised by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) Pacific Regional Climate Centre Network (RCC-N), with technical support provided by the Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Earth Sciences New Zealand (ESNZ), APEC Climate Centre (APCC), Meteo-France, and Pacific Community (SPC) as members of the Pacific RCC-N Node for Seasonal Prediction in partnership with the Pacific Islands Climate Services (PICS) Panel. The US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the University of Hawaii (UH) are registered affiliates of the Pacific RCC-N. The latter ensures that the needs of National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), and their stakeholders are met. The primary sponsor of PICOF-19 is SPREP CLIMSA.

Additional information on PICOF and the WMO Pacific RCC Network is available via the [Pacific Met Desk Website](#)

Overall objective: To discuss and produce objective, user-relevant regional climate and ocean outlook guidance in real time to support Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) NMHSs produce national climate and oceans climate information for their national stakeholders, with the ultimate aim to reduce climate-related risks and support sustainable development for the coming season in sectors of critical socioeconomic significance.

Objectives:

- 1) Review the climate and oceanic conditions in the western Pacific region for the period May to October 2026;
- 2) Present and discuss long-term trends and projections for selected climate and ocean variables;
- 3) Present monthly and seasonal climate, ocean and tropical cyclone outlooks for the Southwest Pacific region for the period November 2026 to April 2027;
- 4) Discuss and review confidence/skill associated with November 2026 to April 2027 outlooks based on the discussions associated with 1-3.

Expected Outcomes:

- a) Improved understanding of climate and ocean monitoring and prediction specifically for the target monitoring and prediction periods.
- b) Enhanced understanding of outlook confidence/skill for the period in question;
- c) A regional PICOF statement containing climate, ocean and tropical cyclone outlooks for November 2026 to April 2027 which NMHSs can use as guide to develop their national statements;
- d) A PICOF-19 report;
- e) Content for regional partner and NMHSs climate and ocean bulletins as well as media and social media releases.

Tuesday 20 October 2026 (Papua New Guinea time)

Time	Agenda Item	Responsible
9.00am-9.30am (0800hrs Palau time, 1300hrs Honolulu time and 2300hrs UTC)	Registration	SPREP
9.30am-10.00am	Opening and Setting the Scene Opening prayer Opening remarks Meeting objectives	Chair: Sunny Seuseu PNG NWS ▪ PNG NWS ▪ WMO ▪ SPREP Pacific RCC-N MC Chair
10.00am-10.30am	Morning tea and PICO-19 official photograph	
10.30am-11.00pm	Session 1: ENSO Status and Outlook Including highlights from Global Seasonal Climate Update (GSCU)	ESNZ, BOM, Meteo-France , NOAA, University of Hawaii, APCC, SPREP, SPC
11.00am-11.30am	Session 2: Looking Back - Review and Evaluation of May to October Climate Outlook i. Atmosphere Overview of May to October state of the climate, plus evaluation of the last PICO-19 outlook	NOAA, University of Hawaii, BOM , SPC, SPREP, ESNZ
11.30am-12.00pm	ii. Ocean Overview of May to October state of the ocean, plus evaluation of the last PICO-19 outlook	NOAA, University of Hawaii, BOM, SPC, SPREP, ESNZ
12.00pm-1.00pm	Lunch	
1.00pm-1.30pm	iii. Tropical cyclones Overview of the TCs over May to October 2026	NOAA , University of Hawaii, BOM, SPC, SPREP, ESNZ
1.30pm-2.00pm	iv. Impacts Overview of extreme events and their impacts on the environment and society over the last six months	FSM (Pohnpei), Fiji and French Polynesia
2.00pm-2.20pm	v. Attribution of impacts In this session we attempt to associate the extreme events to the major drivers of variability e.g. ENSO	SPREP

Time	Agenda Item	Responsible
2.20pm-2.50pm	Session 3: Looking Forward – Monthly and Seasonal Outlooks for November 2026 to April 2027	ESNZ, BOM, Meteo-France, NOAA, University of Hawaii, APCC , SPREP, SPC
2.50pm-3.10pm	Session 3i Atmosphere PICOF outlook, RCC Node for SP individual model/MME guidance and hindcast information	
3.10pm-3.40pm	Group work identifying potential impacts of anomalous climate conditions in each subregion	
3.10pm-3.40pm	Afternoon tea	
3.40pm-4.10pm	Session 3ii Ocean PICOF outlook, RCC Node for SP individual model/MME guidance and hindcast information	ESNZ, BOM, Meteo-France, NOAA, University of Hawaii, APCC, SPREP, SPC
4.10pm-4.30pm	Group work identifying potential impacts of anomalous oceanic conditions in each subregion	
6:00pm – 8:00pm	PICOF-19 Welcome Dinner	Venue: Lamana Resort Hosted by PNG NWS

Wednesday 21 October 2026

Time	Agenda Item	Responsible
9.00am-9.15am (0800hrs Palau time, 1300hrs Honolulu time and 2300hrs UTC)	Objective of the day and questions from the previous day	Chair: Simon McGree
9.15am-10.00am	Session 3iii Tropical cyclones PICOFO outlook, RCC Node for SP individual model/MME guidance and hindcast information	ESNZ , BOM, Meteo-France, NOAA, University of Hawaii, APCC , SPREP, SPC
10.00am-10.30am	Morning tea	
10.30am-11.00am	Session 4i: Looking Back Long-Term Rainfall and Air Temperature	CSIRO, BOM , ESNZ and SPREP, Meteo-France, University of Hawaii
11.00am-11.45am	Session 4ii: Looking Forward Long-Term Rainfall and Air Temperature	CSIRO , BOM, ESNZ and SPREP, Meteo-France, University of Hawaii
11.45am-12.00pm	Session 5: Guidelines for producing national statements, Key messages from PICOFO-19	Chair
12.00pm-1.00pm	Lunch	
1.00pm-3.00pm	Session 6: NMHSs produce national statements with support from RCC-N members	ESNZ, BOM, Meteo-France, NOAA, University of Hawaii, APCC , SPREP, SPC
3.00pm-3.30pm	Afternoon tea	



Time	Agenda Item	Responsible
3.30pm-4.00pm	Session 6: continued	ESNZ, BOM, Meteo-France, NOAA, University of Hawaii, APCC, SPREP, SPC
4.00pm-4.30pm	Next step, Wrap-up and Close	Chair