

# IMPACT EVALUATION: Enhancing Weather and Climate Resilience in RIMES Member States through Capacity Building on Impact Forecasting (Phase 2)



The ESCAP Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness



## PROJECT OUTCOMES



Weather and climate information were used by various sectors of participating countries, particularly for **agriculture, DRR, water resources, energy, health, transportation, and tourism.**



Supported the conduct of the **multi-hazard seasonal/monsoon or climate outlook fora** in Laos, Maldives, Papua New Guinea, Sri Lanka, and Samoa.



Explored and discussed **complementary activities** of the project with those supported by WMO, FAO, and EDF in the Pacific Region, **and ways forward.**



Upgraded the decision support system (DSS) for agriculture to enhance functionalities and user interface.



Conducted **trainings beneficial in developing/improving products and services offered by the NMHSs for sectoral use**, including weather & seasonal forecasting, hydrological modeling & flood forecasting, impact-based forecasting (IBF) and risk analysis.



Provided an **avenue for sharing of project experiences and insights** among the beneficiary countries.

## PROJECT OUTCOMES vis-a-vis IMPACT EVALUATION CRITERIA



### RELEVANCE

The Project is considered relevant; it broadly **provided a response to the needs and policies of the NMHSs of the nine participating countries** articulated at the project inception meeting and during RIMES ministerial and council meetings.



### COHERENCE

The Project is broadly **coherent with national, regional, and global best practice and strategies**, building on previous initiatives and results of other projects including FAO, World Bank, ESCAP, WMO, CREWS, GCF, SOFF, EW4All, and SPREP.



### EFFECTIVENESS

The Project was broadly **effective in meeting its stated objectives and outcomes as planned**, bringing countries together to understand impact-based forecasting (IBF) and enhancing weather and climate resilience.



### EFFICIENCY

**Project outputs and outcome were achieved satisfactorily in a cost-effective and timely manner.** RIMES applied efficient monitoring and piloting mechanisms, providing opportunities for feedback during events, which was documented and used to adapt project activities to the needs of users.



### IMPACT

The project generated a number of tangible impacts including **enhanced capacity towards impact-based forecasting through knowledge of IBF science and processes**, as well as building national and regional collaboration and coordination.



### SUSTAINABILITY

With broad support for project activities, and a strong appreciation for the approach taken by RIMES in the implementation of project activities, **all project country partners appear eager and motivated to continue future activities.**

## GOOD PRACTICES

- 1** Leveraging events to create platforms for discussion and knowledge sharing between stakeholders which built national institutional partnerships, collaboration, and coordination.
- 2** Cost optimisation and savings applied to build a learning management tool for wide beneficiary impact across all RIMES member countries.
- 3** Engaging development partners to support continuation of project activities sustained the initiatives when the project ended.
- 4** Dynamic response to stakeholder requests/needs as the project evolved enhanced overall project outcomes.
- 5** Engagement of highly skilled and knowledgeable project staff elicited stakeholder confidence in and support for project activities.
- 6** Designing and implementing project activities to align with and complement other projects enhanced overall outcomes and increased efficiencies.
- 7** Contributed to national institutional partnership, dialogue, and knowledge exchange through the monsoon forums and subregional dialogues.

## LESSONS LEARNED

Among the lessons learned and recommendations for future activities include:

### **Knowledge sharing opportunities provided significant added value to project activities.**

Develop and articulate further the impacts of these exchanges through inter-institutional actions, and consider the creation of regional knowledge networks.



### **Limited national policy frameworks hampered operationalisation of IBF in project countries.**

Future project activities should be more clearly aligned with national policies and define the engagement and involvement of policymakers and decision-makers at the outset of the project activities.



### **It is crucial to establish mechanisms to implement and maintain IBF systems, processes and tools.**

Consider tailoring implementation mechanisms to country-specific application of IBF and developing custom roadmap for IBF.



### **User limitations on the tools introduced (SESAME and FOCUS), in terms of local data and modelling capacity.**

Further customize these tools, considering the accuracy and scale of its application, and explore how to institutionalise these tools and guidelines.



### **Collaboration with more stakeholders would have generated more inclusive and robust solutions.**

Establish connections and commitments with more regional and local entities and organizations.



Read the full report at: [rimes.int/ESCAPIIEvalReport](https://rimes.int/ESCAPIIEvalReport)

"The project was a great idea since it brought many countries together to understand what IBF is and where we stand in our knowledge and implementation."

"RIMES provide service that no other entity has been able to provide for low-capacity countries".

"It was easy to engage on this project."

"I am very happy with this program because it involves Pacific states that are geographically similar climate conditions."

"Continuity is guaranteed as RIMES is always here to support us. Whenever we ask for technical support, they assist."

"The training improved our services; we were able to support enhanced quality products to deliver for other sectors to use."

"Through this project, we have met many forecasters and members working towards the implementation of IBF, which has helped us to make connections with members from different countries. We sometimes share emails and also keep in contact with the groups on WhatsApp."