



Investment Phase:

Peer Advisor Semi-Annual Report

Republic of Kiribati

July 2025

Submitted by

Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Systematic Observations
Financing Facility

**Weather
and climate
data for
resilience**



General Information

Country	Republic of Kiribati	
Peer Advisor	Australian Bureau of Meteorology	
Implementing Entity	United Nations Environment Programme	
Agreement effectiveness date	21 August 2024	
Duration	56 months	
Anticipated end date	1 April 2029	
Reporting period	From: January 2025	To: 1 July 2025
Approved peer advisory fee	USD 535,000	
Disbursed peer advisory fee	USD 178,315.50	
Percentage of financial implementation	33.33%	
Peer advisors' focal point signature	<i>Adele Crozier</i>	
Country's focal point signature (to confirm timely and quality delivery)		

Summary

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) supported the SOFF Investment Phase in Kiribati from January to July 2025, providing strategic, technical, and capacity building expertise to the Kiribati Meteorological Service (KMS). Close collaboration with KMS and UNEP enabled coordinated execution of project activities and contributed significantly to progress under **Output 1: GBON institutional and human capacity developed**. While no infrastructure has yet been installed under **Output 2: GBON infrastructure in place**, BoM supported early stage planning and strategic discussions necessary to initiate and align timelines for civil works and equipment procurement.

In June 2025, KMS led the successful launch of the SOFF project in Kiribati, with support from UNEP and BoM. Foundational activities including the inception workshop, Project Steering Committee meeting, and stakeholder engagement sessions were held from 11–13 June in Tarawa. The Secretary to the Office of Te Beretitenti, Mr. Tebwaatoki Taawetia, officiated the launch and delivered opening remarks. National stakeholders in attendance included representatives from WHO, the National Economic Planning Office, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Division, Environment and Conservation Division, and Local Government Division.

BoM, in collaboration with UNEP and the SOFF PMU, contributed to the development of the annual workplan, which was formally endorsed during the Steering Committee meeting.

BoM Contributions and Impact

Strategic and Technical Support

- Participated in the official launch, inception workshop, PSC meeting, and stakeholder sessions.
- Collaborated with UNEP and KMS to draft and endorse the 2025 Annual Workplan.

Capacity Building – Human Capacity Development

- Delivered training on OSCAR/Surface metadata and WDQMS, both in-person and remotely.
- Conducted preparatory sessions for BIP-MT training, supporting eight KMS staff selected for a ten-week program in Melbourne.

Institutional Capacity Development

- Supported UNEP-led environmental and social safeguards session with a presentation on best practices.
- Provided strategic input on project planning and stakeholder engagement.

Infrastructure and Systems Support

- Shared technical guidance on upper-air station design, including timelines and specifications.
- Facilitated introductions between KMS and contractor for station construction.

Stakeholder Engagement

BoM strengthened relationships with key national stakeholders, including:

- Kiribati Meteorological Service (KMS)
- UNEP
- Secretary to the Office of Te Beretitenti
- Civil society and community representatives



Figure 1 - Environmental and Social Safeguards Session - KMS Office Betio



Figure 2 - Inception Workshop and 1st PSC Meeting, June 11, 2025, CPPL, Bairiki.



Figure 3 - Stakeholder Engagement Workshop – Tarawa



Figure 4 – Concluding session on Friday 13th June, Kiribati Meteorological Service and Secretary OB (far right) - Tarawa

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	# Workshops % Female Participants	BoM participated in person in the inception workshop and stakeholder engagement sessions (11–13 June 2025)						Achieved		
	# Workshops %Female Participants	- Supported UNEP and KMS in delivering stakeholder engagement sessions. - Helped introduce SOFF objectives to national and community stakeholders. - Established relationships with key stakeholders, including the Office of Te Beretitenti, national agencies, and community stakeholders.						On-track		
	Years in which Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be drafted	N/A						N/A	N/A	
1.2 NMHS institutional capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	Years in which Gender Gap Analysis and Gender Action Plan will be drafted	N/A						N/A	N/A	
1.3 NMHS human capacity required to operate the GBON network developed	Years in which participation is planned (tentatively)	- Contributed to strategic planning discussions. - Collaborated in development and endorsement of the annual workplan. - UNEP led a safeguards session at KMS’s request, with BoM contributing a presentation on best practices for implementation during the investment phase.						On-track		
	# Staff Salaries Paid	N/A						N/A	N/A	
	Years in which trainings will be conducted	- Supported BIP-MT training preparation, mentoring eight KMS staff selected for a ten-week program in Melbourne. - Provided face to face logistical support and guidance to KMS staff travelling abroad. - Delivered remote and in person training on OSCAR/Surface metadata and WDQMS - Ongoing and direct remote support for logistical arrangements, guidance and planning.						On-track		

¹ Indicate which year the activity is targeted to be conducted

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			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5			
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	Direct support and on demand access to SME available for advice and support on - Station siting and exposure assessment - Suggestions for suppliers of equipment and services - Facilitate introductions and multi-party discussions - Assistance with budgeting for operation and maintenance of stations during compliance phase						On-track		
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	Direct support and on demand access to SME available for advice and support on - Station siting and exposure assessment - Suggestions for suppliers of equipment and services - Facilitate introductions and multi-party discussions. - Assistance with budgeting for operation and maintenance of stations during compliance phase						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	- Shared preliminary guidance on upper-air station design including timelines and technical requirements. - Facilitated introduction between KMS and contractor for station design and construction						On-track		
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	N/A						N/A	N/A	
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	Available for direct support and facilitate access to subject matter experts (SME) for on call consultation, advice, and support to KMS on: - Equipment or communications issues - Quality management - WIS2.0 configuration and setup - WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration - Regional engagement support - assist KMS to connect and engage with other meteorological services, regional bodies, WMO and other hydro-met initiatives in the region. - Undertake annual in-country peer reviews and contribute to terminal evaluation of the project						Not yet started		



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			Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5		
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	Available for direct support and facilitate access to subject matter experts (SME) for on-call consultation, advice, and support to KMS on: - Equipment or communications issues - Quality management - WIS2.0 configuration and setup - WIGOS, OSCAR/Surface metadata setup and configuration - Regional engagement support - assist KMS to connect and engage with other meteorological services, regional bodies, WMO and other hydro-met initiatives in the region. - Undertake annual in-country peer reviews and contribute to terminal evaluation of the project						Not yet started	