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# **Investment Phase:** Progress update

## **Solomon Islands** July 2026

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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> | 18 June 2024                                                            |                         |
| <b>Duration</b>                     | 60                                                                      |                         |
| <b>Anticipated end date</b>         | 18 June 2029                                                            |                         |
| <b>Reporting period</b>             | <b>From:</b> 01 January 2026                                            | <b>To:</b> 30 June 2026 |
| <b>Approved amount</b>              | Total: USD 8,488,524<br>UNDP: USD 7,916,074<br>WMO: USD 572,450         |                         |
| <b>Disbursed amount</b>             | Total: USD 5,732,049.39<br>UNDP: USD 5,541,251.8<br>WMO: USD 190,797.59 |                         |

## Summary

### 1. Overview

During the reporting period from January to June 2026, UNDP and its partners continued implementation across the project's key workstreams, with progress recorded in stakeholder engagement, gender and social inclusion, capacity development, procurement, infrastructure planning, and coordination with national and international hydro-meteorological initiatives.

Overall, implementation remains broadly on track, with several key activities completed or substantially advanced. The delivery of AWS equipment and preparations for upper-air systems and associated civil works are progressing, while some activities remain dependent on equipment delivery, completion of civil works, and coordination with key partners.

### 2. Progress by Activity

#### Activity 1.1 – Stakeholder Consultations and Coordination

By June 2026, almost all planned consultations with civil society organisations (CSOs) and other relevant stakeholders had been conducted and were largely completed. Remaining resources will be used to support participation in SOFF and other regional and global coordination events and meetings, as appropriate.

#### Activity 1.2 – Gender, Equity and Social Inclusion and Aviation Cost Recovery

The gender analysis and roadmap have been completed. The project also contributed to activities commemorating World Meteorological Day in March 2026.

Further gender, equity and social inclusion (GESI) activities will be implemented following the installation of the Automatic Weather Stations (AWS), which will provide opportunities to strengthen participation from broader civil society and private-sector stakeholders.

SOFF remains ready to support SIMS-led workshops on the national aviation cost-recovery plan. These workshops were postponed, and follow-up discussions with SIMS are ongoing, with implementation currently targeted for Q3 2026.

#### Activity 1.3 – Capacity Development and Training

Training for newly recruited Meteorological Officers was completed in 2025.

Two additional technical training sessions for SIMS staff on the operation and maintenance of the newly procured equipment remain outstanding. These trainings will be delivered by the respective equipment suppliers:

Campbell Scientific – training on AWS equipment, planned for late Q3 2026, following equipment installation.

Vaisala – training on upper-air equipment, planned for Q1 2027, subject to completion of the upper-air stations and arrival/installation of the equipment.

#### Activity 2.2 – Equipment Delivery, Installation and Communications

The Campbell Scientific AWS equipment has arrived in-country and is ready for delivery to SIMS. Installation is planned for Q3–Q4 2026.

The specialised upper-air equipment has not yet arrived in-country, and its delivery is being closely monitored. Delivery is anticipated during Q3–Q4 2026.

Procurement and arrangements for satellite communications for the AWS and upper-air systems are progressing. The purchase of the required data plans will proceed following final coordination with the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM).

#### Activity 2.3 – Infrastructure and Upper-Air Stations

The National Aeronautical Laboratory (NAL) has completed the designs for three upper-air stations and the Kirakira manned station. The construction tender will be launched early in Q3 2026.

Procurement of the specialised upper-air equipment has been completed. Delivery of the equipment to the country and subsequent handover to SIMS are pending.

#### Activity 3.2 – Post-Commissioning Equipment and Materials

Procurement of equipment and materials required for the post-commissioning phase is ongoing. At this stage, the final quantities required have not yet been confirmed, as spare parts are included in the delivery lists for equipment supplied by both Campbell Scientific and Vaisala. The project will review the supplier delivery lists before finalising the remaining procurement requirements.

### 3. Key Priorities for Q3–Q4 2026

Implementation during the second half of 2026 will focus on accelerating equipment delivery, infrastructure development, station installation, capacity building, policy support, and coordination with complementary initiatives.

Key planned activities include:

Delivery of specialised upper-air equipment, including partial deliveries, where possible, in parallel with the civil works.

Competitive tendering and selection of contractors to undertake civil works at all four sites. Construction may be phased, with one or two buildings potentially completed in 2026 and the remaining buildings constructed and completed in 2027.

Installation of six new AWS and manual sensors in accordance with the GBON Contribution Plan, accompanied by specialised training-of-trainers delivered by Campbell Scientific.

Development and implementation of the project's gender analysis and action plan, building on the gender analysis and roadmap already completed.

Support to SIMS for consultations on the new Meteorology Act, including assistance with the formulation of the national aviation cost-recovery plan.

Continued coordination with complementary hydro-meteorological and aviation initiatives to ensure interoperability, avoid duplication, and maximise the sustainability and use of investments. Priority coordination areas include:

The DFAT-funded Twinning Programme, particularly coordination of locations for future weather stations and facilitation of data ingestion into CliDE, the preferred meteorological and climate data management system.

The BoM-led construction of a new AWOS at Munda Airport, including integration of the resulting data into CliDE.

The World Bank-funded SIRAP project, including data ingestion into CliDE from the new AWOS at Henderson Airport in Honiara.

CREWS 3.0, WRP and COSSPAC, particularly in relation to WIS2 implementation and other areas of common interest.

#### 4. Overall Assessment

Implementation during the first half of 2026 has maintained good momentum, with significant progress in stakeholder consultations, gender analysis, equipment procurement, infrastructure design, and coordination with key partners. The arrival of the AWS equipment marks an important milestone and enables installation activities to commence during Q3–Q4 2026.

The main implementation dependencies for the remainder of 2026 are the arrival of specialised upper-air equipment, completion of civil works, finalisation of equipment and spare-parts requirements, and coordination with SIMS and other technical partners. Subject to timely resolution of these dependencies and available budget, the project is well positioned to advance the installation and operationalisation of the planned observing infrastructure and associated capacity-building activities during the second half of 2026.

## 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 consultations</b> , including with CSOs and other relevant stakeholders conducted | # of consultation workshops (1.1.17)                          | 4      | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 4      | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | Achieved        | 4 provincial consultative meetings for the environmental impact assessment, UXO survey & upper-air design works |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | % of female participants attendance in each workshop (1.1.18) | 0      | 30 | 30 | 30 | 30 | 0      | 30 | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track        | Female participation reflected in workshop                                                                      |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | # of high-level dialogue conducted (1.1.19)                   | 6      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 6      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | Achieved        | Meetings with Provincial Government                                                                             |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | Implementation Plan in place (1.1.99)                         | 1      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | Achieved        | Plan in place                                                                                                   |                      |  |
| 1.2 <b>NMHS institutional capacity</b> required to operate the GBON network developed             | # of new/ updated processes                                   | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | Not yet started |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | # of established agreements (1.2.97)                          | 1      | 0  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 1      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track        |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | Gender Analysis and Action Plan (1.2.98)                      | 0      | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0      | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | Achieved        |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | Years of regional collaboration (1.2.99)                      | 1      | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1      | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | On-track        |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |
| 1.3 <b>NMHS human capacity</b> required to operate the GBON network developed                     | % increase of female staff                                    | 10     | 10 | 0  | 0  | 0  | 5      | 5  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track        |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | # of staff trained (1.3.94)                                   | 10     | 10 | 0  | 0  | 0  | 10     | 10 | 0  | 0  | 0  | Achieved        | 10 new SIMS staff completed a six-month, WMO-accredited BIP training                                            |                      |  |
|                                                                                                   | # of specialized staff trained (1.3.23)                       | 2      | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track        |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |
| 2. GBON infrastructure in place                                                                   |                                                               |        |    |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |    |                 |                                                                                                                 |                      |  |

| Output                                                                                                                                                                                                | Indicator                                                                      | Target |    |    |    |    | Actual |    |    |    |    | Status   | Milestones achieved                               | Challenges and risks                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|----|----|----|----|--------|----|----|----|----|----------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                | Y1     | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 | Y1     | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 |          |                                                   |                                                                            |
| 2.1 <b>New land-based stations</b> 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         | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track | Preparatory work underway (see summary narrative) | Coordinate timing of civil works and delivery/installation of UA equipment |
| 2.2 <b>Improved land-based stations</b> and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place                                                         | # of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan (2.2.1)      | 8      | 8  | 8  | 8  | 8  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track | Preparatory work underway                         | Coordinate timing of civil works and delivery                              |
| 2.3 <b>New upper air stations</b> 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 (2.3.1) | 1      | 1  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track | Preparatory work underway                         | Coordinate timing of civil works and delivery                              |
| 2.4 <b>Improved upper air stations</b> and related equipment, ICT systems, data management systems and standard operating practices in place                                                          | # of stations improved as per the GBON National Contribution Plan              | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track | Preparatory work underway                         | Coordinate timing of civil works and delivery                              |
| <b>3. Sustained compliance with GBON</b>                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                |        |    |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |    |          |                                                   |                                                                            |
| 3.1 <b>GBON land-based 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 (3.1.1)  | 0      | 0  | 8  | 8  | 8  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track | Preparatory work underway                         | Coordinate timing of civil works and delivery                              |
| 3.2 <b>GBON upper air stations' commissioning period completed</b> , country-specific standard cost for operations and maintenance established,                                                       | # of stations commissioned as per the GBON National Contribution Plan (3.2.1)  | 0      | 1  | 2  | 3  | 3  | 0      | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | On-track | Preparatory work underway                         | Coordinate timing of civil works and delivery                              |

| 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 |           |        |    |    |    |    |        |    |    |    |    |        |                     |                      |

Editable Section - Any other relevant information