

## “The UNEP CIS-Pac5 Program Site Visit with the Head of the UNEP Pacific Office to Ngeremlengui State”



*Front row L-R: BMT ATON Technicians Mr. Elson Skebong and Mr. Joey Sumor, Mr. Waymine Towai, NEMO Director, Reps of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Mr. Jinhua Zhang, Head of the UNEP Pacific Office, Ngeremlengui Governor Sisca Ilongang Remengesau-Vogt, Mr. Jaap Van Hierden, UN Resident Coordinator for the North Pacific, Mrs. Maya Hierden, Ms. Meiang Chin, UNEP CIS-Pac5 Project Manager, and Ms. Loma Ngemaes, NEMO DRRO. Back row L-R: WSO Technician Mr. Dexter Sadang, Leong Debengek, NEMO DRO, WSO Technicians Mr. Torual Ulechong and Livan Chin, and BMT Maritime Safety Officer Mr. Masato Inoue, BMT Director Hayes Moses*

The GCF-UNEP Project (FP147) titled “Enhancing Climate Information and Knowledge Services for Resilience of the 5 Island Countries of the Pacific Ocean (UNEP CIS-Pac5)” is making significant strides in fortifying climate resilience across the Pacific region. On September 13, 2024, the project management unit with the support of the our regional,

national and state partners had the pleasure of hosting Mr. Jaap Van Hierden, UN Resident Coordinator for the North Pacific, Mr. Jinhua Zhang, Head of the UNEP Pacific Office and Representatives of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on a site visit to Ngeremlengui State, aiming to deepen their understanding of how the program supports local communities’ livelihoods, boosts blue economy potentials, and enhances resilience against the persistent challenges posed by climate change.

The site visit's primary goal was to showcase the program’s tangible impact on local communities. Ngeremlengui State is a pivotal area where the UNEP CIS-Pac5 program has rolled out initiatives designed to promote sustainable livelihoods while mitigating the adverse effects of climate-related disasters. By providing early warnings and minimizing risks, the program plays an essential role in protecting the well-being and economic stability of Palauan communities.



*Pictured: WSO Technician Mr. Torual Ulechong showcased the Automated Weather Station Control Panel to Governor Remengesau-Vogt*

Ngeremlengui State hosts two critical installations supported by the UNEP CIS-Pac5 program: the Palau National Weather Service Office's wave rider buoy and an automated weather station. These installations are vital for collecting real-time data on weather patterns and ocean conditions, which form the backbone of early warning systems and inform climate adaptation strategies.



***Pictured(L-R): Mr. Waymine Towai  
NEMO Director, Mr. Jinhua Zhang,  
Head of the UNEP Pacific Office Zhan,  
and Mr. Jaap Van Hierden, UN Resident  
Coordinator for the North Pacific***

The wave rider buoy is particularly significant for monitoring ocean conditions. It provides crucial data for Palau's western oceanic and coastal fisheries, guiding small-scale fishermen and supporting the maritime activities of cargo vessels navigating the Ngeremlengui passage (Taoch Mlengui). Complementing this is the automated weather station operated by the Palau National Weather Service, which delivers accurate and timely weather information essential for preparing for and responding to extreme weather events.

The site visit was attended by key figures, including Ngeremlengui Governor Sisca Ilolang Remengesau-Vogt, Mr. Jinhua Zhang, Head of the UNEP Pacific Office, and Mr. Jaap Van Hierden, UN Resident Coordinator for the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, and Palau. The event was initiated by the National Designated Authority, Director Casimir E. Remengesau of the Bureau of Budget and Planning. Leading the visit was the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO) Director Waymine Towai, who serves as the Project Lead and Vice Chairman of the UNEP CIS-Pac5 National Coordinating Committee. Accompanying Director Towai were Palau

National Weather Service technicians Mr. Torual Ulechong and Mr. Dexter Sadang, as well as Director Hayes Moses of the Bureau of Marine Transportation. Other NCC members who were unable to attend but have had an equally significant positive impact on the UNEP CIS-Pac5 Program include the Bureau of Public Health, the Office of Climate Change, and the Palau Red Cross Society. Their contributions are vital to the project's success and demonstrate the importance of multi-sectoral collaboration in enhancing climate resilience across the Republic of Palau. Their participation underscores the critical role of collaboration and leadership in addressing the complex challenges posed by climate change. The visit was coordinated by the Office of Project Management within the Bureau of Budget and Planning, highlighting the integrated efforts across different sectors to enhance climate resilience. For more information about the UNEP CIS-Pac5 Program, please contact Project Manager Ms. Meiang Chin [meiangc@palaugov.org](mailto:meiangc@palaugov.org) and Finance Officer Ms. Amanda Alexander [palau.amand.2018@gmail.com](mailto:palau.amand.2018@gmail.com)