



## GOVERNMENT OF NIUE

MEDIA RELEASE

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### NIUE METEOROLOGICAL SERVICE CONDUCTS WORKSHOP ON EARLY ACTION RAINFALL WATCH

**Alofi, Niue – 25 March 2024** - The Niue Meteorological Service, in collaboration with the UNEP CIS-PAC5 Team, conducted a workshop for Early Action Rainfall (EAR) Watch, which commenced from the 11th to 21st March 2024. The workshop aims to enhance Niue's capacity to respond effectively to prolonged periods of abnormally dry and wet conditions, providing vital information to national disaster management sectors.

The Early Action Rainfall Watch Bulletin serves as a crucial tool for disaster management planning, offering insights into potential extremes in rainfall patterns and their associated impacts. By forecasting these events in advance, stakeholders can better prepare and mitigate risks.



The workshop began with capacity-building exercises led by Niue Meteorology staff, focusing on drafting the EAR Watch product tailored to Niue's specific needs, the surrounding impacts of extreme rainfall and climate sector action.

The Stakeholder engagement held at Scenic Matavai Resort formed a significant part of the workshop, with representatives from various public service departments and the private sector offering valuable insights. Together, they identified impacts and products to integrate climate outlook bulletins with EAR Watch maps for drought and wet periods.

The collaborative efforts of the UNEP CIS-PAC5 project staff and Niue Meteorological Services have produced fruitful outcomes. The workshop concluded on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 with key agencies to explore opportunities that will further develop triggers for Niue's drought plan and Early Action Guidelines.

The Director of Niue Meteorological Service, Rossy Mitiepo and Staff extends its gratitude to the team from the Bureau of Meteorology, Australia, including Dr. Simon McGree, Janita Pahalad, Ashley Wild, and Alexander Bisaro, as well as Maya Manocsoc from the Red Cross/APCC. Special thanks are also extended to the UNEP CIS-PAC5 team Dr. Olivia Warrick, Dr. Simon McGree, and all participants from various sectors for their contributions to the development of the EAR Watch bulletin.

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**For further information, please contact:**

Anzee Mougavalu, GON Communications Officer, Email: [niuegovernment.media@mail.gov.nu](mailto:niuegovernment.media@mail.gov.nu)