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Nine Participants Complete Training at Pacific International Training Desk

This month (February 2016), the Pacific International Training Desk (PITD) graduated 9 participants from various meteorological services in the Pacific Region from its 4-week onsite trainings in Hawaii and Guam. The training is intended to prepare weather observers to understand the forecast process, learn fundamental variables and skills required for forecasting, and provide an opportunity for basic hands-on work with meteorological analysis and prediction. The PITD provides one-on-one basic weather forecast training with an emphasis on the tropics. The training program is focused on operational forecasting to enable its participants to prepare and disseminate locally-produced meteorological, hydrologic and climate products for their home countries.

This was the first PITD training delivered at the NOAA/NWS Weather Forecast Office in Guam. Participants to the PITD in Guam are weather observers from Weather Service Offices in the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Pohnpei and Yap), the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. PITD in Hawaii train participants from National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) of the Regional Association V (RA V) of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO).

PITD in Guam Cohort #1 - 25 January to 19 February 2016:

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Kenely Andon | FSM, Pohnpei |
| 2. Mr. Rick Dizon | Republic of Palau |
| 3. Mr. Choorang Falan | FSM, Yap |
| 4. Mr. Nover Juria | Republic of the Marshall Islands |
| 5. Mr. Sosten Sos | FSM, Chuuk |

PITD in Hawaii Cohort #1 – 1 to 26 February 2016:

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mr. Sakumai Kanawi | Papua New Guinea |
| 2. Mr. Polapola Keli | Tuvalu |
| 3. Mr. Alamoana Tofuola | Tuvalu |
| 4. Mr. Peter Warupi | Papua New Guinea |

The PITD would like to acknowledge experts; partnering organizations; NMHSs in the Pacific Region; US NOAA/NWS, NOAA/NWS Pacific Region; NOAA/NWS International Activities Office; NOAA/NWS WFOs Honolulu and Guam for continuing to support training opportunities and capacity building initiatives for the Pacific.

Congratulations to all!

Honolulu Training Schedule

01 FEB	Cohort #1 – 1 to 26 Feb 09:00am
25 APR	Cohort #2 – 25 Apr to 20 May 09:00am
06 JUN	Cohort #3 – 6 Jun to 1 July 09:00am
01 AUG	Cohort #4 – 1 to 26 Aug 09:00am
03 OCT	Cohort #5 – 3 to 28 Oct 09:00am

Guam Training Schedule

25 JAN	Cohort #1 – 25 Jan to 19 Feb 09:00am
07 MAR	Cohort #2 – 7 Mar to 1 Apr 09:00am
02 MAY	Cohort #3 – 2 May to 3 June 09:00am



Figure 1 Cohort #1 Guam L-R: Nover Juria (RMI), Choorang Falan (Yap), Rick Dizon (Palau), H. Gingerlei Porter (Associate Director, PITD), Sosten Sos (Chuuk) and Kenely Andon (Pohnpei)
Photo taken: 19 Jan 2016 at NOAA/NWS WFO Guam



Figure 2 Cohort #1 Hawaii L-R sitting: Polapola Keli (Tuvalu), Sakumai Kanawi (PNG), Peter Warupi (PNG) and Alamoana Tofuola (Tuvalu). Standing: Ken Kleeschulte (Meteorologist, NOAA/NWS WFO Guam), Thomas Okamura (Communications Instructor, PITD), H. Gingerlei Porter (Associate Director, PITD), Jennifer Strahl (Meteorologist/Lead Instructor, PITD), Tom Evans (Acting MIC, NOAA/NWS Honolulu), Jason Gilbert (Chief, Administrator NOAA/NWS Pacific Region), Ray Tanabe (Director, NOAA/NWS Pacific Region), Genevieve Miller (MIC, NOAA/NWS Guam), and Christina Higa (Director, PITD).
Photo taken: 26 Jan 2016 NOAA/NWS WFO Honolulu

Hawaii Cohort #1 Participant Profiles



Sakumai Kanawi
Papua New Guinea

SAKUMAI KANAWI is a certified Meteorological Observer (Class IV). He is currently working as a Briefing Officer/Assistant Weather Forecaster with the Papua New Guinea Meteorological Service. He has worked in the field of meteorology over the last decade. He provides meteorological service to the aviation industries and collects surface and upper air meteorological data for forecasting and climate purposes. He has attended several training courses including trainings hosted by the Fiji Meteorological Services Training Centre, Nadi-Fiji Island. The

training courses he attended at FMS are: 1. Communications and Information Services in Meteorology (Nadi, Fiji 2010); 2. The Third Country Program on Regional Meteorology Training for Pacific Island Countries- Meteorological Equipment and Instruments Maintenance Calibration Training Course (Nadi, Fiji 2012). Sakumai holds a Diploma in Human Resource Management from the International Training Institute (PNG, 2013); Certificate in Train the Trainer Course (PNG Human Resource Institute-2014) and has participated in conducting initial meteorological observer training at PNG National Weather Service.

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Polapola Keli
Tuvalu

POLAPOLA KELI is an Observer at the Tuvalu Meteorological Services. He has been working with the Tuvalu Meteorological Services since 2006. He has attended Basic Forecasting Training (Fiji), Polapola's duties include: preparing daily weather forecast; data input into the CLIDE system; weather observation and other duties assign by supervisor.

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Alamoana Tofuola
Tuvalu

ALAMOANA TOFUOLA Alamoana has been an observer since May 2012. He assists to prepare forecasts and soundings. Alamoana enjoys the challenges in the field of meteorology and is encouraged to pursue it further. He is married to Talimoana and they have two children, Fagalo and Junior Saaga.

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Peter Warupi
Papua New Guinea

PETER WARUPI is a Briefing Officer/Assistant Weather Forecaster for the Papua New Guinea Meteorological Service. He is a certified Meteorological Observer (Class IV) and has been working for the PNG Meteorological Service since 1994. Peter Warpui conducts face-to-face briefings and maintains meteorological watch for all domestic and international aerodromes/air routes.

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PITD Cohort #2 Participants

The PITD in Hawaii and Guam will soon be welcoming the following participants for training:

PITD in Guam Cohort #2 – 7 March to 1 April 2016

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Ann Andrew | FSM, Chuuk |
| 2. Mr. Lee Jacklick | Republic of the Marshall Islands |
| 3. Mr. Wilfred Nanpei | FSM, Pohnpei |
| 4. Ms. Jane Laakthin | FSM, Yap |
| 5. Ms. Joyleen Tmatk-Temengil | Republic of Palau |

PITD in Hawaii Cohort #2 – 25 April to 20 May 2016

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|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Mr. Joe Ganqurae | Solomon Islands |
| 2. Mr. Heau Lohia | Papua New Guinea |
| 3. Mr. Solomon Manataniasi | Solomon Islands |
| 4. Mr. Ula Virobo | Papua New Guinea |



The Pacific International Training Desk (PITD) was established on the campus of the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2001 by the US National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)/National Weather Service (NWS) at the Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Honolulu. In 2016, the PITD established another training site at the NOAA/NWS WFO Guam. The PITD is administered by the Telecommunications And Social Informatics Research Program (UH TASI) of the Social Science Research Institute at the Univeristy of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) College of Social Sciences. 2424 Maile Way Saunders Hall 713 | Honolulu, HI 96822 | Tel: +1 808 956 9557 | Fax: +1 808 956 8019 | pacificdesk@uhtasi.org | www.pacificdesk.org |