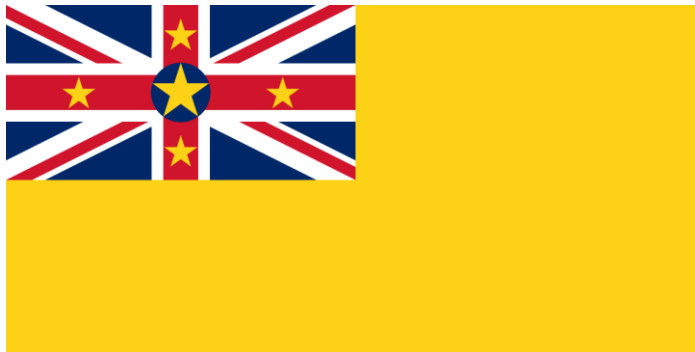


IHO Capacity Building Programme

IHO 2019-CBWP: A-02 TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION VISIT REPORT

The State of Hydrography and Nautical Charting in Niue



17-21 June 2019

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

COVER	Page 1
TABLE OF CONTENTS	Page 3
ABBREVIATIONS	Page 4
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	Page 5
REPORT OF TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION VISIT TO NIUE	Page 9
References	Page 9
1. Visit overview	Page 9
2. Composition of the Team	Page 10
CONCLUSIONS	Page 10
3. Progress on previous recommendations	Page 10
4. RHC Follow up Actions	Page 13
Annex A Summary of events for the visit to Niue	Page 14
Annex B List of Contacts	Page 15
Annex C Bilateral Arrangement between Land Information New Zealand and the Government of Niue concerning cooperation in the field of hydrography	Page 16

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Version	Date	Comment
0.1	09/12/2019	DRAFT for review
1.0	05/05/2021	Final version

ABBREVIATIONS

CB	Capacity Building
CBSC	IHO Capacity Building Sub-Committee
CBWP	Capacity Building Work Programme
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EGC	Enhanced Group Call
GIS	Geographic Information System
IHO	International Hydrographic Organization
IMO	International Maritime Organization
LINZ	Land Information New Zealand
MFAT	Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade
MSAF	Maritime Safety Authority Fiji
MSI	Maritime Safety Information
NHC	National Hydrographic Committee
NHCC	National Hydrographic Coordination Committee
NZ	New Zealand
PCA	Primary Charting Authority
PIC	Pacific Island Country
PMSP	Pacific Maritime Safety Programme
PRNI	Pacific Regional Navigation Initiative
RHC	Regional Hydrographic Commission
SOLAS	[United Nations] Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea
SWPHC	South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission
UN	United Nations

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TECHNICAL VISITS

In 2016 Adam Greenland, National Hydrographer, and Stuart Caie, Manager Hydrographic Survey, Land Information New Zealand (LINZ), the New Zealand Hydrographic Authority undertook a Technical Assessment Visit to Niue on behalf of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). The Technical Visit Team was able to conduct this visit through the NZ led Pacific Regional Navigation Initiative (PRNI).

The subsequent Technical Implementation Visit was conducted by Stuart Caie, Manager Hydrographic Survey, LINZ and Sunil Kumar, National MSI Coordinator, Maritime Safety Authority Fiji (MSAF) from 17th to 21st June 2019. To minimize stakeholder fatigue, the visit was planned to coincide with other PRNI activities (1-day MSI Training and survey data handover) and Search and Rescue training provided under the NZ Pacific Maritime Safety Programme (PMSP) by Maritime New Zealand, the XIV NAVAREA Coordinator..

The Technical Implementation Visit reviewed the recommendations from the 2016 Technical Assessment Visit, with a view to providing assistance to Niue, as required, to fully action the recommendations. Through PRNI and South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) Capacity Building activities, all but one of the recommendations (item d. below) had been completed prior to the visit.

The following recommendations were made in the 2016 Technical Assessment report:

- a. **The Government of Niue** to ratify status as an associate member (as a non-IHO-Member State) of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) and attend the next meeting in Nouméa, New Caledonia 30 November – 2 December 2016.
- b. **The Government of Niue** to formally establish a national hydrographic governance structure, to ensure the provision of hydrographic services in accordance with the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and contemporary international practice. The national framework should establish:
 1. a National MSI Coordinator position;
 2. a minimum level of in-country MSI capability; and
 3. a bilateral arrangement with LINZ, the New Zealand Hydrographic Authority, for the provision of hydrographic services.
- c. **The Government of Niue** to establish a close liaison with LINZ to ensure navigationally significant information is forwarded and included in existing charts of the country; and
- d. **The Government of Niue** to form a National Hydrographic Committee to coordinate national hydrographic requirements. This committee should include representation from all stakeholder groups, including but not limited to: Ministry of Infrastructure: Communications, Transport and Utilities; Ministry of Social Services: Department of Justice, Lands & Survey; Ministry of Natural Resources: Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Environment, and Meteorological Services; Finance and Planning; Niue Police; Niue Disaster Council; Niue Tourism; provincial representatives; tourism operators; SPC and other potential assistance agencies.
- e. **The Government of Niue** to compile information for the IHO Yearbook and submit to the IHO Secretariat.

GENERAL AWARENESS IN THE COASTAL STATE

1. Niue is not a member of the United Nations but UN organisations have accepted its status as a freely-associated state as equivalent to independence for the purposes of international law. In 2012 Niue signed the International Maritime Organization (IMO) International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS).

IHO/RHC MEMBERSHIP OF NIUE

2. Niue does not intend to join the IHO as membership fees are restrictive and funds are prioritized for other international memberships.
3. In 2012 Niue signed the Statutes of the South West Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC).
4. Niue attended SWPHC meetings in 2012, 2015, 2016 and 2018, and hosted the 2019 meeting.

INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATION OF NIUE

5. The Ministry of Infrastructure: Communications, Transport and Utilities (MOI), is the Competent Authority responsible for meeting the State's obligations under SOLAS V/4 and V/9.
6. In March 2017 MOI and LINZ signed a Bilateral Arrangement under the NZ led PRNI programme of work. The Bilateral is attached as Annex C and details the arrangements under which MOI and LINZ will work together to meet Niue's obligations under SOLAS V/9, provision of hydrographic services and SOLAS V/4, navigational warnings.

CERTIFIED PERSONNEL

7. The Ministry of Social Services, Department of Justice, Lands and Survey provides GIS services for Niue. One GIS specialist is qualified with a Diploma in GIS.
8. Niue does not have any qualified hydrographic surveyors or marine cartographers.
9. Niue attended IHO funded 2-day MSI technical workshops in 2014, 2016 and 2018. In June 2019 1-day training was provided to the National MSI Coordinator and identified support personnel from other organisations.

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY & NAUTICAL CARTOGRAPHY CAPABILITY

10. Niue does not have hydrographic surveying or nautical cartography capability. As the largest raised coral atoll in the world, the island is surrounded by coral reef extending 10-30m from the cliffs, with occasional reef passages on the west coast. There are three outlying coral reefs within the EEZ. As such, the surrounding geomorphic environment realistically negates the need to establish in-country hydrographic surveying capability.

11. Currently LINZ produces and maintains the nautical charts for Niue. Under PRNI hydrographic surveys of Niue and Beveridge Reef (the largest outlying coral reef) were completed in late-2018. By the end of June 2020 the existing charts will be updated and new charts produced from this hydrographic survey. The charts will also be renumbered using the UN two letter country code.

MSI RESPONSIBILITY

12. A National MSI Coordinator role was established in 2017 within MOI Transport. The appointed Coordinator received MSI training delivered by NAVAREA XIV Coordinator and MSAF National MSI Coordinator in June 2019.

13. Niue Radio, operated by Niue Telecom, provides 24/7 operations for the coastal waters, to extent of VHF and HF radio coverage.

14. NAVAREA XIV Coordinator provides support and EGC broadcast service for promulgating NAVAREA XIV messages.

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REPORT OF TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION VISIT TO NIUE

17-21 June 2019

Reference(s):

- A. IHO Publication M-2 *The Need of National Hydrographic Services* - Version 3.0.7
- B. IHO CB Procedure 9: *Guidelines to Conduct Technical Visits*
- C. [IHO Technical Assessment Visit to Niue, 1-5 February 2016](#) (20016-A11-TV-Niue-Report.pdf)
- D. Bilateral Arrangement between Land Information New Zealand and The Government of Niue, concerning cooperation in the field of hydrography, March 2017.

1. Visit overview

In February 2016 Land Information New Zealand (LINZ), the New Zealand Hydrographic Authority undertook a Technical Assessment Visit to Niue on behalf of the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO). The Technical Visit Team was able to conduct this visit through the NZ led Pacific Regional Navigation Initiative (PRNI).

The resulting report made a number of recommendations that were agreed between the Technical Visit Team and the Government of Niue. Through subsequent capacity building activities funded by the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) and PRNI, it has been possible to address most of the recommendations. PRNI has a Capacity Building component to enable Pacific Island Countries (PIC), within the programme of work, to attain Phase 1 of the IHO Capacity Building Strategy.

In 2017, following a request from Niue, a submission was made by the SWPHC CB Coordinator, at CBSC15 to undertake a Technical Implementation Visit. The activity was added to the CBWP for 2018 however, due to resourcing constraints, it was not possible for LINZ to undertake the visit until 2019.

In planning the Technical Visit, synergies with other regional capacity building activities were considered. As a result, the Technical Visit was combined with two other activities; PRNI; the NZ led Pacific Maritime Safety Programme (PSMP); and IHO desire to increase regional capacity in delivering MSI.

Through the PMSP programme of work, Search and Rescue training was being provided to Niue. The training was led by Maritime New Zealand (Maritime NZ). Maritime NZ are the NAVAREA XIV Coordinator and the opportunity was taken to conduct a 1-day MSI training workshop for the Niue National MSI Coordinator and supporting team. This was funded by PRNI and enabled the inclusion of the Fiji National MSI Coordinator to attend and expand his experience in delivering MSI training, (which commenced in August 2018 when assisting NAVAREA X and XIV Coordinators in delivering the IHO 3-day MSI technical workshop).

This combined approach worked well and was welcomed by Niue. It reduced stakeholder fatigue by focusing efforts over one week rather than two separate visits, with the same stakeholders.

2. Composition of the Team

The RHC Technical Visit Team:

Name	Role
Mr Stuart Caie, LINZ, Manager Hydrographic Survey	Team Leader
Mr Sunil Kumar, Maritime Safety Authority Fiji, National MSI Coordinator	Assistant

CONCLUSIONS

3. Progress on previous recommendations


The following table details the progress on recommendations made in the Technical Assessment Visit report.

Recommendation	Action status
<p>The Government of Niue to ratify status as an associate member (as a non-IHO-Member State) of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission (SWPHC) and attend the next meeting in Nouméa, New Caledonia 30 November – 2 December 2016</p>	<p>Achieved</p>
<p>The Government of Niue to formally establish a national hydrographic governance structure, to ensure the provision of hydrographic services in accordance with the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and contemporary international practice. The national framework should establish:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a National MSI Coordinator position 	<p>Role established in 2017 within the Department of Transport, MOI. No formal IHO CB funded MSI training received. 1-day training provided in June 2019 during Technical Visit under the PRNI programme of work.</p> <p>MOI to consider adding a section to the Transport Act regarding the role of the National MSI Coordinator</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a minimum level of in-country MSI capability 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Niue Radio personnel provide 24/7 operations for coastal radio operations. Personnel attended IHO CB funded MSI training 2016 and 2018, and 1-day training in June 2019 provided during Technical Visit under the PRNI programme of work</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a bilateral arrangement with LINZ, the New Zealand Hydrographic Authority, for the provision of hydrographic services 	<p>Achieved</p> <p>Bilateral Arrangement between LINZ and The Government of Niue, concerning cooperation in the field of hydrography was signed March 2017</p>
<p>The Government of Niue to establish a close liaison with LINZ to ensure navigationally significant information is forwarded and included in existing charts of the country</p>	<p>Achieved</p>

<p>The Government of Niue to form a National Hydrographic Committee to coordinate national hydrographic requirements. This committee should include representation from all stakeholder groups, including but not limited to: Ministry of Infrastructure: Communications, Transport and Utilities; Ministry of Social Services: Department of Justice, Lands & Survey; Ministry of Natural Resources: Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Environment, and Meteorological Services; Finance and Planning; Niue Police; Niue Disaster Council; Niue Tourism; provincial representatives; tourism operators; SPC and other potential assistance agencies</p>	<p>MOI to draft and submit a Cabinet Paper by the end of 2019 to establish the National Hydrographic Committee. Rather than establishing a new committee, the Terms of Reference for an existing committee will be amended, incorporating components of the TORs developed by the Samoa NHC and with guidance from IHO document C-16 National Hydrographic Regulations</p>
<p>The Government of Niue to compile information for the IHO Yearbook and submit to the IHO Secretariat</p>	<p>Achieved</p>

4. RHC Follow up Actions

- a. Confirmation that NHC establishment is approved by Cabinet.

DATE	06 December 2019
RHC Technical Visit Team Leader	Stuart Caie Manager Hydrographic Survey, LINZ
SIGNATURE	

Annex List:

- A. Summary of Events
- B. List of contacts
- C. Bilateral Arrangement between LINZ and Niue

DISTRIBUTION: Chair RHC

INFORMATION: IHO Secretariat / Niue

SUMMARY OF EVENTS FOR THE TECHNICAL IMPLEMENTATION VISIT TO NIUE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
14/06/2019	RHC Technical Team arrive at Matavai Resort Niue; meet with NZ High Commissioner and discuss programme
15/06/2019	Team convened for planning meeting at Matavai Resort, Niue
17/06/2019	Team contribute to PRNI funded 1-day MSI training for Niue National MSI Coordinator and support team. Training delivered by NAVAREA XIV Coordinator and Fiji National MSI Coordinator
18/06/2019	Team meet with Ministry of Infrastructure: Communications, Transport and Utilities (MOI) Department of Transport and Ministry of Justice, Department of Lands and Survey. Calls on Finance Secretary, Finance & Planning
19/06/2019	Calls on Niue Oceans Wide (NOW) Project; Ridge to Reef Project; Acting Secretary of Government, Crown Law; Ministry of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).
20/06/2019	Team meet with Director of Transport, MOI.
21/06/2019	Team meet with NZ High Commissioner before departure providing debrief of visit. Team departs Niue.

LIST OF CONTACTS

Organisation	Contact	Email
NZ High Commission	Kirk Yates High Commissioner	Kirk.Yates@mfat.govt.nz
Ministry of Social Services	Darren Tohovaka Secretary of Justice Dept. of Justice, Lands & Survey	Darren.Tohovaka@mail.gov.nu
	Richard Siataga GIS/LIS Tech Officer Dept. of Justice, Lands & Survey	richard.siataga@mail.gov.nu
Ministry of Infrastructure Communications, Transport and Utilities	Sonya Talagi Director of Transport	Sonya.Talagi@mail.gov.nu
	Lynsey Talagi Manager, Maritime	lynsey.talagi@mail.gov.nu
Finance & Planning	Doreen Siataga Acting on behalf of Financial Secretary	Doreen.siataga@mail.gov.nu
Crown Law	Justin Kamupala Acting Secretary of Government	Justin.Kamupala@mail.gov.nu
Ridge to Reef Project	Shane Tohovaka Project Manager	shane.tohovaka@mail.gov.nu
Niue Oceans Wide (NOW) Project	Brendan Pasisi Project Manager	niueoceanwide01@gmail.com
Ministry of Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF).	Rossylynn (Rossy) Mitiepo Director of Meteorological Service	Rossy.Mitiepo@mail.gov.nu

BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN LAND INFORMATION NEW ZEALAND
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF NIUE CONCERNING COOPERATION IN THE FIELD
OF HYDROGRAHY



Bilateral
Arrangement Support