

24th Meeting of the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission
Marine Spatial Data Infrastructures Working Group
MINUTES

29th April 2026 – 21:00GMT

Attendees (7):

Stuart Caie (SC)	Principal Geospatial Specialist	Land Information New Zealand
Bradley Cooper (BC)	Principal Geospatial Specialist	Land Information New Zealand
Salesh Kumar (SK)	Team Leader – Technical Assessment	Pacific Community (SPC)
Dan Miners (DM)	Geographic Technical Lead	UK Hydrographic Office
Lucia Scimone (LS)	Assistant Director Maritime Data Quality	Australian Hydrographic Office
Malakai Vakautawale (MV)	Maritime Boundaries Advisor	Pacific Community (SPC)
Vice Chair		
Chair Nick Pion (NP)	Hydrography Manager	National Maritime Safety Authority

Apologies (2):

Caitlin Boatright (CB)	Nautical Cartographic Analyst	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Ueakeia Tofinga (UT)	National Hydrography Coordinator	Ministry of Transport, Information Technology and Communications

Review and agreement of minutes and actions arising	NP opened the meeting and welcomed members to the meeting. • Introductions from all members and welcomed Malakai Vakautawale to his first meeting. • Apologies from Caitlin Boatright, Ueakeia Tofinga
Review and Feedback of MSDI WG Report to SWPHC	NP shared report that was submitted to SWPHC23 in Noumea, New Caledonia in February 2026. • Comment on IHO Portal membership, working group members will need to have IHO Portal Account in future. • Report highlighted previous work of the MSDI WG (IGIF Videos, Why we Share data document) and something we could look at updating in future activity. ONGOING ACTION: Encourage members to create IHO Portal account so that they can be added to the Task Group in IHO Portal. In future meetings and correspondence will be distributed through the IHO Portal using the membership list, members not signed up to IHO Portal may not receive correspondence. DM to circulate guidance on creating IHO Portal Account.
Feedback from PGSC Meeting	PGSC (Pacific Geospatial and Surveying Council) held in Nadi, Fiji in April 2026. MV shared reflections on PGSC Working Groups and Activity from PGSC

	- Working group established on Governance and Data Management which will have links to MSDI WG. - Hoping to invite new membership, if any MSDI WG members are interested in joining the PGSC Governance and Data management WG reach out to Malakai Vakautawale. - Questions raised on data sovereignty and how data can be protected and still follow FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reuseable) and CARE (Collective Benefit, Authority to Control, Responsibility and Ethics) Principles. Working Group will be drafting terms of reference and data sharing policies, and provide guidance on use of geospatial data following regional customs. - Retaining traditional knowledge was significant topic for conversation, particularly the CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance. - Working group hoping to investigate proposal for new portals to share data. SK shared reflections on PGSC meetings - Country reports highlighted requirements and gaps identified by countries and where the PGSC can support with challenges and share experience across the region. - Capacity Building WG had good examples of joint capacity building activities in SW Pacific region. Port Vila collaborative survey used as case study.
Feedback from IHO Assembly 4	SC shared reflections from IHO Assembly 4 - Initial review of proposals put forward for IHO Assembly. - Main points for SWPHC region, good attendance from Kiribati, Fiji, UK, US and New Zealand. Unfortunately, a few members (e.g. Samoa) who were hoping to attend couldn't attend at the last minute. SC was nominated to represent Samoa which generated some discussion but eventually Samoa was able to be represented by SC. - Shared outcomes of elections, Luigi Sinapi elected as Secretary General and Adam Greenland elected as Director in IHO Secretariat. NP passed on congratulations to Adam Greenland in successful appointment to IHO Director role.
Future Proposals for SWPHC MSDI WG	NP proposed that sharing experience on use cases for IGIF and MSDI would be a useful activity for the working group. - Sharing experience of how portals are developed and what background infrastructure goes into development may be useful to share if members have projects identified which could be shared with all members. - As use cases are identified the relevant stakeholders can be invited to share information or give presentation on activity. - NP mentioned PNG survey priorities are being included on AusSeabed portal for survey priority areas. - MV shared survey priority portal to identify survey gaps in the Pacific which would assist the continental shelf boundaries claim. - NP will reach out to individuals or teams to ask about use cases which can be shared with members.

AOB	
Date of next meeting	Proposed date of 1 st /2 nd July 2026

OPEN ACTION REGISTER

Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Lead	Action Status
17-Nov-21	To investigate local policies wrt indigenous data governance and sovereignty.	All	Ongoing
16-Oct-24	Maintain list of events and engagement opportunities that may be relevant to the working group and allow greater alignment with other community groups.	All	Ongoing
16-Oct-24	Research National Reports to identify where members states have progressed with implementation and adoption of IGIF.	All	Ongoing
25-June-25	Members encouraged to create an account on the IHO Portal to access meetings and resources in future.	All	Ongoing

TEMPORARY ACTION REGISTER

Record of temporary actions raised which are not considered significant enough to record in the Action Register. These actions are considered minor items which will be recorded in these minutes for reference, but will not be carried over for review at future working group meetings. Members are encouraged to inform WG when these actions are completed, but they should not be recorded in the Completed Action Register.

Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Lead	Action Status

COMPLETED ACTION REGISTER

Meeting Date	Action Description	Action Lead	Action Status
04-Feb-21	Should inform the “Pacific Geospatial Survey and Council” and “Geoscience Australia” of our existence and purpose ensuring that we work together.	Rachel and Paul	Completed
04-Feb-21	Sharing best practice, ideas and progress. Paul proposed using a Data Maturity Model so we could take a structured approach to our progress and Paul took an ACTION to investigate whether IHO had something we could use	Paul	Completed
04-Feb-21	Share the minutes and report that would be submitted to SWPHC 18 with the members of the SWPHC MSDIWG. The IHO MSDI WG was taking place on 17 & 18 March, Helen to an ACTION to report that the SWPHC MSDI WG had been established.	Helen	Completed
04-Feb-21	Agreed that a SWP regional SDI Portal list would be beneficial. Create a template for population	Helen	Closed. Agree to defer to the IHO Portal list
04-Feb-21	Review the IHO list of SDI portals	All	Closed
18-Aug-21	WG secretariat to amend standing WG agenda to include a 15min slot for industry communique.	Helen	Completed
18-Aug-21	Invite IIC Technologies to brief at the next WG meeting.	Helen	Completed
18-Aug-21	Invite a member of IGIF-H to brief this WG at the next convenient opportunity.	Rachel	Closed, see below
18-Aug-21	To clarify with IHO MSDI as to what qualifies as a MSDI portal, noting the mix of current resources on the list (websites, portals, downloads).	Helen	Closed, expired.
18-Aug-21	To coordinate an appropriate list of national MSDI's with AUS participants.	Paul	Completed
18-Aug-21	For ALL members to consider how this WG can support IGIF-H	All	Closed

17-Nov-21	To invite John Nyberg or Pearlyn Pang to speak to the WG on IGIF-H	Rachel	Completed
2-Feb-22	WG to consider improved Target and SPI's for Goal 2 and submit to SPI WG via Stuart Caie (NZ).	All	Close. Advice from SWPHC Council.
2-Feb-22	To investigate hosting a MS Teams space to share WG material	HP	Complete
25-May-22	Ask Adam Greenland for a reference to LINZ's Data Value Proposition.	HP	Complete
25-May-22	Establish MS Teams space for the WG members to upload and share examples of Data Value Propositions and MS Data Policies.	HP/All	Completed
10-Aug-22	Provide a stakeholder map of data sharing related forums	SC	Close
10-Aug-22	Coordinate a workshop on 25 Aug 2022 to finalise review of DVP.	HP	Complete
19-Oct-22	To write a few sentences about the SWPHC MSDI working group for information at the OSGeo PGC.	JS/PB	Complete
19-Oct-22	Review DVP document for grammatical consistency, any additional propositions, applicability to UN sustainability goals, and content of "data release" section.	All	DUE 4 Nov 2022 Complete
14-Dec-22	JS to review and provide feedback on IHO Portal list and DVP document from SHOM perspective	JS (SHOM)	Completed
14-Dec-22	Confirm with GA members as to the possible ambiguity of two DVP entries, and if they could be merged into one	PS	Completed
14-Dec-22	Confirm with IHO secretariat for permissions to use IHO logos on final product.	PS	Completed
09-Jun-23	WG Agreed to share Data Value Proposition with Andy Cootes to use in Paper with caveat that WG is cited. HP to confirm with Andy.	HP	Completed
26-Apr-2023	Discuss with UKHO Comms team whether article on DVP could be published on UKHO LinkedIn Channel	HP	Completed
26-Apr-2023	Develop presentation to present at SaWPaC Seabed 2030 Meeting in July.	PS to present. All to support.	Completed
26-Apr-2023	Investigate options to share video recordings of meetings and presentation content.	DM	Completed

17-Nov-21	To invite some (as of yet) non-participating members into this WG.	All	Closed - Moved to ToR
21-Feb-2023	Explore IGIF strategic pathways and present back to the group.	All	Completed
10-Aug-22	WG to share any Open Data Policies	All	Closed
26-Apr-2023	Look for opportunities to add to the communication plan for the Data Value Proposition.	All	Closed – Moved to ToR
21-Feb-23	Update ToR and IHO SWPHC MSDI WG Webpage with these elections and to reflect the new members	DM	Completed