

Eileen L. Shea<sup>1</sup>  
Brief Biographical Sketch

Ms Shea is Chief, Climate Services Division of the NOAA National Climatic Data Center and, since fall of 2005, Director of the NOAA Integrated Data and Environmental Applications (NOAA IDEA) Center. On January 3, 2008, assumed responsibility as the Chief of the Climate Services Division of the NOAA National Climatic Data Center with responsibility for NCDC's programs in data access; data integration and visualization; user engagement, education and outreach; and international, national and regional climate services partnerships. The NOAA IDEA Center was established to advance NOAA's mission objectives and meet critical needs for ocean, climate and ecosystem information to protect lives and property, support economic development and enhance the resilience of Pacific Island communities in the face of changing environmental conditions. Ms Shea is involved in a number of Pacific Island regional endeavors in the field of environmental science and services including: membership on the Steering Committees for the Pacific Islands Global Climate Observing System (PI-GCOS) and Pacific Islands Global Ocean Observing System (PI-GOOS) programs; supporting the emergence of a Pacific Islands Integrated Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) program; leading regional efforts to implement the Pacific Climate Information System (PaCIS) including serving as the first chair of the PaCIS Steering Committee, and In addition, Ms Shea is Chair of the Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana (PRiMO). In early 2007 Ms Shea was elected to the rank of Fellow of the American Meteorological Society.

From fall 1998 to fall 2006, Ms Shea served as the Climate Projects Coordinator at the East-West Center in Honolulu, HI, USA. In this context, she led research, education and public policy efforts in climate forecast applications, climate vulnerability assessment and climate risk management with a primary focus on Pacific Islands. In this capacity, she led an initial assessment of the consequences of climate variability and change for Pacific Islands; organized and led climate education and training programs including a Pacific Islands Training Institute on Climate and Extreme Events; and directed the Pacific Regional Integrated Science and Assessment (Pacific RISA) program focused on enhancing the resilience of Pacific Island communities, businesses and ecosystems in the face of climate-related extreme events such as droughts, floods and tropical cyclones.

Prior to joining the East-West Center in 1998, Ms Shea served as the founder and Executive Director of the Center for the Application of Research on the Environment (part of the Maryland-based Institute for Global Environment and Society) and before that spent over eighteen years in government service in the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), culminating in her position as the Deputy Director of the NOAA Office of Global Programs. During her time in NOAA, Ms Shea helped organize the NOAA Climate and Global Change Program and the inter-agency U.S. Global Change Research Program. Ms Shea also served for two years as Environment and Natural Resources Staff Director for the Board on Sustainable Development of the U.S. National Research Council and has experience in congressional relations and budget and finance in NOAA. Her educational experience focused on marine science and environmental law and resource management at the University of Delaware and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary.

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