

## **Point-by-Point Response to Community Comment 2**

We thank Laurent Foulonneau at Pacific Peering for the valuable feedback on the manuscript. The comments are reproduced below in blue Arial fonts, with our responses and indications of how we have revised the manuscript indicated in black.

We have now had the opportunity to review the manuscript concerning the TamTam SMART cable project currently under discussion.

First, we would like to say that we appreciate the broader scientific objectives of the paper and the important work being done to advance understanding of how SMART cable systems can support hazards monitoring and ocean science applications in the Pacific region. We strongly support the scientific collaboration surrounding these efforts.

At the same time, we believe several portions of the manuscript require clarification and correction in order to accurately reflect the governance, financing, implementation structure, and operational data architecture of the TamTam project.

These issues are important not only from an institutional perspective, but also for ensuring that the scientific and technical record accurately reflects the operational structure of the project and the provenance and governance of the associated data systems.

In particular, we would respectfully request revisions in the following areas:

### **1. Project Leadership and Implementation Structure**

The current manuscript does not accurately reflect the role of Pacific Peering in leading and implementing the TamTam SMART cable project.

As presently written, readers could reasonably conclude that the project is principally organized and operationally managed through downstream scientific and monitoring institutions. This does not align with the actual implementation structure of the project.

We believe the manuscript should explicitly acknowledge Pacific Peering's role in the leadership, implementation, operational coordination, and management of the SMART cable project infrastructure.

We have added information in a new paragraph in Section 1 (Introduction) to point out the leadership role of Pacific Peering in the Tamtam SMART cable project. The first sentence of the paragraph states that planning for the cable is currently underway “by a consortium of French agencies and industry partners with local and international participation”.

### **2. French Financing and Institutional Contributions**

The manuscript also does not sufficiently reflect the central role played by the French teams and French financing institutions in supporting and enabling the TamTam project.

The TamTam project is being financed France2030, with Ifremer serving as a central institutional partner in the implementation and operational management of the project.

Given the significance of these contributions to the realization of the project, we believe the manuscript should more clearly acknowledge the role of the French partners, including Ifremer and associated French-supported project structures.

We have added a paragraph in Section 1 (Introduction) to describe the roles of the French partners in financing, supporting, and enabling the Tamtam SMART cable project.

### **3. Data Governance and Operational Architecture**

We are particularly concerned that the manuscript currently describes a data flow architecture that does not accurately reflect the operational design of the system.

The manuscript currently states:

“The collected data from the Tamtam SMART cable will be provided via ASN’s Climate Change Portal for low-latency distribution to hazards monitoring agencies [...] and for long-term storage and dissemination for further analysis and climate research via Ifremer [...]”

This description creates confusion regarding the governance, management, processing, and dissemination structure of the data.

As currently designed, SMART cable data associated with the TamTam project will first be transmitted to and managed through Ifremer, which serves as the central institutional manager of the data infrastructure. The data is managed and processed through Pacific Peering’s PPSP platform infrastructure, which is responsible for data management, processing, storage, access governance, and controlled distribution to relevant stakeholders, monitoring agencies, and scientific users.

We therefore request that the manuscript be revised to more accurately reflect the actual operational and governance structure of the project’s data systems and associated institutional responsibilities.

We have deleted “via ASN’s Climate Change Portal” from the sentence in question and replaced “proposed ASN Climate Nodes” by “SMART nodes and made available by Ifremer” in the last paragraph of Section 4.3. While we provide a brief summary of data flow for the Tamtam SMART cable, we intentionally did not address data governance and operational design since it is beyond the scope of this scientific paper.

### **4. Distinction Between Scientific Utilization and Project Governance**

We also believe it is important for the manuscript to distinguish between:

- the organizations responsible for financing, implementing, operating, and governing the project infrastructure and associated data systems; and
- the scientific and research organizations that may subsequently utilize the data for hazards monitoring, scientific analysis, and climate research purposes.

These are complementary but distinct roles, and the manuscript currently conflates aspects of these functions in ways that may create confusion for external readers.

We have provided a brief summary of the project financing and governance in Section 1 (Introduction) in addressing comments #1 and #2 above and adjusted the wording throughout the manuscript to emphasize data utilization being our goal. We have also deleted the phrase “to inform system design and data integration” from the title to avoid potential connotations with project planning and data governance.

To assist constructively, we would be happy to provide proposed replacement language or additional technical clarification if helpful.

As these issues relate directly to the accuracy of the public scientific discussion record, we intend to submit formal comments through the journal discussion platform as part of the open review process.

We appreciate your attention to these concerns and hope these clarifications can be incorporated constructively as the manuscript moves through review.

We have revised the manuscript according to the comments provided and think it is unnecessary to use any replacement language from the commenter. While the present paper focuses on potential data utilization, we encourage Pacific Peering and team to submit a manuscript to a refereed journal with the technical details and project background that they feel are necessary to address their concern.