With the continued support from Chuuk Department of Health Services Director, Dr Bosco Buliche, the Emergency Medical Team (EMT) training was conducted in Chuuk by technical experts from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the FSM Public Health and Hospital Emergency Program (PHHEP) from November 14-19, 2023. Almost 150 participants from all four FSM States and partners from other sectors (first responders) attended the training.

The FSM Health Leadership (Secretary, Directors, and key staff) were also present during the week not only for their own meeting but were also available to attend a few sessions of the EMT training.

The content of the EMT training included simulation exercises during actual public health emergency and familiarization with how one would operate the key equipment and supplies that come with the medical cache that will be part of the FSM deployment efforts.

The FSM Health Leadership Meeting included discussion on ways to maximize the benefits of the anticipated Compact 3 funding by strengthening existing health facilities and infrastructures, workforce, foreign health assistances and donations. The FSM Health Leadership also acknowledged the need to construct climate-resilient health facilities and acquire needed equipment to deliver more advanced healthcare and preventive services. Investing in this area is important to meet the growing demand for healthcare. Another area that the health leadership discussed is the need to increase the number of students in the health professions and to increase the number of skilled and competent workforce throughout the nation.