



National Disaster Management Office
NEWSLETTER
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Pacific Resilience Project Phase 2: Launch



**PC: Office of the President, RMI: Group photo with HE Hilda C Heine, Minister David Paul, Minister Brenson Wase and Chief Secretary Benjamin Graham.*

28 May 2018, the RMI launched its Pacific Resilience Project Phase 2 with our partners from World Bank. H.E. President

Heine was the keynote speaker during the launch. The World Bank is now working with the Government of the Marshall Islands to:

- Increase resilience across the Marshall Islands. (Institutional Strengthening)
- Identify ‘hotspots’ where coastal erosion and damage is most severe. (Hazards mapping where SPC will take part)
- Identify key areas along the coast where seawalls can be built to prevent erosion and flooding. (Ebeye based)

- Of current and future risks, help the government to prioritize future investments, and deliver targeted coastal protection.



**PC: NDMO: H.E. President Hilda C Heine delivers her remarks during the launch of the PREP II and SeDEP*

RENI PROJECT:



**PC: RENI Team: RENI Team on Ailuk Atoll*

2-9 April 2018 A team of experts from both the GRMI and partners from RENI Project team visited Ailuk Atoll for the initial assessment on the project. On the team were Jikit Rufus (MNRC), Kennedy Glanry (NDMO), Kathryn Rilang (SPC-RRRT) and Genna Tiobech and Zhiyad Khan (SPC), Poasa Nauluvula (SPC), There are four objectives for this trip

1. Objective one: conduct assessment and what the potential for agriculture is on Ailuk
2. Objective two: conduct community consultation
3. Objective three: develop local disaster management plan
4. Objective four: record stories/bwebwenato

On April 23 – 27, 2018 the RENI Project had a steering committee meeting in Pohnpei, FSM. RMI representatives were Kennedy Glanry, Henry Capelle and Rufina Jack Mayor Ailuk. The Team discussed the final steps for the RENI Project and will visit Ailuk again on later in August to deliver the final updates and tools for the project.

World Food Program: Sub-Regional Micronesian Logistics Workshop



**PC: Logistics Cluster: Participants of the Sub-Regional Micronesia Logistics Workshop at the Marshall Islands Resort Melele Conference Room.*

April 9th -13th, 2018, the Micronesian Logistics Cluster Workshop was held in Majuro. The workshop brought together a range of stakeholders (Including NDMOs, government ministries, NGOs, private sectors, UN agencies, as well as regional partners from Hawaii), with a focus on localization and the adaptation of regional initiatives to the sub regional and country level. Through the cluster approach, the workshop aim to strengthen national and provincial coordination, emergency preparedness and response capacity in the area of Logistic.

a. More than forty emergency response experts come together today in Majuro, to identify locally-led solutions to overcome logistics challenges that can hinder disaster response in the North Pacific region. Efficient logistics can make or break a humanitarian response, and the event aims to ensure that when the next

emergency strikes, affected islanders can respond quickly and effectively.

b. Our region's isolated geography and fragile environment makes it vulnerable to natural disasters, extreme weather and the effects of climate change," said Timmy Langrine, Director of RMI's NDMO. This workshop presents a great opportunity from across the Pacific, and to share not only our common logistics challenges and gaps during disaster preparedness and response, but also our solutions and best practices.

This Pacific Logistics Cluster Sub regional workshop was convened by the United National World Food Program (WFP), as the lead of the Pacific Logistics Cluster, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) National Disaster Management Office (NDMO).



Business Continuity Plans Workshop with Majuro Private Sector:



**Andy, head of UNISDR to the Pacific addresses Private Sector reps during the workshop*

On May 10-11th, 2018, the Business Continuity Planning Tool Kit Workshop was held at the International Conference Center in Majuro Atoll. This Workshop was organized by the National Disaster Management Office and supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

The workshop focused on:

Risk Assessments:

A rapid disaster risk assessment:

- i) Taking a quick snapshot of your business's disaster resilience
- ii) Recording past hazards
- iii) Assessing your disaster risk

- Threats to business in the Pacific & globally: Building a 'risk barometer' for Cook Islands business, referencing threats here to global trends

- Opportunities and Barriers to private sector engagement in

resilience in the Marshall Islands

1. Identify private sector role in DRM/CCA
2. Opportunities and challenges and a way forward
 - The Regional & Global Picture: The Cook Islands, although isolated, is increasingly integrated into the global economy.

Business Continuity Plan

Making your Business Continuity Plan: 12-steps to disaster-proof your business

- Case Studies: A 'walk through' five case studies of how small and medium-sized enterprises have increased their disaster resilience
- Review of outcomes during workshop, reflections, and suggested ways forward. This session focused on ways to develop a practical way forward for NDMO, Government partners, and private sector to work more closely and in a supportive manner for resilience within RMI
- Agreed action plan to increase disaster resilience in partnership with private sector: A draft work plan outlining the roles, responsibilities of each stakeholder and an agreed way forward.

Some key takeaways from the workshop included:

1. A basic risk assessment of your business

2. A basic business continuity plan (BCP) for your business
3. Open access to the 12-Step Stay Open for Business toolkit developed specifically for enterprises in the Pacific
4. More understanding of how the business sector and government can work together for greater disaster resilience
5. An agreed roadmap for increased engagement with private sector and government as an outcome of the final meeting on day two

Building Infrastructure Resilience: Community Consultations



**PC: NDMO: Community Consultations in Wotje Atoll*

The Building code consultations was held on June 14th, 2018 for the Landowners of Wotje atoll and again on June 15th, 2018 for the Jaluit landowners, a team led by the PMU at the Ministry of Works,

Infrastructure and Utilities along with the NDMO JNAP unit. The purpose of the consultations was to ensure that landowners understand the proposed of the building code and its benefit for the whole communities when it comes to disaster and climate change events. How they can better improve their homes for safety purposes such as safety requirement, road easements and building setback distances, structural and fire safety, inundation control, natural disaster preparedness, climate change adaptation, water harvesting and energy efficiency, Lastly get their supports and involvement in the development process of the building code.



**PC: NDMO: Community Consultations in Jaluit Atoll*

Risk Scape Project Updates and Handover:

On June 25th and 26th, a final workshop and consultation took place to verify information collected for the development of the RiskScape tool. Following the workshop with national stakeholders, and relevant

partners who will be using the decision support tool, a high-level demonstration for members of the National Disaster Committee was held. The aim was to raise the awareness of the risk analysis and hazard modelling process, to demonstrate the use of the software, and capture further feedback from members of the National Disaster Committee.

“We can better prepare for droughts in the Republic of the Marshall Islands,” stated Ben Graham, Chief Secretary. “We already have a lot of information that we can use. The Modelling Drought for Atolls project provides an opportunity for us to do that better so that we can look after our families.”

The project is being delivered through New Zealand’s National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA), working closely with the Marshall Island’s National Disaster Management Office.

“We are using a computer software called RiskScape to see if we can estimate how much water is left on the atolls after different rainfall amounts” said Juli Ungaro, project manager at NIWA. “We’ve tested out the model for Kwajalein, Utirik and Wotje and it provides a quick and useful way to estimate how much water is remaining on the atolls, as well as how much more rainfall they might need.”

Ms. Ungaro and her team provided a training session to government staff so that government departments can

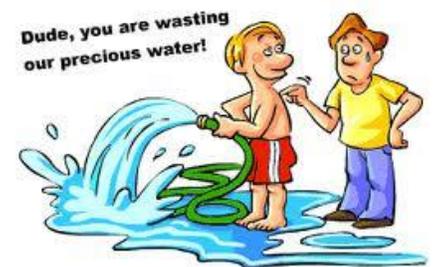
estimate the water remaining on the three atolls at any point in the future. “The model will help us plan for future droughts as well as plan drought response on the atolls”, stated Timmy Langrine, Director of the National Disaster Management Organisation.



**PC: NDMO: 2nd NIWA visit on the design of the RiskScape Drought Monitoring tool for the RMI.*

“The work was pilot to see if it would work” said Ms Ungaro. “as a result, we have only covered the three atolls. However, the opportunity exists to extend this to other atolls in the future. For this reason, our next steps will be to provide more training on how to add future information on other atolls to RiskScape so the government can manage droughts better there, too.”

The Modelling Drought for Atolls project is funded by New Zealand’s ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. For further information, please contact Ms JuliUngaro, Juli.Ungaro@niwa.com



3rd Outer Islands Disaster Focal Point Workshop:

July 16th – 20th, the National Disaster Management Office along with its partners (IOM and MIRCS) hosted the 3rd Annual Outer Islands Focal Points Workshop in Majuro. 23 focal points from each of the outer islands came. The main focus of the workshop aimed at assessment forms used during disasters as well as the information and communication flow between the focal points and the NDMO. At the end of the workshop, the focal points helped to finalized the assessment forms (ISO & DSO) and the OIFP's Terms of Reference. Ownership of the forms was clearly witnessed and NDMO is looking forward to the upcoming year to meet some of the focal points objectives

- Review of Disaster Cycle
- Humanitarian Assistance
- International Sphere Standards
- Terms used in events/Marshallese Terms
- Assessments
- Rapid Onset and Slow Onset Assessment
- Initial Situation Overview and Drought Situation Overview form
- Activities on Assessments
- Technical Experts and Assessments
- Reformatting the Assessments
- Collecting Information

- Interviewing skill
- Information Flow
- Review of OIFP TORs
- Live Simulation using the forms
- Ceremony/Certification Award



**PC: NDMO: Participants from the outer islands met in Majuro for a week for the 3rd Outer Island Focal Point Workshop. IOM and MIRCS partnered with the NDMO to run the event.*



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Other NDMO Updates:

3rd SISRI and Understanding Risk Forum, Mexico City:



*PC: Jennifer de Brum: Tony Mellen from the PREPII project, JNAP's Jennifer de Brum and DCS Kino Kabua during the Understanding Risk Forum.

13-18th May 2018, DCS Kino Kabua and JNAP Unit's Jennifer de Brum participated in 2 workshops simultaneously in Mexico City, Mexico: 13-14 May: 3rd Small Island States Resilience Initiative and the Understanding Risk Forum.

According to www.reliefweb.int in a World Bank report published on September 15, 2017:

"The Small Island States Resilience Initiative (SISRI) is a global program established in response to calls by Small Island States for greater and more effective support to build their resilience.

SISRI works through established procedures and builds upon an already sizable program of World Bank assistance to climate and disaster resilience in Small Island States, averaging around US\$180 million a year (the largest in the world).

At the same time, SISRI offers the following innovative assistance to partner countries:(a) A set of building blocks, based on best global practices of adaptation and disaster risk management in island contexts, which is customized to countries' individual needs.(b) A range of financing instruments, including innovative debt for resilience swaps—allowing Small Island States to build their capacity through a learning-by-doing approach where they directly implement their investments.(c) A dedicated support team of over 45 staff, specializing on the needs of small islands;(d) Global knowledge, allowing field practitioners to share experiences across countries and regions facing similar problems.

(e) Results-based approaches to measure the progress of resilience, and the impact of financing."

Understanding Risk Forum is a global community of 7,000+ experts and practitioners active in the creation, communication, and use of disaster risk information. Members share knowledge and experience, collaborate, and discuss innovations and best practice in risk assessment. The community convenes every two years at UR Forums – five-day events that highlight groundbreaking work, facilitate nontraditional partnerships, and showcase new technical know-how in disaster risk identification.

DCS Kino Kabua delivered the RMI's country presentation

that focused on the 2016 Drought State of Disaster, the institutional challenges the government faced, solutions take to address some challenges and lessons learned from the experience.

Pacific Civil Military Response Coordination, Suva Fiji:

May 21st – 23rd, 2018, the National Disaster Management Office director attended the 1st Pacific Regional Civil – Military Disaster Response Coordination Workshop in Suva Fiji. This workshop aimed to strengthen intra-regional capacity to support nationally-led responses to natural disasters in the Pacific. By building on recent experiences, it examined how civil-military/police cooperation in humanitarian response operations could be strengthened. The workshop also provided a forum for Pacific delegates to discuss how disaster response partners can enhance existing national and regional arrangements, including the coherence of existing disaster management legislation. Some points from the workshop:

- A focused on national capacity, exploring the challenges and opportunities that exist to better align the capability of respected the clear lead of National Disaster Management Offices, as

mandated by Pacific countries' national legislation.

- Broadened the focus of the workshop to a theme of "Pacific Interoperability – Pacific supporting Pacific". Presentations allowed delegates to hear about the experiences of Pacific nations who have deployed assets and resources in response to crises in neighboring Pacific countries.
- Representatives from the donor, regional, international and NGO community supplemented discussion with presentations on their individual capabilities, highlighting a commitment to the Pacific localization and recognizing the importance of Pacific Sovereignty.
- Through expert panel presentations and facilitated group work, I was able to identify a range of barriers to effective multi-agency response operations.

Legislating for Climate Smart DRM, Suva Fiji:



PC:<https://www.facebook.com/Pacific.Islands.Forum.Secretariat/posts/1701278589909801>: DCS Kino Kabua and Office of the Attorney General Reps: Deputy AG

Jonathan Kawakami and Legislative Counsel Joe Lomae

6-8 June, 2018 DCS Kino Kabua join along with RMI legal representatives from the Office of the Attorney General and the Nitijela participate in the Legislating for Climate Smart Workshop help in Fiji. The Workshop introduced tools and instruments that participants took home and can be used on Disaster laws as well as legal frameworks. According to an article written on the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat's Facebook Page, "Participants also learned about climate change and DRM integration and discussed the practicalities of having legal frameworks that would accurately address this integration at the national level.

The workshop also provided a unique opportunity for Pacific island countries to pilot the Commonwealth Secretariat's Law and Climate Change Toolkit, which is an online resource to support countries' efforts to review national laws and undertake reform in support of their climate policy commitments under the Paris Agreement."

Some essential points are 1). The mapping of the current RMI legislation and policies related to DRR/DRM 2). Tools that will be used to update the 1987 Disaster Act and the 1979 Emergency Act early next year.



Regional DRR, Preparedness, & Disaster Displacement Workshop, Philippines:



*PC:<https://www.flickr.com/photos/125895769@N07/albums/72157670875479478>

On June 19th to 21st, a delegation from the Marshall Islands consisting of Director of OEPPC, Mr. Clarence Samuel, Director of NDMO, Mr. Timmy Langerine and JNAP Coordinator, Ms. Jennifer de Brum, attended a regional workshop on disaster risk reduction, preparedness and disaster displacement. The workshop was designed to be a sharing of experiences among the focal points of the Pacific Island countries the international partners and the experiences in the Philippines in terms of Emergency Preparedness. The workshop gave technical experts in the Pacific to engage in a

dialogue together with international experts to discuss challenges pertaining to:

Share best practices, lessons learned and experiences in disaster risk reduction, as well as approaches and measures in preventing disaster displacement, reducing displacement risk using innovative science and technology in building community resilience.

To provide participants with tools in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for mainstreaming disaster risks, and integrating human mobility consideration into development policies and strategies.



*PC: NDMO: JNAP Coordinator Ms. Jennifer de Brum speaks on a panel during the workshop.

To provide a venue for Pacific countries to prepare for the upcoming regional platforms in the Asia-Pacific to feed into the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, which will be held in May 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland.



Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia: 2018:



*PC: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/165830963@N02/sets/72157669305996577/> : Head of Delegation, Deputy Chief Secretary Kino Kabua with Deputy Prime Minister of Mongolia U.Enkhtuvshin and UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction Mami Mizutori

3-6 July 2018 Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction: Preventing Disaster Risk/Protecting Sustainable Development. Deputy Chief Secretary headed the RMI delegation on behalf of Minister David Paul.

The Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction established itself as a vehicle to address global and regional disaster challenges and provides the opportunity to address these challenges and explore new opportunities through cross-border leadership and solutions that can benefit the people and the countries of the Asian Region.

This year, Pacific Island countries were invited to participate and share experiences in the Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific Region. Although, most sessions were not Pacific Region focused, during the closing ceremony, and the announcement that Australia will be hosting the next AMCDRR in 2020, Australian Minister delivered Australia acceptance speech and said AMCDRR 2020 will be more Pacific Islands focused.

Some events that the RMI sat in:

1. Private Sector Interventions
2. Social Protection & Vulnerability reduction
3. Gender & Inclusiveness
4. Community/local action for resilience
5. Sendai Framework Monitoring
6. Increasing public-private partnership and investment for DRR
7. Cultural event

On Thursday July 5th, DCS Kino delivered the country statement on which she stressed the RMI's vulnerability to Disasters and Climate Change. Despite the challenges, the RMI has made some significant progress in area of disaster preparedness in particular. These include expanding the National Disaster Committee to include private sector, civil society and disabled groups representation, steps to initiate a national adaptation plan, community based preparedness projects,

including the development of NDMO's information management strategy and plans to upgrade its facilities through the PREP II project funded by the World Bank.

KOMMOOL TATA

&

REMEMBER

"DISASTER IS

EVERYONE'S

BUSINESS"!!

