



Natalau
Community

Disaster Plan

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The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) training and development of the Community Disaster Plan (CDP) were made possible by the generous funding support of the American people through USAID.

ABBREVIATIONS

CBDRM	Community Based Disaster Risk Management
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CDMC	Community Disaster Management Committee
CDP	Community Disaster Plan
DDC/DO	Divisional Disaster Coordinator or District Officer
DISMAC	Disaster Management Committee
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EC	Evacuation Centre
EOC	Emergency Operation Centre
EWS	Early Warning Systems
IDA	Initial Damage Assessments
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office (DISMAC)
PPEES	People, Property, Environment, Economy, Society (Elements at Risk/Vulnerable)
RK	Ration Kit
SAR	Search and Rescue
Sit Rep	Situation Report
SPC	Secretariat of the Pacific Community
TnK	Turaga ni Koro
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

INTRODUCTION

As experience in both disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) increases, there is growing recognition that these two fields share a common focus: reducing the vulnerability of communities and contributing to sustainable development.

The aim of this Community Disaster Plan (CDP) is to provide high-quality support to the Natalau community during times of major emergencies or disasters, including when such events are reasonably believed to be pending, by maintaining close coordination and planning links with local emergency response organizations on an ongoing basis.

It will be the responsibility of the CDMC Chairman to declare a situation a disaster and activate the disaster and evacuation procedure. A disaster may be classified as a fire, tornado, flood, electricity outage, explosion, bomb threat, hazardous material spill or release, or any other situation warranting evacuation of the community to protect the lives and safety of residents and staff.

A disaster's severity depends on its impact on society and the environment. The scale of the impact in turn depends on the choices we make for our lives and our environment. These choices relate to how we grow our food, where and how we build our homes, what kind of leadership we have, how our financial system works and even what we teach in schools.

Each decision and action can make us more resilient to disasters – or more vulnerable. **Disaster risk reduction is about choices.** Disaster risk reduction is the concept and practice of reducing risks through systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disaster vulnerability. Reducing exposure to hazards, lessening the vulnerability of people and property, managing the land and environment wisely, and improving preparedness and early warning systems for adverse events are all examples of disaster risk reduction.

NATALAU COMMUNITY PROFILE

Natalau is a village in the district (or Tikina) of Sabeto under the jurisdiction of the District Officer Lautoka/ Yasawa and is looked after by the Roko-Nadi in the Provincial boundary of service.

The village is flourishing with a total of 52 households and a population of 203 people (30% women, 45% men and 25% children); elderly people make up 40% of the population. Natalau village is situated at the lower part of the Sabeto Basin, beneath the mountain of the “Sleeping Giant” 10 kilometers from Nadi Town towards Lautoka. It is said that the people of Natalau were members of the Koroiyaca village and were sent out after a village dispute and resettled in Natalau village; their main source of income is sugarcane. The nearest hospital is in Nadi/ Lautoka. Primary and kindergarten schools are situated within the Sabeto boundary.

They belong to the Yavusa Waruta under the leadership of the Momo-Levu, Na Tui Sabeto, Na i Taukei Erenavula.

The people of Natalau have practiced local ways of coping during negative events for the past 100 years. The vast knowledge that has been passed from generation to generation has helped save and support their livelihoods. But changes to lifestyles and living standards, influenced by foreign concepts, threaten traditional structures and knowledge and they are starting to disappear.

DISASTER TIME LINE

Records show that from 1932 to 1992, Natalau Village has experienced major cyclones and widespread damage on an average of once every 20 years. Droughts occur around every 4 years and cause crop failure and lack of root crops. Flooding is a new event, causing major crop losses and the risk of water-borne disease.

COMMUNITY DISASTER PLAN

In partnership with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Fiji Council of Churches and the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO), Natalau Village has established a Community Disaster Management Committee (CDMC) following a five-day disaster risk reduction workshop in the village. The training reminded participants of past disasters that caused memorable situations in their lives. It was also effective in promoting planning for future disaster events and increasing awareness of the need for preparedness to reduce risks when disasters occur.

During the training, Natalau participants selected a committee. The committee put together the Narokorokoyawa Community Disaster Risk Reduction Action Plan. By following the plan, the community can prepare for disasters by increasing their resilience, reducing their risk and improving their potential response.

GOAL

The population of Natalau Village made safer in the event of a natural disaster.

PURPOSE

This plan will guide the Community Disaster Management Committee (CDMC) and the population of Natalau Village in the event of disasters

METHODOLOGY

This Community Disaster Plan (CDP) has been developed through partnerships between the people of Natalau Village, SPC, NDMO and church networks. This included the establishment and strengthening of a CDMC, which has received training in participatory DRR. The CDMC developed this CDP with the involvement of the whole village, taking an “All Hazards” approach. This community-based interaction has resulted in the development of hazards maps, vulnerability and capacity assessments, evacuation plans, response arrangements and DRR action plans.

GUIDING POLICIES AND PRINCIPLES

The following set of principles has been used to guide development of the **Community Disaster Plan**. They are intended to guide its implementation and the ongoing development of the Natalau Community Disaster Plan:

- **Promote participatory approaches in managing hazards, risks and disasters:** There is a need to empower vulnerable communities to participate in, and be involved in, preparing for disaster situations, response and recovery post disaster.
- **Disaster risk reduction to be inclusive and broad based:** This is an opportunity to move towards gender equity and social inclusion.
- **Building community capacity:** The level of resilience of any community depends on the capacity of the community itself.
- **Community ownership and partnership across all sectors:** Communities must have ownership of disaster risk reduction activities and plans. This is crucial for the success of these activities. Other sectors also need to recognize this principle so that there is partnership across all sectors.
- **Faith-based institutions:** Faith-based institutions are seen as strength in any community when addressing disaster risk reduction initiatives. When faith-based institutions take the lead role in risk reduction activities, people are bound to respect and act upon these plans.

NATALAU COMMUNITY DISASTER PLAN

Table 1 show:

- known hazards based on historical data
- vulnerability to those hazards
- current capacity to cope
- proposed plans to improve capacity (expanded in DRR Action Plan)

Table 1: Known hazards for Natalau Village, vulnerability, capacity and associated plans.

Ref No.	HAZARD	ELEMENTS AT RISK	VULNERABILITY (PPEES)	CAPACITY (OUR CURRENT CAPACITY)
1.	Rubbish Disposal	People, Environment	Very High	Trained CDMC, Accessibility to resources, Assistance of TnK and the people.
2	Dusty Road Condition	People, Environment	High	Trained CDMCs, Accessibility
3	Cyclone	Village, People, property, their economy, and their environment	High	Local knowledge & resources. Availability of trained CDMCs
4	Fire	All households use fire for cooking, and mosquito coils & candles occasionally.	Medium	Trained CDMC Access to resources, Assistance of TnK and people.
5	Flooding	The village is situated below the Nadi catchment along the Sabeto river, People, their property, economy & environment.	High	Trained CDMCs to mobilise community during flood events Local knowledge of how to cope during floods

WARNING SYSTEM/ARRANGEMENTS

At-risk communities can obtain information from the ministries and departments responsible for monitoring different types of hazards (Table 2).

Table 2: Official information sources for at-risk communities

Hazard	Information source
Cyclone, flooding	FIJI MET, NDMO
Tsunami	Mineral Resources Dept., NDMO
Sea level rise	Climate Change Unit (MET)
Volcano	Mineral Resources, NDMO
Earthquake	Mineral Resources, NDMO

NATALAU COMMUNITY DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN

POSITION (WHO)	ACTIONS (WHAT) Each level of ALERT must be activated by the CDMC Chairperson or nominated "Person Responsible" (response arrangements)				CHAIN OF COMMAND
	ALERT (BLUE) Hazard event detected in the region as a potential threat	WARNING (YELLOW) Hazard event poses an imminent threat (within 24 hours before striking)	RESPONSE (RED) Hazard event has struck and is in progress	RELIEF & RECOVERY Immediate after the Hazard event has passed	REPORTS TO After every task is complete the person responsible must report
Chairman or TNK	Initiate Early Warning System by using a hailer. Call meeting of the CDMC Ensure everyone knows what will happen and what to do – mindful that if people are not informed, or are misinformed, they may panic	Coordinate the evacuation of people – the most vulnerable groups to be given priority. Those most vulnerable are; elderly, pregnant mothers, children, and the disabled.	Ensure all people are in an evacuation centre – church buildings, classrooms or other buildings may be used as evacuation centres	Coordinate Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) and liaise with DO Lautoka	Reports to District Officer Lautoka
Leader Men's Group	Check houses for defects in fittings Throw sandbags on top of roofs to strengthen them Cut tree branches Put up shutters	Help with evacuation of the most vulnerable Check all doors to ensure they are locked to prevent looting	Secure Emergency Centre or other buildings used as an evacuation centre	Participate in IDA as required Assist with emergency shelter	Report to chairman of CDMC
Leader Women's Group	Prepare evacuation centre – cleaning, food and water rations, sleeping arrangements (separate sick people, women, children, men, elderly). Prepare to mobilise teams to support welfare Care for vulnerable groups	Ensure clean drinking water and food are available for more than 96 hours Ensure non-food items such as blankets, mats, etc. are available for use in the evacuation centre	Coordinate catering for the evacuation centre Prioritise the needs of breastfeeding mothers and infants	Ensure care for most vulnerable Managing of evacuation centre Check nearby gardens for available foods	Report to chairman of CDMC

NATALAU COMMUNITY DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN (continued)

Leader Youth	Check gardens and bring food to the evacuation centre Move livestock to higher ground Fill containers of water – at least 10 containers to 1 family	Help evacuate the most vulnerable Assist with carrying water to the evacuation centre Organise Search & Rescue (SAR) teams; ensure teams are ready and place under the supervision of the Chairperson	Conduct SAR Secure evacuation centre Assist women in catering for the evacuees at the ECs.	Assist in conducting IDA Support relief assistance	Report to chairman of CDMC
Minister/ Talatala	Ensure church building is ready to host people	Secure church items while the building is being used. Be present at the evacuation centre at all times	Spiritual leadership, and counselling for traumatised members	Liaise with Vakatawa	Reports to CDMC Chairperson
Nurse	Ensure first aid kits are valid, well stocked and available Advise the Chairperson to contact the DO in the case of pregnant mothers and sick people needing to be transported to hospital for safety before the hazard event strikes	Ensure required medication is available at the evacuation centre	Care for the sick and injured	Refer the most serious cases to hospital Communication link to PDC/ NDMO	Reports to CDMC Chairperson
Protection officers	Prepare village evacuation centres Liaise with village chief and CDMC Chairperson	Ensure evacuation centre is ready to cater for evacuees. Be prepared to show evacuees their space in the evacuation centre. Do a head count of all evacuees	Ensure safety of evacuees at all times. Assist with children, elderly, and others needing assistance at the evacuation centre	Continue to provide protection until all clear is given by the Chairperson & Turaga ni Koro. Assist in returning evacuees to their homes	Reports to CDMC Chairperson

NATALAU VILLAGE DISASTER RISK REDUCTION ACTION PLAN

For Increasing community resilience

No	Objective	Action	By When	By whom Team leader	Resources /Stake holders	Cost Estimate (\$)
1	Reduce the risk of poor sanitation.	• Advise the village meeting.	October, 2013	CDMC Chairperson	CDMC, Vanua.	Nil.
		• Letter to SPC requesting for “Household refuses management training”	October, 2013	CDMC Chairperson	SPC, DO-Lautoka/ Yasawa.	300.00
		• Facilitate and replicate all training techniques in house refuses management.	February, 2014	CDMC Chairperson		
2	To minimize the risk of flooding in the community of Natalau.	• Advise in the village council,	October 2013	CDMC Chairperson	CDMC, TnK	Nil
		• Plant plantain and banana around all the septic tanks in the village	October, 2013 Ongoing	CDMC Chairperson	CDMC, Villagers.	Nil
		• Build their houses with piles or build high foundations or posts for houses with the approval of Rural Local Authority.	Ongoing	CDMC Chairperson	Home-owners	Nil
		• Village drainage to be cleaned every second months as a village project	Ongoing	CDMC Chairperson	CDMCs, Youths	Nil

NATALAU CDMC CONTACT DIRECTORY (continued)

Role	Name	Contact	Position
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Damage assessment ● Assist Protection officers / relief assistance 	Sailosi Vodo	966454-	Youth Group Leader
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Damage assessment ● Relief assistance ● Assist village members who need help (elderly, children, disabled, injured, etc.) to move to evacuation points 	Simione Ratu,	9757144	Secretary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assist village members who need help (elderly, children, disabled, injured, etc.) to move to evacuation points 	Anaseini Guivalu	9390300	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manage safety of evacuation centre ● Assist Protection officers ● Trauma management counseling for victims 	Mataika Saukuru	9049262	Women's Group Leader
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Check on the validity and stocks of first aid kits ● First Aid and care of victims ● Communication link to PDC/ NDMO ● Assist in drafting/ preparing situation report ● Damage assessment ● Conduct safety simulation exercises for schools twice a year ● Relief assistance 	Sera Saukuru	8674992	Village Nurse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Damage assessment ● Trauma management counseling for victims ● Assist village members who need help (elderly, children, disabled, injured, etc.) to move to evacuation points 	Malakai Buadromo,	9813152	Protection Officers
	Amueli Nadano,	9449870	
	Sekaia Nakadavu,	9093303	
	Varitema Nasau,	8409559	
	Tomasi Nakolilevu,	9501007	
	Taniela Qutonilaba	9742375	

ROLES OF AGENCIES/ORGANISATIONS

Agency/ Organisation	Role
1. Ba Provincial Office	Consolidating the Vanua (traditional state) of Ba (which includes Sabeto).
2. Commissioner Western	General administration of the district and Head of DISMAC operations during a natural disaster.
3. DISMAC	Facilitation of relief and emergency responses for the general population following disasters.
4. District Officer Lautoka/ Yasawa	Head of development and disaster management in the district of Lautoka/ Yasawa and focal contact for Sabeto Community Disaster Management Committees.
5. Fiji National Fire Authority	Disaster risk reduction partners in providing services in the areas of fire: fire training and awareness; and rescue in flood/ fire events.
6. Fiji Police Force	Safety and security of people in evacuation centres during disasters.
7. Fiji Water Authority	Effective and efficient delivery of safe drinking water and wastewater services to communities.
8. National Disaster Management Office	Dissemination of information about disasters before, during and after events, and awareness raising.
9. Secretariat of the Pacific Community	International organization responsible for implementing the USAID project, Vegetation and Land Cover Mapping and Improving Food Security for Building Resilience to Changing Climate in the Pacific Island Communities (Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon, Tonga and Vanuatu).
10. USAID	Coordination and funding of DRR activities in Sabeto communities.

DISASTER TOOLKITS - EQUIPMENT LIST

Toolkits	Quantity
Safety helmet	16
Reflector vest	16
Safety glasses	16
Utility gloves	16
Life jacket	5
Whistles	16
Gumboots	16
First aid kit	1
Ropes	x 50 m
Loud speaker	1

DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR CDPS

Name	Organisation	Copies
Ms Ruth Atu District Officer/ Lautoka Yasawa	Provincial Council	1
Mr Joeli Cawaki Commissioner West	Provincial Council	1
Community Disaster Management Committee (CDMC)	Natalau	2

THIS COMMUNITY DISASTER PLAN WILL BE UPDATED ANNUALLY BY:

Ref No.	Name	Position in the Village	Signature
1			
2			
3			

Required processes for updating the CDP:

- Test planned actions in simulation exercises, which should be held 4 times a year;
- CDMC representative leaves;
- Changes of roles of CDMC responsibilities of agencies outlined in this plan.

ENDORSEMENT

This Community Disaster Plan was endorsed at _____ on _____ by:

CDMC Chairman

District Officer/LY

ANNEX 1

COLOUR CODES	CYCLONE/ SEVERE STORM - FEATURES/CHARACTERISTICS
BLUE (ALERT)	CYCLONE ALERT - linked to stage one - Readiness: Issued when a developing depression or tropical cyclone is close to the Fiji Islands. Gale force winds are not expected within 24 hours but may occur within 48 hours. Issued every six hours.
YELLOW (WARNING)	GALE WARNING - Linked to Stage one - Readiness: Issued when mean wind speeds are expected to gale force intensity (34 - 47 Knots) within the next 24 hours (issued every six hours) STORM WARNING - linked to stage two - Standby (issued every three hours) Issued when mean wind speeds are expected to reach storm force intensity (48 - 63 Knots) within the next 24 hours)
RED (RESPONSE)	CYCLONE WARNING - Linked to stage three - Activation (issued every three hours increasing to hourly as the threat increases). Issued when mean wind speeds are expected to exceed 64 Knots within the next 12 hours.

NB There will be warnings given to communities for "slow onset" disasters such as tropical cyclones, droughts, etc. while there will be little time for a warning or no warning given to communities for "sudden onset" disasters such as earthquake, flash-flooding, etc.

COLOUR CODES	FLOODING/STORM SURGE- FEATURES/CHARACTERISTICS
BLUE (ALERT) May occur within 24 hours	
YELLOW (WARNING) Likely within 12 hours	HEAVY RAIN WARNING FLOODING likely in next 12 hours. HEAVY SEAS/SWELLS WARNING - high waves likely in next 12 hours. TAKE ACTION to secure property, gardens and boats.
RED (RESPONSE) Imminent within 3-12 hours	HEAVY RAIN WARNING FLOODING expected within 3-12 hours. HEAVY SEAS /SWELLS WARNING - Large waves (2 METRES+) expected within 3-12 hours. Complete preparations urgently and move to higher ground or secure place NOW.

ANNEX 1 (continued)

WARNING CODES	TSUNAMI-FEATURES/CHARACTERISTICS
YELLOW WATCH	<p style="text-align: center;">TSUNAMI WATCH</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A Tsunami is possible- it is more than 3 hours away. Updates will follow Secure property and boats. PREPARE to evacuate to higher ground.</p>
RED WARNING	<p style="text-align: center;">TSUNAMI WARNING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">There is the threat of a Tsunami occurring within 3 hours. MOVE NOW TO HIGHER GROUND.</p> <p>The warning will indicate expected arrival time. Waves may occur for another hour. Channels and exposed coastal areas may have turbulence for several hours.</p>
EARTHQUAKE Occurs in your area NO WARNING	<p>NOTE: If unusual sea movements occur following an earthquake run to higher ground as fast as you can, <i>DO NOT WAIT</i>, you may have less than five (5) minutes to save your life.</p>



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