



**Second Meeting of the SOPAC Division
Noumea, New Caledonia, 3-9 November 2012
(SOPAC-2)**

AGENDA ITEM	TITLE
2.	REPORTS
2.5	PMEG Reports
2.5.2	DRP Programme Evaluation and Monitoring Group Report

**DISASTER REDUCTION PROGRAMME (DRP)
PMEG REPORT 2012**

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MAIN FINDINGS

Overall, the DRP team has been quite productive, innovative and wide-ranging, with clear results and consolidation of work in most areas, to a greater extent than last year. Adaptation to full integration into SPC has progressed, but there remain a few lingering issues on the management /administration side.

Training and Capacity Building

The training modules under the Pacific DRM Program supported by The Asia Foundation/Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance (TAF/OFDA) have been delivered across the region now for 15 years, with a strong demand from countries and with little modification of the materials. A positive development is that, as of this year, the course is available as distance education under a partnership with Fiji National University. TAF-OFDA's exit in mid 2013 and handover to SOPAC provides both opportunities, such as broadening and modification of the overall training and capacity-building program; and also risks, primarily in securing the necessary funding.

Recommendations:

- Need to ensure that the basic foundational training modules provide by TAF-OFDA are complementary with training and capacity-building on offer in the region from OCHA and other partners, and in accordance with their respective niches

- TCB program needs to evolve include new segments based on relevance for Pacific region, possibly including Incident Command systems, exercises, disaster recovery, country-specific materials, and units on the national arrangements in country (rather than generic national arrangements)

Policy & Planning

Among the most significant achievements of DRP this year is the ongoing implementation of the 'Roadmap' for the development of an integrated regional strategy for DRM and Climate Change, and the collaboration between the DRM community and a specific sector through the joint meeting of the Pacific Platform for DRM and the Regional Water & Sanitation Consultations held in September. For the future there are plans for the upcoming joint meeting of the Pacific Platform for DRM and the Climate Change Round Table in July 2013.

Recommendations:

- The 'Roadmap' for DRM and Climate Change represents an important way of bringing these two areas together under a single umbrella, and as a regional strategy enables the alignment to proceed in country, therefore it is recommended that the implementation of the Roadmap be given continued priority.
- With sizeable new regional projects coming on board with community-based DRM focus, SOPAC should seize the opportunity to resume its CBDRM work, to provide leadership on coordination, adaptation of models and approaches in the Pacific context.
- Coordination of planning and documentation for the Pacific Platform should be outsourced to a local company or consultant, to adjust the workload of SOPAC staff and allow them to focus more on strategic thematic work.

Risk Reduction

Both the technical hazard assessment work and the policy advocacy work is extensive, responsive to countries and progressing well, however the visibility of the results achievements is not consistently attained. The mainstreaming of DRM into national budgets and planning is progressing well to the next level, with a number of Joint DRM and Climate Change National Action Plans (JNAPs) now completed. Under the EDF 10 ACP-EU Natural Disaster Facility a much larger investment is possible in the implementation of JNAPs through country-tailored plans.

Recommendations:

- PCRAFI data sets have been compiled and potentially very valuable, now need to focus on the best applications for countries and determine how they are interested to use the existing data sets to inform local decision-making.
- Capacity-building in Damage and Loss Assessment (DALA) for the Pacific sub-region, to develop a regional pool of trained DALA assessors who can be mobilized in the event of major disaster, should be a priority for resourcing

EU EDF9 – B Envelope Project

B envelope project (water management and disaster preparedness) implementation on track, with only a few setbacks. This is the project that can most easily show visible results and impact on people's quality of life, so is a great asset to SOPAC in that regard. Some activities will be followed up under incoming EDF 10 project, demonstrating commitment to the sustainability of this initiative.

EU EDF9 – C Envelope Project

The C Envelope project for Overseas Countries & Territories (OCTs) is proceeding very well now after a rocky start, and has established promising new relationships and communications channels which did not previously exist.

Recommendations:

- Establish a new position of Francophone liaison officer, retaining the current program manager in order to maintain the incipient collaboration with French territories, enable provision of expected services to them as SPC members, and to facilitate discussions with French-speaking donors.
- SPC to consider providing more core resources to SOPAC to cover additional costs of now providing services to the territories as full SPC members, in particular in relation to the joint DRM/ACC work which encompasses the entire sub-region

Pacific Disaster Net

Pacific Disaster Net (PDN) is branching out, with more emphasis on information management and systems, delegation of the content management and planned incorporation of improved analytics and statistics on usage.

Recommendations:

- The PDN redesign process is critical and long-awaited, must address the user-friendliness as its main criterion; this should be verified with usability testing.

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES

- Procurement process and requirements very cumbersome, centralized in Noumea, and updated project expenditure information not available. Training sessions and more continual support from Finance team should address this concern
- More support needed through dedicated staff to support DRP on administrative work, finance and logistics/travel.
- Management style needs to delegate more, let go of some tasks, be less hands on, and address issues of staff not doing always what is on their JD. Consideration should be given to creating a new staff position with a suitable skill set to undertake governance work with countries.

- Professional media officer needed for DRP to ensure visibility of activities and impacts, also for marketing of services to countries. This will allow for better positioning of SOPAC, to secure a larger portion of SPC core funding.
- Management issue that many people are project staff but have to deliver key service lines; greater dependence on project funding in the resource mix. Look at optimal resource mix across SOPAC division.
- SPC should consider adopting the PMEG process to assist in evaluation of other divisions, including Corporate Services as a key element in facilitating technical service delivery
- SPC to indicate how PMEG findings are translated into SPC planning systems
- Countries are encouraged to be more active (form sub-committee) in lobbying for resources to support the SOPAC work which they have identified as valuable, and for implementation of PMEG recommendations