## Table of Content

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Page No#</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Food Security Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional WASH Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>4 - 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Logistics Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>7 - 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Health and Nutrition Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>9 -12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Shelter Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>13 -15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Emergency Telecommunication Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Early Recovery Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>17 -19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Protection Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>20 - 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Education Cluster Support Team</td>
<td>23 -24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coordination</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHT Structure</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHT Members</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cover Page photo: UNICEF working with the Fijian Ministry of Education and the National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) delivering tents on the island of Kadavu to ensure students can return to school after damage to their classrooms after Tropical Cyclone Keni in April 2018. ©UNICEF/Pacific/2018/Adler
Introduction

The Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) consists of humanitarian organizations working in the Pacific with the expertise and resources to support disaster preparedness and response in the region. The PHT members include the UN agencies, NGOs, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other humanitarian agencies with the capacity to respond to disasters in accordance with the PHT Code of Conduct. The PHT plans and coordinates its work through three main structures, which include:

1. Heads of the respective cluster organizations known as PHT Principals. The PHT Principals is co-chaired by the UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) in Fiji and Samoa and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA).
2. The Regional Inter-Cluster Coordination Group – this group is chaired by UNOCHA and consists of the regional coordinators from each of the nine Cluster Support Teams and NGO representatives. The Regional Inter-Cluster Group focuses on operational issues and providing support to the national disaster preparedness and response systems.
3. Cluster Support Teams – the PHT has nine Cluster Support Teams working in different sectors, each with a designated lead agency.

Six Pacific countries are now using a national cluster system that is based on the UN model. The regional Cluster Support Team fully recognizes and supports these national cluster systems or national sectorial committees where they exist. Where the national clusters or national sectorial committees are non-existent, the regional Cluster Support Teams are still able to provide coordination and technical support related to their sector at country level.

In 2018, the region was faced with several emergencies that drew the attention of the international community. Examples of these emergencies include Tropical Cyclone Gita that mainly affected Tonga and caused some devastation in Fiji and Samoa; the Papua New Guinea earthquake response; the ongoing Ambae Volcano response in Vanuatu which continued to prompt recovery support from the PHT; Tropical Cyclone Josie and Keni which affected approximately 77,140 people also causing severe flooding in parts of Fiji. The Pacific Humanitarian Team was requested by the affected countries to provide the necessary support in terms of response and recovery during TC Gita in Tonga and the Ambae Volcano response in Vanuatu. In Papua New Guinea, PHT members also provided in line support to national authorities in coordination with their in-country host agency.

During non-emergency situations, PHT members have largely provided preparedness support to their national counterparts; this included the provision of training, mentoring, technical expertise and resource support according to the areas and needs identified by the relevant national authorities. PHT regional cluster leads also undertook and organized regional and sub regional training according to their sectors to further build and strengthen the capacities and capabilities of their national counterparts to ensure timely and effective national response in times of emergencies.
The Cluster is co-led by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Program (WFP) supporting five priority countries in the South Pacific in capacity development plans as well as technical assistance and emergency response. FAO on its own due to its historical presence in the Pacific, in addition to supporting the five priority countries of the Pacific, also supports other countries. Key priorities for 2018 was the development of the cluster Standing Operating Procedure’s (SOPs), Terms of Reference, training in Information Management (IM), development of Needs Assessment tools, surge support and food assistance guideline development. Assistance was also provided in the form of training and workshops and through simulation exercises and the introduction of 72-hour tools and data analysis.

Achievements

Achievements were in the drafting of the Solomon Island Food and Livelihood Committee SOPs and Terms of Reference, the development of the Vanuatu Food Security Cluster SOP and Terms of Reference, IM for Solomon Islands, development of Needs Assessment tools for Vanuatu and Tonga, surge support for the Ambae Volcano evacuees and drafting of the Food assistance guideline for Tonga. A 72-hour tools and data analysis was also conducted in Samoa for the Food and Livelihood Cluster.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Workshop</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>No# of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional Food Security Cluster Coordinators Training</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>Nadi</td>
<td>6 National FSC Coordinators trained at government and 6 at NGO level.</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanuatu Food Security Cluster Training</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Port Vila</td>
<td>Provincial Agricultural Officers from all provinces in Vanuatu trained.</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72 hours training</td>
<td>August</td>
<td>Apia</td>
<td>Key FSC Samoa stakeholders socialized on 72 hours assessment tool.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

There is a need for the PHT to internally evaluate the Cluster approach to emergencies, to determine whether the response has had the intended impact. The PHT also needs to consider whether the standard Cluster system at country level has the resources to deal with the emergencies at hand; in accordance with this, considerations of human resource capacity and the possibility of a better system of coordination are valid considerations.
The Pacific WASH Cluster as a standing coordination arrangement supports national governments and their partners in strengthening efforts to prepare and respond to emergencies at national and sub-national levels and increase country resilience to improve effectiveness of specific humanitarian responses. The Cluster is open to any multi-lateral, bi-lateral, humanitarian or civil society organizations working in Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) on a voluntary basis, and operates under 3 objectives:

1. Reduce morbidity and mortality due to WASH related diseases.
2. Preserve life with dignity.
3. Restore normalcy in the lives of affected populations by providing safe access to and ensuring use of water, sanitation and hygiene in emergency situations in collaboration with partners.

In 2018, the cluster continued its efforts with Pacific Island Country governments namely Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, and Vanuatu in strengthening and enabling environment and WASH partnerships, as well as responding to major emergencies, namely the Manaro Volcanic eruption and relocation in Vanuatu and Tropical Cyclone Gita in Tonga.

A regional WASH in emergencies coordination handbook was completed, which brings together best practices and templates from multiple country government and partner experiences to inform and capture instructional knowledge for strengthened new and ongoing preparedness and response activities. Additionally, a WASH resilience guideline was also developed with the same aim and will also be launched in early 2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Workshop</th>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>No of Participant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Provincial WASH in Emergencies Training (Vanuatu) | September, October | Shefa, Tafea, Torba, Malampa, Sanma Province, Vanuatu | - Increase provincial capacity on WASH in Emergencies.  
- Increase knowledge and understanding of key Cluster and coordination approaches, concepts and tools. | 25                |
| Cluster TC Gita Lessons Learned Workshop (Tonga)  | May 2018           | Nuku'alofa, Tonga             | - Development of key lessons learned recommendations.  
- Update of cluster workplan                                                                                                              | 25                |
| RedR WASH in Emergencies Training (Australia)    | October 2018       | Dookie, Melbourne, Australia  | - Building Regional and National Capacity for WASH in Emergencies Response  
- Recommendations for the development of Pacific Specific Regional WASH in Emergencies Training                                      | 22                |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Achievements</th>
<th>Partners</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacific WASH in Emergencies Coordination Handbook</td>
<td>Ministry of Health (Fiji, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu), NDMO/NEMO (Fiji, Kiribati, Vanuatu, Tonga), Ministry of Education (Fiji, Vanuatu), Water Authority of Fiji, Fijian Teachers Association, Fiji Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Kiribati Ministry of Works and Sustainable Energy, Honiara City Council, Vanuatu Department of Water Resources, Vanuatu Department of Strategic Policy, Planning and Aid Coordination, ADRA, Care, IFRC, IOM, IsraAID, LDS Charities, LLEE, MSP, Oxfam, Project Heaven, Red Cross, Save the Children, World Vision, SPC, Global WASH Cluster, UNICEF, UNOCHA, UN Women, WFP, WHO.</td>
<td>This handbook is designed to improve preparedness, response and recovery to disasters in Pacific Island Countries (PICs). It focuses on coordination for the various gaps identified by water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) stakeholders in areas such as, needs assessments, contingency planning and WASH technical standards. It can be used for training and as a reference manual— and can be easily contextualized for each country. It collates recent WASH in emergencies trainings and current emergency response mechanisms, focusing on topics identified by national clusters. It is designed to assist clusters to focus on practical outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manaro (Ambae) volcanic eruption and relocation (Vanuatu WASH Cluster)</td>
<td>Department of Water Resources, Ministry of Health, ADRA, MFAT, DFAT, Save the Children, UNICEF</td>
<td>The national Cluster coordinated the response and relocation of the Ambae people from Ambae to Maewo and Santo through the Department of Water Resources and Ministry of Health. Response included the provision of WASH and Dignity supplies (purification tablets, toilet paper, buckets, disposable menstrual pads, plain cloth, pak-flat tanks, water bottles, mosquito nets, washing powder), WASH in School kits, Community mobilization and hygiene awareness, construction and installment of ventilated improved pit latrines, installation of hand washing stations, construction of household showers, construction/upgrade of community water systems. The assistance reached a total of 6,853 beneficiaries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tropical Cyclone Gita response (Tonga Health, Nutrition and WASH Cluster)</td>
<td>Ministry of Health, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Environment, National Emergency Management Office, Ministry of Education, Oxfam NZ, Caritas, Act for Peace, Tonga Trust, Tonga National Youth Congress, Live and Learn, Care, DFAT, WHO, UNICEF</td>
<td>The national Cluster coordinated the response in the two main affected islands of Tongatapu and Eua with distribution of WASH supplies, water distribution and purification in communities and schools, restoration of rain water harvesting systems, restoration of sanitation facilities in communities, schools and health facilities, solid waste clean-up campaigns, and vector control larvicde and spraying. All the mentioned activities targeted a total number of 79,556 affected people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific WASH Resilience Guidelines</td>
<td>Fiji Ministry of Health, Fiji Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, Fiji Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources, Water Authority of Fiji, Partners in Community Development Fiji, Vanuatu Department of Water Resources, Care Vanuatu, Oxfam Vanuatu, WHO, UNICEF</td>
<td>This document has been written to support water sanitation and hygiene professionals from government, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) to improve the provision of sustainable and resilient WASH services for communities across the Pacific. It collates current approaches and previous guidance on WASH and resilience in one location, covering theory, guidance and practical tools. It has been designed to improve the resilience of communities and the sustainability of WASH services even after disaster events. The guidelines are written to assist several WASH stakeholders in delivering sustainable solutions that can be adapted to climate and disaster risks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthened Regional WASH Partnerships</td>
<td>Oxfam NZ, Oxfam in the Pacific, DFAT, MFAT, WHO, UNICEF, IOM, REDR Australia</td>
<td>Regional partnerships established to support country coordination in preparedness and response as well as regional supply stocks for prepositioning and standardization.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

Use of regional partnerships to strengthen local coordination and capacity, for example regional lead working/partnering with in-country partner to provide co-lead support to government cluster lead.

Importance of supply standardization to ensure that each WASH partner can provide equal and complete support in response to an emergency.

Strengthen south to south collaboration between countries for information sharing as well as capacity building both in preparedness and response.
Regional Logistics Cluster Support Team (Led by WFP)

The Logistics Cluster is led by the World Food Program (WFP) and membership is open to all logistic practitioners in the region. As the logistics cluster we play a role in both preparedness and response.

**In preparedness we:**
- Support the establishment of Logistics cluster mechanism, SOPs and tools.
- Conduct a logistics capacity assessment of the country.
- Support the definition of a relief items prepositioning strategy.
- Run training needs assessments and provide Humanitarian Logistics Training.
- Support the establishment of logistics services provision capacities (pre-agreement with transporters, suppliers etc.

**In response we:**
- Provide logistics coordination support.
- Provide logistics services such as warehouse surge and transport capacities.
- Provide logistics Information Management support.

**Our key priorities for 2018 and onwards (with localization at the center of all projects) are:**

**Coordination:** This encompasses regional coordination, National Logistics Cluster support and Civ-Mil-Pol activities.

**Prepositioning:** This brings together, in a more inclusive way, issues around common storage, standardization and mapping of stockpiles.

**Trainings and Simulations:** is comprised of the further development of the Pacific Emergency and Response Logistics (PEARL) certified logistics training as well as defining and running contextualized simulations.

**Information Management:** with a move towards platforms aiming at compiling Pacific logistics information as well as developing the communication requirements around the PEARL training and solving the issue of unsolicited bilateral donations (UBDs).

**Achievements**

Two Logistics Cluster sub-regional workshops were held in Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) in 9-13 April and Tonga in November. The workshops brought together more than 40 participants from across the Micronesia region and 45 participants from the Polynesia region. Following the workshop, we began to rollout dedicated national logistics work plans across the regions with support from the World Food Programmes’ (WFP) Pacific office. This includes nationally-defined Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for emergency logistics, Minimum Preparedness Actions (MPAs), Unsolicited Bilateral Donations (UBDs) and Logistics Cluster coordination.

The online PALM (Pacific Logistics Mapping) platform was launched and now allows all Pacific users to update their stock report at their own frequency and to include their own items, while also providing a mapping capacity for easy usage. Trainings were delivered in Sydney, Melbourne, Auckland and Wellington to regional logistics coordinators on the use of the PALM platform. Training has also been held across all Pacific Island countries except Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, Marshall Islands (RMI) and Palau.

WFP and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) signed an agreement in July aimed at supporting capacity building of National Red Cross Societies across the Pacific. The two agencies agreed to support three internships in the IFRC office in Suva, which will be focused on logistics projects supporting National Societies as well as the Pacific Logistics Cluster.

WFP received an official request from the Government of Vanuatu in August 2018 for technical assistance following the permanent relocation of Ambae residents due to the Ambae Volcano Emergency. The Food Security Cluster coordinator was deployed for two weeks. The Pacific Logistics Cluster deployed a Logistics Cluster Coordinator to Vanuatu for two months through Red R Australia.

Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs) have been updated and/or completed in Fiji, Samoa, Republic of Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), Kiribati, Palau and Cook Island. In addition to the normal LCA data collection, we also triggered a process to strengthen the localization of LCA at provincial level with RMI, FSM, Kiribati, Cook Islands and
Samoa. (Vanuatu had been the first pilot in that process in 2017 and they are now updating their own LCA data as are Tonga).

Start on the UBD Matching Platform has begun and will be ready for Cyclone Season 2019-2020. This tool is part of a three-tiered approach, designed to stem the flow of UBDs during disasters.

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Logistic Sub Regional Workshop -Micronesia</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>RMI</td>
<td>The workshop was a continuation of enhancing a ‘cluster approach’ and fostering coordination mechanisms amongst actors at the national, provincial and community level, with each country delegation laying the groundwork for the implementation of their own National Logistics Cluster work plans.</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logistic Sub Regional Workshop -Polynesia</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>The workshop was a continuation of enhancing a ‘cluster approach’ and fostering coordination mechanisms amongst actors at the national, provincial and community level, with each country delegation laying the groundwork for the implementation of their own National Logistics Cluster work plans.</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Lessons Learnt and Recommendations**

Continuous re-engagement as well as reinforcement of previous work done with the clusters. This helps to encourage cluster development activities and localization.

More collaboration and coordination between UN agencies and Cluster to ensure that all the good individual work is collaborated together.

*Participants and Facilitators at the Micronesia sub regional Logistics Cluster Workshop held at the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI) in April, 2018 ©WFP*
Regional Health & Nutrition Cluster Support Team
(Community-led by WHO and UNICEF)

The Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) Health Cluster & Nutrition Cluster collectively prepares for and responds to humanitarian and public health emergencies in the Pacific, working in support of Ministries of Health and other national authorities to improve the health and nutrition outcomes of affected populations through timely, predictable, appropriate and effective coordination of health and nutrition action in emergencies. The PHT Health & Nutrition Cluster aims to enable broad participation and coordination of partners working in the Health and Nutrition sectors, both through on-site and remote engagement with the Cluster from across the Pacific. The PHT H&N Cluster includes members representing Ministries of Health (or equivalent), UN Agencies (4), non-governmental organizations, private sector partners, and observers from other PHT clusters, donor agencies and diplomatic missions.

Achievements

Over the course of 2018, PHT Health & Nutrition Cluster partners responded to at least eight emergency events, including: human-induced emergencies, natural disasters, and infectious disease outbreaks in several Pacific countries and territories. In all cases, PHT H&N Cluster partners worked in support of, and under the leadership of the Ministries of Health and national authorities of affected countries/territories.

Human-Induced Events:

Kiribati Maritime Disaster (January 2018)
- UNICEF and the World Health Organization (WHO) responded to the sinking of the MV Butiraoi in January 2018, which led to the deaths of 81 of the 88 passengers on board. Both UNICEF and WHO worked in support of the Ministry of Health & Medical Services and the Ministry of Women, Youth and Social Affairs to ensure medical and mental health care for survivors, mental health and psychosocial support for the relatives and friends of those lost, and to provide training on identification and dignified management of the deceased.

Natural Disasters:

Tropical Cyclone (TC) Gita in Samoa and Tonga (February/March 2018)
- The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO deployed staff and health/nutrition supplies in response to requests for assistance from the Ministries of Health of Tonga and Samoa.
- WHO provided technical support, training and IT resources to the Tonga Ministry of Health to implement the Early Warning and Response System (EWARS) to strengthen disease surveillance post-cyclone; and risk communication support for delivery of public health messaging via bulk SMS and radio.
- Cluster partners dispatched tents, dignity kits, reproductive health kits, hygiene supplies and vector control supplies to Tonga and Samoa within the first two weeks of the cyclone making impact.
- In an innovative action, UNFPA supported deployment of retired Fiji midwives to Tonga to support the reproductive health unit at Vaioa Hospital, the national referral hospital.
- IPPF provided technical support, contraceptives and cervical screening supplies to support sexual and reproductive health (SRH) care outreach activities to ‘Eua, Tongatapu, Euaiki and Atata Islands.
- UNFPA and IPPF provided GBV training for 42 health workers, and UNFPA supported training for clinical care for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV), and training on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for UN staff in Tonga.

TCs Josie/Keni in Fiji (April 2018)
- UNFPA provided dignity kits to support sexual and reproductive health care outreach services

Vanuatu Ambae Volcanic Eruption & Displacement (August 2018)
- IPPF, UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO supported the Ministry of Health & Medical Services and the Government of Vanuatu more broadly to respond to the Ambae volcanic eruption and subsequent population displacements throughout 2018.
UNFPA and IPPF provided dignity kits and contraceptives to support sexual and reproductive health care outreach activities. IPPF provided technical support for SRH care outreach activities on Ambae, Maewo and Santo Islands.

IPPF supported Health Facility Needs Assessments on Maewo for Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) readiness.

Nutrition and emergency health kits were delivered by UNICEF.

UNICEF assisted with the installation of the solar refrigerators to ensure cold chain for immunizations.

WHO supported Ministry of Health-led assessments and the deployment of Vanuatu’s national Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) to provide direct clinical care to displaced populations.

The Vanuatu Ministry of Health, National Disaster Management Office, UNICEF and WHO issued a joint statement on Infant and Young Child Feeding during emergencies, as well as broader communication on the statement among health workers and care givers.

Super-Typhoon Yutu in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (October 2018)

WHO provided support to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) in response to super-typhoon Yutu, which struck the islands of Saipan and Tinian on October 25th. Support included deployment of coordination personnel, provisions of medical and water/hygiene supplies, and support in deployment of international emergency medical teams (EMTs) for clinical service provision.

Infectious Disease Outbreaks

Meningococcal C Outbreak in Fiji:

- UNICEF and WHO provided support to Fiji’s Ministry of Health and Medical Services in surveillance, microplanning, risk communication and social mobilization, vaccine procurement and dispatch, epidemiology and response monitoring.

Typhoid Outbreak in Fiji:

- UNICEF and WHO provided support to Fiji’s Ministry of Health and Medical Services in vaccine procurement, risk communications and social mobilization and response planning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Outcome</th>
<th>No# of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender Based Violence fundamentals training</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Reproductive Health service providers trained in GBV fundamentals to complement implementation of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) at the onset of a disaster</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical management of rape for gender-based violence survivors</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Medical doctors and midwives trained to provide clinical management of rape service for gender-based violence survivors, in line with Standard Operating Procedures and utilizing the rape management kits provided by UNFPA</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial support orientation session</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Staff from local DPOs trained to provide psychosocial first aid and support for affected populations</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for Reproductive Health in Emergencies</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Samoa</td>
<td>Health workers and emergency responders trained in MISP</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISP for Reproductive Health</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Health workers have been trained in</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Details</td>
<td>Participants</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MISP for Reproductive Health in Emergencies</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Health workers and emergency responders trained in MISP</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji Emergency Medical Assistance Team (FEMAT) Training</td>
<td>May/December</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Medical doctors, nurses, auxiliary health staff, logisticians and leadership from Ministry of Health trained to establish an EMT capable of national deployments in emergencies.</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonga Emergency Medical Assistance Team (TEMAT) Training</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Medical doctors, nurses, auxiliary health staff, logisticians and leadership from Ministry of Health trained to establish an EMT capable of national deployments in emergencies.</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanuatu Medical Assistance Team (VanMAT) Training</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Medical doctors, nurses, auxiliary health staff, logisticians and leadership from Ministry of Health trained to establish an EMT capable of national deployments in emergencies.</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solomon Islands Medical Assistance Team (SolMAT) Training</td>
<td>October</td>
<td>Solomon Islands</td>
<td>Medical doctors, nurses, auxiliary health staff, logisticians and leadership from Ministry of Health trained to establish an EMT capable of national deployments in emergencies.</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 simulation exercises to test preparedness for public health emergency response.</td>
<td>Throughout 2018</td>
<td>Tonga, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue,</td>
<td>Simulation exercises conducted to test/exercise Ministry of Health and partner capacities to respond to public health threats.</td>
<td>150+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multisector emergency risk communication and community engagement training and coordination workshops – approx. 1 week per country</td>
<td>May - November 2018</td>
<td>Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Fiji</td>
<td>Public information officers, NDMO representatives, health promotion and public health officers, leadership from Ministries of Health trained on emergency risk communications and establishment of coordination mechanisms for coordinated communications during emergencies.</td>
<td>70+ total</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FSM completion of the Joint External Evaluation (JEE).</td>
<td>2-year process completed in August 2018</td>
<td>Federated States of Micronesia</td>
<td>Comprehensive evaluation of FSM’s core public health capacities, required under the International Health Regulations (2005), needed to respond to public health emergencies.</td>
<td>50+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Regional Meeting on Health Emergency Risk Management</td>
<td>September 2018</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Workshop on preventing, preparing and responding to health emergencies in the Pacific, including requesting international assistance.</td>
<td>50+ from all Pacific Island Countries &amp; Territories</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

Strengthened supply chain management and coordination among relevant Ministries and partners during emergencies can reduce delays in delivering emergency goods to affected populations.

Need for strengthened multisector coordination among relevant Ministries and partners during emergencies for improved communications, capitalizing on existing resources and networks and mitigate delays required for multisector responses to public health threats/events.

Trained and resourced national Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) reduce the need for international clinical teams in emergencies in the Pacific, ensuring rapid, high-quality, and locally-appropriate clinical care.

Review of, and focused support towards the International Health Regulations (2005) core capacities facilitates health sector response and multi-sectoral integration in emergencies and outbreaks.
Regional Shelter Cluster Support Team (Led by IFRC)

The objective of the Pacific Shelter Cluster is to support a coherent and effective humanitarian shelter response following disaster events in Pacific Island Countries, underpinned by preparedness and capacity building initiatives. The regional coordination team led by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in accordance with its global shelter mandate, prioritizes provision of support to country-level clusters across the Pacific according to their specific needs. Much of this support is provided to National Governments who are responsible for humanitarian response in their countries.

Achievements

PREPAREDNESS AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Vanuatu: 2018 has seen further articulation of the scope and objectives of the Shelter Cluster Vanuatu, refined during various emergency responses during the year. The revision of key documents and guidelines (technical guidelines, document index and Country Preparedness Package), and development of tools (sitrep and strategy templates, field-based coordination training package), has increased overall readiness and capacity of the cluster. Visibility, reach, and accountability has been enhanced through the establishment of a Facebook page used primarily to launch awareness campaigns such as the "4 key messages to make your house more resilient to any natural disaster", and as an additional channel to receive community feedback. Technical and coordination trainings and workshops have further strengthened capacity of the cluster (refer below).

Tonga: Following the TC Gita response review workshop in September 2018, the Emergency Shelter and NFI Cluster and Reconstruction Cluster have been working closely together to revise the shelter workplan and implement a series of preparedness and capacity building activities including revision of Terms of Reference and safe-shelter awareness materials. The Shelter Technical Group (STG) was formed in October 2018 to support both government ministries and represent the wider shelter cluster agencies and institutions, working to advance the strategic direction, overall priorities, and advocacy of the shelter sector during preparedness, response and early recovery. See below for details of trainings and workshops implemented in 2018.

Fiji: 2018 saw the development of the Shelter Handbook for Fiji, led by Shelter Cluster co-lead Habitat for Humanity Fiji. Scheduled for completion in 2019, the handbook will provide partners with guidance on local coordination structures and best practice shelter programming in the Fijian context (through a gender and inclusion lens), increasing the effectiveness and quality of response and preparedness.

Solomon Islands: Development of a sub-national level emergency shelter training package commenced in 2018, led by the Shelter Sub-Committee Co-Lead, in consultation with local disaster management networks. These trainings will be made available to shelter sub-committee partners in 2019, strengthening preparedness and response capacity of the shelter sector at local level.

Pacific Regional level: The Pacific Shelter Cluster continues to raise key country-level advocacy points at the regional level through the Pacific Humanitarian Team’s (PHT) Regional Inter-Cluster Coordinator’s Group (RICCG), and to collaborate with regional clusters and other regional and global fora on the development of guidance materials and tools such as the PALM platform developed by the Pacific Logistics Cluster, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Guidelines for Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities (PWD) in Humanitarian Action, and the Global Shelter Cluster Promoting Safer Building Working Group’s "Informing Choice for Safer Building: Protocol & Recommendations for Existing IEC Review, Classification and Library".

EMERGENCY SHELTER RESPONSE

At the request of national governments, the Pacific Shelter Cluster supported the coordination of three country-level responses in 2018 through the deployment of the Pacific Shelter Cluster coordination team, reinforced by Global Shelter Cluster surge capacity. Over 67,000 people were reached by shelter cluster partners with emergency shelter, non-food items, and/or technical assistance during the Tropical Cyclone Gita response in Tonga between February – March, the Tropical Cyclone Hola response in Vanuatu between March – April, and the Ambae Volcano response in Vanuatu between April – December. A Housing, Land and Property (HLP) advisor was deployed to support coordination of the Ambae Volcano response and helped to inform Government of Vanuatu decision-making processes around land acquisition for resettlement of the displaced population of Ambae Island and establishment of their food gardens and second home.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th># people reached with emergency shelter assistance</th>
<th># households reached with emergency shelter assistance</th>
<th># people provided with technical support and guidance</th>
<th># households reached with longer-term shelter assistance</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TC Gita, Tonga</td>
<td>47,329</td>
<td>7,659</td>
<td>3,865 (773 HH)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC Hola, Vanuatu</td>
<td>8,435</td>
<td>1,687</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambae Volcano, Vanuatu</td>
<td>11,385</td>
<td>2,277</td>
<td>14,688</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>HLP advisor supported longer-term shelter assistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>67,149</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,623</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,553</strong></td>
<td><strong>486</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Workshop</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-day emergency shelter training</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Ambae Island, Vanuatu</td>
<td>Increased emergency shelter response capacity to support the Ambae Volcano response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-day humanitarian shelter coordination workshop</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>Port Vila, Vanuatu</td>
<td>Increased capacity of shelter coordination team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participatory Approach to Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA) training co-facilitated by Habitat for Humanity and IFRC.</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Nuku’alofa, Tonga</td>
<td>Increased base of PASSA trainers, and recovery / preparedness shelter programming capacity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-day humanitarian shelter coordination workshop</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Nuku’alofa, Tonga</td>
<td>Increased awareness of coordination processes and capacity of the coordination team and partners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters-level short-course in Shelter and Settlements in Emergencies (Natural Disasters) at Oxford Brookes University.</td>
<td>May – June</td>
<td>Solomon Islands / Switzerland</td>
<td>Sub-national trainings now being developed                                                                Labour-friendly people (LFP)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

Lack of dedicated in-country resourcing within Governmental Shelter Cluster Lead Agencies can limit responsiveness and activity of the cluster during response and preparedness. Revision of Disaster Management Acts currently underway in several countries may help to address this. Establishment of national co-leads has enhanced the level of preparedness across the Pacific.

Capacity building is more challenging in countries in response mode most of the year. This has been addressed through on-the-job mentoring for national and sub-national cluster coordination team members during the response. Challenges have been encountered with assessments in all responses in 2018. Prioritization of development of assessment forms and data collection methods (Kobo preferred by several countries) at cluster and inter-cluster levels is recommended.

The transition from the emergency phase to longer-term recovery has proved challenging, with the response lacking continuity and predictability of coordination and strategy between phases. To strengthen this linkage, work has been put in to articulation of the roles and responsibilities of respective ministries through revision of Terms of Reference and development of Standard Operating Procedures. This process will be continued in to 2019. No established CCCM cluster can lead to response gaps and pressure on shelter cluster to take this role. It is recommended to further discuss this point in the inter-cluster forum at national and regional levels.
Regional Emergency Telecommunications Cluster Support Team
(Led by WFP)

The United Nations World Food Programme’s Pacific Regional Office in Suva, Fiji, addresses emergency preparedness in three key sectors: Emergency Telecommunications, Logistics, and Food Security.

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is a global network of organizations that work together to provide shared telecommunications services in humanitarian emergencies, for instance, with the provision of surge capacity in humanitarian response.

While the ETC will continue to facilitate connectivity services for humanitarian responders, we will also expand our focus regarding what types of services we provide as well as who we provide those services to. Part of this expanded focus is the ETC’s recognition that we need to integrate into our strategy the changing humanitarian landscape and changing humanitarian needs.

Achievements

- Fiji national ETC
  Start of review of Terms of Reference
- Tonga National ETC
  Cluster meeting convened, review activities so far and plan activities for the coming year
- Samoa National ETC
  Discussions with regulator, ministry and NDMO review evolution of the cluster and plan activities for the coming year
- Overall
  Re-engagement with NDMO, telecommunications ministries and regulators in South Pacific
  ICT Capacity Assessments in 3 North Pacific Countries
  Discussion around cyclone and earthquake preparedness checklists
  Review of national cluster terms of references
  Review of national cluster standard operating procedures
  Verification of local capacity for response
  Assessment of preposition supplies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>No# of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Regional ETC workshop</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Pacific Harbour, Fiji</td>
<td>See here: <a href="https://wfp.sharepoint.com/'b/s/FLJI/TSW1Pqm9W_uhKsELc0w0C">https://wfp.sharepoint.com/'b/s/FLJI/TSW1Pqm9W_uhKsELc0w0C</a> MIMBI-7dz ICINHLITWAHHnD-Q7e-qE080P</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

Continuous re-engagement as well as reinforcement of previous work done with the clusters, helps to encourage cluster development activities and localization.

WFP Head of Office, Peter French with Fiji’s Minister for Disaster Management, Hon. Jone Usamate at the opening of the Regional ETC Cluster workshop in Fiji, December 2018. ©WFP
Regional Early Recovery Network Cluster Support Team (Led by UNDP)

The early recovery cluster has three broad aims:

- Augment ongoing emergency assistance operations by building on humanitarian programmes.
- Support spontaneous recovery initiatives by affected communities.
- Establish the foundations for longer-term recovery.

UNDP has a mandate to support the national sustainable and risk informed development processes in the region for implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. This mandate also provides the rationale for UNDP’s efforts to integrate resilient development issues into the wider development objectives of poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth. UNDP is the lead UN agency on early recovery and has inherited responsibilities from the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), the body responsible for inter-agency cooperation in the humanitarian system. UNDP also chairs the Cluster Working Group on Early Recovery at a global level and in this role, it has developed policy guidance on early recovery and recovery programming. UNDP is a member of the Pacific Humanitarian Team leading the coordination of early recovery efforts in the Pacific region.

Achievements

UNDP supported strengthening of preparedness and planning mechanisms and tools to manage disaster recovery processes regionally and in 7 Pacific Island countries (FSM, Fiji, Samoa, Solomon’s, RMI, Tonga and Vanuatu). Vanuatu, Palau and FSM, UNDP conducted Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), Disaster Relief Funds (DRF) and early recovery trainings and in Samoa, a sector-wide PDNA training on infrastructure and sanitation was held. To strengthen the existing recovery mechanism in Cook Islands, the Country Preparedness Plan was developed. In Vanuatu, equipment was provided for the Ambae volcano response.

UNDP through its RESPAC Project has provided support to the Kingdom of Tonga and to Vanuatu in the aftermath of Tropical Cyclone Gita and the Ambae Volcanic eruptions respectively. Technical assistance was mobilized and deployed to both countries and funding resources in the amount of USD200,000 was also raised. The project provided early recovery training in Micronesia and Palau. RESPAC supported Papua New Guinea with in-country technical expertise and supported resource mobilization for (early) recovery work, following the earthquake in the Southern Highlands early this year, that affected more than 500,000 people.

In addition, the RESPAC project is also working towards setting up a regional pacific early recovery fund to help finance early recovery efforts. The fund is meant to provide quick and flexible funding to support national governments in early recovery work following a disaster. The central idea of the fund is that it is a self-generating and sustainable and that any disbursements made to countries are recouped through crowd funding or donor contributions. With the help of the UNDP Alternative Finance Lab (AltFinLab) in Istanbul, RESPAC has conducted a one-week design meeting with regional and national stakeholders in Fiji for crowd funding as one funding stream for the regional early recovery fund.

Amongst one of the more successful accomplishments under RESPAC is the uptake on bundled insurance package that the RESPAC has helped market and research through its partnership with the Pacific Financial Inclusion Programme (PFIP). Through RESPAC, start-up funding has been provided to PFIP’s local partners such as the Fiji Care (a private insurer) and the Sugar Cane Growers Council. Low income households are now able to purchase insurance at a cost of FJD1.00 (or USD0.50) per week to protect against unexpected loss of property or the untimely death of the head of the family household. It is important to note that this is not subsidized and provides a maximum pay-out of FJD10,000. This scheme has received a major boost with the Fiji Government opting to buy in insurance for social welfare recipients and civil servants that are on the low end of the income bracket.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>No# of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regional PDNA and DRF training</td>
<td>9-13 April</td>
<td>Suva, Fiji</td>
<td>With the delivery of Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Disaster Recovery Framework (DRF) training regional and national capacities to establish disaster preparedness and post disaster recovery were strengthened. Participants have improved capacity in PDNA and DRF. They learned how to determine economic and social costs of disasters which can then inform recovery strategies to help rebuild the physical and social structures of disaster affected communities.</td>
<td>46 (34 males and 12 females)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Training of Trainers (ToT) for PDNA and DRF</td>
<td>April</td>
<td>Suva, Fiji</td>
<td>PDNA and DRF knowledge and training skills strengthened.</td>
<td>24 (19 males and 5 females)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional DRM Information Workshop</td>
<td>29-30 May</td>
<td>Suva, Fiji</td>
<td>Increased awareness and ways forward to increase use of existing data and key databases for disaster risk management (DRM) in the Pacific region for UN Country Teams and development partners</td>
<td>Forty-six (34 males and 12 females)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crowdfunding Training Workshop</td>
<td>26-28 Sept</td>
<td>Nadi, Fiji</td>
<td>Increased awareness of country and partner participants on available funding stream for the regional early recovery fund and knowledge on how to create a crowdfunding campaign efficiently, effectively and timely.</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Recovery Training Workshop</td>
<td></td>
<td>Palau, FSM</td>
<td>Participants knowledge on early recovery and understanding on role of UNDP in early recovery were strengthened. Participants were able to design indicative early recovery approaches and activities that will support long term recovery from disasters.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanuatu PDNA &amp; DRF Training Workshop</td>
<td>23-26 Apr</td>
<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>The capacity to establish disaster preparedness and post disaster recovery of Vanuatu government and NGO officials were strengthened in collaboration with the two trainers that had just participated in the Regional PDNA ToT. Twenty-six (9 females and 17 males) officers learned how to determine economic and social costs of disasters. The Vanuatu government has requested UNDP for a technical assistance to adapt the PDNA methodology into their national disaster assessment tools. This activity will be supported in the 2019 workplan.</td>
<td>26 (9 females and 17 males)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

Potential reputation risk from setting up Crowdfunding account due to substantial service fees charged on funds gathered through crowdfunding campaigns by firstly the Crowdfunding platform provider and then UNDP and potentially other fees by service suppliers/providers along the chain of partners. Crowdfunding platform provider charges about 10% of fees (for non-US based organizations) and UNDP charges about 8% of GMS fees. This has provided the Country Office (CO) with an incentive to find a more sustainable approach to creating a crowdfunding campaign account by working with crowdfunding providers and UNDP to establish a friendlier and sustainable agreement which looks to minimize these fees and allow more of the dollar value to reach the actual affected communities. Given that this is the first time this idea has been trialed in the CO and its region of work, it provides an opportunity to set it up right to make way for future more robust campaigns.

Improved understanding by partners in the Pacific region including government on the lead coordination role that the UNDP plays in disaster early recovery efforts particularly in the humanitarian cluster system. The training workshop and meetings and consultations with partners on the crowdfunding and Pacific early recovery fund concept has led to increased understanding by partners on UNDP’s role.

Innovative and ground-breaking initiatives, especially ones related to unforeseen events (e.g. relying on future disasters) may require more time than is allocated under this initiative to be able to share positive results and impacts.

Regional Review of PDNA: The review brought to light the challenges and benefits. The challenges among others include data management system in PICs and staff turnover. Among the benefits is the spotlight which the methodology and process sheds on the sectors and the resultant sectorial influence on the recovery planning process. The transparent nature of the process which strengthens governance processes, has advanced as a distinct benefit. There is increased appetite for PDNAs amongst PICs with request for PDNA trainings and adapting the methodology to national assessment frameworks.
Regional Protection Cluster Support Team (Led by UN Women)

The Pacific Humanitarian Protection Cluster Support Team comprises regional and international humanitarian organizations collaborating to enhance regional and national capacity for gender and protection-sensitive disaster preparedness, response, and recovery in Pacific Island countries. The Pacific Humanitarian Protection Cluster (PHPC) recognizes protection as a cross cutting issue across all humanitarian sectors and uses the IASC definition of protection, “all activities aimed at ensuring full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the letter and the spirit of the relevant bodies of law,” and adheres to the Sphere Protection Principles, Protection Mainstreaming Principles and Principles of Partnership.

The PHPC focuses on five (5) priority countries; Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga and Samoa based on the recorded frequency of natural hazards and existing protection challenges that may be exacerbated in emergencies. Other Pacific countries receive support from the PHPC as needed and determined by cluster members, in consultation with relevant international, regional, and national stakeholders.

Key priorities of the PHPC in 2018 were:

- Providing support to Tonga Safety and Protection Cluster in response to TC Gita; and to Vanuatu Gender and Protection Cluster in response to Ambae evacuations
- Providing technical support to the Tonga Safety and Protection Cluster, including developing TOR and SOPs
- Providing technical support to revitalize the Fiji Safety and Protection Cluster
- Supporting the preparedness of national protection clusters to respond in emergencies, including regular meetings, members’ familiarity with their TOR, key assessment tools and resources, training in protection response, etc.
- Coordination on gender-based violence prevention and response
- Support for inclusiveness of diversity in humanitarian response (including for people living with disabilities and people of diverse sexual orientation or gender identity).

Achievements

- Surge support provided to Tonga Safety and Protection Cluster by sending staff to assist with coordination and needs assessment for TC Gita response.
- Funding support to Tonga Women and Children’s Crisis Center for GBVIE services in the aftermath of TC Gita; and supported development of a GBV referral pathway.
- Technical assistance provided to Tonga Safety and Protection Cluster to conduct an after-action review following TC Gita, and facilitation of a 2-day meeting with Cluster members to review its TOR and SOPs and build capacity.
- Surge support provided to Vanuatu to assist with coordination and support the Vanuatu Gender and Protection Cluster for the Ambae evacuation; shared information and provided technical advice, including on the protection assessment tool and Code of Conduct for Humanitarian Workers
- Updated child protection section of national disaster management plans in Kiribati, Samoa and Solomon Islands.
- Advocated for the reactivation of the Fiji Safety and Protection Cluster and co-chaired its meeting in Dec 2018.
- Distribution of dignity kits in Tonga following TC Gita; prepositioned dignity kits and reproductive health kits in Suva and Brisbane ahead of the 2018/2019 cyclone season
- Advocated with Fiji faith-based organizations to support access to humanitarian assistance for SOGIESC individuals.
- Printed protection tip sheets for cluster sectors and distributed to national clusters.
- Coordinated protection responses to support national responses and conducted regular activity mapping for PHPC members.
- Updated regional and national protection actor contacts.
- Developed PHPC annual work plan for 2018/19.
- Compiled a list of PHPC members available for deployment.
- New Protection Cluster Coordinator recruited for UN Women.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training/Workshop</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
<th>No# of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimal standard package for Reproductive health in</td>
<td>February</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Reproductive nurses and midwives have knowledge of the basic principles of a survivor-centered response to GBV, dignity kit familiarization, GBV referral pathways, case management, and messaging</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>emergencies (including GBV response) MISP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GBV referral pathways and psychosocial support</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Social and community health workers are familiar with the existing GBV case referral pathways in Tonga and informed of the principles of PSS</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical management for sexual assault survivors</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Clinical staff at Vaiola Hospital are able to deliver clinical management of rape services (this activity is shared between Health and Protection Clusters)</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(one day orientation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orientation session for PDOs to support ongoing</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Staff from local disabled persons organizations are trained to support assessments for PLWD</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assessment for PLWD on Tongatapu island</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SGBV Fundamentals</td>
<td>September –</td>
<td>Samoa, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands</td>
<td>IPPF Member Association staff trained as first-line responders in stable and emergency times for SGBV survivors</td>
<td>58 (39 female, 18 males, 1 other)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Training</td>
<td>March-</td>
<td>Samoa, Vanuatu, Fiji</td>
<td>IPPF Member Associations, governments and partners trained in essential reproductive health services including protection and management of GBV in emergencies</td>
<td>98 (65 female 33 male)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>November</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender in Humanitarian Action training</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>Solomon Islands</td>
<td>National Protection Cluster members have increased knowledge of and expertise in gender and socially inclusive humanitarian response</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender in Humanitarian Action training</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>National Protection Cluster/Committee members from Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Samoa and Palau have increased knowledge of and expertise in gender and socially inclusive humanitarian response</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lessons Learn and Recommendations

- Importance of regular meetings of regional and national protection clusters during non-emergency times and familiarizing members with their roles and responsibilities, and coordination processes before a disaster strikes.
- Critical need for better disaggregated data (by sex, age, disability, sexual orientation and gender identity) and gender profiles to inform identification of disaster risks and humanitarian interventions.
- Critical to have protection actors participating in needs assessments in emergencies, right from the outset, to identify diverse needs and protection risks for the most vulnerable.
- A need for quality control in gender-based violence prevention, child protection and psychosocial support with the increase in actors engaging in training and responses during or following emergencies.
- Challenges of ensuring inclusion of sexual minorities in humanitarian response in ways that maintain their safety.
- Promote use of Pacific Disability Forum DRR toolbox.
- Roll out of IASC Gender in Humanitarian Action Handbook Training across all Clusters.
Regional Education Cluster Support Team (Co-led by UNICEF and Save the Children):

The Education cluster in the Pacific Island Countries is led by the Ministry of Education (MoE) and supported by UNICEF and Save the Children as the co-lead. The members of the education cluster consist of civil society organizations, faith-based organizations and donor agencies. The memberships vary from country to country and depending on organizations that are present in a certain country. In a few countries such as in Fiji and Vanuatu the cluster is guided by a Terms of Reference or a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The ToR which outlines the objectives of the cluster, scope of work, membership and coordination mechanism, frequency of meetings, roles and responsibilities. The ToR and the workplan for Fiji is currently under review which is envisaged to be finalized in 2019. In Vanuatu, the roles and responsibilities of the Cluster is outlined in the MoU guiding its co-leadership. Education in Emergencies (EiE) policies in Fiji, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands are currently being reviewed and a new EiE Policy has been developed in Tonga. The EiE Policy is critical because it contains governance structure of the Education Emergency Committee in relation to Education Cluster from the national to the provincial level and to the schools. It also encompasses EiE and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) under the comprehensive school safety framework, responsibilities functions and operations of Education Cluster or Education Emergency Committees. Support has been undertaken through the Education Cluster structure for four countries (Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Island and Tonga) in the region to strengthen their education in emergency disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction and resilience at central, sub-national and school levels so that they can better prepare for natural disasters and respond while building resilience to address disasters and maintain community cohesiveness.

The Education Cluster support for the Pacific region is done based on thinking regionally and acting locally.

In 2018, the clusters key priorities included:

- Strengthening the MoEs sector in leadership and coordination and mechanism in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and Tonga.
- Reviewing and standardizing educational resources and materials.
- Prepositioning of education in emergencies supplies in ware houses in Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Tonga.
- Building capacities of partners such as the MoEs at the national and provincial level and schools including education cluster members on education in emergencies. Disaster Risk Reduction, school disaster management, education safe from disaster, supporting school drills, creating awareness and campaigns.
- Integrating where practical influencing responses in other sectors (such as WASH, Gender and Protection, Shelter, logistic, health, logistic, communication and Food Security) to support the education efforts.

Achievements

Vanuatu Ambae Volcanic Eruption Response

The cluster supported the Ambae volcano response evacuation of students out from Ambae to Maewo and Santo islands - up to 600 Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) children (41 ECCE) and 2,200 primary students (28 schools) were evacuated to Maewo. Due to the limited number of ECCE (17) and primary schools (7) in host communities in Maewo, the existing schools were not able to accommodate all children relocated from Ambae. Save the Children and UNICEF through the cluster, provided technical assistance in supporting MOET in reviewing the rapid assessment form and training of MOET officers in the use of Kobo application to collect needs assessments using tablets and mobile phones. Education in Emergencies (EiE) supplies were provided in the form of, educational resources for teachers and students and temporary learning spaces to support children who were affected. These included the provision of 36 temporary learning spaces, 10 child friendly spaces, 120 school in a box (supporting 4,800 students & stationary and teaching and learning resources for 120 classrooms), 33 ECD kits benefitting 1,320 ECCE children, restocking of curriculum materials, blackboards and white board and markers. WASH and hygiene kits were distributed to teachers and students as well as the distribution of 50 Ventilated Improved Pit toilets for schools. Direct cash transfer to the MOET to cover cost for their logistics, transport cost, air fare, fuel, timber for furniture and construction of classrooms, tablets for needs assessment and emergency operation and psycho-social support activities in Maewo, Santo and other locations. Other assistance provided were Ambae school fee exemption for term 3 of 2017 and term 1, 2 & 3 for 2018.

Fiji

In Fiji, UNICEF and Save the Children supported the Education Cluster in the training of MEHA officers in AKVOFLOW application to collect data using tablets in the responding to TC Josie and Keni in which coordination was conducted accordingly in terms of assessment, sharing of data, logistics, and monitoring. They also supported the education cluster in the provision of EiE supplies such as the provision of 19 school in a box, 34 tents (temporary learning space), 10 tarpulin, 15 ECD kits, School Bags, WASH kits and ECE Kits to 43 schools across Lautoka, Ba, Ra and Kadavu reaching 2,764 (1,381 girls) children.
Tonga

In Tonga, Category 4 Tropical Cyclone Gita made landfall in February 2018 causing severe damage to 109 of 154 schools on the Islands of Tongatapu and Eua, affecting an estimated 23,000 students (37 per cent of the Tonga student population). TC Gita also brought the challenges for leadership and coordination at local level in Tonga. The education cluster system had been established in Tonga through the National Emergency Management Act, yet it had not translated down to the Ministry of Education and Training (MET) level. As part of TC Gita response, UNICEF responded urgently in strengthening the Education Cluster in Tonga in leadership and coordination of the cluster. Support was provided in a series of capacity building exercises, especially including: i) EiE and education cluster coordination and ii) detail damage assessment using AKVOFLOW software, data analysis and response. Because of the skills acquired from the training the MET officers from national and district level used tablets to collect detail damage assessment data from affected schools. The analysis of the initial damage assessment collected was used to inform the TC Gita Education Cluster Response Plan. Training was also conducted with all heads of affected schools on how to properly set up tents, how to use school in a box and recreational kits, as well as psycho-social support.

UNICEF supported the education cluster in Tonga in the provision of EiE supplies such as 60 tents, 95 tarpaulins, 275 schools-in-a-box, 140 recreational kits and early childhood development (ECD) kits, schoolbags, water bottles that benefited 640 children in preschools and 16,220 primary pupils. Immediate capacity building for national and local level officials was provided to address noted capacity gaps related to response, coordination and situation monitoring, and most schools in the affected areas were functioning within two weeks of the disaster.

A meeting was held on 20 July 2018 in Tonga with 11 senior Education Officers from MET to review the lessons learnt, 2 officers from NEMO and 8 principals were in attendance. They highlighted the need for systematic capacity building, ensuring a cadre at all levels is ready to lead on EiE and DRR planning and response, but also the value of training provided as needed during the emergency to address immediate needs.

Emergency Preparedness and Resiliency

Education Cluster in the region is beginning to shift its focus on response as in the past the focus has been on preparedness and mitigation with the purpose of reducing the impact of the disaster, minimize the need to respond and accelerate recovery. There is also a continued focus on preparedness, risk reduction and resilience; UNICEF and Save the Children continues to support governments that respond to emergencies, as needed, and draws on each response to contribute learning and experience to improve future preparedness efforts.

A multi-country effort to develop school-based DRR materials is under way in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands (SI) and Tonga. All four PICTs held initial stakeholder consultations with technical expertise provided to inform the design of context specific school based DRR materials. A process to develop, review and test these materials will follow, with training for national, provincial and school/community stakeholders planned for 2019.

Lessons Learnt and Recommendations

- One of the key lessons learnt from the response activity was the standardizing of the assessment template to cover the wider education component such as protection and school feeding.
- It is recommended that a standard template be reviewed by the cluster, regular meetings to be held at least one meeting per quarter, ToR and workplan to be reviewed to include cross – cutting issues.
- The continuation of the capacity building of the National and Provincial Education officers and in the Pacific Island countries in Education in Emergencies and Education Cluster leadership and Coordination.
Coordination Support Team  
(Led by UN OCHA)

OCHA Office of the Pacific Islands (OP) in its role as Co – Chair and secretariat of the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT), provide leadership and support role to the Office of the UN Resident Coordinators in Fiji and Samoa that ensured effective coordination and organization of the PHT Principals and Cluster Coordinators meeting in 2018. In 2018, the PHT cluster coordination group met on 7 occasions which focused on operational preparedness, emergency responses and strengthening awareness on localization and integrating cross cutting issues relating to protection including issues of gender-based violence, disability inclusive and Lesbian Gay Bi Sexual Transgender Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI). PHT Principals also met on five occasions to provide leadership, direction and support to the operation of the cluster support teams under the leadership of the RCs with guidance from OCHA.

Achievements

In 2018, the Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT) clusters responded to various natural disasters in the Pacific region and played a key role in coordinating the (PHT) cluster support team efforts. Of particular importance was the PHT’s contribution and staff deployment for responses in Tonga and Vanuatu. The Tropical Cyclone (TC) Gita response in Tonga showcased the PHT’s vital role in supporting and advising the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) with guidance from OCHA on all humanitarian matters, including the response as well as the effective liaison with national authorities during times of emergency. PHT regional cluster support teams have been deployed to support regional emergency responses and have been instrumental in providing up-to-date information on developments and the progress of relief activities undertaken in the support of national authorities around the region. PHT members were also deployed following the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Earthquake. PHT cluster support teams have supported local responses to TCs Josie and Keni in Fiji. Each response has been tailored to the specific humanitarian context and was based on requests by Pacific Governments and their emergency offices for support.

The PHT supported responses to three Tropical Cyclones Gita, Josie and Keni and the Ambae volcanic eruption in Vanuatu. In all events, the PHT worked closely with FRANZ to strengthen humanitarian responses with the UN and donor partners in the region. The PHT has broadened its engagement with other humanitarian actors in the region, including Canada, China, the European Union, Japan and the United States of America on emergency responses and engagement with national disaster management offices. TC Gita affected Samoa and impacted Tonga and the southern Lau islands of the Fiji. The PHT also worked closely with partner governments to support nationally-led responses. The significant damage caused in Tonga by Cyclone Gita led the Government of Tonga to mount a timely and efficient emergency response; within that response Tonga requested the RC for support.

PHT clusters engaged with Fiji’s National Disaster Management Office, OCHA and Red R Australia who co-hosted the first Regional Information Management Workshop for the Pacific from 27 to 29 August 2018 in Fiji’s capital Suva. The workshop was an opportunity for the PHT clusters to strengthen their relationship with Pacific NDMO and build on its reputation with the disaster management organisations and information management specialists from the ten Pacific countries who were in attendance. The event was also supported by regional organizations.

OCHA supported the PNG earthquake response in Information management and coordination support. ©UNOCHA
PHT Structure

- Resident Coordinator/Humanitarian Coordinator (Fiji & Samoa)
- Heads of Organization/Principals
- Regional Inter-Cluster Coordination Group

9 Cluster Support Teams
PHT Members