

**REPORT ON AUSAID GRANT  
FOR  
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & AWARENESS PROGRAMMES,  
EXERCISES AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAININGS**

Submitted by:

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT OFFICE [NDMO]  
1 KNOLLY STREET  
KNOLLY PLAZA  
SUVA

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## **1.0**

### **Acknowledgement**

The National Disaster Management Office [NDMO] acknowledges the funding support from AUSAID for the Disaster Preparedness & Awareness Programmes, Exercises and the Disaster Management Trainings in the four Divisions from the National to the community levels.

We also appreciate the valuable assistance from the officials of the Regional Office of the AUSAID in putting all their efforts for NDMO to be the recipient of the AUSAID Grant directly for the first time in history of the existence of NDMO.

## 2.0 Executive Summary

The National Disaster Management Office as per requirement under sections 41 and 42 of the Natural Disaster Management Act 1995 is mandated to conduct training and awareness to the public on disaster management.

The assistance from AUSAID of cash grant of F\$267,483.70 for Disaster Preparedness and Awareness Programmes, Training, Exercises and National Disaster Awareness Week enabled NDMO to conduct: -

- i) Introduction to Disaster Management Course for the municipal councils in the 4 divisions;
- ii) Introduction to Disaster Management Course through Public Service Center for training and Development in the 4 divisions;
- iii) Conduct Initial Damage Assessments Course for the Roko Tuis, Turaga ni koros, Mata ni tikinas, Youth Group Leaders and Women's Groups;
- iv) Community based Disaster Risk Reduction for 10 villages in Labasa;
- v) Observe National Disaster Awareness Week in the northern division; and
- vi) Install Ba Flood Early Warning Systems [gauges] in Toge, Nalotawa and Koro.

A total of \$57,333.47 was also used to advertise the preparedness awareness on six hazards with telephone directory for the National, Divisional and District Emergency Operation Centre that can be used during emergencies.

The disaster preparedness program [30 seconds spots] will be played for the public during this cyclone season. The National Disaster Management Office has spent \$262,700.43 for the 2011 programme from the initial grant as mentioned above.

### 3.0 Introduction

The National Disaster Management Office [NDMO] as its core function under Sections 41 and 42 of the Natural Disaster Management Act 1998 is responsible for:

- i) Implementing, organizing and co-ordinating public awareness activities in respect of natural disasters as planned by the Preparedness Committee;
- ii) Conduct annually a National Disaster Awareness Week prior to the beginning of the cyclone season; and
- iii) Implement disaster training programmes at all levels [National, Divisional, District and Community]

Due to the climate change impact on economic and social implications, NDMOs commitment to the Framework for Action 2005 – 2015 is for a holistic approach for disaster risk reduction in all sectors. The commitments by the NGOs, private/public sectors and Business Communities will assist NDMO to deliver the most needy trainings and awareness to the vulnerable and less fortunate communities at large.

NDMO over the years has depended on little budget to conduct awareness to the public. This becomes almost difficult to reach the rural communities due to the costs involved in broadcasting information as most of the communities are equipped with radios.

The National Disaster Management Office with the grants assistance from AUSAID has covered quite a bit of the percentage of the communities in 2011 and will work closely with AUSAID in years ahead for more resilient communities.

## 4.0 Brief of Courses

The courses that are coordinated by the National Disaster Management Office are offered by The Asia Foundation, US Office of the Foreign Disaster Assistance [TAF/OFDA] through SOPAC.

A brief outline of the courses that were conducted through the AUSAID grants this year are as follows: -

- a. **Introduction to Disaster Management [IDM]** – this course provides information and skills necessary for participants to understand and fulfill their assigned roles in disaster management. This is a 3 days course.

The objectives of this course are: -

- i) Use correct emergency/disaster management terminologies;
- ii) Explain the concept of disaster management;
- iii) Describe types of hazards to which individuals are or may be exposed;
- iv) Explain hazard, vulnerability and risk and how they are linked to disaster management;
- v) Explain disaster management cycle, its various stages, and measures that can be taken within those stages;
- vi) Describe the relationship of disasters with development;
- vii) Describe the components of a disaster management system; and
- viii) Describe the role individuals and their agency or organizations have in national, provincial and community based disaster management programs and activities.

- b. **Initial Damage Assessments [IDA]** – this course provides individuals with knowledge on processes and techniques of conducting initial damage assessments satisfactorily within 48 hours after an event.

The objectives of this course are:

- i) Describe the purpose of damage assessment in disaster management;
- ii) Describe the effects of various hazard impacts; and
- iii) Collect and record information and data related to damage and loss resulting from an adverse event.

- c. **Emergency Operations Centre [EOC]** - it provides necessary knowledge and skills to persons who have the responsibility for the establishment, operation, management and administration of Emergency Operations Centre. This is a five day course.

The objectives of this course are: -

- i) Explain concepts of emergency operations centres;
- ii) Determine the requirements for facilities and resources in the establishment of an EOC;
- iii) Describe the principles for staffing and assigning roles in an EOC;
- iv) Determine the administrative needs of an EOC;
- v) Gather and disseminate information relative to an event;
- vi) Implement decisions made in an EOC; and
- vii) Conduct and/or participate in meetings necessary in the operation of an EOC.

d.

**Disaster Risk Reduction [DRR] program** -- this a community based Disaster Risk Reduction program that provides the individuals with basic knowledge on their vulnerability and their capacity to cope within. It helps the communities to prepare their Community Disaster Management Plan which is used during an emergency.

The objectives of this training are: -

- i) The individuals to be aware of the disaster management terminologies;
- ii) Be able to assess their vulnerability;
- iii) Be able to know their responsibilities during an event within their communities;
- iv) Be able to cope with the capacity within their community; and
- v) Be able to draw up a Disaster Management Plan, test and determine if it is workable during an event.

## 5.0 Activities

### 5.1

The National Disaster Management Office in coordination with Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Urban Development, conducted the first round of the introduction to Disaster Management [IDM] Course for the Municipalities in Fiji. The location of all the towns and cities in Fiji make them vulnerable to floods and will be most affected if there is a Tsunami.

Other public/private sectors as well as a few business communities also benefited from the IDM for the municipalities. This Introduction to Disaster Management Course was in line with the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction [ISDR] theme for 2010 – 2015 “Making Cities/Towns/Communities Resilient” – *Is My Town/City/Community Getting Ready?*

Four IDM Courses were conducted for the municipalities [central, 2 for western and northern]. A total of ninety six individuals benefited from this course and were awarded with “*Certificate of Completion*” as part of the recognition of the course. The IDM for central division was funded by the organizations.

### 5.2

The second round of the Introduction to Disaster Management [IDM] Course was for the Senior Civil Servants. The IDM Course has been approved by the National Disaster Management Council [NDMC] and institutionalized into the Public Service Trainings with effect from June 2011. Three courses were conducted for the civil servants [Suva/Lautoka/ Labasa]. A total of seventy five civil servants from different Ministries and Departments benefitted from this course. Participants who completed the three days course were awarded with a “*Certificate of Completion*” as part of the recognition of the course.

### 5.3

The National Disaster Management Office sees it as a need to train the Turaga ni koros to conduct the Initial Damage Assessments [IDA] within a forty eight hour period after an event. The Turaga ni koros have detail information for their villages and will be able to submit reports to the District Office in a very short span of time for the distribution of basic needs. Ministry of iTaukei Affairs have given the mandate for the IDA training.

A Field Reference Guide together with the Assessments forms has been prepared in Fijian for better understanding and delivery of information. A total of 37 Roko Tuis and Assistant Roko Tuis together with officials of the iTaukei Affairs Board attended the first IDA in vernacular at Nadave. This followed up with other Provinces having a one day IDA Course. This was taken down well by the Turaga ni koros and are eager to assist with the extra responsibility of conducting the initial damage assessments. Over 500 Turaga ni koros, Mata ni tikinas, some Youth Leaders and Women's Group have been through the IDA Course. The first round of IDA for the 14 Provinces has been completed.



#### 5.4

The Commissioner Eastern Division requested for an Emergency Operations Centre [EOC] Course in order to prepare the staff to know how to establish, operate, administer and manage an EOC. Twenty two participants attended the 3 days course from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November. The course was covered in 3 days with an exercise on the third day. Although, the course was rushed through due to unavailability of time, it was a good turnout of the operations.

#### 5.5

The National Disaster Awareness Week was launched on 26th September 2011 by the Permanent Secretary for Provincial Development and National Disaster Management. The Media was well represented and a little over 50 people including the Ministry staff attended the launch.

The 2011 National Disaster Awareness Week was observed in the Northern Division. The main centre for awareness was Labasa; Savusavu; Nabouwalu and Taveuni. The NDAW was launched in Suva by Minister for Works on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November. The launch of the NDMO website and the Draft Tsunami Response Plan was part of the program.

Some of the major activities that build up for the NDAW were – the IDM for the Senior Civil Servants from 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> November, the IDA for the Provinces of Macuata, Cakaudrove and Buia during the NDAW, the DRR program for 10 villages along Qawa River and in Korotari, oratory contests and essay writing competitions by school children and display of materials in the booths by Fiji Red Cross, Agriculture, Health, Works, Energy, National Fire Authority, MRD, Social Welfare, Labasa Town Council and NDMO in Labasa. Savusavu, Taveuni and Nabouwalu had similar programs. The NDAW was observed from the 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> in Labasa and 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> in other centres.

Flyers, stickers and brochures on disaster awareness were printed for distribution to school children and the public. Display materials were also printed for awareness. Fiji Broadcasting Corporation Ltd took active part in disseminating information from the centre and also organized talk back shows.

#### 5.6

The Ba Flood Early Warning System was also a key activity of the grants received from AUSAID. The costs for the project were shared between JICA and NDMO. The ground work and consultations were conducted by NDMO. The gauges have been placed in 3 sites – Toge, Nalotawa and Koro. The cost for the fencing was also from the AUSAID grant. An exercise was conducted for the communities in Ba on the Disaster Preparedness and Traditional Knowledge at Vatuloulou Primary School.

## 6.0      Accittals

### AUSAID GRANTS FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS 2011 SUMMARY OF ACQUITALLS

NO	ACTIVITY	TARGET GROUPS	BUDGET
1	Introduction to Disaster Management [IDM] Course [4 courses]	<p>A. Suva City Council; Nasinu Town Council; Lami Town Council and Nausori Town Council</p> <p>B. Sigatoka Town Council; Nadi Town Council and Lautoka Town Council</p> <p>C. Ba Town Council; Tavua Town Council and Rakiraki Town Council</p> <p>D. Labasa Town Council; Savusavu Town Council; Taveuni and Nabouwalu</p>	<p>Costs shared by the organizations</p> <p>\$8,729.00</p>
2	Introduction to Disaster Management [IDM] Course for the Senior Middle Management Civil Servants – Institutionalized programme [ 3 courses]	<p>A. Central/Eastern</p> <p>B. Western</p> <p>C. Northern</p>	<p>\$1,963.00</p> <p>\$2,013.74</p> <p>\$6,289.60</p>
3	Initial Damage Assessments [IDA] Fijian Course for Roko Tu's [1 course] for 2 days	From all 14 Provinces	\$9,791.50
4	Initial Damage Assessments [IDA] Fijian Course for Turaga ni koros; Mata ni tikinas; Youth and Women Group Leaders [17 courses] – 1 day each	<p>A. Rewa – 1 session</p> <p>B. Nadroga – 1 session</p> <p>C. Ra – 1 session</p> <p>D. Ba – 2sessions</p> <p>E. Kadavu – 1 session</p> <p>F. Naitasiri – 1 session</p> <p>G. Lomaiviti – 1 session</p> <p>H. Lau – 1 session</p> <p>I. Bua – 1session</p> <p>J. Macuata – 1 session</p> <p>K. Savusavu – 1 session</p> <p>L. Taveuni – 1 session</p> <p>M. Serua – 1 session</p>	<p>\$2,554.00</p> <p>\$3,286.00</p> <p>\$2,987.00</p> <p>\$10,424.00</p> <p>\$6,200.00</p> <p>\$1,780.00</p> <p>\$2,844.75</p> <p>\$1,200.00</p> <p>\$3,636.00</p> <p>\$ 710.00</p> <p>\$4,086.00</p> <p>\$1,230.00</p> <p>\$1,150.00</p>