

- Telecommunications
- Local governments
- Island Disaster Committees
- Broadcasting
- Foreign Affairs *Mu*
- Fisheries *Mu*
- Agriculture *Mu*
- Environment *Mu*

2. Internal Organisation of the National Committee

TUVALU GOVERNMENT

DISASTER MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

RESPONSE:

Cabinet Ministers

Secretary To Government

National Disaster Committee

All Secretaries of the various Ministries
and heads of Divisions and Red Cross

Island Disaster Committees

RECOVERY

Cabinet Ministers

Secretary to Government

Office of the Prime Minister

Various Government Departments
[mainly Public Works, Health, Shipping, Foreign Affairs
Economic Planning, Local Governments] and Red Cross

Island Councils

TUVALU
NATIONAL SUMMARY REPORT

I D N D R

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SECTION A: PROFILE

*(This section contains relevant basic information about your country.
Please complete and check the information already included).*

1. Composition of National Committee (Focal Point):

(Please list the names of the institutions represented and indicate in the brackets the number of members of each group).

- Ministries [5]
 - Office of the Prime Minister
 - Ministry of Natural Resources
 - Ministry of Labour, Works and Communications
 - Ministry of Sport, Health and Human Resources Development
 - Ministry of Home Affairs

- NGOs [1]
 - Red Cross

- Public Services [13]
 - Police
 - Marine and Aviation
 - Public Works
 - Health
 - Meteorology

Island Disaster Committees

3. Prevailing hazards

Type	Location	Affected Population
Cyclone	All islands	10,000
Sea level rise	All islands	10,000

(Please attach additional information if necessary)

4. Recent natural disasters

Type	Location	Affected Population	Losses
Cyclone Ofa	all islands		
Cyclone Joni [1992]	2 southern islands	428 directly affected	food crops valued \$6,964
Cyclone Kina/Nina [1993]	all islands	10,000	damage to crops and buildings

5. National socio-economic conditions

• Population		10,000
• Gross Domestic Product (GDP):	A\$	11,439
• Per-Capita Income	A\$	1,256

6. Availability of assistance to other countries in the field of natural disaster reduction

(Please list potential resources, scientific expertise, technology, etc.)

nil

7. International assistance required for natural disaster reduction

(Please indicate requirements for scientific expertise, technology, resources etc.)

- Training and development of key officials, based on country needs
- Financial support to conduct in-country educational programmes on disaster awareness and preparedness
- Financial and technical assistance in the installation of emergency equipments to maintain telecommunication links between the islands during disasters
- Financial and technical assistance in the upgrading of the Radio Tuvalu facilities, the only radio service in the country, to maintain the broadcasting services during cyclones

SECTION B: STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

(This section deals with current or planned strategies and activities)

1. Steps towards achieving the 3 main Decade targets

The main steps to be taken in order to achieve disaster reduction in Tuvalu are:

1. Revision and operationalisation of national disaster plan, including training of key officials and outer island officials
2. Preparation and implementation of disaster awareness programmes for the general public and for inclusion in the school curriculum
3. Assessment of hazards and vulnerabilities and consideration of these assessments in the national development planning

2. Present national plan for natural disaster reduction

The Disaster Plan is included in the General Administrative Order; a workshop held in 1991, recommended updating of this plan; these recommendations are not yet implemented

(a) Time span covered:

The disaster plan is to be updated regularly

(b) Agencies, institutions and organisations involved:

National Disaster Committee; members see under A.1

(c) Funds available for implementation:

There are no specific funds for the implementation of the national disaster plan

3. Legislation introduced and enacted in relation to natural disaster reduction

The Disaster Plan is part of the General Administrative Order, which provides the legal basis for disaster related activities

4. Disaster mitigation activities completed

No specific disaster mitigation activities have been carried out to date

5. Plans to fully achieve Decade targets by the end of 1999

No specific projects have yet been formulated to address disaster reduction in Tuvalu. Improvement of the institutional structure and arrangements will provide the basis for the formulation of such projects. Institutional strengthening, training and updating of disaster plans are therefore the first priorities. Other priorities identified include:

- Preparation and implementation of disaster awareness programmes for the general public and for inclusion in the school curriculum
- Assessment of hazards and vulnerabilities and consideration of these assessments in the national development planning
- Operationalisation of the National Building Code [the code has been prepared, but the legal framework for enforcement is not yet operational]

SECTION C: INTERACTIONS

(This section focuses on international involvement in the IDNDR)

1. Publications on IDNDR-related subjects:

(e.g. manuals, brochures, bulletins and other publications of relevance to IDNDR. Please mention title, author, institution, place and year of publication)

Workshop Report Disaster Preparedness for NGOs, 1991

2. IDNDR meetings and conferences held or planned:

(Please indicate, date, location, organising agency, national and international participation).

- Tuvalu participated in the UN Disaster Management Training Programme in November/December 1993
- There are no specific IDNDR meetings held or planned in Tuvalu

3. Current or planned partnerships and cooperation related to IDNDR with other countries

- Tuvalu will participate in the South Pacific Disaster Reduction Programme, a UNDP funded technical assistance programme expected to start in February 1994
- The Government hopes to work together with other governments and IDNDR Committees to address its disaster needs

SECTION D: EVALUATION

(This section analyses national progress and outlines possible improvement)

1. Overall evaluation of national disaster mitigation programmes including, but not limited to, those initiated after IDNDR and achievements up to now
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National disaster programmes are at present largely focused on disaster relief and rehabilitation. The institutional capacities to develop and implement pre-disaster programmes have not yet been sufficiently developed.

2. Review of the IDNDR
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IDNDR has not played a significant role in the disaster programmes of Tuvalu. It would be beneficial to the country if the IDNDR infrastructure is used to strengthen our cause. We see opportunities for this in three directions.

Firstly, IDNDR should play an increasing role within the South Pacific, in particular in raising awareness of the opportunities to reduce the toll of natural disasters and thus contribute to a shift from disaster relief to disaster mitigation and preparedness. Secondly, it is hoped that through the activities in IDNDR, Tuvalu will gain increased access to technological and scientific information that can contribute to risk reduction. And thirdly, through the activities and meetings in IDNDR, the international community may increase its understanding and appreciation of the characteristics and vulnerabilities of atoll countries and the impact disasters can have on sustainable development in the region. It is hoped that this may initiate further cooperation in efforts to reduce disasters in the region.