



Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management 2016:

Session 4a – Pacific Coalition for Safe Schools

Tuesday 25 October 0900-1030

Save the Children and the Pacific Coalition for the Advancement of School Safety (PCASS) supported by the European Commission Humanitarian Aid & Civil Protection are implementing a regional program in support of Comprehensive School Safety. The Pacific Coalition for the Advance of School Safety has been launched as a first step to strengthen our collaboration and commitment to protect children's rights to safety and survival, to educational continuity, to safeguard education sector investments, and build a culture of safety.

The Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction and Resilience in the Education Sector, the Asia-Pacific Coalition for School Safety, and the Pacific Coalition for the Advancement of School Safety are all engaged in support of the UNISDR's *Worldwide Initiative for Safe Schools (W.I.S.S.)*. This entails identifying needs and gaps, determining targets and indicators, learning how to measure progress, and developing, adapting and improving appropriate guidance materials for improving school safety. This covers: developing an enabling environment (including child-centered, all-hazards risk assessment), safe school facilities, school disaster management, and risk reduction and resilience education.

The PCASS has facilitated national government-driven priority-setting through national workshops hosted in Fiji and Solomon Islands (September and October, 2015 respectively) and Vanuatu (April 2016). This program is assisting governments in strengthening their commitment to implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, as it applies to the education sector. In May 2016, a regional workshop was held to support a strategic approach to assessment, planning, and implementation of Comprehensive School Safety in Pacific countries. It was the first step towards creating a platform for an iterative and ongoing process to engage stakeholders and safety advocates in sharing hazard awareness, concerns, strategies-in-practice, collective planning and assist in preparation for the 2016 Pacific Platform for Disaster Risk Management (PPDRM). It will also promote Pacific countries joining the W.I.S.S.

Reducing risk and increasing resilience in the education sector is fundamental to the achievement of the goals of the Sendai Framework for DRR. The PPDRM is an opportunity to ensure the integration of a comprehensive approach to school safety into national development policies plans and practices, to improve coordination across ministerial institutions, national agencies, civil society and private sector stakeholders, and to advance the school safety agenda.

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Themes to be addressed	<u>Comprehensive School Safety in Action</u> Safe learning facilities School Disaster Management Risk Reduction and Resilience Education
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Session Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate and celebrate achievements in advancing School Safety across the region, Showcase successful case studies and practical examples of safe school programming Identification of next steps in the Pacific for implementing aspects of the Sendai Framework pertaining to School Safety
Session format	<p>5 mins Introductions Iris Low-McKenzie, CEO Save the Children Fiji</p> <p>5 mins Worldwide Initiative for School Safety – Robert Glasser, UNISDR</p> <p>5 mins Impacts of Disasters on Education in the Pacific – Marla Petal, Senior Advisor for Education and Disaster Risk Reduction, Save the Children</p> <p>10 mins Country Presentations: Achievements, Challenges, and rationale for WISS Commitment Hon. XXX – Minister of Education Vanuatu (TBC) Hon. XXX – Minister of Education PNG Hon. XXX – Minister of Education Tuvalu Hon. XXX – Minister of Education Fiji (TBC) Hon. XXX – Minister of Education Samoa</p> <p>20 mins Discussion and Q&A : Moderator: TBC • Statements from the floor: Head of School / Teacher / Youth (why this is important /impacts observed. Ask a question)</p> <p>5 mins Closing –</p>
	Table/poster exhibitions: Available guidance materials, educational materials and tools in support of all aspects of comprehensive school safety developed across the Pacific, as well as in the wider Asia-Pacific context will be showcased.