



# Fiji

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## National progress report on the implementation of the Hyogo Framework for Action (2011-2013) - Interim

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# **Section 1: Outcomes 2011-2013**

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## **Strategic Outcome For Goal 1**

### **Outcome Statement:**

The Government national commitment to DRM is mapped out in the Roadmap for Change and adapted into ministerial policy and plans through the Integrated Rural Development Framework which has special targets on the most vulnerable population in the rural sector. Policy statements and strategies incorporating DRR burgeoned in the intervening two years; these governed the housing sector, climate change adaptation and mitigation, the relocation of informal settlements, a watch on child labour, bio-security authority in Fiji, marine pollution, and poverty reduction measures. Implementation practices were driven through Poverty and Monitoring Unit under the Prime Minister's Office, the AusAID funded review of the Building Code by the Fiji Institute of Engineers, NBSAP, REDD+. Major cyclone and flood events in 2009 through to 2012 helped keep the focus on strengthening DRR in development planning.

SOPAC with assistance of Red Cross and key government departments conducted economic analysis of flood damages costs but this can still be of more use in development planning when mitigation and benefit options are incorporated to fulfil cost benefit analysis. There is still no platform to drive the systematic application of the CHARM approach. Fiji's planned technical assistance from SOPAC is yet to eventuate.

At the community level NGOs are very active around the country undertaking VCAs; partnerships of government-ngo-community have grown significantly with activities in bio-diversity, food security, micro-financing and a myriad of livelihood programmes. JICA successfully started implementation of the Community Flood Early Warning and Response Plan for Ba. Government has piloted a community integrated water resources management approach for Nadi River catchment to mitigate flood and land-misuse disasters.

## **Strategic Outcome For Goal 2**

### **Outcome Statement:**

The strengthening outcomes envisaged in enacting a new DRM legislation to the 2009 NDRM Arrangement were to improve coordination of DRM activities and imbue ownership by ensuring stakeholders' representation in a national platform for a whole of country approach to DRM. The new legislation, to repeal the 1998 Act, is still in draft form.

The national experiences of record flood levels and severe impacts of the recent, closely sequenced flood disasters have moved Fiji to place priority on stronger inter-facing of Climate Change Adaptation with external development partners. Climate Change is shifted from the Dept of Environment to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and a new Climate Change Policy and Strategy in place. Other institutional reconstitution are simultaneously happening or under review in the on-going public service structural reforms to attain greater efficiency as per the Peoples Charter eg . the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Provincial Development is also doing an in-house "change management" review to align the Ministry's structure closer with existing policies which includes reviewing the existing disaster

management arrangements.

At the community level, the number of donor-supported NGO managed community based multi-sector DRM programmes has increased. Most are implemented in partnerships with relevant government agencies. NGOs are benefitting as traditional donors have political differences with Fiji's current military backed government. Despite that the legislation is still in draft, DRM mechanisms at community levels are strong, both programme and project driven. Community based institutions remain strengthened following MORDI. In a positive approach following discussions with NDMO, FCOS has acknowledged to work at resolving CSO coordination, as the legislated CSO coordinating forum.

The DIMS has been setup and NDMO, CC Office and SOPAC continue working jointly towards JNAP establishment.

## **Strategic Outcome For Goal 3**

### **Outcome Statement:**

Communities continue to receive training in community multi-hazard assessment training. Local governments are now for the first time programmed in for multi-hazard risk assessment and have received DM training. Catastrophe risk mapping involving multi-hazard and exposure mapping in Viti Levu's main economic belt was done with the report published eg PCRFI.

Increasingly in rural communities and municipalities, - Lami, Nasinu, Nadi & Lautoka - DRR starts to feature in development planning. Public education and awareness activities continue to strengthen national preparedness. However NGO share of donors' disaster aid assistances has increased without an increase in coordination of programmes. Training in civil-military coordination has not happened with military now heavily involved in relief and response activities.

Tsunami procedures have been developed and drills undertaken in Suva and again further tested with real warning events. The bill boards are erected prominently.

## Section 2: Strategic goals

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### Strategic Goal Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

#### Strategic Goal Statement:

This strategic goal is related to RFA Theme 1 Governance- Organisational, Institutional, Policy and Decision-Making Framework; and to RFA Theme 4 Planning for Effective Preparedness, Response and Recovery.

JNAP established and CCA-DRM management arrangements finalized including National Platforms. Post JNAP establishment, the draft NDRM Act is presented in stakeholder consultation for incorporation of CCA and Mitigation.

National policies on CCA-DRM established and sector policies and strategies developed in alignment with the national goal statement “Building National Resilience to Disasters, Reducing Vulnerability and Risks and Adapting to Climate Change is to be reflected in each ministry strategies and operational plans (MOPs)”. Training on gender issues, protection and human rights strengthened and issues considered in sectoral policies and plans.

Tools developed in CCA-DRR cost-benefit analysis and used in major investment planning. NDMO uplift national awareness, understanding and application of the CHARM approach in MOPs.

Municipalities DRM policies formulated and implementation strategies developed and development planning guided by multi-hazard risk assessment in all municipalities in Fiji.

At the village and community level, DRM institutions setup and community development plans established with support of NDMO coordinating work in partnerships with PCIDRR, PCDF, Red Cross and other CSOs .

### Strategic Goal Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

#### Strategic Goal Statement:

This goal is reflected in RFA Theme 1 -- and Theme 2 Knowledge, Public Education Awareness and Education.

Change management and reconstituting review of NDMO completed. JNAP formulated, work matrix developed, and work programmes established encompassing the six thematic areas of the Regional Framework for Action. National CCA-DRM Platform established.

Legislation incorporating CCA-DRM finalised. National CCA-DRM Risk Management Arrangement uplifted. Institutional linkages with NGOs and private sector strengthened particularly with inclusion in the National CCA-DRM platform and its committees.

DRM implementation capacity strengthened through innovative engagement with private sector using interest / focus group identification, arrangements and associations to raise CCA-DRM awareness. NDMO – NGO partnership strengthened and charter / MOU between government and CSOs considered and resolved. FCOSS driven consultation amongst NGOs lead to NGO Coordination Problem Solving Workshop.

Resilience strengthened at all levels through expansion and consolidation of systematic underlying risk reduction programmes in EIA monitoring, safe land for better housing, food security programmes, safer and secure water supplies, income generation, reforestation, livelihood and resource management and conservation as marine and forestry protected areas REDD+ and NBASP, micro finance and micro-insurance well established nation-wide.

NDMO's installed Disaster Information Management Systems (DIMS) proactive in information sharing and exchange including with Pacific Disaster Net managed by SOPAC for the region.

## **Strategic Goal Area 3**

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

### **Strategic Goal Statement:**

This goal is reflected in RFA Theme 3 Analysis and Evaluation of Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Elements at Risk, and RFA Theme 5 Effective, Integrated and People Focussed Early Warning System, as well as RFA Theme 6 Reducing Underlying Risk Factors.

JNAP management arrangement established with partnership arrangements and outreach mechanisms to all DRM forums. VCA consistently applied across the nation to underpin CCA-DRM programmes in risk reduction measures against natural hazards as floods, climate variations, earthquakes and tsunamis.

National Building Code revised and implemented consistently in rural and urban housing. Multi-hazard and exposure mapping in urban areas and main economic belt consolidated and affected community sensitised to strengthen local level preparedness. Targeted training identified to improve and better understanding in civil-military coordination particularly during response and recovery phases.

NDMO established public siren tsunami warning systems in the capital city Suva promoted through drills and exercises. Exercise debriefings conducted including assessment of signage and bill boards on evacuation routes erected around the city. DRM messages through educational institutions strengthened with targets on cross sectoral issues and vulnerable groups (gender, protection and human rights issues).

Early warning and monitoring strategies specifically for slow on-set hazards and risks associated with climate variations established and risks mapping conducted eg soil losses,

coastal and river bank erosion and aggradations, coral bleaching, river bed profile changes, salinity impacts on ground water and impacts on natural physical systems.

Post disaster recovery programmes include DRR are systematically reported.

# Section 3: Priority for action 1

*Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.*

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## Priority for action 1: Core indicator 1

*National policy and legal framework for disaster risk reduction exists with decentralised responsibilities and capacities at all levels.*

Level of Progress achieved: 4

Substantial achievement attained but with recognized limitations in key aspects, such as financial resources and/ or operational capacities

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is disaster risk taken into account in public investment and planning decisions?  
Yes

<b>National development plan</b>	Yes
<b>Sector strategies and plans</b>	Yes
<b>Climate change policy and strategy</b>	Yes
<b>Poverty reduction strategy papers</b>	Yes
<b>CCA/ UNDAF (Common Country Assessment/ UN Development Assistance Framework)</b>	Yes
<b>Civil defence policy, strategy and contingency planning</b>	Yes

Have legislative and/or regulatory provisions been made for managing disaster risk? Yes

Description:

New information received indicate significant progress over the two years in inclusion of DRM in sector policies and regulations across Water, Housing, OHS, Climate Change, Waste Management, Marine, Bio Security, Poverty Reduction, Environment, Labour Force and Crime Decree. Civil Societies have policies in place for poverty reduction, but DRR has

to be incorporated into future review. In other sectors official DRR policies are not in place but activities that have elements of DRR in them are taking place on the ground eg NBSAP, REDD+, relocation of informal settlements. DRR is also reflected in agency regulations eg LTA, Local Government.

In Oct 2006 Fiji Cabinet endorsed a new “National Disaster Risk Management Arrangements” to replace the 1995 Fiji National Disaster Management Plan. The NDRMA is still not fully implemented awaiting an accompanying legislation but it was subject of a review in 2011. With the lobby today for a JNAP approach, the draft legislation and NDRM Arrangement should be again subject to another review.

PCIDRR community targeted training continues to offer decentralised training services, building DRR knowledge of local authorities, provincial staff and community leaders.

Institutional commitment to DRR exists and progress of decentralisation follows government's policy of decentralising development planning to divisional levels. Achievements are substantial at Divisional and Provincial levels in incorporating DRR in development planning within the ambit of EIA legislation. Monitoring and maintenance implementation capacities at all levels require strengthening.

### Context & Constraints:

Given the commitment and drive by government and key stakeholders to merge DRM with CCA it is opportune now to review the current draft DRM legislation for a broader disaster risk management – climate change consideration.

Whether to keep separate Council for Climate Change and Council for Disaster Management or merge them into a single appropriate national platform or council with policy oversight responsibility on DRM-CCA matters has to be decided in the establishment of JNAP and its management arrangements. The joint CCA-DRM approach needs to filter into government's decentralised development planning approach through Divisional level down to Village/Settlement levels, with strengthening of inter-partner accountability in the collaborative arrangements between agencies and government. JNAP is to build capacity of existing community committees particularly in work planning and project executions.

Inability to retain senior DRM staff within NDMO due to side transfer is a constraint but the expertise remains within the civil service. It is important during the JNAP formulation to clearly articulate the functions and resourcing of the council's secretariat, be it NDMO or another unit. CSOs and Private Sector will need re-assurances of capacity in the secretariat to drive this new approach.

Proactive information sharing policy at all levels is needed. A start made by some agencies to recognise and include the special needs of vulnerable groups and address cross cutting issues as human rights and gender. The Private Sector participative roles need to be better articulated in national policies.

Knowledge and experience in DRR exists at various levels in all sectors and institutional commitment has improved with achievements slowly spreading nationwide.

## Priority for action 1: Core indicator 2

*Dedicated and adequate resources are available to implement disaster risk reduction plans and activities at all administrative levels*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

What is the ratio of the budget allocation to risk reduction versus disaster relief and reconstruction?

	Risk reduction / prevention (%)	Relief and reconstruction (%)
National budget	None	Not Available
Decentralised / sub-national budget	Not Available	Not Available
USD allocated to hazard proofing sectoral development investments (e.g transport, agriculture, infrastructure)		Not Available

#### Description:

For government agencies there is still no dedicated budget for risk reduction or prevention. There is an annual budget for the NDMO and dedicated resources like emergency communication equipment and National Emergency Operations Centre. DRR activities are merged in activities funded under capital budgets and some NGOs include DRR funding considerations. For emergencies, government departments redirect funds from existing budgets. In recent disasters, the impacts have been extensive. Ratio of diverted funds was estimated as high as 80% between relief funding to risk reduction funding.

The Prime Minister's Office conducts public appeal in the event of a disaster. This is topped from capital budget funds and from donor contributions. Donors recently directed increased funding to NGOs as PCIDRR, Save the Children and to Red Cross. These are without conditions to the government but only to the donors. International assistance for response and recovery has been predominantly available in the past disasters.

DRR is considered in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation activities, e.g. new bridges to be above flood levels, coastal sub-division to be above tsunami and storm surge levels, power cables buried, irrigation and drainage support in agriculture and upper catchment flood mitigation activities under integrated management of watersheds. The government has a special programme on housing assistance aimed at vulnerable and low income earners.

The National Planning Unit has established a Disaster Management focal point who hopefully will review the request to Ministry of National Planning for each Ministry to report on DRR perceived activities in every quarterly progress reporting on the Roadmap.

NGOs still remain very active in incorporating DRM into their programme plans in fields involving conservation and development of water systems, biodiversity and protection of endangered species, establishment of marine and forestry conservation areas, bio-fuel development and environmentally friendly sewerage systems.

### Context & Constraints:

Champions in local governments and in the community were largely responsible in adding another layer mooted substantial relief assistances for flood victims in the period under review.

The NDMO lacked drive in the review period being affected by changes in work practice and transfer of senior staff. There was inadequate sitting of the National Disaster Council to address gaps in national DRR plans suggested in the last review eg proactive inclusion of the private sector in recognition that DRR is a Corporate Responsibility for the common good; development of a Hazard Mitigation Plan for Fiji with consideration to set aside a percentage of development budgets for mitigation funds to support priority hazard-resistant or vulnerability reducing projects within ongoing development projects.

National planners need to request performance indicators from Ministries in mainstreaming DRM into short and long term development strategies.

EIA is a powerful legislation but there is little capacity to monitor that recommended DRR measures are implemented fully.

CSOs are very active in procuring resources for DRR programmes at the community level. Inadequate information was available in this review to make proper assessment on the level of achievements at the community level. But the daily newspapers routinely carry articles on bio diversity projects, resource management practices, livelihood projects and social empowering activities funded and managed through CSOs intervention. The development of Charters and strengthening of coordination in CSO activities through FCOSS are needed.

## Priority for action 1: Core indicator 3

*Community Participation and decentralisation is ensured through the delegation of authority and resources to local levels*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do local governments have legal responsibility and regular / systematic budget allocations for DRR? Yes

<b>Legislation (Is there a specific legislation for local governments with a mandate for DRR?)</b>	Yes
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<b>Regular budget allocations for DRR to local government</b>	No
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<b>Estimated % of local budget allocation assigned to DRR</b>	Yes
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### Description:

The level of achievement is marked higher in this round as the review is better informed. Local governments belong to the Ministry of Local Government which has stipulated that all municipalities are to incorporate DRM in Planning. A lot is happening now through the regulation as it includes DRM budget allocation by local governments. The existence of polices is promoting strong NGO and community engagement with local governments. NDMO follows this up with IDA Training for local governments.

Provincial development is another sub-national administration structure of government to outreach to the communities with the hierarchy of Divisional Development Boards, District Development Boards and Community Development committees. DRR responsibilities are vested in development committees aligned with the administrative structural hierarchy. NDMO manages and coordinates national disaster management activities. During emergencies, authority is delegated to Divisional, Provincial and District levels. Disaster Management Committees (DISMAC) exist down to district level, whilst Budget allocation for DM is centralised with NDMO and disseminated to local levels as needed.

Though local level DRM budget funding is small and resources are not delegated to local levels, still a lot of DRM activities are happening at the local level through multi-source funding eg NGOs, external donors, government departments and interest groups.

The stalled progress regarding a new act and lack of dedicated budget allocation for DRR at all levels are key reasons why achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial.

### Context & Constraints:

The Local Government Policy includes DRM consideration but local level administrations lack implementation capacity in technical and financial resources to support development of contingency plans, conduct training & awareness activities, and undertake multi-hazard risk mapping.

NDMO lacks resources to widen its IDA training to reach the Turaga ni Koro, the Mata ni Tikina and community leaders. More efforts should be directed at establishing skilled DRR

Training Instructors at the Divisional level. NDMO needs to include in its agenda training on cross cutting issues of gender, human right and protection which can be accessed from donors, development partners and CROP agencies.

The proposed establishment of JNAP and its work matrix may be the means to encourage bottom-up development planning and top-down allocation of resources at divisional, provincial, district and village/ settlement committee levels. The technical skills and knowledge of communities in terms of reducing risk varies depending on experiences to the various types of hazards e.g. regular experience in coping with floods and cyclones versus rare exposure to earthquake or other events. Planning institutions and sector ministries need to fully internalise the need for DRR at the national level in order for commitment to feed through to provincial and local levels.

## Priority for action 1: Core indicator 4

*A national multi sectoral platform for disaster risk reduction is functioning.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are civil society organizations, national finance and planning institutions, key economic and development sector organizations represented in the national platform? Yes

Civil society members (specify absolute number)	eligible
National finance and planning institutions (specify absolute number)	eligible
Sectoral organisations (specify absolute number)	eligible
Private sector (specify absolute number)	eligible
Science and academic institutions (specify absolute number)	eligible
Women's organisations participating in national platform (specify absolute number)	eligible
Other (please specify)	eligible

Where is the coordinating lead institution for disaster risk reduction located?

In the Prime Minister's/President's Office	No
In a central planning and/or coordinating unit	No
In a civil protection department	No
In an environmental planning ministry	No
In the Ministry of Finance	No
Other (Please specify)	National Disaster Management Office

#### Description:

The level of progress achievements has improved one up in the review period. The NDM Council is a platform designed to focus on emergency and recovery. It has the majority of stakeholders represented and needs to still include others as the academia and the physically handicapped. Its membership too has to align with government policy of at least 30% women.

There is no established national platform for DRR. At the moment the NDM Council is the de facto DRR national platform and NDMO as the Secretariat acts as the co-ordinating lead institute. However there are a number of forums existing that consider DRM issues eg each of environment and climate change has its own national council.

The NDRMA, which was established as a way forward, will now need re-constituting to provide for the JNAP needs. The range of interest based groups listed in the last review continues to function with no overarching national platform. Partner agencies predominate in the Pacific Partnership Network, whereas at national level, each ministry is represented through a Liaison Officer in the Disaster and Risk Management Training Advisory Committee and in the National DISMAC. The NDMC too has a representative from each ministry.

Other programme based national platforms continue to function as with Health and with Protection in Emergencies. It is assessed that efforts continue to commit institutions and involve multiple stakeholders in DRR based discussions but achievements have not been substantial.

#### Context & Constraints:

The JNAP development heralds renewed discussion on a CCA-DRR national platform which will need resources to implement its strategies. The review of the draft DRM legislation will need to clearly separate DM functions from DRR functions to help with defining the functional arrangements to accommodate JNAP.

The NDRM Arrangement is a good model which with little adaptation can provide for CCA. The key features to incorporate CCA are the Executive body of key Cabinet Ministers; the

National Disaster Risk Management Trust Fund; and the National Disaster Risk Management Council. The NDRMC provides advisory services to the Executive and to government as well as providing high level national implementation overview across all the sectors. It is a ready platform to incorporate CCA considerations.

A range of interest based groups exist to discuss disaster risk management, but no overarching national platform exists. Partner agencies predominate in the Pacific Partnership Network, whereas at national level, each ministry is represented through a Liaison Officer in the Disaster and Risk Management Training Advisory Committee and in the National DISMAC. The NDMC too has a representative from each ministry. Unfortunately there is uneven commitment across ministries to attend meetings called by NDMO.

Information sharing also needs to be made effective to expand on DIMS. JNAP management model across the region is providing instituted mechanisms to strengthen information networking. The JNAP set up is seen as best practice in propping sustainable ecosystem management to safeguard the environment from the impacts of disaster risks and Climate Change.

Though no National Platform exists, institutional commitments are being made to strengthen multi-stakeholders DRR discussions.

# Section 4: Priority for action 2

*Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning*

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 1

*National and local risk assessments based on hazard data and vulnerability information are available and include risk assessments for key sectors.*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national multi-hazard risk assessment with a common methodology available to inform planning and development decisions? No

<b>Multi-hazard risk assessment</b>	No
<b>% of schools and hospitals assessed</b>	all new constructions
<b>Schools not safe from disasters (specify absolute number)</b>	number not available
<b>Gender disaggregated vulnerability and capacity assessments</b>	No
<b>Agreed national standards for multi hazard risk assessments</b>	No
<b>Risk assessment held by a central repository (lead institution)</b>	No
<b>Common format for risk assessment</b>	No
<b>Risk assessment format customised by user</b>	No
<b>Is future/probable risk assessed?</b>	Yes
<b>Please list the sectors that have already used disaster risk assessment as a precondition for sectoral development planning and programming.</b>	-- not complete --

## Description:

Fiji houses the Regional Specialised Meteorological Centre for Tropical Cyclones and produces cyclone maps. MRD produces geo-hazards maps and CROP agencies a plethora of data, hazard maps and information on all hazards of national threat to Fiji but there is no standard multi-hazard risk assessment. CSOs conduct VCA and multi-hazard risk assessment at the community level with a variety of tools. Agencies also conduct their own internal risk assessments. There is no policy for multi-hazard risk assessment to guide compilation of data on national exposures and vulnerabilities to determine multi-hazards risks. SPC-SOPAC manages science based multi-hazard risk mapping along the economic belt of Fiji and output is given to municipalities. It also has conducted coastal and off-shore risk assessments.

The EIA customises its own risk assessment framework and the building code uses local hazard maps.

At the sector level, schools have developed disaster management plans from internal customised risk assessment; retrofit programmes were undertaken. Evacuation drills are conducted and DM issues introduced into school curriculum. Similarly Health conducts own risk assessment of hospitals inclusive of resources and capacity from which Health Disaster Plans are developed and monitored. Further DM is included in the curriculum for medical students. Similarly investments in national and major roads conform to EIA requirements for DRR. Maritime also includes DRM in its operational planning as does civil aviation. The UN assists Agriculture assess risks and develop mitigation activities.

Gender disaggregated data is available and used in work plans on ad hoc basis as relevant to each ministry operational plan eg preventive health, corrections centre but it is not systematically applied.

Progress seen in this round in risk assessment application is foremost in policies and in Planning eg development of Land Use Policies, development of Disaster Management Unit in Agriculture and Forestry, development of Evacuation Plans particularly the “Procedures” in the Tourism sector; and in risk reduction and mitigation plans in the renewable energy sector.

## Context & Constraints:

National multi-hazard risk assessment is mostly done through regional inter-governmental programmes due to little capacities in the pacific island states.

A number of agencies conduct CVA at the community level and there is a need to map the multi-hazard risk assessment tools that are being used so to develop a standard procedure.

Improvement in information sharing is essential to ensure that there is sufficient input from technical agencies with focus on mapping of hazards, vulnerabilities and exposures and the development of common understanding of risk terminology. Gender and human rights issues are often overlooked, and training and awareness raising is needed.

Acknowledgement of EIA requirements exists with Divisional and Provincial Administrators but they will need customised training to police EIA compliance by all developers.

Some works were done by SPC-SOPAC on the economic costs of flood disasters in the Western side. These are the first steps in cost – benefit analysis. The mitigation benefits

have to be incorporated to plug the gap in the use of DRR cost benefit analysis which is essential for planning investments at all levels. SPC-SOPAC further produced a relevant report in 2011 “Fiji Investment in Disaster Risk Management” that has a section on Benefits of Investing in DRR. These are materials needed to sensitise all stakeholders to the usefulness of hazard and disaster loss analysis in developing tools for cost-benefit analysis in sectoral development planning. A policy framework supporting the development of integrated multi-hazard risk assessments and cost-benefit analysis is required. Multi-hazard risk assessment should becomes a key performance indicator in reporting on major investment projects.

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 2

*Systems are in place to monitor, archive and disseminate data on key hazards and vulnerabilities*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are disaster losses and hazards systematically reported, monitored and analyzed? Yes

<b>Disaster loss databases exist and are regularly updated</b>	Yes
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<b>Reports generated and used in planning by finance, planning and sectoral line ministries (from the disaster databases/information systems)</b>	Yes
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<b>Hazards are consistently monitored across localities and territorial boundaries</b>	Yes
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### Description:

NDMO has established its DIMS and places on it historical damage data. Detail sector damage assessment post-disaster are done by government departments and they keep databases and update them as per policy of government on keeping of official information. Hence disaster losses and risk assessment data sets are spread across agencies. DRM data from regional organisation are also available either as web based products or as community awareness pamphlets.

Disaster losses / damages are analysed comprehensively in disaster report with recommendation to be implemented or as a guide to future planning and decision making. The disaster losses information is integrated into Disaster Management Training Programmes. NGOs also use disaster loss information and effectively disseminate these to target audience via community based projects.

Technical departments systematically monitor the more frequent natural hazards of cyclones and seismicity. Health and Police routinely monitor health and social hazards. NDMO hazard database is monitored through the integrated framework with the Commissioners, the PAs and the DOs.

SPC-SOPAC has a comprehensive regional Pacific Disaster Net (PDN) information system which country can access.

### Context & Constraints:

The data sets should have consideration for the deaf and blind as they are key recipient of hazards and vulnerability information. This has not ever been done and will require capacity build-up in technical agencies to research globally of proven good practices. Extremes of climate variation have manifested as heavy precipitation, thunderstorms with fatal lightning strikes and severe flooding. More accurate forecasting and improved accuracy in disaster losses information are needed to promote the application of disaster losses databases.

The establishment of DIMS is a significant achievement de-listing this from the major constraints listed in the last round. NDMO should pursue strengthening of cross-sectoral coordination, sharing of information and improving knowledge in DRM activities. With centralisation of records of past disasters the compilation of vulnerable elements and exposure datasets can be approached more systematically to draw up multi-hazard risk profiles for Fiji. NDMO lacks the research capacity to do this and should seek technical and budget support to research damages/losses/impacts across all sectors as well as potential benefits with various projected mitigation scenarios.

As a strong illustration, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has funded Technical Assistance, TA 6496-REG Regional Partnerships for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Preparedness that developed exposure databases including Fiji. The report has information on the built environment and its relationship to hazards that will support greater resilience to climate impacts and natural disasters. Planning Unit needs to be made aware by NDMO of the application worth of such reports in developing DRR policies to prop sustainable developments.

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 3

*Early warning systems are in place for all major hazards, with outreach to communities.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

## Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do risk prone communities receive timely and understandable warnings of impending hazard events? Yes

<b>Early warnings acted on effectively</b>	Yes
<b>Local level preparedness</b>	Yes
<b>Communication systems and protocols used and applied</b>	No
<b>Active involvement of media in early warning dissemination</b>	Yes

### Description:

Generally Early Warning Systems for Fiji are very reliable and acted on effectively by the community as reported in the last cycle. In the recent flood events however flood warning alerts were delayed prompting enthused exchanges to redress whatever went wrong.

In flood prone areas, people are embedded in their livelihoods within their localities eg Nadi, Labasa, and Ba municipalities, rural river plain villages and sugar-cane farms - and the level of preparedness is to evacuate communities to emergency shelters whilst commercial goods and valued items are stored above flood levels. A JICA community flood warning and response system is piloted in Ba which should be replicated in flood prone localities.

To improve flood EWS, Cabinet decreed the responsibility for issuing Flood Warnings to the Fiji Meteorological Services. Together with its existing roles as the 24/7 watch on Tsunami Early Warning System and the issue of Tropical Cyclone Warnings, this move optimises the use of FMS Telecommunication and IT Systems into all hazard communication warning system.

Fiji has regional responsibility for delivering TC EWS and a bi-lateral arrangement with Tonga on sharing of seismicity network data. There are done to agreed protocols and competency levels.

CROP agencies particularly SPC-SOPAC work in partnerships with national technical departments to produce reports on hazard thresholds for storm surge levels, tsunami run-ups, flood heights, seismic intensity and their associated impacts on natural physical systems. These are useful in EIA researches on development planning impacts and risk reduction options.

The Health department maintains a strong level of regional and global cooperation that keeps it atop of health related early warning systems.

ENSO and climate variability induce other meteorological hazards with potential to induce medium to slow on-set disasters. Fiji seeks work to develop Early Warning & Monitoring System appropriate for these hazards eg soil losses, sedimentation and transportation,

coastal erosion and aggradations, coral bleaching.

The media works well in cooperation with NDMO in EW dissemination. All media types are used -print, TV, mobile phones, phones, Radio and internet.

### Context & Constraints:

The level of achievement remains the same signalling there is still a lot to be done to upgrade EWS. The concern noted in the last review still exists on the variations in EW deliveries varying with the different hazards across the country. NDMO, as it lacks personnel, needs to procure technical support to uplift partnerships with the media towards developing a framework and agreed guidelines on EW reporting.

Associated with the above is the need reduce the scientific tone of the EW messages and increase content of user friendly languages. To address this requires that technical agencies should develop community communication strategies. Training and skilling in developing and implementing community communication strategy is urgently needed. This too NDMO needs to include in its work programme. Climate update with the Fiji Red Cross is one such product of simplified language usage.

The reported economic cost to local communities and small business of the 2009 flood alone was F\$330 million and this was followed by two more extreme events in 2011. More work is needed on improving the level of preparedness to reduce such losses. SPC-SOPAC cites a WB reported ratio of \$1 investment in DRR to \$7 would-be savings on losses to natural disasters in the 1990s. Measures are common as enforcement of building code and improvement to EWS that has proved to result in substantial reduction in economic and ecological impacts eg Cayman Islands.

Fiji's Early Warning Systems needs to bring on board forecasts on slow on-set hazards that impact on the environment. Islands are very vulnerable to environmental degradation; islands are less resourced than bigger land-mass countries. Soil erosion losses, river sedimentation and coastal erosion are some of the less obvious slow-on set hazards to affect the environment.

NDMO needs to develop an advocacy strategy on investing in DRR targeting political leaders.

## Priority for action 2: Core indicator 4

*National and local risk assessments take account of regional / trans boundary risks, with a view to regional cooperation on risk reduction.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

## **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Does your country participate in regional or sub-regional actions to reduce disaster risk? Yes

<b>Establishing and maintaining regional hazard monitoring</b>	Yes
<b>Regional or sub-regional risk assessment</b>	Yes
<b>Regional or sub-regional early warning</b>	Yes
<b>Establishing and implementing protocols for transboundary information sharing</b>	Yes
<b>Establishing and resourcing regional and sub-regional strategies and frameworks</b>	Yes

### **Description:**

ENSO System and extreme weather, climate change impacts, pandemics, cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanoes, aviation meteorology and climate change are trans-boundary hazards implicating Fiji and risk governance. Fiji supports and participates in donor funded regional and sub-regional programmes as in climate change sciences, greenhouse effects and risk assessment, EEZ policing and SAR, tsunami EWS, sea level rises and tidal measurements. A special regional project was AusAID's assessment of island tsunami warning capabilities for improving regional capacities in tsunami warning with particular focus to strengthening instrumentation around Australia and New Zealand.

The Fiji Met Services continues delivery of TC Warnings, public weather forecasts and aviation meteorology to its designated areas of responsibility in the Pacific Ocean. MRD still maintains links with the Global Seismic Network as well as its undertakings specific to the Tonga – Fiji Integrated Seismic Monitoring Systems Network.

It cooperates in development of regional strategies with national implementation to address Health trans-boundary risks eg Demographic and Health Survey; vaccination, swine flu, H1N1, TB, Polio, STDs.

Regional cooperation is promoted through regional programmes targeting monitoring systems (climate, weather, earthquakes, sea level rises, green house effects) and the collection, analysis and dissemination of data for risk assessments. Fiji has in place regional frameworks for Health, for Climate Change, for DRM, for Security Cooperation amongst others. It also proactively participates in the Pacific Disaster Net, the UN Clusters Network and collaborates with CROP programmes. National policies are in place aligned with the frameworks.

## Context & Constraints:

The regional cooperation provides technical agencies in Fiji good information base on trans-boundary risks. Risk profiling is needed to transform such information to useful applications so as to feature in local hazard, vulnerability and risk assessment. The flux of external programmes stresses local capacities which critical limitation needs to be acknowledged by donors for budget assistance.

Institutional capacities, technical and human resources are inadequate to support the development of awareness materials and establishment of appropriate information sharing systems needed. Technical and budget support for strengthening local information dissemination, strengthening institutional capacities, conducting high level advocacy and sensitisation activities may need to be incorporated early on in Project designs ie donors to seek inputs from participating countries on the support needed for project exit.

New emergent risks that call for increased local awareness are regional drug operations in the region and trafficking. Despite that a good level of regional sharing of information exists, more is needed to facilitate information dissemination of regional activities with in-country actors.

# Section 5: Priority for action 3

*Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels*

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## Priority for action 3: Core indicator 1

*Relevant information on disasters is available and accessible at all levels, to all stakeholders (through networks, development of information sharing systems etc)*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a national disaster information system publicly available? Yes

Information is proactively disseminated	Yes
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Established mechanisms for access / dissemination (internet, public information broadcasts - radio, TV, )	No
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Information is provided with proactive guidance to manage disaster risk	Yes
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Description:

Some flood protection activities were in place but these were inadequate to protect people in flood risk areas from very extreme flood conditions such as Fiji experienced in the review period. The nation as a whole though displayed quick resolve for effective and efficient post-flood recoveries.

Flood protection activities in place are the retention dams in the upper reaches of Nadi River; dredging of Ba, Labasa, Nadi and Rewa rivers; and regulatory buffer zone controls along river banks and mangrove management plans control on developments along the river deltaic zones.

Fiji has a national disaster information system but this is not easily accessible by the public. Much information also rests with CSOs but the lack of coordination constraints proactive dissemination. The Ministry of Health has a healthy aggressive approach in sending out messages which is absent with the disaster information messaging practice. There is no mass publication of information and dissemination which limits availability only in Central Office and during National Disaster Week

The significant ENSO events of droughts, extreme stormy weather, swells and climate variations are linked with climate change and very much upfront scientific research material with greenhouse effects and their potential impacts on climate and sea level rise. Hence the scope of community-ready disaster material on CCA is very limited.

Traditional knowledge on DRR is being researched and mapped eg by SPC/GIZ/UNESCO. National dissemination on major disaster risks is via radio, TV, phone, internet and mobile phones.

Workshops are commonly used to disseminate information.

### Context & Constraints:

A wide range and means of dissemination are available but these are not compatible. Authorities need to package message content to fit multi-media dissemination. Further some efforts are needed to regulate that means of communication should be fair and equally reach the public (urban/rural) eg people with limited communication options as in remote areas of the hinterland and outer islands. Messages targeting the community should use vernacular translations of the technical language with the nation aiming for mass publication of information and dissemination.

There is no clear dissemination strategy and the challenge includes improving dissemination from the national as well as divisional levels; developing protocols with CSOs for government access to information held under donor funded projects; and protocols with the private sector and the communication system providers to encourage two way communication systems with the community. More awareness workshop at divisional and district levels should be conducted.

Scientific information is available at agency level but with varying ease of accessibility and often not sensitive to outside needs. Scientific information may have to be re-packaged into public awareness material by the information custodians; and risk reduction information should include considerations on gender, the vulnerable groups like people with physical disabilities, the elderly and children.

The JNAP approach involves establishment of a centralised information management system through networking that pools together databases and promotes sharing of data/information with interested stakeholders. Fiji needs to hasten establishing JNAP in Fiji as it maybe the means to secure funding to address constraint reducing activities listed above.

## Priority for action 3: Core indicator 2

*School curricula , education material and relevant trainings include disaster risk reduction and recovery concepts and practices.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

## **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is DRR included in the national educational curriculum? No

<b>Primary school curriculum</b>	No
<b>Secondary school curriculum</b>	No
<b>University curriculum</b>	Yes
<b>Professional DRR education programmes</b>	Yes

### **Description:**

DRM is incorporated in the national curriculum of primary and secondary schools but it is not included formally in the curriculum as a subject. This is to technically clarify the last round review positive answer but the end result is the same. Through DRM projects, assignments and competitions children are reinforced with knowledge on hazards and disaster risks reductions.

A review of the school curriculum is on-going at the moment with support of SPC/GIZ that will consider CCA-DRM inclusion in secondary and primary school curriculums. Tertiary institutes already offer courses in CCA-DRM and include awareness of traditional practices and how to make them relevant through innovative integration with present practices. There is acknowledgement of incorporation of cross-cutting issues in the curricular review.

Informal professional DRR training is reviewed and provided through SPC-SOPAC and targets officials and community leaders. These include provision of education materials with training in DRM and recovery concepts and practices.

The Ministry of iTaukei Affairs aims to carry out cultural mapping with the objective to also identify and restore effective traditional DRR knowledge.

### **Context & Constraints:**

Those constraints noted in the last review still remain with the same levels of initiatives on-going as with the action by tertiary institutes and SPC to address compilation and systematic integration of traditional knowledge with current DRR practices.

The advent of JNAP widens the research scope and consequently requires strengthening in awareness programmes as well as inclusiveness of community knowledge in research applications. Fiji needs to develop more CCA-DRM education material and train more instructors at all levels in DRR and recovery concepts.

Fiji lacks capacity in the development of education and training materials for CCA-DRM. Nearly all instructors are civil servants and the bulk in a few years ahead will retire at 55 years-age without a succession plan in place. There are young professionals entering the work force that with proper skilling will be of valuable resources to Fiji and the region.

NDMO needs to vision ahead and develop training strategies calling on the support of SPC-SOPAC and CSOs as they have a core of experienced professional staff that should be tapped as resource persons in CCA-DRM training deliveries. The partnership with the academia should be strengthened to consult on how tertiary institutes can expand services into the community with provisions of informal training.

## Priority for action 3: Core indicator 3

*Research methods and tools for multi-risk assessments and cost benefit analysis are developed and strengthened.*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is DRR included in the national scientific applied-research agenda/budget?

Yes

<b>Research programmes and projects</b>	Yes
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<b>Research outputs, products or studies are applied / used by public and private institutions</b>	Yes
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<b>Studies on the economic costs and benefits of DRR</b>	Yes
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### Description:

There is no national ministry for science and research leaving the technical agencies to push their individual agenda for research units as existing with Police, Health, Agriculture, Water, Works, Meteorological Services, Mineral Resources and Fisheries. Agency researches include hazard mapping and DRM in the appropriate context. At the community level CSOs conduct VCA training and conduct local level assessments.

For the Pacific region hard core scientific researches on CC and DRM are mandated to CROP organisations and academia eg Flood damage economic assessment (SOPAC); and cost benefit tools (USP/SOPAC). Most applied research projects involve external agencies working in consultation with the relevant national technical agency and /or tertiary institution as USP and NFU. Research outputs from studies and models when integrated into national policies are not done systematically. Private sector generally seek out DRM research outputs and local governments ask for DRM considerations and scenario projections in major development projects.

National capacity in climate change research is strengthened through donor interventions to USP. Climate prediction models, with support of SPC and SPREP, are being applied and scenario projection availed to inform development planning efforts at all levels. Meteorology

manages aviation meteorological and researches weather forecasting data. Researched data and information is dispersed in each agency without a systematic national policy or institutional commitment. A major challenge is to build capacity and critical mass of persons in applied research of CCA-DRM.

Government regular budgetary provision for research is small and State owned enterprises are more flexible in providing their own research funds eg. Housing, Water & Sewerage, Land Transport, Consumer Council, Civil Aviation where the results are for in-house use only and not for public eyes. Generally research studies and assessments in DRM are project funded eg PICRFI through SPC-SOPAC.

Some studies have been done on national multi-hazard risk assessment as the Pacific Island Catastrophe Risk Financing Initiatives but information needs re-packaging to be user friendly. There is very little awareness on the economic costs of disasters & the benefits of DRR investments. Past research works on cost benefit analysis and tools done by SPC-SOPAC need to be proactively disseminated eg included in DRR training and in DRM Workshops.

### Context & Constraints:

A fundamental challenge in the development of cost benefit analysis is for each agency to update disaster loss datasets and share these with others through DIMS eg agricultural losses in each Nadi flood events. Each agency also has to provide the costs of post-recovery activities eg supply of planting material and production costs. And then responsible agencies the costs of possible mitigation activities eg Agriculture the dredging and river bunding costs; and levels of protection eg flood return periods against various flood overtopping threshold levels. All these are time consuming and should be facilitated with pre-designed information request templates. NDMO should request technical assistance to help set up the baseline cost benefit data sets.

Establishing information Kiosks in selected key localities would facilitate ease of access and prompt application of DRM information by stakeholders. Proactive information sharing through the Kiosk and DIMS is needed to sustain data management systems. Information access procedures and protocols will have to be developed for access to baseline information not normally available when sharing assessment reports.

There is no national compiled dossier of CCA-DRM research requirement areas. The proposed JNAP has strengths of which coordination and harmonisation of programmes are fundamental pedestals. JNAP strength should embolden JNAP management to determine national research priorities and not be dictated to by available funded projects. Development of cost benefit work culture should be a high priority for a Fiji JNAP work matrix given the frequencies of climate variation induced disasters.

The practice has to be cultured of incorporating in cost benefit analysis disaggregated data, protection and vulnerable group issues. To uplift levels of research requires donor consideration for human resource capacity, budget and technical support.

## Priority for action 3: Core indicator 4

*Countrywide public awareness strategy exists to stimulate a culture of disaster resilience, with outreach to urban and rural communities.*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do public education campaigns for risk-prone communities and local authorities include disaster risk? Yes

<b>Public education campaigns for enhanced awareness of risk.</b>	Yes
<b>Training of local government</b>	Yes
<b>Disaster management (preparedness and emergency response)</b>	Yes
<b>Preventative risk management (risk and vulnerability)</b>	Yes
<b>Guidance for risk reduction</b>	No
<b>Availability of information on DRR practices at the community level</b>	Yes

### Description:

There is still no country wide multi-hazard public awareness strategy, with long term goals to help integrate disaster risk reduction into everyday life. There are though sector campaigns with nationwide public educations and awareness reach by essential services and by the economic sectors eg Health and Tourism. Vulnerable groups are featured in a few of these awareness activities.

Awareness is in place through media, CSOs, provincial councils, schools and departments. These campaigns are supported by stakeholders eg provincial administration. And they receive financial and technical assistance from development partners.

The CSOs are very active in securing funds and implementing their own activities and very effective in reaching out to the communities. Awareness is commonly integrated into their work programmes. A coordinated approach is needed to promote efficiency and accountability to the government and the nation on each one's work plan, progress achievements and challenges.

The achievement level dropped significantly in the review period from Level 4 to Level 2. This

could be explained that most of government effort went into managing response, relief, recovery and rehabilitation activities of devastating floods that hit the West and Northern regions of Fiji. Though the framework for national DRM awareness is in place, funding constraints limited implementation by government. The CSOs fared better receiving increased donor support.

## Context & Constraints:

Sector agencies are repositories of individual specific DRR related information. It was reported in the last round that a framework for public awareness raising in DRM and related issues is in place with responsibilities for individual departments. The proposed JNAP should build on this in strengthening coordination. NDMO should initiate formulation of a country wide public awareness strategy and framework in DRM-CCA awareness activities to articulate well Public Education Awareness at all levels and to reach the most vulnerable communities.

Calls are made on the NDMO to take its annually conducted National Disaster Awareness Week to the most vulnerable communities. NDMO should venture to decentralise the awareness week to provincial and district levels.

The FCOSS is legislated as the coordinator for the NGO sector but for a number of years has faced opposition from amongst the members. A stakeholder consultation is needed to receive issues from amongst CSOs and deliberate on these in a problem solving workshop. An early fix is needed as new coordination mechanisms as the Community Based Disaster Risk Management Working Group are working to link CSOs with national planning.

Awareness programmes need to engage more with religious bodies and other social organization e.g. women, youths, sports. Monitoring standards have to be discussed on how effective awareness campaigns have been. Feedbacks from the communities need to be promoted and community feedback data stored.

The private sector has identified that working through interest / focus group networks will facilitate dissemination of DRM-CCA information and awareness programmes into the small business enterprises like market vendors and roadside tea-rooms.

The pre-requisite is on strengthening NDMO and build its capacity to develop policies and establish the base for a country wide public awareness strategy.

# Section 6: Priority for action 4

*Reduce the underlying risk factors*

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## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 1

*Disaster risk reduction is an integral objective of environment related policies and plans, including for land use natural resource management and adaptation to climate change.*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Is there a mechanism in place to protect and restore regulatory ecosystem services? (associated with wet lands, mangroves, forests etc) Yes

Protected areas legislation	Yes
Payment for ecosystem services (PES)	Yes
Integrated planning (for example coastal zone management)	Yes
Environmental impacts assessments (EIAs)	Yes
Climate change adaptation projects and programmes	Yes

### Description:

The level of achievement dropped a level in this round generally because momentum dropped in implementation of policies.

Underlying risk factors are contextualised in natural resources and environmental management practices and these practices are embedded in legislations, policies and platforms. The concerted efforts at sector level policy development noted in the last review continue strongly still.

Technical and service agencies have established regulations and adopted integrated management approaches to safeguard resource-system resilience in support of sustainable development. Examples are listed below

- National Environment Legislation and Policies
  - FIMSA Environment Levy under the Marine Pollution Regulation to deter pollution
  - Water Resources Management
  - Protected Water Catchment Areas

- o Integrated water resources management ((Landowners, Water Authority, Fiji Met Service, Hydrology)
- Forestry Legislation and Policies
- o Sovi Basin Protected Area (PES)
- Coastal Zone Management
- o Coastal Reserves/Buffer Zones
- o Marine Protected Area
- o FIMSA regulation on foreshore development
- Agricultural Policies
- o Land Use Plans
- o Sustainable Land Use Management (MPI/UNDP)
- National Climate Change Policies & Programmes
- o REDD+ (UNDP)
- o GIZ/SPC
- o Integrated approach on coastal resources management focussing on community DRR and community based climate proofing using a child centred approach (MOE/ADB)
- o Projects:-PACE, PCIDRR

New mechanism on promoting sustainable resource use practices would emerge under the ambit of the proposed JNAP.

### **Context & Constraints:**

The shortage of human resources capacity in the Department of Environment is the reason why there is little forward approach in addressing improved cost-benefit analysis in EIA applications noted in the last round of review. Coordination of programmes and cooperation on common activities is one means of overcoming human resources constraint. This has to be driven by NDMO which will require periodic inputs of technical assistances to instil new practices.

The bulk of policies and practices on integrated resources management approaches are newly introduced. The achievement in raising awareness is very much dependent on the available in-house capacity of host agencies resulting in patch-work progress. These articles should be with the core DRR messages in the proposed country-wide awareness campaign strategy to be formulated through NDMO.

The NDMO will need to re-form the Education and Awareness Committee of yesteryears which with technical assistance should develop this national strategy and framework for country-wide DRR awareness campaign.

The framework to include considerations on developing standards of cost-benefit assessments, monitoring and enforcements

## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 2

*Social development policies and plans are being implemented to reduce the vulnerability of populations most at risk.*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do social safety nets exist to increase the resilience of risk prone households and communities? Yes

Crop and property insurance	Yes
Temporary employment guarantee schemes	Yes
Conditional and unconditional cash transfers	Yes
Micro finance (savings, loans, etc.)	Yes
Micro insurance	Yes

#### Description:

The level of achievement is maintained at the same level as the last round with efforts surfacing of increase in implementation activities.

New initiatives surfacing in this review of Social Safety Nets are at locality driven through CSOs plugging the gaps left from social welfare programmes and cultural safety nets. The “Neighbourhood Watch Zone” approach is introduced into provincial administrations and start has been made in taking it down to village level i.e. community policing. Food security programmes are driven by many CSOs in partnership with Agriculture, NDMO and Health eg ROI Project. Innovative means to consolidate micro-finance services in remote hinterland localities and in outer islands have been implemented by FCOSS in partnerships with Post Office, Vodafone and government. Micro-insurance covering financial risk sharing on funeral expenses is introduced, initially in rural sugar-cane belts.

Government has introduced the National Employment Centre, a new initiative to foster skills training and place participants into employment. A Child Decree has recently been passed that safeguards a healthy, safe and secure upbringing environment for children and to improve their resilience, being one of the vulnerable impoverished groups. Government continues consolidating implementation of policy for relocation of informal settlements / squatters.

Insurance has limitations, it has withdrawn insurance cover from flood prone Nadi areas and neither is insurance available for agricultural produce

UNDP introduced Cash for Work scheme for livelihood of affected persons in a disaster as a pilot project.

### Context & Constraints:

The urban drift remains a major national issue with squatter settlements springing up around Suva, Nadi and Lautoka. Habitat for Humanity report "Poverty Housing in the Developing Nations of the Pacific" has a thorough analysis for poor and low household incomes in Fiji. The initiatives by Fiji in improving resilience through social safety nets as in the relocation of informal settlements makes inroad in addressing many of the constraints highlighted in the report. Fiji will need resources and funding to complement the political will and national goodwill to improve basic amenity services identified as not adequately reaching the disadvantaged and the poor, to make their lives better.

Also on the child decree, a baseline report by UNICEF 2008 "Protect Me With Love and Care" states that relevant authorities have plans that address child protection but there are no fully resourced strategic or forward plans. The report calls on mandated authorities dealing with children's protection including Ministries of Finance and Planning, Social Welfare, Health, Education, Youth and Justice to incorporate principles and activities into the forward strategic plans at to ensure that they are well resourced. These comments hold true on all strategies across the sectors dealing with social safety nets.

Recent surveys report an increasing population of elderly citizens. Forward planning strategies for this as a vulnerable group are needed.

## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 3

*Economic and productive sectorial policies and plans have been implemented to reduce the vulnerability of economic activities*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the costs and benefits of DRR incorporated into the planning of public investment? Yes

**National and sectoral public investment systems incorporating DRR.**

Yes

**Please provide specific examples: e.g. public infrastructure, transport and communication, economic and productive assets**

Yes

**Description:**

The level of achievement is sustained in the review period.

Fiji's is widening and strengthening its economic base by attracting investments in mining exploration, protecting investments in tourism, modernising practices in the sugar industry, promoting small business enterprises and instilling commercial approaches in agriculture, fisheries and foreストries. Physical developments in these sectors go through the EIA process which introduces DRR consideration from the early phases of development planning eg new backpackers & accommodation, extension of Nausori Town, ferric (black) sand mining from Ba river mouth, exclusive properties in the Denarau area.

In all developments DRM is cautioned.

Retrofitting of schools has lapsed with the end of the UN funded Project but hospitals undergo inspection and upgrading under the Health's own budget head. Many school committees have contingency funds in trust and shy away from insuring school premises. The funds are tapped during disasters.

The Water Authority Fiji has put out a policy on development of rural water resources as a platform to ensuring provision of safe water to rural communities and security in water sources.

**Context & Constraints:**

The EIA is touted as a good mechanism for incorporating DRR measures. The inherent weaknesses in EIA application identified in the earlier review remains. NDMO needs to initiate consultation with Environment Department for a joint approach to addressing standards issues and acceptable methodologies of DRR assessment in EIAs. Strengthening technical capacities is needed eg to mass produce multi-hazard maps on floods, storm surges and tsunamis. People need to be more aware of critical thresholds of climate variation and risk boundaries eg drought intensity, safe flood floor level, maximum tsunami levels, lightning protection are demarcated with contextual information.

The major concern on the absence of a national mangrove management plan remains as more developments are happening on the foreshores. Removal of mangrove exposes all developments to increased risks of damaging impacts from storm surges, tsunamis and loss of bio diversity.

## **Priority for action 4: Core indicator 4**

*Planning and management of human settlements incorporate disaster risk reduction elements, including enforcement of building codes.*

**Level of Progress achieved: 2**

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### **Key Questions and Means of Verification**

Is there investment to reduce the risk of vulnerable urban settlements? Yes

<b>Investment in drainage infrastructure in flood prone areas</b>	Yes
<b>Slope stabilisation in landslide prone areas</b>	Yes
<b>Training of masons on safe construction technology</b>	Yes
<b>Provision of safe land and housing for low income households and communities</b>	Yes
<b>Risk sensitive regulation in land zoning and private real estate development</b>	Yes
<b>Regulated provision of land titling</b>	Yes

#### **Description:**

Without adequate shelters families are condemned to poverty, low health, poor educational attainment, lack security and are vulnerable to natural disasters and the chaos of civil conflicts .

Policies in place on housing development include DRR in promoting healthy community living and structural integrity. Town and Country Planning cover urban areas, Local Rural Authorities the rural areas and Town/City councils the municipalities. There is commitment to improve compliance with Building Code standards but gaps in implementation remain particularly with informal settlements.

There is a concerted effort by housing providers to encourage low cost affordable and safe houses.

Regulation is in place for provision of drainage and river bank reserves. Enforcement is weak leading to run down and polluted waterways especially through residential zones. Foreshore development is also bounded by foreshore reserves. These Reserves are risk sensitive regulations but policing is not done.

Slope stabilisation is practiced for approved settlements but implementation is ad hoc in informal settlements. Government is implementing a programme for relocating informal settlements and the high number of informal settlements poses great challenges for planning and management eg relocation of Jittu Settlement to Lomaivuna. Land titles are registered.

Village housing is not bound by the building code. However village carpenters are exposed to skill upgrading and manuals in place with simple instructions to suit the trades peopleon.

Scientific based research and assessment of urban risks are spearheaded by SPC-SOPAC. This is improving the information resource base of municipal authorities to guide decision on DRR in development planning.

### Context & Constraints:

Drainage is in place but management is slack leading to poor maintenance. Natural creeks lack maintenance. Enforcement on drainage and river bank reserves is weak leading to run down and polluted waterways especially through residential zones. Foreshore development is also bounded by foreshore reserves. These Reserves are risk sensitive regulations but policing is not done.

The Building Code is being reviewed by the Fiji Institute of Engineers but its intention for wide consultation is not clear. New homeowners need to be acknowledged as the frontline building inspectors and they will need home-owners guide on key features of material and construction inspection. This will help improve compliance by construction companies.

As more multi-hazard risk assessments are undertaken, municipalities have to incorporate community wide risk awareness campaign to solicit everyone's understanding to a DRR approach.

## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 5

*Disaster risk reduction measures are integrated into post disaster recovery and rehabilitation processes*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Do post-disaster programmes explicitly incorporate and budget for DRR for resilient recovery? No

% of recovery and reconstruction funds assigned to DRR

0

DRR capacities of local authorities for response and recovery strengthened

No

<b>Risk assessment undertaken in pre- and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction planning</b>	No
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<b>Measures taken to address gender based issues in recovery</b>	No
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### Description:

In recovery and rehabilitation programmes DRR is incorporated to reduce future disasters risks. There are constraints as options are often limited by land tenure issues eg bridge and houses rebuilt on the same flood risk spots. Nevertheless government has established a Task Force post-2012 floods to monitor that DRR is incorporated in rehabilitation programmes. Government initiative conforms to Fiji's Road Map for sustainable development and is also geared to meet donor requirements. CSOs inputs into re-construction programmes also incorporate DRR.

### Context & Constraints:

The challenge for Fiji is to nurture a culture to consider disaster risk reduction principles with post-disaster recovery activities. Personnel awareness is missing as in general individuals in the community are not seen to be practising DRR. This calls for more training, using locally proven DRR measures in the core training material.

The national drive has to be provided by the NDM Council and monitored through its Secretariat, NDMO. The NDM Council need to meet regularly to be effective.

Cost-benefit analysis is the other driver. Again NDMO has to research DRR cost benefit tools and consult with Planning to incorporate DRR Cost-Benefit analysis in project planning of ministries.

## Priority for action 4: Core indicator 6

*Procedures are in place to assess the disaster risk impacts of major development projects, especially infrastructure.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the impacts of disaster risk that are created by major development projects assessed? No

Are cost/benefits of disaster risk taken into account in the design and operation of major development projects? -- not complete --

<b>Impacts of disaster risk taken account in Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)</b>	No
<b>By national and sub-national authorities and institutions</b>	No
<b>By international development actors</b>	No

### Description:

Fiji is acutely conscious of the damaging costs of disasters and the indispensable requirement for DRR measures in development projects.

Impacts of major development projects on disaster risk are taken into account in EIA, the central piece of legislation that is enforced on all new developments. The EIA requires also monitoring during both the construction phase and the operational phase of the project.

In brief the development planning approval procedure is through the Town and Country Planning development approval process. This calls for prior scrutiny by key technical agencies in affected sectors that DRR is incorporated in the project proposal. Sectoral development policies in Fiji incorporate DRR and thus checks and controls are in place to ensure DRR is considered.

The institutional procedure includes that all projects within municipalities must have prior processing by the local government concerned. Local Authorities and Provincial Councils must be consulted on projects falling outside of the local government jurisdiction. The institutional procedure is complimented by stipulations that that EIA must include public consultation.

The myriad of activities cited in the previous review indicate that DRR impacts are being considered in major infrastructure development projects. And as highlighted again in this review more effort is needed in improving assessment and in monitoring compliance to progress DRR implementation substantially.

### Context & Constraints:

The constrained reported in the last review will not be solved unless technical and financial support is provided to strengthen capacities of both the DOE and NDMO. This is urgently needed to

- (i) Improve assessment with agreed standards in impact assessments, particularly developing acceptable guidelines for analysing social, environmental and indirect costs.
- (ii) Develop acceptable DRR cost-benefit analysis tools
- (iii) Strengthen monitoring to enforce compliance by developers
- (iv) Training in application of CHARM

# Section 7: Priority for action 5

*Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels*

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 1

*Strong policy, technical and institutional capacities and mechanisms for disaster risk management, with a disaster risk reduction perspective are in place.*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are there national programmes or policies for disaster preparedness, contingency planning and response? Yes

<b>DRR incorporated in these programmes and policies</b>	Yes
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<b>The institutional mechanisms exist for the rapid mobilisation of resources in a disaster, utilising civil society and the private sector; in addition to public sector support.</b>	Yes
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Are there national programmes or policies to make schools and health facilities safe in emergencies? Yes

<b>Policies and programmes for school and hospital safety</b>	Yes
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<b>Training and mock drills in school and hospitals for emergency preparedness</b>	Yes
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Are future disaster risks anticipated through scenario development and aligned preparedness planning? Yes

<b>Potential risk scenarios are developed taking into account climate change projections</b>	Yes
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<b>Preparedness plans are regularly updated based on future risk scenarios</b>	Yes
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## Description:

The National Disaster Management Plan of 1995 was to have been replaced by the NDRM Arrangement 2008 for which full implementation is awaiting enactment of a new legislation. The NDRMA includes DRR aspects though it still is largely biased on DM. National committees, under both Plans, provide for membership of civil society and private sector. This is the mechanism to secure multi-stakeholder participation and decision-making on rapid mobilisation of resources. The disturbing trend now is an increasing number of CSOs securing relief items independently of the structure and without coordinating their efforts with each other or with government emergency operations.

National level DRM policy framework is in the Roadmap. NDMO is working with line ministries to include DRR in their ministry operational plans; and with Climate Change Office to establish JNAP.

Schools when designated as evacuation shelters undergo inspection and in practice health centres are secured for disaster emergency services. Some schools have been retrofitted; and all new buildings have to meet the National Building Code requirements. The Health Department does asset audits to monitor safety of buildings. Drills in schools and hospitals have been done but the programme is not conducted nationwide for lack of resources.

Trends in natural hazards, sea level rise and climate change projections are used as in EIA researches on new development projects. These are also used to advise communities on their future risks and actions to take.

## Context & Constraints:

Inclusion of DRR in sector plans is not comprehensive. National Planning Unit is to stipulate that DRR is structured in capital project planning and reporting systems.

The standards in evacuation centres have to be improved eg evacuation centres are not fully geared to meet needs of people with disabilities, the elderly, children and lactating mothers. As a priority policies should include the need to make evacuation centres more elderly and disability friendly. Technical and funding assistance is needed to upgrade existing evacuation centres.

Though policies are in place to make schools safe, security of physical assets are hard to implement as most schools are committee owned and managed with little capacity to flood proof premises. However all schools are built to National Building Code standards. Human safety is uppermost in preparedness policies with EWS aligned together with the requisite actions of the education sector.

Other sectors also have disaster preparedness policies and programmes that are well monitored. However DRR policies are not comprehensively enforced eg Building codes, logging codes, OHS. Institutions lack human and financial resources though they have knowledge and skills to monitor and police policy compliance across the nation. Training of communities and landowners to take frontline monitoring responsibility may have to be considered. This should be backed with strong countrywide awareness strategy.

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 2

*Disaster preparedness plans and contingency plans are in place at all administrative levels, and regular training drills and rehearsals are held to test and develop disaster response programmes.*

### Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are the contingency plans, procedures and resources in place to deal with a major disaster? Yes

<b>Plans and programmes are developed with gender sensitivities</b>	Yes
<b>Risk management/contingency plans for continued basic service delivery</b>	Yes
<b>Operations and communications centre</b>	Yes
<b>Search and rescue teams</b>	Yes
<b>Stockpiles of relief supplies</b>	Yes
<b>Shelters</b>	Yes
<b>Secure medical facilities</b>	Yes
<b>Dedicated provision for disabled and elderly in relief, shelter and emergency medical facilities</b>	Yes
<b>Businesses are a proactive partner in planning and delivery of response</b>	Yes

### Description:

The achievement level remains the same as last round, and not many more new information surfaced in this survey.

Fiji faces the future greatly aware of predicted increasing frequencies of extreme hydro-meteorological hazards, and as well is aware that Fiji's increasing investments usher in increasing exposures to natural hazards including geo-hazards. Recently Fiji government disestablished its government supplies services leaving the NDMO abandoned to fend as best as it can to replicate the government supplies distribution network and the logistics of collection, warehousing and distribution of emergency supplies and reliefs.

Demographic, HIES and vulnerable group data are readily available but are not featured in emergency procedures and contingency plans eg need dedicated provision for women. The practice of using disaggregated data has to be enforced to improve emergency operations and response planning. There is still room to improve coordination amongst key responders in contingency responses and this needs to be fine tuned with appropriate exercises. This is a recurrent issue.

Agencies are doing their own contingency plans in isolation eg. FIMSA – contingency plan for oil spills and drills are on-going; Schools situated along the shoreline conduct Tsunami Drills; and lifeline utilities as FEA, Water and Telecom maintain contingency plans as part of SOP, as well as funds.

The government is still the major player in the national planning and delivery of responses but it is well supported by the private sector and CSOs. The whole nation participates in response appeals complementing those from donors and international NGOs and all sectors contribute to Disaster Contingency efforts –the frequency of extreme devastating disasters such as January and March 2012 highlighting the need.

For search and rescue, trained SAR teams are available but equipment has lately been unavailable when government supplies close down.

Evacuation shelters are throughout the nation either in schools, churches or community halls. The administration arm of government works with NDMO in securing shelters.

### Context & Constraints:

As noted in the last review, coordination of the many preparedness activities happening in the country still remains unaddressed particularly amongst CSOs. FCOSS has acknowledged the concern and is ready to take action with NDMO to consult widely amongst CSOs and donors to resolve the issue. NDMO needs to take a supervisory monitoring role for improved national across sector coordination.

A new concern has emerged with the closure of government supplies. A logistic expert is needed to support NDMO in reviewing current arrangements and to map out a recommended national warehousing arrangement that is inclusive of stockpile and forward basing of supplies; construction and upgrading of warehouses; and meeting SAR equipment needs and storage.

To improve shelter standards, NDMO is to do a mapping of existing evacuation centres to assess upgrading requirements of facilities to be “gender and disability friendly”.

The recent disasters highlighted the need for more awareness and educational programmes as most lives lost were unnecessarily. Mass production of awareness material will require funding support. Some training and drills are completed but the effort is patchwork across the sectors and not a co-ordinated effort. Current response procedures rely very much on common sense approach. Drills are costly and securing funding to practice emergency procedures and to stockpile preparedness materials is a major problem.

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 3

*Financial reserves and contingency mechanisms are in place to support effective response and recovery when required.*

Level of Progress achieved: 2

Some progress, but without systematic policy and/ or institutional commitment

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Are financial arrangements in place to deal with major disaster? Yes

National contingency and calamity funds	No
The reduction of future risk is considered in the use of calamity funds	No
Insurance and reinsurance facilities	Yes
Catastrophe bonds and other capital market mechanisms	No

#### Description:

The level of achievement dropped one level from the last review. The financial arrangement has changed in that the National Contingency Fund that used to have a small reserve for NDMO to kick start response operations is no longer available.

There are no dedicated budgetary provisions for responding to disasters; response fund has to be drawn from national budget. At the end funding streams remain the same – from public appeal into the Prime Minister's Public Appeal Fund and other national appeal platforms, from national interest groups, from international and regional donors and friendly sources, and from departments / agencies identifying funds from within their annual budgetary provisions. As of now reserves in the Prime Minister's Public Appeal Fund are accumulated for future's next need.

Channels to seek assistance from donors are well established as well as processes for relocating funds across ministries. Hence funds are not pre identified but raised when needed to meet all costs required for contingency and post-disaster recovery operations. International financial institutions as ADB and WB do support recovery and rehabilitation programmes. This support, likewise with other donors, is channelled to government and regional intergovernmental organisations as appropriate.

CSOs and Red Cross have strengthened in the context of attracting a lot of donor's funding for contingency and post-disaster recovery operations. They manage their own planning and deliveries.

A new development worth noting is that some funding sources for CCA offer the option to establish CCA contingency trust funds. The number and severity of hydro-meteorological disasters affecting Fiji rose sharply in this half-decade so this provision should benefit Fiji.

## Context & Constraints:

The constraint environment noted in the last review has not been alleviated and new information in this review adds to the list. Fiji has a small insurance base that limits financial risk sharing mechanisms. However even this was affected when flood insurance cover for Nadi Town localities was removed by the industry. NDMO is to draw the attention of the Commissioner of Insurance and to request consultation amongst the affected parties on terms for re-introducing flood insurance in Nadi.

Fiji is a party with other Pacific island countries to a regional partnership project with the WB to explore Catastrophe Risk Insurance and financial risk sharing modalities for the region. Unless that happens there is not much Fiji can do outside the present support of traditional donors, international NGOs, UN and international financial institutions.

An additional concern is the need to re-establish a contingency trust fund to allow NDMO to mobilise efficiently and effectively immediately on the on-set of a disaster in its logistics and other emergency preparations for assessments and relief supplies. This NDMO should take up through the NDM Council.

Also of growing concern is to entice CSOs to account to the nation how donated funds have been used. Better coordination of CSOs programme should improve effectiveness in coverage into remote areas and to all vulnerable groups. The way forward is linked with the FCOSS resolve to work with NDMO to bring CSOs to a round table discussions to improve coordination under FCOSS as the legislated body.

## Priority for action 5: Core indicator 4

*Procedures are in place to exchange relevant information during hazard events and disasters, and to undertake post-event reviews*

Level of Progress achieved: 3

Institutional commitment attained, but achievements are neither comprehensive nor substantial

### Key Questions and Means of Verification

Has an agreed method and procedure been adopted to assess damage, loss and needs when disasters occur? Yes

<b>Damage and loss assessment methodologies and capacities available</b>	Yes
<b>Post-disaster need assessment methodologies</b>	Yes
<b>Post-disaster needs assessment methodologies include guidance on gender aspects</b>	Yes

**Description:**

The level of achievement dropped a level in this review round. The procedures are well embedded of which some key communication aspects were detailed in the last report. However the emergence of another layer of damage loss and needs assessments with customised procedures and assessments by non-government parties has highlighted the need for striving for nationally agreed procedures and methods of assessments. Continuous review and training should be done to strengthen human resources capacity and improve assessment procedures and standards. Improvements on procedures are to include guidance on gender aspects which currently has not a strong emphasis.

Procedurally Divisional Commissioners oversee damage, loss and needs assessments undertaken by multi-sector District Teams pulled from within the District in their Divisions; and monitoring and post-event debriefing and evaluation are done at District and at Divisional levels. Most sectors are represented and lessons learnt exercises could be strengthened with inclusion of representatives from vulnerable affected sector and of other organisations doing their own customised assessments.

Another layer of assessment is provided by ministries on detailed sector based assessments. These by chance incorporate some multi-sector lessons learnt exercises during consultation/discussions at District and Divisional Planning Levels. However coherence can still be improved by use of standard questionnaire templates to promote multi-stakeholder lessons learnt exercises.

**Context & Constraints:**

The sharing of information for post-disaster review is not happening systematically. This needs to be organised and managed by NDMO. A lessons learnt forum is an essential institutional mechanism to address the concerns on assessment differences and procedural standards raised and detailed in the last review and raised again in this round.

As NDMO pulls all national level stakeholders together, it is to take the initiative and draft a template on information requirement to improve sharing of lessons learnt and bring it in for consultation in a multi-stakeholder Workshop.

## Section 8: Drivers of Progress

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### a) Multi-hazard integrated approach to disaster risk reduction and development

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do studies/ reports/ atlases on multi-hazard analyses exist in the country/ for the sub region?: Yes

If yes, are these being applied to development planning/ informing policy?: No

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

The last review described how communities have for generations faced multi-hazards threats and that the concept of multi-hazard risk assessment as a driver is instinctive to Fijians; and described also that CHARM is stipulated as the framework for DRM. However today's context of statistically describing hazards and methodologically identifying exposures and assessing risks are science based approaches beyond traditional expertise. Fiji has not the capacity to undertake national multi-hazard risk assessment so is constrained to achieve full implementation.

SPC-SOPAC provides support by managing a regional Pacific wide national multi-hazard risk assessment project with support of the World Bank. It is new work and the outcomes will require time to then be reflected in national programmes. SPC-SOPAC has just completed its scientific multi hazard risk analysis with focus in the economic belt of Nausori to Nadi. Community based multi-hazard risk assessment is less scientific and is implemented at the local level.

Support services to this driver have to be in place. Development of databases and sharing of information is essential to implement this driver. A commitment from individual agencies to share baseline data would facilitate substantial national progress on scientific multi hazard risk analysis. i.

NGOs continue to work nationwide undertaking CVA & CBDRM approaches and have been setting up village DM structures and developing SOPs in close liaison with NDMO. Livelihood projects with multi-hazard DRR perspectives are sustained in a common approach guided via the platform of Mainstreaming of Rural Development Innovations (MORDI).

Fiji will move to fuller implementation of multi-hazard approach when the proposed JNAP is established as CCA is driven on multi-hazard approach.

## **b) Gender perspectives on risk reduction and recovery adopted and institutionalized**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Is gender disaggregated data available and being applied to decision-making for risk reduction and recovery activities?: -- not complete --

Do gender concerns inform policy and programme conceptualisation and implementation in a meaningful and appropriate way?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

Gender issues are acknowledged but not yet translated into DRM policies and programmes hence a reason for the slow implementation of DRR on this driver. More engagement from government is needed.

Gender concerns are not in “plans” as gender in DRR is a new national discussion topic with as yet no clear picture emerging to demonstrate how gender perspectives is a driver to enhance resilience of the community to natural hazard risks. Uplifting of social safety nets through food security programmes, provision of safe and affordable houses, micro-finance schemes, safe and secure water supplies, child decree are some risk reduction activities that from gender perspectives release burdens on women and children and more significantly increase their resilience than males.

Gender disaggregated data is available with the FI Bureau of Statics and there is full acknowledgement of the issues vis-a-vis incorporated into strategies and frameworks eg Domestic Violence Act but application is still not fully implemented across policies and practice though for a number of agencies gender disaggregated data is a routine requirement of work practice eg OH, Police, Correction Services, Education, Social Welfare and Works.

Data is also available on vulnerable groups and should be used to identify groups of increasing vulnerability to be targets of measures to increase their resilience eg the increase in reported cases of violence, assault and abuse, as the code of silence is being broken, demands social safety net measures to reduce the underlying risk factors.

## **c) Capacities for risk reduction and recovery identified and strengthened**

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do responsible designated agencies, institutions and offices at the local level have capacities for the enforcement of risk reduction regulations?:  
-- not complete --

Are local institutions, village committees, communities, volunteers or urban resident welfare associations properly trained for response?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

On capacities it was generally agreed that more could be done and is needed on training for response. Otherwise there is only basic understanding of risks and capacity building in DRR is required.

In the short two years since the last review, regional CCA and DRM projects continue being implemented that have strong capacity building components. JICA support in developing the now operational DIMS is one of many bilateral projects happening across the sectors. The option to establish CCA Trust Fund from donor funding is a new initiative to assist resource Fiji.

The momentum is continuing from the last review with support from the UN, global financial institutions, regional donors and intergovernmental organisations particularly the mandate to SOPAC to coordinate DRM capacity in the Pacific region show this as the major driver for Fiji.

As noted again in this review DRM implementation in Fiji can still be boosted by better coordination, sharing of information and professional linkages across sectors. There are adequate base skills and knowledge within agencies and the support of specialised professional and technical agencies is readily available and accessible in Fiji.

Fiji cannot afford in the near future to strengthen national DRR capacities and donors will need to provide budget support for Fiji to continue keep pace with external driven programmes.

SOPAC, NDMO, DOE in collaboration with UNISDR should conclude quickly their consultation and establish a National CCA-DRM Platform to bolster professional exchanges across the sectors.

## **d) Human security and social equity approaches integrated into disaster risk reduction and recovery activities**

### **Levels of Reliance:**

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Do programmes take account of socio-environmental risks to the most vulnerable and marginalised groups?: -- not complete --

Are appropriate social protection measures / safety nets that safeguard against their specific socioeconomic and political vulnerabilities being adequately implemented?: -- not complete --

### **Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):**

Fijians are generally renowned as caring and loving people. This inherent national character makes this driver prominent for progressing DRM in a country frequented by disasters. On human security and safety there is a high social safety net at the community level as communities have experienced many disasters together, the soil is fertile and climate tropical to underpin subsistence cropping that is practiced by bulk of the population. The extended family system provides an informal social safety net to populations affected by disasters. The system is based on kinship ties in collective resource management and a deeply ingrained sense of obligation to provide and care for one's extended family. It is fully accepted by the society and is relied on for delivering assistance but doesn't feature in any formal plans. It is used strategically by community based workers. The risk remains that certain groups or individuals may be overlooked in terms of assistance. Overseas remittances are also important for sustaining families in community living.

This driver is represented in the strong partnerships by CSOs and government in implementing food security projects (ROI), livelihood and social welfare schemes reaching out to remote vulnerable areas and to maritime regions. There is a need to compile databases and measures to be reflected across all sectors.

The squatter settlements form another group of vulnerable population that is engaging government, private sector, NGOs and FBOs in multi-pronged activities to improve the livelihood and resilience of displaced and de-populated communities. Mushrooming squatter communities in the urban areas indicate the scale of migration from rural areas and consequential depletion of rural population with stresses on social structures. Government needs funding to support the huge task of relocating informal settlements.

The readiness to include needs of people with disabilities in DRR consideration is evidence of this driver.

## e) Engagement and partnerships with non-governmental actors; civil society, private sector, amongst others, have been fostered at all levels

Levels of Reliance:

Partial/ some reliance: Full acknowledgement of the issue; strategy/ framework for action developed to address it; application still not fully implemented across policy and practice; complete buy in not achieved from key stakeholders.

Are there identified means and sources to convey local and community experience or traditional knowledge in disaster risk reduction?: -- not complete --

Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

On a partnership approach many building blocks are being initiated. However there is still little coordination particularly between CSOs amongst themselves and with government. For eg the Red Cross and many other NGOs adapt the multi-hazard approach when implementing training in community Capacity and Vulnerability Assessments but it is not well coordinated.

REDD + and ADB funded integrated coastal management project are typical examples of partnership approaches. AusAID's many regional projects on Climate Change involving the academia, key government institutions, CSOs and the community are other illustration of partnership approaches. CROP organisations, set-up by regional leaders, depict the collective political will of the Pacific to partnership approach in driving projects of regional interest as CCA and DRM.

The Pacific Partnership Network allows countries like Fiji to voice DRM issues in a regional platform specifically to bring together stakeholders - donors, technocrats, scientists, and member countries.

## Contextual Drivers of Progress

Levels of Reliance:

Significant and ongoing reliance: significant ongoing efforts to actualize commitments with coherent strategy in place; identified and engaged stakeholders.

## Description (Please provide evidence of where, how and who):

As noted in the last review, institutionalised regionalism is the major driver on DRM implementation. The Regional DRM Framework and the SPC-SOPAC Community Risk Programme are the two pillars on which regional DRM progress is managed and coordinated. They provide the institutional mechanism to channel support to the region from UN agencies, regional intergovernmental organisations, (SPREP/SPC), EU, international financial institutions and traditional development partners in the Pacific. Fiji in common with other pacific island countries fully engages with SPC-SOPAC on DRM programmes.

# Section 9: Future Outlook

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## Future Outlook Area 1

*The more effective integration of disaster risk considerations into sustainable development policies, planning and programming at all levels, with a special emphasis on disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness and vulnerability reduction.*

### Overall Challenges:

Inclusion of DRR in sector plans is not comprehensive; NDMO needs to document other countries experiences and researched reports in benefits of DRR investments as well as cost benefit tools available to promote application across the nation.

The NDM Council to re-establish the contingency trust fund; and flood insurance cover for flood prone areas. The emerging demographic trend is for increasing population of elderly citizens; and forward planning strategies for this as a vulnerable group are needed. This implicates DRM instructors in the Civil Service the bulk of whom in a few years ahead will retire at 55 years-age without a succession plan in place. NDM Council needs to review anew DRM training strategies to include considerations for right skilling staff at Divisional, Provincial and District levels to be DRM Training Instructors.

A number of frameworks that exist across the sectors include DRR considerations but none of these are fully resourced strategic or forward plans.

Fiji needs to hasten establishing JNAP including its Activity and Work Plan Matrix.

A big challenge is in modifying multi-hazard risk assessment information to meet the special needs of the deaf and blind as they are key recipient of hazards and vulnerability information.

Additionally hazard risk assessment should be a key performance indicator in reporting on major investment projects.

### Future Outlook Statement:

The future outlook statement of the last review is still to be noted with the following from this review.

National Planning Unit to stipulate that DRR is structured in capital project planning and reporting systems and that DRR Cost-Benefit analysis is incorporated in project designs.

NDMO and Environment Department develop minimum standards and guidelines on acceptable methodologies of DRR assessment in EIAs

JNAP is established and the Work Matrix includes development of country-wide CCA-DRM awareness campaign strategy.

National mandated authorities incorporate principles and activities into the forward strategic plans to ensure that they are well resourced. These include considerations for those of special needs.

Post-2015 Regional CCA-DRM framework incorporates principles and activities in its strategic plans to ensure that they are well resourced.

## Future Outlook Area 2

*The development and strengthening of institutions, mechanisms and capacities at all levels, in particular at the community level, that can systematically contribute to building resilience to hazards.*

### Overall Challenges:

The bulk of policies and regulations on integrated resources management practices and approaches are newly introduced. These articles should be with the core DRR messages in the proposed country-wide awareness campaign strategy to be formulated through NDMO. The NDMO will need to re-form the Education and Awareness Committee of yesteryears which with technical assistance should develop this national strategy and framework for a country-wide DRR awareness campaign. The strategy to include re-packaging scientific information into public awareness material, eliciting gender driven DRR measures and those advocating considerations on the special needs of the vulnerable groups like people with physical disabilities, the elderly and the children

CSOs are very proactive but their obligation to inform or partner government in activities around the nation should be improved through better coordination of programmes including transparent disclosures on usage of donated funds.

DRR and Environmental Institutions lack human, technical and financial resources to fully implement strategies in the RFA, and shortage of human resources capacity in the Department of Environment constraints EIA monitoring.

Partnership with the academia should be strengthened in expanding CCA-DRM informal training services into the community.

Inability to retain senior DRM staff within NDMO due to side transfer is a constraint.

### Future Outlook Statement:

National platform or council with policy oversight responsibility on DRM-CCA matters discussed together with the establishment of JNAP and its management arrangements.

Funding support secured for mass production of awareness material, the conduct of drills and exercises on emergency procedures; and the decentralisation of awareness week to provincial and district levels.

Interest / focus group networks formed and dissemination of DRM-CCA information and awareness programmes facilitated into the small business enterprises

Donors support institutional strengthening needs of NDMO and DOE of which immediate priority areas technical and funding support to:-.

- Undertake mapping of existing evacuation centres to be “gender and disability friendly”
- Develop standard procedures to undertake cost-benefit assessments.
- support DOE budget to strengthen EIA monitoring and enforcements capability
- develop Charters between CSOs and Government.
- Sponsor workshop on brainstorming and strengthening coordination in CSO activities

through FCOSS

- Establishing information Kiosks in selected key localities that facilitate ease of access and prompt application of DRM information by stakeholders

## Future Outlook Area 3

*The systematic incorporation of risk reduction approaches into the design and implementation of emergency preparedness, response and recovery programmes in the reconstruction of affected communities.*

### Overall Challenges:

Proactive information sharing policy at all levels is needed. The sharing of information for post-disaster review is not happening systematically.

The emergence of differing methodologies of damage loss and needs assessment and procedures.

Standards in evacuation centres have to be improved eg evacuation centres are not fully geared to meet needs of people with disabilities, the elderly, children and lactating mothers

The compilation and systematic integration of traditional knowledge with current DRR practices.

Performance indicators needed of Ministries in mainstreaming DRM into short and long term development strategies.

- Develop clear national procedures, guidelines and plans for emergencies including procedures to mobilise coordinated emergency relief, clearly defining roles and responsibilities.
- Establish tsunami evacuation site vis-à-vis asylum seekers processing centre; secure medical facilities and supply.
- Establish national contingency/trust fund for disaster assessments and response.
- Establish national disaster risk assessment methodologies including for post-disaster review and recovery plans.

### Future Outlook Statement:

Sectors incorporate and update disaster loss datasets in their databases.

A template agreed to by stakeholders on “information requirements to improve sharing of lessons learnt”; and Divisional Commissioners establish a “post-disaster lessons learnt forum” of representatives from all sectors.

Technical Support provided to NDMO to develop national warehousing arrangement that is inclusive of stockpile and forward basing of supplies; construction and upgrading of warehouses; and meeting SAR equipment needs and storage.

Locally proven DRR measures researched and included in the core DRR training material. A compliment handbook to the Building Code developed as a “home-owners guide on key features of material and construction inspection”

JNAP once established be responsible to determine national research priorities

High level advocacy, sensitisation and project exit activities incorporated early on in DRR Project designs.

Fiji's Early Warning Systems needs to bring on board forecasts on slow on-set hazards that

impact on the environment. Scientific tone of the EW messages reduced and content of user friendly languages increased.

## Future Outlook Area 4

*The United Nations General Assembly Resolution 66/199, requested the development of a post-2015 framework for disaster risk reduction. A first outline will be developed for the next Global Platform in 2013, and a draft should be finalized towards the end of 2014 to be ready for consideration and adoption at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2015*

Please identify what you would consider to be the single most important element of the post-2015 Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2025).:

Fiji in association with other regional Pacific Island Countries is working through SOPAC on a regional framework post-2015 similar to the approach for the current 2005-2015 RFA. Fiji's foremost interest is in merging Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management in a JNAP Framework with high priority on resourcing this framework from donors and regional and international development partners.

Fiji requires tool in cost benefit with DRR analysis.

## Section 10: Stakeholders

Organizations, departments, and institutions that have contributed to the report

Organization	Type	Focal Point
Department of Energy	Gov	Mikaele Belena
Department of Environment	Gov	Sarah Tawaka
Fiji Police Force	Gov	Luke Rawalai
Fiji Police Force	Gov	Sakeo Raikaci
Fiji Police Force	Gov	Josese Lako
Ministry of iTaukei Affairs	Gov	Marilyn Korovusere
Ministry of Provincial Development	Gov	Seremaia Waqanisau
Ministry of Provincial Development	Gov	Lanieta Vakadewabuka
Ministry of Sugar	Gov	Napolioni Dabea
Navy	Gov	Ilaitia Tuisawau
NDMO	Gov	Ropate Tuikenawa
NDMO	Gov	Pajililai Dobui
NDMO	Gov	Joji Satakala
NDMO	Gov	Akisi Korodrau
Public Service Commission	Gov	Iliesa Lutu
Strategic Planning	Gov	Jone Biaukula
Tourism & Civil Aviation	Gov	Napolioni Vuadomo
IFRC Pacific Office	Regl Inter-gov	Viliame Tuimanu
SOPAC	Regl Inter-gov	Mosese Sikivou

SPC/SOPAC	Regl Inter-gov	Waisale Naqolevu
Fiji Chamber of Commerce	Private	Humphrey Chan
Fiji Electricity Authority	Private	Akhtar Ali
Fiji Ports Authority	Private	Jeke Vakararawa
Maritime Safety Authority	Private	Sunil Kumar
National Fire Authority	Private	Koli Rakoroi
Telecom Fiji Limited	Private	Manoa Dugulele
University of the South Pacific	Acad & Research	Leone Limalevu
ADRA	NGO	Save Cavalevu
ECREA	NGO	Florence Toganivalu
ECREA	NGO	Sirino Rakadi
Fiji Council of Social Services	NGO	Neil
Fiji National Council of Disabled Persons	NGO	Jone Robanakadavu
Fiji National Council of Disabled Persons	NGO	Michael Filipo
Fiji National Council of Disabled Persons	NGO	Sitiveni Yanuyanutawa President
Fiji National Council of Disabled Persons	NGO	S. Vilisoni
Fiji National Council of Disabled Persons	NGO	Leslie Tikotikoca
FSPI	NGO	Jiuta Korovulavula
Habitat for Humanity	NGO	Losalini Tuwere
Partners in Community Development	NGO	S. Nauqe

Fiji

PCIDRR	NGO	Luke Radio
Save the Children Fiji	NGO	Shanil Rao
European Union	UN & Intl	Malcolm Ponton
IFRC Pacific Office	UN & Intl	Lesu Waqaniburotu
UNDP	UN & Intl	Mio
UNISDR	UN & Intl	Christel Rose
UNISDR	UN & Intl	Akапusi Tuifagalele
UNISDR Suva	UN & Intl	Laura Niskanen
UNOCHA	UN & Intl	Charles Perring
AusAID	Networks & Others	Tu Tangi
Fiji Red Cross Society	Networks & Others	Emosi Sakaturu
Lami Town Council	Networks & Others	Selaima Maitoga
New Zealand High Commission	Networks & Others	Richard Dirks
Fiji Council of Social Services		M. H. Khan CEO