

(Country)

NATIONAL SUMMARY REPORT

I D N D R

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SECTION A: PROFILE

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

1. Composition of National Committee (Focal Point):

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

	Ministries	Non-Governmental Organization
- Transport & Civil Aviation	- Fijian Affairs & Regional Development	- Fiji Council of Social Service
- Lands, Energy & Mineral Resources	- Home Affairs	- Fiji Red Cross Society
- Housing, Urban Development & Environment	- Foreign Affairs [8]	- [2]
	- Finance & Economic Planning	
	- Education	
	Academic & Research Institutions	Media
	- University of the South Pacific [2]	- Ministry of Information [1]
	- CCOP/SOPAC	
	Private Sector	Insurance
	- Post & Telecom [2]	- Nil [-]
	- Electricity Authority	
	Public Services (e.g. meteorological, etc)	Others
	- Meteorological Service	- Police [2]
	- Posts & Telecom [6]	- Military
	- Electricity Authority	
	- Health	
	- Agriculture	
	- Infrastructure & Works	

2. Internal organization of the National Committee

(Please describe hierarchy, responsibilities, coordination and cooperation mechanisms in natural disaster reduction activities.) The National IDNDR Committee is responsible for the development of suitable strategies and policies for disaster mitigation, preparedness, training, management development and public education. The Council has authority to recommend strategy and policy alternatives to the Cabinet and it is accountable to the Cabinet for reports, briefings, etc. The National Disaster Management Office is a permanent body under the Department of Regional Development that functions as the central agency to implement and coordinate the implementation of policies of the National Committee. The National Committee has two Sub-Committees, viz: Mitigation and prevention Committee and Preparedness Committee. The Mitigation Committee which is made up of technical agencies is responsible for the preparation of policies for disaster mitigation in line with the aims and objective of the IDNDR. The Committee also will initiate and coordinate the implementation of disaster mitigation activities.

3. Prevailing hazards

Type	Location	Affected Population
Cyclone	whole country	200,000
Earthquake	whole country	150,000
Drought	Western & Northern parts of the country & outlying islands.	175,000
Landslide	Central Division & parts Northern division	70,000
Flood	Whole country	235,000

(Please attach additional information if necessary)

4. Recent natural disasters

Type	Location	Affected Population	Losses
Cyclone and Flood January 1993	Western Division Central Division Eastern Division & Parts of the Northern Division	125,000	

5. National socio-economic conditions

- Population: 758,000
- Gross-National Product (GNP):
- Per-Capita Income:

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

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

Largely in the field of training as resource person.

* Scientific expertise and technology are at their developmental stage.

The Department of Meteorology Services the Regional Cyclone Warning and Forecasting Centre and offers training to meteorologists around the region

7. International assistance required for natural disaster reduction

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

- Provision of scientific/technical expertise to undertake risk assessment and hazard mapping on natural hazards that affect the country, namely: cyclone, flood, landslide and earthquake.
- Provision of communication facilities to equip Emergency Operation Centres, that is, National EOC, 13 Divisional EOCs and 19 District EOCs.
- Provision of resource personnel to conduct training in country and overseas training for career development and specialist requirements.
- Provision for computer hardware and software to establish a National Data Base on Disaster Management.

SECTION B: STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

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

1. Steps towards achieving the 3 main Decade targets

- (a) **Comprehensive national assessments of risks from natural hazards, with these assessments taken into account in development plans;**

The responsibilities for assessment of hazards are more clearly delineated. The Mineral Resources Department is responsible for the assessment of earthquake, landslide and tsunami hazards. The Department of Drainage and Irrigation has been assigned responsibility for flood assessment and the Meteorological Services are responsible for cyclone hazard assessments. Hazards for which the responsibilities are less clearly defined include coastal flooding and drought, in which Mineral Resources, Public Works, Drainage and Irrigation and Regional Development are involved. Disaster warnings can originate from the Meteorological Service (cyclones and floods), Public Works (floods), Mineral Resources (earthquakes, landslides and tsunamis). The linkage between departments involved in assessment and those involved in development projects and planning can be improved by providing information in development planning.

* As it is departments involved in hazard assessment often work in isolation, and submit separate proposals for hazard assessment programmes. It could be considered to combine these project proposals in a comprehensive hazard assessment programme for Fiji, and clearly link this programme to development planning and implementation of disaster mitigation projects.

There is no comprehensive and coherent 'Disaster Mitigation Plan of Fiji'. However, several ministries and sectors of society have implemented measures to reduce exposure to disasters. This includes structural, non-structural and combined measures, projects and activities.

Disaster mitigation activities, both structural and non-structural, conducted in the country are primarily aimed at reducing the community's vulnerability to natural disasters and enhance social and economic development of the people. It also acts as a risk reduction measure for the protection of the environment.

The primary focus of disaster mitigation in Fiji is to counter the impact of cyclones. Flood is another major hazard, often associated with cyclones, that causes widespread disruption to social and economic development in the country with wide ranging implications to the government and the people. The country has established a River Improvement Master plan that provide the basis for an integrated river improvement programme covering the need for dredging, flood and bank protection works with necessary monitoring and follow-up activities. Fiji has also established a National Environment Strategy for the effective management and protection of the environment.

- (c) **Ready access to global, regional, national and local warning systems and broad dissemination of warnings.**

- Cyclone - The regional Warning and Forecasting Centre located in the country.
- Flood - The warning system is only operation in the biggest catchment, the rest dont. Measuring stations are linked by radiotelephone to a central computer at the Hydrology section. The system allows flood warning up to 12 hours lead time.
- Landslide - The landslide warning project involved the installation of rainfall meters, in landslide prone areas to allow for landslide warnings to be issued when threshold values are exceeded.
- Tsunami - Fiji is linked to the Tsunami Warning Centre in Hawaii which will issue warnings for distant tsunamis through the Meteorological office and Dept. of Mineral Development. For tsunami originating in Fiji and surrounding countries, warnings are issued by Mineral Resources Dept directly.

A Tsunami Response contingency plan is being planned which is a joint effort involving relevant agencies.

2. Present national plan for natural disaster reduction

a) Time span covered:

Indefinite but subject to review from time to time.

b) Agencies, institutions and organizations involved:

Ministry of Infrastructure, Works and Maritime
Ministry of Primary Industries
Dept. of Mineral Development
Environment Department
Ministry of Lands
Department of Town and Country Planning
Dept. of Regional Development

Ministry of Finance
University of the South Pacific
CCOP/SOFAC
Ministry of Health
Insurance Underwriters

c) Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Primary Industries
Ministry of Infrastructure, Works & Maritime
Department of Town and Country Planning
Department of Regional Development
Ministry of Health

d) Funds available for implementation:

Funds are provided in the Annual Budgets of Ministries/Depts concerned to cater for activities such as Dredging operations, construction of river embankment or levees (flood control works) construction of cyclone resistant houses under the rural housing programme and establishment of rural water supply scheme. Funds are also available under the foreign aid programme.

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

There is no specific disaster legislation for the country. However there are legislations related to disaster.

- For example: i) Enforcement of Building Code under Ministry of Health
Public Health Act.
ii) Town Planning Act includes one provision relating to flood, however no provisions are included for landslide or erosion risks.

However there are legislations such as the Land Subdivision Act which has no provision related to natural hazards or disasters.

4. Disaster mitigation activities completed or underway:

a) *Identification of hazard zones: hazard assessment*

Title of project: Landslide Hazard Assessment In South-East Viti Levu

Status: This is a new project proposal which include photo interpretation, field analysis, digital data processing and other techniques. The aim is to prepare a digitized landslide hazard map, which is compatible with other land information systems in Fiji.

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Department of Mineral Development and the British Geology Department

Costs of project: \$47,000

Sources of funding: The proposed budget for the Fiji component of the project has received "B-grade", which will slow down the implementation of the project.

Implementing agencies:

Department of Mineral Development

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

The Director of Mineral Development
Private Mail Bag,
Suva, FLJI

Telephone: 381611
Fax: 370039/304037

b) Monitoring, prediction and warning

Title of project:

Flood Forecasting for Navua District

Status:

Work on the project is still in the planning stage. The flood warning system is similar to the one for the largest catchment in the country as outlined under para 1(c)

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Public Works Department/Hydrology unit

Costs of project: \$100,000

Equipment - Radio telephone, pressure transducers for water level, tipping bucket rain gauge, aerial, solar panel, battery, suitable storage for the equipment, modem and data loggers.

Sources of funding:

Pursing foreign aid assistance

Implementing agencies:

Public Works Department/Hydrology Unit

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

Chief Hydrologist
Water Supply Dept
Wailoku, Tamavua
P.O.Box 3740
Samabula
FIJI

Telephone: 321099
Fax: 320313

c) Short-term Protective measures and preparedness

Title of project:

Fiji/Australia Disaster Preparedness Project

Status:

This is a three year programme covering a number of elements, namely: training, public education, provision of a disaster preparedness advisor, etc.

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Department of Regional Development,
AIDAB and Emergency Management, Australia

Costs of project:

Approximately F\$100,000

Sources of funding:

AIDAB/Emergency Management, Australia

Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Fijian Affairs and Regional Development

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

Ministry of Fijian Affairs and Regional Development
P.O.Box 2219,
Government Buildings,
SUVA
FLJI

Telephone: 313400
311611

Fax: 303256

d) Long-term preventive measures

Title of project: FLOOD PROTECTION

Status: The long term strategy looks at the concept for an integrated river improvement programme as addressed in the River Improvement Master Plan. The integrated programme is currently being undertaken in the biggest catchment in the country and this will be used as a model for similar work in other catchments.

Under the programme dredging operation is being supported by:

- a) construction of flood protection embankment/dyke along river banks.
- b) construction of floodway/diversion
- c) several combination of above 3 options.

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Asian Development Bank
Department of Regional Development

Costs of project: \$13,983 million - Total cost of flood protection works for the period 1988 - 1982. This involved dredging, river training and capital purchase.

Sources of funding: Asian Development Bank and Fiji Government

Implementing agencies:

Department of Dredging and Irrigation
Ministry of Infrastructure and Works

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

Department of Drainage and Irrigation
Neptune House, Tofua Street,
Walu Bay, SUVA
FLJI

Telephone: 312355
Fax: 305546

e) Land-use and risk management

Title of project: PRODUCTION OF HAZARD MAPS

Status: Data and statistics are being compiled from census, surveys, etc.

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Mineral Development
Ministry of Infrastructure and Public Works
Department of Regional Development
National Disaster Prevention/Mitigation Committee

Costs of project:

Not available

Sources of funding:

Not identified as yet

Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Agriculture
Department of Mineral Development
Ministry of Infrastructure, Works & Maritime

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

Ministry of Fijian Affairs and Regional Development
Procera House
Waimanu Road
P.O.Box 2219,
Government Buildings,
Suva, FLJI

f) Public education and information

Title of project:

VIDEO DOCUMENTARY ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT FIJI EXPERIENCE

Status:

In the planning stage

Participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level:

National Disaster Preparedness Committee
Australian International Development Assistance Bureau

Costs of project: \$50,000

Sources of funding:

Fiji/Australia Disaster Preparedness Programme

Implementing agencies:

Ministry of Information
Department of Regional Development

Address (telephone and fax-number) of the agency in charge:

Ministry of Fijian Affairs and Regional Development
Procera House
Waimanu Road,
P.O.Box 2219
Government Buildings,
Suva, FIJI ISLANDS

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

(As in 4 above, for each area of activity [i.e., hazard zoning/assessment, monitoring, preparedness, etc] please indicate as applicable, the project title, the participating institutions in the country and/or on the international level, the costs of projects, the sources of funding and the implementing agencies.)

SECTION C: INTERACTIONS

(This section focuses on international involvement in the IDNDR.)

1. Publications on IDNDR-related subjects:

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

- * National Disaster Management Plan - 1993
- * Public education literatures in the form of brochures, leaflets, posters and stickers - 1990 - 1993 (Annual production)
- * 1993 Preparedness Calendar

2. IDNDR meetings and conferences held or planned:

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

- * April, 1991 - Regional Workshop on Improving Cyclone Warning Response and Mitigation organised by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre, Bangkok
- * 1990-1993 - Local training courses on (i) Basic Emergency Response Management (ii) Improving cyclone Warning Dissemination
- * 1992 - Regional Disaster, Management Seminar for Policy Makers organised by the UNDHA, South Pacific Programme Office

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

(Please indicate Governments, National Committees, Institutions or Organizations involved.)

- i) Australia (AIDAB and Emergency Management, Australia)/Fiji Disaster Preparedness Programme
- ii) Integrated Disaster Management Project with UNDHA/SPPO
- iii) Emergency Communication Assistance with the French Government
- iv) Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre - Assistance in the area of Disaster Management training
- v) National Disaster Management Council
- vi) National Disaster Preparedness Committee
- vii) National Disaster Prevention/Mitigation Committee

SECTION D: EVALUATION

(This section analyses national progress and outlines possible improvement.)

1. Overall evaluation of national disaster mitigation programmes including, but not limited to, those initiated after IDNDR and achievements up to now

(Please elaborate on whether the targets set by the National Committee, if any, the national disaster mitigation plans or other IDNDR activities have been met. If not, please indicate reasons.)

There is no comprehensive and coherent Disaster Mitigation Plan of Fiji. However several Ministries and Sections of society have implemented measures to reduce exposure to disasters. This includes structural, non-structural and combined, measures, projects and activities. Mitigation activities undertaken include:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| i) dredging and flood projects | ii) rural water supply |
| iii) rural housing programme | iv) reclamation |
| v) Building Code and Insurance | vi) integrated development (roads, bridges, flood protection etc) |

The primary focus of disaster mitigation in Fiji is to counter the impact of cyclones. Flood is another major hazard, often associated with cyclones, that causes widespread disruption to social and economic development with wide ranging implications to the government and the people. The country has established a River Improvement Master Plan which provide the basis for an integrated river improvement programme covering the need for dredging, flood and bank protection works with necessary monitoring and follow-up activities. Fiji has also established a National Environment Strategy for the effective management and protection of the environment.

2. Review of the IDNDR

(Critique of the Decade to date and suggestions for improvement/modifications in the second half.)

Scientific and technological countries are not forthcoming and some showing non-committal in assisting developing countries in order to achieve the IDNDR goals. Developing countries lack the mechanisms and facilities necessary to undertake mitigation activities. Policy direction generally lacking because government does not have the political will and/or commitment. It is therefore necessary to carry out a sensitisation programme for policy makers. Regional cooperation on IDNDR is fairly lukewarm because of non-committal on the part of regional governments and organisations. There is a need for the region to establish a Disaster Management Unit in one of the existing regional organisations such as Forum Secretariat or SPC. The second half should see concentration of efforts in strengthening the institutional capacity and the establishment of appropriate policy framework as well as making the political will tick.