Planned Relocation Guidelines

A framework to undertake climate change related relocation
Living Document

The Planned Relocation Guidelines is a “living” document and the information expressed in this publication represents the Fijian Government’s commitment to build a climate resilient nation. The Fijian Government reserves the right to periodically update the Planned Relocation Guidelines, as may be needed, to ensure validity, transparency, and accuracy over time.

The Planned Relocation Guidelines was developed under the guidance of the Ministry of Economy with support from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ).

Acknowledgements

The Ministry of Economy would like to acknowledge and show appreciation for the active participation and contribution of national, regional, and international level stakeholders in all activities of information gathering, discussions, and consultations for the development of the Planned Relocation Guidelines. These include: Ministry of Economy - Climate Change and International Cooperation Division; Office of the Prime Minister; Office of the Attorney-General; Ministry of Disaster Management and Meteorological Services; Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development; Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources; Ministry of iTaukei Affairs; Ministry of Agriculture; Ministry of Housing and Community Development; Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport; Ministry of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations; Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism; Ministry of Public Enterprises; Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts; Ministry of Health and Medical Services; Ministry of Local Government; Ministry of Waterways and Environment; Ministry of Fisheries; Ministry of Forests; Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation; Ministry of Youth and Sports; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Republic of Fiji Military Forces; Permanent Mission of the Republic of Fiji to Geneva; Prof. Cosmin Corendea - International Migration and Human Rights Consultant; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Water Authority of Fiji; Fiji Roads Authority; Energy Fiji Limited; Reserve Bank of Fiji; United Nations Development Programme; UN Women; International Organisation for Migration; International Labour Organisation; Food and Agricultural Organisation; Platform on Disaster Displacement; World Bank; Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ); The Pacific Community; Pacific Islands Development Forum; Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat; Pacific Conference of Churches; The University of the South Pacific; Fiji National University; University of Fiji; Live and Learn Environmental Education; Fiji Environmental Law Association; Rainbow Pride of Fiji; DIVA for Equality; femLINKpacific and community representatives.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) through the financial support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is supporting the content of the publication. The information and recommendations of the study do not automatically reflect the opinion of BMZ or GIZ.

© Copyright 2018. Ministry of Economy, Republic of Fiji.
Planned Relocation Guidelines

A framework to undertake climate change related relocation
Table of Contents

Foreword 1
List of abbreviations and acronyms 2
Scope and Purpose 3
Part I: Overview 5
  1. Background 5
  2. Terminology 6
  3. Principles related to Planned Relocation 7
Part II: Stages of Planned Relocation and Stakeholders involved 11
  1. PRE - Planned Relocation Process 12
     • Fijian Government
     • Other Stakeholders
  2. IN - Planned Relocation Process 13
     • Fijian Government
     • Other Stakeholders
  3. POST - Planned Relocation Process 14
     • Fijian Government
     • Other Stakeholders
References 16
Foreword

The Fijian Government has long recognized the very serious threat climate change poses to our country, and we will continue to work on behalf of all Fijians to make the nation as resilient as possible to the effects of climate change and to lead efforts to adapt to the realities of climate change when necessary. The effects of climate change are clear to most Fijians. Rising of seas continue to erode shorelines and encroach on coastal communities, and Tropical Cyclone Winston tore through Fiji with unprecedented strength in 2016, causing damages amounting to one-third of Fiji’s Gross Domestic Product.

As a part of our efforts to implement measures on the ground to adapt to climate change, we also have long recognized that some communities, structures and infrastructures will have to be permanently relocated as the only way to avoid tragedy, save lives, protect livelihoods, and prevent social disruption. Still, we will only consider relocating communities as a last resort, after all other feasible adaptation options have been explored.

The Fijian Government, with the support of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), has developed the Planned Relocation Guidelines to assist and guide relocation efforts at the local level. By doing so, Fiji is one of the first nation States to develop a national framework that guides the relocation process. The process of relocating a community is complex and very costly, and relocation is certainly traumatic for those who must leave their homes, their familiar surroundings and the place of their ancestors behind. The Planned Relocation Guidelines therefore, ensure that the relocation of any local community is carried out in a manner that guarantees its long-term survival, has viable options for economic activity, and provides support and services for those being relocated. The Guidelines also contain provisions to ensure the well-being and safeguard the rights of vulnerable members of any community being relocated.

The Guidelines serve to demonstrate the Fijian Government’s commitment to effectively respond to the need for relocation related to climate change, drawing from the latest developments in the area of human mobility, the latest scientific findings, and assessments and studies carried out in the country. We anticipate that the Guidelines will also accelerate Fiji’s progress in meeting its Sustainable Development Goals and other national, regional and global commitments. This document does not exist on its own, but aligns with the provisions of Fiji’s 5-Year and 20-Year National Development Plan, Fiji’s National Adaptation Plan, the National Climate Change Policy and other relevant national, regional and international frameworks.

We have developed the Planned Relocation Guidelines in a holistic and participatory manner through a collaboration between government and civil society, including representatives from gender groups and various communities.

The Fijian Government is committed to undertaking necessary relocations that are well-conceived, efficiently administered and humanely executed. We appreciate the support of our development partners, nongovernment organisations and Fijian civil society as we carry out this challenging but critical programme. Working together, we can ensure that the affected communities will not only feel secure, but can thrive long into the future.

Hon. Josaia Voreqe Bainimarama
Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji and President of COP23
## List of abbreviations and acronyms

The following abbreviations are used throughout this document:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APN</td>
<td>Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCICD</td>
<td>Climate Change &amp; International Cooperation Division</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEDAW</td>
<td>Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COP</td>
<td>Conference of Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRC</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of the Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRPD</td>
<td>Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIZ</td>
<td>German Agency for International Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICCPR</td>
<td>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICESCR</td>
<td>International Covenant on economic, Social and Cultural Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INGO</td>
<td>International Non-government Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IOM</td>
<td>International Organisation for Migration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IPCC</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCCCC</td>
<td>National Climate Change Coordinating Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAP</td>
<td>National Adaptation Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCP</td>
<td>National Climate Change Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDC</td>
<td>Nationally Determined Contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-government Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRTC</td>
<td>National Relocation Taskforce Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PICs</td>
<td>Pacific Island Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBI</td>
<td>Subsidiary Body for Implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOPs</td>
<td>Standard Operating Procedures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPC</td>
<td>Pacific Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNU</td>
<td>United Nations University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Scope and Purpose

This document provides guidance for the Government of the Republic of Fiji and all Other Stakeholders present in Fiji, to consider planned relocation solutions for the affected communities¹ as part of their adaptation strategies in relation to disasters and climate change related slow-onset events occurring on the territory of Fiji.

More specifically, the purpose of this document is:

- To ensure an inclusive and gender responsive consultative and participatory process to strengthen communities’ riposte to climate change impacts, and ensure community engagement and ownership in the relocation process;
- To serve as a coordination mechanism to enhance the involvement and collaboration of all range of stakeholders, namely: affected communities, government ministries and agencies, trade unions and employers’ organisations, intergovernmental organisations, regional and international organisations, the private sector, civil-society organisations, women’s organisations, faith-based groups and academia;
- To facilitate the use of clear, inclusive and comprehensive procedures, while assessing and responding to potential relocation risks, in order to respect, protect and fulfill the needs of the relocated communities;
- To recognise the richness of the indigenous knowledge, the multi-cultural and interfaith composition of the Fijian population, when addressing communities experiencing uncertainty about their future due to climate change.

As planned relocation related to climate change is a State-led process, the Fijian Government will ensure that the values and principles elaborated in Part I of this document, along with the Planned Relocation Stages in Part II, are fully incorporated and applied in the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that represent the modus operandi of this document.

Both these Guidelines and the SOPs must be read together.

*The SOPs continue to be developed by the Fijian Government and will become available at a later stage.*

¹ Communities is the generic term used to describe: villages, formal settlements, informal (squatter) settlements, and sub-communities within larger urban areas.
Part I - Overview

1 Background

The development of the Planned Relocation Guidelines was first proposed at the National Climate Change Summit, held in Labasa, in October 2012.

It was acknowledged at the Summit that planned relocation within Fiji does represent an option of last resort, however it is expected to become a more common response to climate related events in the future.

Acknowledging the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Report on 1.5 Degrees stating that rapid and far-reaching actions are required to limit the consequences of global warming, and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, this document reaffirms the Fijian Government’s commitment to observe all international norms and standards available at the time of elaborating these Guidelines, to ensure an operational, transparent and rights-based response to all climate change challenges Fiji is currently fronting.

Conforming to the National Climate Change Policy (NCCP), and all Fijian domestic laws, the Guidelines build on specific strategies intended to reduce the vulnerability of affected communities and enhance the resilience of these communities to the impacts of climate change and disasters.

Recognising it has the primary duty and responsibility to provide minimum standard protection and assistance to people at risk of, or affected by disasters and environmental change, the Fijian Government intends to initiate planned relocation actions only when all other adaptation options, as provided by the National Adaptation Plan (NAP), are exhausted and only with the full, free, and informed consent and cooperation of the communities at risk, experiencing the process of relocation.

This document provides a step-by-step framework of procedures that will guide the planned relocation process in Fiji. The Guidelines are intended to be an efficiency-based reference for all actors involved in the planned relocation process related to climate change and disasters such as:

- Communities at-risk seeking assistance to relocate;
- Governmental bodies to coordinate and direct the process of relocation;
- All other relevant non-State stakeholders present to assist and support the relocation process.

Due to the close relationship between some impacts of climate change, environmental degradation events and disasters, these Guidelines recognize that evacuation (emergency relocation) may be necessary in the context of sudden-onset events.

It may also be relevant to the wider development of communities in Fiji and in the Pacific region, who may consider planned relocation as an ultimate alternative to adaptation in relation to disasters, and environmental change, by providing helpful insights into identifying communities at-risk, procedural guidelines, and completion of the relocation process.
Consultation in the formation of these guidelines

In the formulation of this guideline the following stakeholders were consulted:

- Affected communities, households, and individuals;
- Government representatives;
- Non-State actors, such as international organisations, INGOs, domestic NGOs, private entities, faith-based organisations, women’s organisations, persons with disabilities organisations, donors, and other Pacific countries’ representatives and regional organisations.

2. Terminology

**Climate Change** is a change in the state of the climate, which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity, that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

**Climate Change Adaptation** is an adjustment in natural and/or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects, which moderates harm or exploits beneficial opportunities.

**Disasters** represent a serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses and impacts.

**Evacuation**, as it relates to relocation, means: in situations of urgency where risk is imminent, the rapid physical movement of people away from the immediate threat or impact of a hazard to a safer place. The purpose is to move people as rapidly as possible to a place of safety and shelter. It is commonly characterized by a short timeframe (from hours to weeks) within which emergency procedures need to be enacted to save lives and minimize exposure to harm. Evacuations may be mandatory, advisory, or spontaneous. While evacuations should be orderly, they may not be owing to the prevailing situation, although this does not imply that they cannot be planned.

**Hazard** is a natural or man-made phenomenon which may cause physical damage, economic losses, or threaten human life and well being if it occurs in an area of human settlement, agricultural, or industrial activity.

**Human Mobility** is an umbrella term that refers to all aspects of the movement of people: human mobility is understood to encompass involuntary internal and cross-border displacement of populations, voluntary internal and cross-border migration and planned and consented relocation.

As human mobility is increasingly understood as a subsidiary effect of climate change processes, the relation between environmental change (defined here as an inclusive concept including environmental degradation and climate change), disasters, human rights and human mobility becomes an interrelated and interconnected (hybrid) concept, where state practices may not address one without addressing the others.

**Relocation** is the voluntary, planned and coordinated movement of climate-displaced persons within States to suitable locations, away from risk-prone areas, where they can enjoy the full spectrum of rights including housing, land and property rights and all other livelihood and related rights. It includes: displacement, evacuation (emergency relocation) and planned relocation.
Relocation has occurred, and continues to occur within Fiji, and results from:

1. Sudden-onset disasters, which are increasing in intensity as a result of climate change (e.g. increased intensity of cyclones and associated flooding) may require immediate evacuation response of moving people to a place of safety is often a temporary measure only, undertaken until an improvement in the environmental conditions occurs when the community returns to its original settlement;

2. The gradual and incremental nature of slow-onset effects of climate change which threatens livelihoods (e.g. increased frequency of drought, saltwater intrusion, coastal erosion and salinisation of groundwater resulting from sea-level rise), usually imply a permanent move away from the area at-risk.

Planned Relocation is understood as a solution-oriented measure, involving the State, in which a community (as distinct from an individual/ household) is physically moved to another location and resettled permanently there. Under this schematic approach, evacuation is distinct from planned relocation and does not fall within the scope of this document. Planned relocation may, of course, play a role following evacuations in circumstances where places of origin become uninhabitable.

In addition to the policies and guidelines under the UNFCCC and Protocols, the Fijian Constitution with its guaranteed rights, civil and political, social and economic, and cultural, apply to persons who are resettled, including rights of redress before the courts of Fiji. These rights are mirrored in international conventions which Fiji has ratified including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

3. Principles related to Planned Relocation

The effects of disasters and environmental change, and in particular the adverse impacts of climate change, are increasingly being felt worldwide, and the Pacific region is considered to be on the frontline of combating climate change. Fiji is particularly vulnerable to many of these impacts.

Coastal erosion and inundation, and increased salinisation caused by more intense storms and cyclones, in combination with changing rainfall patterns causing flooding and droughts, are already adversely affecting the livelihoods and lives of many Fijians.

In recent years, Pacific Island Countries (PICs) have started to recognise human mobility as part of the adaptation measures taken by affected communities in response to environmental change and disasters.

As part of the human mobility process associated with climate change, planned relocation will be one adaptation technique to be considered by the affected communities, ONLY when all adaptation options have been exhausted. It has been demonstrated, that, over time, the cumulative effects of climate change may render the traditional place of living of some communities uninhabitable, especially when compounded by preexisting pressures such as overcrowding, unemployment, poor infrastructure, pollution and environmental fragility.
The planned relocation process needs to be structured on three main pillars, to be followed at all stages guiding the relocation process and that are essential in responding to the needs of the affected communities:

1. **Decision:** Making the decision to undertake relocation of groups or communities

2. **Planning:** Developing a sustainable plan for relocation

3. **Implementation:** Implementing the plan in line with all human rights and protection standards available, including, but not limited to, complementary measures such as:
   - Sustainability of the plan,
   - The process of physical relocation,
   - The follow-up and monitoring of the relocation process on a long-term basis.

These three pillars shall be embedded together with the principles enumerated below to ensure that the values and the rights of the Fijian affected communities, households and individuals are always respected in the process of planned relocation.

**A Human-Centered Approach** that derives from the application of anthropocentric concepts in environmental management, and raises ethical issues when discussing the role of human beings in shaping and accessing environmental resources. This principle is to ensure that the community bottom-up perception is prioritized, that the interests of communities are considered, and the lessons learnt from Fiji’s past experiences with relocation processes – where community movements have been associated with numerous social, cultural, gender, economic and environmental issues relating to tensions over land, dislocation of communities, inadequate resources and unsuitable sites – are to be avoided in the future application of these Guidelines.

**A Livelihood-Based Approach** to adaptation (rather than a sectoral approach) is an integral part of many rural livelihood strategies, as opposed to planned relocation being merely a reaction to climate change. This is to ensure that people who have relocated are not negatively affected and contribute to the process of “migration as adaptation”. It is also considered to reflect the fact that the planned relocation process needs to be sensitive to the specific needs of communities and households that may be on the move. Characterizing the communities and households’ profiles associated with climate related relocation will facilitate developing policy and operational options that build livelihood in respect to those climatic stressors.

**A Human-Rights Based Approach**, that after the adoption of the Paris Agreement in 2015 becomes more present in positioning rights close to the mobility process, and associates inexorably to the climate change discourse. The Paris Agreement, together with the ICCPR and the ICESCR reflects the countries’ rationale to relate climate change triggers to rights belonging to the affected people, ensuring that men, women, elderly and persons with disabilities are meaningfully engaged and participate in the decision-making, planning, and implementation related to the planned relocation.

The human rights–based approach is also the main component of the PARTICIPATION and CONSULTATION processes as stipulated by the Paris Agreement together with the TRANSPARENCY CONCEPT, as stated in Article 13 that established an enhanced transparency framework for action and support, with built-in flexibility which considers Parties’ different capacities and builds upon collective experience. The purpose of the framework for transparency of support is to provide clarity on support provided and received by relevant individual Parties in the context of climate change and related displacement actions (as mentioned by Article 8) and, to the extent possible, to provide a full overview of aggregate financial support provided, to inform the global stocktaking under Article 14.
When implementing planned relocation process in Fiji, addressing human rights aspects is unavoidable and important in all three stages of movement, as the relocated people carry their rights at all times, and implicitly the Fijian Government’s obligation to protect.

The Preemptive Approach is also considered by these Guidelines when planning, implementing and follow up the stages of the relocation process, both holistically and Fijian specific. This is to ensure that any potential humanitarian crises are avoided.

It is also demonstrated that preemptive action collaborated with country-specific solutions create an efficient response to environmental scenarios and protect the vulnerable groups on a medium and long term basis, contributing inter alia, to successful adaptive measures, decreasing potential risks and building resilience at the new destination (site).

These Guidelines also consider a Regional Approach, in particular when addressing planned relocation related to climate change, due to high probability of potential cross-border movement or integration of people in hosting foreign societies. The Pacific regional approach proves to be a set of comprehensive integration policies, promoting inter-state collaboration, good examples and preventing xenophobia, discrimination, and/or (violent) prejudice of native population against new–comers (migrants).

Regional Approach refers to bringing domestic policies in accordance with regional existing norms in order to strengthen the societal values and traditions specific to all regions in the world and to address the need for an inclusive approach for all stakeholders, including civil society, and upon the relevance of “pre-existing cultural and social beliefs about the roles, functions, responsibilities and social standing of different groups within societies, and resulting practices”.

The normative framework outlined here will guide the work on planned relocation within Fiji to minimise the risk of conflict arising from this procedure. These Guidelines provide a detailed step-by-step approach to the process, demarcate responsibilities for all stakeholders involved, and highlight the continuous support necessary for affected communities.

In particular, these Guidelines emphasise the importance of the involvement and continuous engagement of communities in the planned relocation process, especially in decision-making, site selection, the development and implementation of the relocation plan and in the post relocation monitoring. Following this, the document will also enable the application of consistent procedures to ensure that the planned relocation is sustainable in all phases of its implementation, and that all relevant economic, social and environmental sectors, including protocols (where appropriate) are addressed.
PLANNED RELOCATION GUIDELINES
Part II  Stages of Planned Relocation and Stakeholders involved

A number of alternative options exist which should be considered before engaging in the often complex and costly process of Planned Relocation. This is also in line with lessons suggesting that Planned Relocation should be a measure of last resort. Alternatives include disaster risk reduction measures and alternative migration-based strategies, which can contribute to reducing the vulnerability of individuals and groups, building their resilience, and reducing their exposure to hazards. There are many examples of successful efforts that have helped populations to reduce disaster risk and build resilience in their local environment, including through mobility and other adaptation strategies.

The planned relocation process requires a fundamental and efficient relationship between all three main actors involved: the State, the affected communities and the non-State actors to optimize the stages of planned relocation and minimalise any negative impact associated with the movement.

This would implicitly apply to all stages of planned relocation, as an interdisciplinary approach where relevant measures should address a variety of factors, such as social, cultural and economic, to avoid gaps in planning, implementation and follow up and create a multidimensional reference to specific scenarios for building resilience, increasing effectiveness of the relocation process itself, and minimalize the impact of the environmental stressors.

Based on the mapping exercise reviewed and its findings, the following Guidelines reflect the steps required to be taken by the Fijian Government and Other Stakeholders, if pertinent reflection of planned relocation is desired.

The following stages were identified based on widely accepted and available research regarding the main types of planned relocation, present in literature and State practice. Moreover, the stages formulated below do reflect the stages of the planned relocation process projected in time, constituting:

1. The **PRE - Planned Relocation Process** of planned relocation, when the relocation decision is still pending, and other adaptation regulations are still in place.

2. The **IN - Planned Relocation Process**, when the decision to move is already taken and different elements of the planned relocation process are in motion.

3. The **POST - Planned Relocation Process** stage, where the relocation plan is completed, and further action is required using a monitoring and evaluation process in order to ensure the adaptability process, including but not limited to security, access to human rights, and building resilience.

All three identified stages are fundamentally distinguished, as the affected communities (households), the Fijian Government and Other Stakeholders find themselves in different points of (in)action and different levels of coping with the respective climate triggers.

The stages also distinguish the roles of the Fijian Government agencies, ministries, task-force and divisions (herein: Government Stakeholders) involved in the planned relocation process and the role of non-State actors (herein: Other Stakeholders) as their roles in assisting the planned relocation process are guided by their own objectives and targets (mandates), however complementary both in nature and practice.

An assortment of actors, including but not limited to other non-State coordinating bodies, international organizations, regional bodies, donors, humanitarian, and development communities, trade unions and employers’ organisations, where appropriate, academic experts and civil society and multilateral processes have a supporting role in the context
of planned relocation related to climate change. Supporting roles may take multiple forms, including formulation of standards, guidance, and operational tools; providing technical assistance and advice; capacity building; generating funding options; developing benchmarks; and undertaking monitoring and evaluation.

It is essential that the entire planned relocation process involves an inclusive range of relevant sectors and stakeholders including women, elderly, and persons with disabilities, and it represents a cross-pollination of expertise, ideas, and action among a variety of experts and institutions, in the fields of development, humanitarian assistance, human rights, disaster risk management, environment, climate change, and urban and regional planning, as well as affected governments and communities, as all may be involved in planning and undertaking relocation.

**PRE - Planned Relocation Process**

**Guidelines for Government Stakeholders**

1. Government Stakeholders should ensure that an inclusive and comprehensive planning process receives time, as often the time is inadequate, in some cases due to the possibility of imminent harm, but also because issues emerging during the planning process may be more complicated than expected and require time to address.

2. Ensure that mechanisms have been defined to ensure transparency and accountability, together with a clear timetable and budget addressing the required analysis and planning stage, including costs of human and physical resources as well as of any services to be contracted.

3. Ensure that the many steps in carrying out planned relocation are understood and anticipated, crucial human and financial resources are assembled, preparatory actions are undertaken, and unanticipated events and circumstances are accommodated and addressed with minimum disruption and delay.3

4. Ensure that the comprehensive, detailed, flexible, and timely relocation plan is in accordance with all other Fijian environmental and climate change policies, including but not limited to, the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of Fiji, the NAP Framework, the NDC Implementation Roadmap 2017-2030, NCCP.

5. Support plan consistency, promoting coherence with other cross-cutting and intersecting policy areas in Fiji and the Pacific, including disaster risk reduction, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and sustainable development.

6. The Government Stakeholders should coordinate and contribute to analysing the necessity of the planned relocation process, throughout environmental impact assessments to ensure the planned relocation is conducted in the most possible sustainable manner and would have no (or minimal) negative environmental impacts on the location of relocation and nearby ecosystems.

7. The Government Stakeholders should coordinate and contribute to analysing the necessity of the planned relocation process, throughout social impact assessments by collecting relevant desegregated data, consider a gender impact analysis, in particular focusing on vulnerable groups, such as women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities.

8. Collaborate with the affected communities, ensuring the diverse needs of the community are integrated in preparing and elaborating the relocation plan, in accordance with conserving traditions, cultural practices, and human rights standards, by initiating a real dialogue with the affected population and put in place measures to remove obstacles to participation and to capture the views of differently affected groups.

---

3 Failure to pay attention to these factors or to implement Planned Relocation in line with a plan can lead to rights violations and socioeconomic and cultural disenfranchisement. Ibid.
Guidelines for Other Stakeholders

1. Other Stakeholders should engage in collaboration with both State actors responsible for the planned relocation process, as well as the affected community, ensuring the views of the affected communities are recognised, and facilitate the communication process with State representatives, if available.

2. The relocation process should include a transparent participation plan to be disclosed as early as possible, to engage all stakeholders, recognizing that different groups will be involved in different ways (e.g. outreach for less mobile groups in the population).

3. The Other Stakeholders together with the Government Stakeholders should ensure that the plan includes the timing and methods that should be employed to engage all actors involved in the process, throughout the life-cycle of the relocation plan, noting that persons’ perspectives may change over time, including ongoing consultative mechanisms, such as focus groups.

4. With the support of the Other Stakeholders, the plan should also describe the range and timing of information to be communicated to the affected people including women, elderly, other vulnerable groups, the receiving communities (if applicable) and all other interested parties, including the general public, civil society and the private sector.

5. Other Stakeholders should support the Government Stakeholders’ efforts to ensure a clear and transparent budget allocation, related to all costs of the relocation planning.

6. Other (relevant) Stakeholders together with the Government Stakeholders should undertake effective measures to ensure the monitoring process is a part of the relocation process and contribute to the active participation of the affected population, as well as all actors serving the purpose and objective of the relocation decision.

7. Support Government Stakeholders’ actions to ensure a climate- resilient environment at destination, including climate-proof infrastructure, alternative green energy.

IN - Planned Relocation Process

Guidelines for Government Stakeholders

1. Ensure the planned relocation plan is being implemented as foreseen and changes may be accommodated if necessary, during the implementation process.

2. Ensure continuous communication, (including, but not limited to complaint mechanisms) with parties involved in the process: affected communities/ individuals, non-State actors and targeted relocation communities, if destination is inhabited.

3. Undertake measures to ensure that vulnerable individuals within the affected community are receiving adequate attention throughout the process, including measures to ensure their protection and safety.

4. Ensure that human rights standards are properly respected, protected and fulfilled in regard to the relocation process that is carried out in a safe, dignified and timely manner.

5. All logistical details regarding the destination are clearly and transparently communicated to the involved parties.

6. To the extent possible, Government Stakeholders should ensure accessibility to former areas of residence and adequate transportation of goods and belongings between the site of origin and the relocation site (where applicable).
Guidelines for Other Stakeholders

1. Other Stakeholders should support Government Stakeholders’ actions and contribute fully to the planned relocation process, by supporting the affected communities, focusing in particular on vulnerable population.4

2. Both the Government Stakeholders and Other Stakeholders should ensure that measures are in place to ensure community cohesion during the period of relocation (where appropriate) and facilitate interaction between relocated persons and other affected persons.

3. Other Stakeholders should contribute to a smooth and less harmful process of relocation, by ensuring a human (individual) oriented approach aligned with human rights access.

4. When applicable, to provide humanitarian assistance and concrete answers to potential crises and special circumstances the affected people may face when relocating.

5. Other Stakeholders should work together with the Government Stakeholders for collecting desegregated data and relevant information in regard to relocation development and support the Fijian Government in processing any learnings and key elements for improving further existing policies.

POST- Planned Relocation Process

Guidelines for Government Stakeholders

1. Ensure appropriate and progressive (improved) standard of living for the affected communities, in accordance with their cultural and basic human rights.

2. Monitor and evaluate the relocation process and update and develop new policies from lessons learned.

3. Ensure access to basic human rights including, but not limited to, the right to water, the right to food, the right to health, the right to work, the right to education and the right to a clean and healthy environment. 5

4. Continue to support and facilitate new adaptation planning for the new settlement, including but not limited to, accessing financial resources, diversification of livelihood, and new economic opportunities.

5. Facilitate capacity building and trainings for adaptation of the new settlement to diversified livelihood, and/ or financial schemes (trust funds).

6. Monitor and develop mobility related adaptation measures, in case of potential unforeseen natural hazards at the new destination.

---

4 Ensure that indigenous people, ethnic minorities and those that are landless are able to participate in the political process through elections and other means.

5 Children should be able to register and attend school and benefit of measures in place to provide additional support to those in particularly vulnerable situations
Guidelines for Other Stakeholders

1. Other Stakeholders should support Government Stakeholders’ efforts in elaborating new adaptation policies for the new settlement.

2. Together with the Government Stakeholders, ensure that monitoring will continue at determined regular intervals for the relocated communities, host communities and those who choose not to be relocated.

3. Safeguard the continuous application and access to human rights together with the Fijian Government.

4. Both Other Stakeholders and the Government Stakeholders should ensure that services are provided, to prevent negative impacts, including:
   a. **For relocated persons**: supporting the vulnerable groups, such as women, children, elderly and persons with disabilities, with language and educational support, if vocational training is necessary; counselling for persons experiencing trauma related to the planned relocation process; orientations to manage expectations about the resettlement site.
   b. **For host populations** (if relocation site is in a previously occupied area): additional infrastructure development, including but not limited to, shelter, schools, medical facilities and livelihoods; pre-arrival orientation to manage expectations about relocated persons.
   c. **For persons who choose not to take part in planned relocation**: assistance to determine how planned relocation will impact their lives and ensure their continued access to livelihoods, human rights and basic services.
References


Cosmin Corendea, ‘Hybrid Legal Approaches towards Climate Change: Concepts, Mechanisms and Implementation,  

Cosmin Corendea, ‘Migration and Human Rights in the Wake of Climate Change, A Policy Perspective over the Pacific’,  
UNU-EHS Publication Series, Policy Report, 2017

Displacement Solutions (2013), The Peninsula Principles on Climate Displacement within States.

Drawn from the Comprehensive Planning Guide for Mass Evacuations in Natural Disasters (MEND guide), Global  
Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster, available at: http://www.globalcccmcluster.org/toolsand-  
guidance/publications/mend-guide

Fiji Government, 2012, National Climate Change Policy, Objective 5, Adaptation.

Fiji Government (2012), National Climate Change Policy.

Fiji Government (2012), National Climate Change Policy.

https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/termination#letter-d


Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS), Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP), Annex 1, 2016  
http://www.forumsec.org/resources/uploads/embeds/file/Annex%201%20-%20last%20visited%20Aug%204%202018

Science associated with events where climate change components were identified.

The National Adaptation Plan A brief overview LDC Expert Group December 2012, United Nations Framework  
Convention on Climate Change https://unfccc.int/files/adaptation/application/pdf/nap_overview.pdf (last visited  
Aug 5, 2018)

Transparency of Support under the Paris Agreement, UNFCC, (last visited Aug 14, 2018)  
https://unfccc.int/topics/climate-finance/workstreams/transparency-of-support-ex-post/transparency-of-support-  
under-the-paris-agreement

UNHCR, IOM, Georgetown University, Planned Relocation Toolbox, http://www.unhcr.org/protection/  
environment/596f1bb47/planned-relocation-toolbox.html

and Planned Relocations in the Context of Climate Change.

UNHCR, PLANNED RELOCATION, DISASTERS AND CLIMATE CHANGE: CONSOLIDATING GOOD PRACTICES AND  
