



# “SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS SAFE FROM DISASTERS”

## Case Study - Fiji

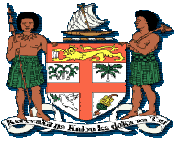


“...When hospitals are destroyed it is impossible to care for the wounded; when schools are damaged, our future generation is at risk”

**Sálvano Briceno**

Director, ISDR

*Kobe, Hyogo, Japan*



## REGIONAL OVERVIEW

- SOLOMON IS: At least 200 schools were destroyed in 2007 tsunami with the two main hospitals on Gizo and Choiseul, as well as nearby health clinics, sustained heavy damage
- FIJI IS: 3 divisions affected by flooding Jan 2009
- PACIFIC is prone to disasters which directly affect school and health facilities and services



# 1. FIJI'S HEALTH SECTOR

- ❑ National adaptation of UNISDR 2008-09 theme on “Hospitals Safe from Disasters”
- ❑ Nation-wide Awareness Campaign
- ❑ Audit of Health Facilities and Structures
- ❑ Evaluation of Health Services delivery
- ❑ Documentation of Disaster Plans
- ❑ Conduct of Exercises to test Plans



# ASSESSMENT RESULT - HEALTH SECTOR

- ❑ Lack of National Policy & Direction
- ❑ Lack of Infrastructure Risk Evaluation
- ❑ Lack of Compliance to Standard
- ❑ Limited OH&S Compliance
- ❑ Health Facilities are Vulnerable to Hazards
- ❑ Lack of Disaster Plans
- ❑ Lack of Training & Exercises



# CHALLENGES - HEALTH SECTOR

- ❑ Political Will & Direction
- ❑ Funding Support - Sustainability
- ❑ Technical Expertise
- ❑ Changing the *Mentality, Attitude, Mindset* and Focus
- ❑ Time and Space
- ❑ Coordination and Networking



## 2. EDUCATION SECTOR

### ❑ TWO PROGRAMS

- ❑ UNCRD SESI Program
- ❑ EU Funded Program

### ❑ UNCRD SESI Program – 03 Components

- ❑ School retrofitting project
- ❑ School Educational Manual project
- ❑ Masons Carpenters Manual project
- ❑ Project Life 2005-2009



## 2. EDUCATION SECTOR

### EU FUNDED PROGRAM

- ❑ EU/Fiji Education Sector Program (FESP)
- ❑ UN MDG, Declaration on Education for All & Convention on the Rights of the Child
- ❑ Project Life 2004-2009 a grant of \$F44 million
- ❑ Target:
  - ❑ Improvement of rural education
  - ❑ Improvement of disadvantaged schools in urban areas
  - ❑ Good quality education should be available to all the people in Fiji, irrespective of race, age, faith, etc





# ASSESSMENT - EDUCATION SECTOR

- ❑ UNCRD SESI & EU Funded Programs
  - ❑ Non-compliant to building codes
  - ❑ Non-compliant to building standards
  - ❑ Non-compliant to construction & designs
  - ❑ Poor maintenance, poor conditions
  - ❑ Disparity of school management
  - ❑ School locality as disaster prone areas
  - ❑ Land issue
  - ❑ Insurance issues
  - ❑ Etc, etc, etc.....



# CHALLENGES - EDUCATION SECTOR

- ❑ Political Will & Direction
- ❑ Sustainability ? – Min. of Education
- ❑ Funding Support – ?after project life
- ❑ Technical Expertise
- ❑ Time and Space
- ❑ Coordination and Networking



## WAY FORWARD

- ❑ Political Involvement & Direction
- ❑ Strengthening of the two Sectors –  
Min. of Education & Min. of Health
- ❑ Availability of Funding Support & Technical  
Expertise
- ❑ Clear Timeframe with fluid Coordination and  
Networking – “Integrated Whole of Nation  
Approach”



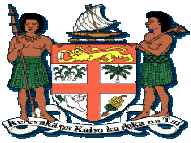
## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Develop retrofitting manual or guide for rural carpenters and builders
- Review existing national building codes based on multi hazard risk assessments
- Improve enforcement as well as promote benefits of compliance



## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Integrate disaster risk and climate change issues into national educational systems
- Develop and test community preparedness and response plans, particularly for schools
- Collaborate advocacy activities in support of mainstreaming



# End of Presentation



**VINAKA VAKALEVU**