

Agenda Item 17.2: National Emergency Telecommunication Plans (NETP)

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Project



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Objective

The Development of National Emergency Telecoms Plans (NETP) for the Pacific



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Background Information

- One of the major roles of Governments is managing the effects of natural disasters on their communities.
- This includes both preparing their communities for natural disasters and helping them recover from these disasters.



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Background Information

- The Pacific is a disaster prone area – 10 of the 25 most vulnerable countries are in the Pacific
- Disaster related damage have a significant impact on GDP (Vanuatu Pam 65 %; Fiji Winston 30 %).
- Every dollar invested in preparation and mitigation results in \$4 saved in recovery and this is not counting the lives saved.



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Disasters are on the rise

- In 1900 less than 100 major disasters were reported
- In 2000 more than 600 , even taking into account improved reporting that's a major increase
- In 2016 there were 315 natural catastrophe events with economic losses of \$210 billion.

Disasters discriminate

- Disasters affect everyone but discriminate against the poor and vulnerable
- Low income countries account for 9% of the world population but 48% of fatalities

Disasters are costly

- Disaster related damage have a significant impact on GDP (Vanuatu Pam 65 %; Fiji Winston 30 %).
- 2016 was the seventh highest year on record with the combined economic loss exceeding the \$200 billion threshold for the first time since 2013

TRENDS



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Background Information

- We must plan and while most countries have National Plans very few have plans for the ICT infrastructure and systems this leads to need for NETPs.
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Background Information

- Noting the cross cutting nature of ICTs and the need for a NETP Ministers should call for their governments to urgently develop and implement a National Emergency Telecoms Plan.
- National Meteorological and Hydrological Services have a role in helping to develop and implement NETPs in their countries.



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Background Information

- The Pacific ICT Regulatory Resource Centre is developing a template for NETPS and countries should use the resources available at the Centre to develop their National Plans.
- International Agencies have expressed interest in assisting, chief among them the ITU. Countries should avail themselves of the opportunity to use these resources.



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Background Information

- In the Pacific, there is a lack of coordination and communications policies, plans, tools to provide solutions for preparedness, response, and recovery.
- The development of National Emergency Telecommunications Plans will help in establishing baselines for an effective approach to disaster management.



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Overview

- This presentation will focus on:
 1. What is the NETP
 2. Development of an NETP
 3. Presentation of the NETP template



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WHAT IS THE NETP

- The NETP is the collection of processes and procedures to ensure that the correct information is delivered to the right persons at the right time, to ensure decision making based on accurate and timely information
- It addresses the Role of ICT's in disaster mitigation and management, looking at: a) Penetration of ICT facilities; b) Language(s) to be used; c) Government and stakeholder involvement and support, and d) Identifying appropriate technologies to be used.



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THE NETP

The NETP looks at:

1. **Preparation:** Helping people to understand the need to prepare for disasters
 2. **Alerting:** Alerting people to impending disasters
- THE EVENT*
3. **Response:** Helping people and agencies to respond to a disaster
 4. **Recovery:** Helping people recover after a disaster
- The NETP should be people and process centric. It should recognize that ICT is an extremely useful tool but it should always be treated as a means to an end, not the end itself

Developing the NETP Template

- There is a separate process on developing an NETP for your country.
- This is an interactive exercise and would involve three groups looking at various aspects of developing the NETP and would focus on three aspects:
 - Framework for developing an NETP
 - The Infrastructure Requirements
 - International Cooperation



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THE Samoan NETP as an example

- The Samoan model has an executive summary that provides the objectives of the plan, its mandate and identifies the key stakeholders
- The introduction explains the mandate for change and the purpose of the NETP – specific disaster plans for tsunami, cyclones, earthquakes, etc. are included
- The plan objectives are the foundation for the role of the emergency communications committee
- Implementation and measuring of achievements is a recommended inclusion
- The plan should consider the role of ICTs in disaster management and mitigation and provide arrangements for the four phases of a disaster
- Inclusion of reference materials that indicate key personnel; contacts, available resources, spectrum allocation procedures and the plans activation procedure are required to complete the template.



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Recommendations

The Meeting is invited to:

- **Note:** The importance of national meteorological and hydrological services participating in the development of their National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and inclusion in their respective national Emergency Telecommunications Cluster activities.
- **Request:** The Pacific ICT Regulatory & Resource Center and the World Food Programme Emergency Telecommunications Cluster work closely with the SPREP PICI Panel, in providing advise to the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services.
- **Endorse:** The importance of national meteorological and hydrological services participating in the development of their National Emergency Telecommunications Plans and inclusion in their respective national Emergency Telecommunications Cluster activities.



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Thank You

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