



Disaster READY Papua New Guinea

Progress Update - 2018
June 2019



Disaster READY is an AUD 50 million disaster preparedness and resilience program that is implemented through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) by AHP partners and their local networks across the Pacific and Timor-Leste. Disaster READY represents Australia's largest ever investment in disaster preparedness in the region, and is an important element of Australia's stepped-up engagement for a more resilient Pacific.

The focus of Disaster READY is to strengthen disaster preparedness and management across what is one of the world's most vulnerable regions to natural disasters, and which is also prone to political instability. Disaster READY draws on the deep networks and partnerships developed by Australian NGOs in the region to support Pacific communities and governments to better prepare for and respond to disasters. The program focuses on ensuring vulnerable groups, including women, people with disabilities and children, are included and accounted for in disaster preparedness, management and risk reduction activities.

Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response is a key priority of action in the 2015-2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Disaster READY is being implemented in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.

This report was developed by the AHP Support Unit drawing on individual program reports submitted by Disaster READY partners. It presents an overview of Disaster READY progress in Papua New Guinea in 2018.

The AHP Support Unit acknowledges the input and review of all partners in the development of this report.

A complete overview of Disaster READY progress across all 5 countries and at a program level in 2018 can be found on the AHP website (www.australianhumanitarianpartnership.org) or by contacting the AHP support unit at supportunit@ahpsu.com.

Disaster READY

Papua New Guinea

2018 Highlights

- Disaster READY partners played a pivotal role in supporting the Highlands Earthquake response in February. Their response was more effective because of preparedness work they had undertaken, and networks that had been established through Disaster READY.
- The PNG Assembly for Disabled Persons has supported Disaster READY partners and communities to establish more inclusive disaster committees and response plans.
- A formal agreement is now in place to support the Assembly's ongoing involvement in the program.
- The Central Province Emergency Contingency Response Plan has been developed with Disaster READY support and will be launched by the Provincial Government in early 2019.

Disaster READY Beneficiaries as of December 31, 2018



2,541
Beneficiaries
Reached



30.7%
Women
and Girls



1.1%
People
Living with
Disabilities



59.7%
Children

2018 Partners

ChildFund PNG- Plan International Australia in Bougainville- UNDP- National Agricultural Research Institute- Department of Agriculture and Livelihood- Climate Change and Development Authority in PNG - Autonomous Region of Bougainville Red Cross - Autonomous Region of Bougainville Directorate for Disasters and Emergencies- Pacific Disaster Centre - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee - Madang Provincial Disaster Management Office - Madang Provincial Department of Education - Eastern Highlands Province Disaster Office- Self Help Creative Centre (Disability Centre) - PNG Assembly for Disabled Persons- Riwo SDA Primary School - Saint Boniface Primary School - Talidig Primary School - Sama Primary School - Kole Primary School - Male Primary School.

Progress against Objectives - 2018

Preparedness

Communities are better prepared for rapid and slow-onset disasters.



- 36 of 46 target communities have disaster plans.
- Radio scripts developed to broadcast warnings via community radio.
- Emergency response procedures developed for three schools plus TVET schools in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.
- Preparedness activities directly applied in support of the Highlands earthquake response in February.
- Improved disaster preparedness is evident in Western Highlands Province, including the pre-positioning of emergency relief items (shelter, water containers, kitchen kits etc.).

Protection and Inclusion

The rights and needs of vulnerable groups are being met in disaster preparedness and response at all levels.



- 18 of 46 target communities have disaster plans that are inclusive.
- 33 of 40 new disaster committees now have at least one female representative.
- 14 new disaster committees supported by CARE each have one female, one youth and one person with a disability representative (two of which are people identifying as having a disability).
- Disaster READY partners applied a more inclusive approach in response to the Highlands earthquake. Specifically, they utilised skills gained through Disaster READY to apply the CARE gender marker and the Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions.

Progress ratings explained

The level of progress has been determined by the AHP Support Unit based on the evidence provided by the NGO partners through the Disaster READY reporting system. The ratings were allocated based on consideration of factors such as:

- What has been achieved to date? For example, training having been provided is less significant than whether there have been changes in products, practices or policies as a result of the training.
- The reach of the change – e.g. considering the number of partners which had achieved the result, and the number of communities involved.
- In some cases early progress is adequate progress to date, given the program was in its inception year etc, and the particular country context.
- The ratings are intended to inform discussion, and to assist the partners to monitor change in following years.



No Progress



Early Progress



Progress



Significant Progress

Coordination within country systems

Government, NGOs, the private sector and communities coordinate more effectively for inclusive disaster preparedness and response.



- Disaster READY partners played an active role in the Provincial Government's Highlands earthquake response committee (the Humanitarian Hub). This has helped to improve preparedness and coordination between communities and government.
- Disaster READY partners led a coordinated, localised response to the Highlands earthquake, with active representation on national clusters and direct communication with donors.

Strengthening the role of organisations

National NGOs and faith-based organisations have more influence and capacity in the country humanitarian system.



- Active representation of seven church partners on the GoPNG Disaster Management Team and the WASH, Protection and Food Security humanitarian clusters.

Collaboration

AHP NGOs work effectively together and with other relevant stakeholders.



- AHP partners jointly reviewed their various tools to identify opportunities for shared learning and coordination. This included tools relating to: disability (e.g. Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions), gender (CARE's gender marker), disaster risk reduction (e.g. focus group questions; CARE's Adoption Index tool to assess whether community leaders put disaster management training into practice), and Child Protection and monitoring and evaluation (e.g. Child-Centred Disaster Risk Reduction toolkit). The tools were endorsed by the Disaster READY Country Committee and some have already been applied by the partners.
- Disaster READY church partners assessed whether the earthquake response was inclusive of gender and disabilities, using skills and tools gained through Disaster READY gender and disability training.
- With support from Disaster READY, DFAT's Church Partnership Program has aligned its disaster response strategy with the response framework of the government, which facilitates coherent and coordinated emergency activities.



No Progress



Early Progress



Progress



Significant Progress

Story from the Field:

Central Province puts Disaster READY into action.



Disaster READY Papua New Guinea partner ChildFund, through the Plan International consortium, supported the Central Province Government to develop an Emergency Contingency Plan to better prepare for future disasters.

Central Province Disaster Advisor, Tumai Ipou, is responsible for managing disaster risk reduction and emergency responses in the province.

“Before this support through Disaster READY, we faced challenges or had a weakness in technical knowhow and timing (for responding to emergencies). In the past, we did what we knew needed to be done but the timing was not always correct. We also did not have practical plans in place to guide the identification of risks and needs, planning, mobilising and coordinating resources,” Mr Ipou said.

Following a series of workshops facilitated by ChildFund in partnership with the Central Province Government, participants agreed on simple standard operating procedures and clear and practical steps to follow in the event of an emergency. The plan also sets out responsibilities and lines of reporting.

“The plan clarifies the communication structure from provincial level right down to ward level, including roles and responsibilities,” Mr Ipou said.

A surprising but welcome outcome of this work in Central Province was that the National Disaster Management Office of Fiji requested a similar process and support for them to develop a National Contingency Plan.

Mr Ipou is encouraging other PNG provinces to develop Emergency Contingency Plans.

Photo credit: ChildFund

Disaster READY Papua New Guinea - Detailed Progress against Indicators, 2018

How to Read the Progress Tables

Disaster READY was designed around a core set of indicators which are consistent across the five countries. The NGOs selected which of these indicators were relevant for them to report on based on their particular work plans. In the table below, where an indicator is not relevant for a particular NGO, the progress column has been blocked out.

Some target data has been included in this 2018 report. Baseline and target data will be a more prominent focus in the 2019 report for the relevant indicators. It should be noted though that the targets are indicative only, as Disaster READY is designed to be flexible to respond to the changing circumstances and lessons emerging from the program.

Objective: Preparedness

Communities are better prepared for rapid and slow-onset disasters.

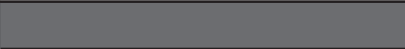



= Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
A	Number of individuals who directly benefit from AHP activities.	Refer Figure 1.		
B	Number and percentage of communities which have disaster plans to reduce and respond to disaster.	36 / 46 target communities	CARE	14 out of 18 target communities (plans in draft form).
			Caritas / CAN DO	1 of 6 target communities. Caritas / CAN DO reported that one community in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville had a disaster plan and they worked with this community to update the plan.
			Plan International	22 of 22 target communities.
C	Number and percentage of communities that have tested their response plan.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
D	Number and percentage of communities that have implemented action plans to reduce risks.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
E	Number of communities seeking financial support for disaster plans from government		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
F	Number and percentage of communities which are receiving and acting on early warning information for rapid-and slow-onset disasters.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
G	Examples of early warnings being accessible (considering geographic reach, diversity of methods, e.g. radio, print, SMS, etc., and clarity of message).		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	Early warning radio scripts developed.

Objective: Inclusion and Protection

The rights and needs of vulnerable groups are being met in disaster preparedness and response at all levels.




 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
H	Number and percentage of community disaster plans that are inclusive of women, youth, children and people with disabilities.	18 (1 baseline) of 46 target communities	CARE	14 of 18 target communities.
			Caritas / CAN DO	1 (baseline) of 6 target communities.
			Plan International	3 of 22 target communities.
I	Number and percentage of disaster assessment tools mandated by national committees. that include questions on gender, disability and children.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
J	Number of disaster committees that have women represented, and the percentage of members that are women (by national or sub-national level).	33 (19 baseline) of 46 target communities.	CARE	14 of 18 target communities. Across the 14, 10% of 140 members are women.
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	19/22 target communities (baseline).
K	Number of people with disabilities on national and sub-national disaster committees.	0-2 on community disaster committees	CARE	Increase of 0–2 on community disaster committees. Two PLWD sit on the 14 committees supported in 2018. Note: 12 of the 14 committees have representatives of PLWD. CARE works to ensure that the committees have PLWD as members through training, raising awareness, and involving DPO representative organisations in the delivery of community based disaster management raining.
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
L	Examples of inclusive humanitarian practices by government during a response.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
M	Examples of men and boys, church leaders and other community leaders, and government staff addressing barriers to inclusion in disaster preparedness and response.		CARE	All 14 new ward disaster committees include one woman, one youth and one PLWD representative (two people who identify as disabled). This was possible after community based disaster management training and working with the men in the communities.
			Caritas / CAN DO	Disaster READY church partners assessed whether the Highlands earthquake response was inclusive of gender and disability, using skills gained through Disaster READY training – specifically the CARE gender marker and the Washington 6 Questions, shifting practices from standard to more inclusive programming.
			Plan International	

Objective: Coordination within Country Systems

Government, NGOs, the private sector and communities coordinate more effectively for inclusive disaster preparedness and response.

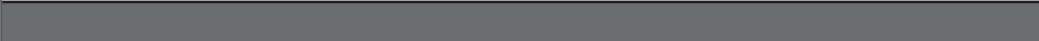



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Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
N	Number and percentage of AHP NGOs who have preparedness and response plans that explicitly prioritise social inclusion and gender.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
O	Number and percentage of national and sub-national disaster committees that meet regularly and engage actively with the community.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
P	Examples of sub-national disaster committees which have improved disaster preparedness practices (e.g. they have mapped evacuation assets or risk profiles for communities).		CARE	CARE conducted a targeted community based disaster management training for the sub-national government in Eastern Highlands Province to improve disaster preparedness and response activities.
			Caritas / CAN DO	Working with the provincial government, Baptist Union PNG supported the Highlands Humanitarian Hub in Mt Hagen. This mechanism served as the coordination body supporting the GoPNG Disaster Management Team in the Highlands earthquake response. Ongoing preparedness activities include pre-positioning emergency relief items (shelter, water containers, kitchen kits, etc.) within Western Highlands Province to improve emergency response times within the Western Highlands and nearby provinces during disasters.
			Plan International	
Q	Number and percentage of evacuation centres that are inclusive of people with disabilities.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
R	Examples of improved communication between communities and government (e.g. community assessments have informed government-led responses).		CARE	Feedback from ward councillors indicated improved interaction and coordination between government and communities.
			Caritas / CAN DO	PNG church partners strengthened communication and coordination in humanitarian response, demonstrated in the Highlands earthquake response. With support from Disaster READY, DFAT's Church Partnership Program has aligned its disaster response strategy with the response framework of the government, which facilitates coherent and coordinated emergency activities.
			Plan International	
S	N/A			

Objective: Stenghtening the Role of Organisations

National NGOs and faith-based organisations have more influence and capacity in the country humanitarian system.



 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
T	Number of CSOs and churches represented on national disaster clusters or coordination committees.	1 CSO 7 churches	CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	1 – PNG Assembly of Disabled Persons 7 churches. The Church Partnership Program is more engaged in the country humanitarian system. Demonstrated by the active representation on the GoPNG Disaster Management Team and the WASH, Protection and Food Security clusters.
			Plan International	
U	Number of national NGOs and churches that have improved operational or financial policies or practices that align with humanitarian standards.		CARE	Disaster READY partners have agreed to use CARE’s Adoption Index tool to assess whether community leaders put community based disaster management training into practice.
			Caritas / CAN DO	6 churches (United Church PNG, Caritas, ADRA, Anglicare, Evangelical Lutheran Church of CPNG, Baptist Union PNG) updated their emergency response procedures in line with humanitarian standards. 2 new tools (CARE rapid gender assessment tool and the National Disaster Committee Community-Based Disaster Risk Management tool) were adopted by the Church Partnership Program after they were endorsed at the national level by GoPNG Disaster Management Team. The CARE gender assessment tool was used in the Highlands earthquake response.
			Plan International	
V	Examples of increased influence by national INGO offices relative to their headquarters during a disaster response		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	

Objective: Collaboration

AHP NGOs work effectively together and with other relevant stakeholders.

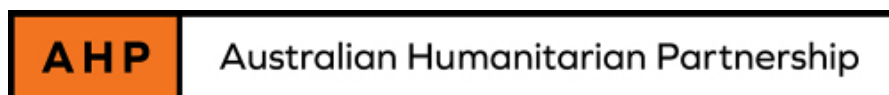
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Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
W	Level of satisfaction of key government partners and the Red Cross with AHP coordination.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	
X	Examples of where AHP NGOs have integrated DRR into their other work.		CARE	Following in-house disability training supported by PNG Assembly of Disabled Persons, CARE staff identified the need to improve monitoring of disability inclusion in all CARE projects in PNG.
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Plan International	

This report has been compiled by the Australian Humanitarian Partnership Support Unit on behalf of the PNG Disaster READY partners.

Front Cover - Photo credit: CAN DO Network.

The Australian Humanitarian Partnership, inclusive of the Disaster READY program, is an initiative of the Australian Government.



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