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Bracing for the cyclone season

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DIVISIONAL heads in the West, including Roko Tui, are being trained on how to run an emergency centre during a national disaster.

Commissioner Western Joeli Cawaki said since the cyclone season was around the corner, all provincial administrators in the West and department heads were in the workshop to manage operations centres during a disaster.

Mr Cawaki said it was vital these people were equipped and prepared should something happen.

Asia Foundation Risk Management program director Kathryn Hawley said hopefully, come any national disaster, those manning emergency operation centers knew what to do and how to respond to any emergency call.

Ms Hawley said the five-day training would be on emergency operations centres and initial damage assessment.

"The purpose of the course is to provide knowledge and skills necessary for the establishment, operation, management and administration of emergency operation centres," said Ms Hawley.

She said the training would provide participants with skills and knowledge to conduct initial damage assessment after a disaster to help responsible agencies to better determine immediate relief requirements.

Ms Hawley said the training would provide the chance for participants to develop partnerships and network among their organizations and agencies in the division to ensure a more integrated approach to disaster management.