

Pacific Humanitarian Team

Key Issues and Follow up
Day 2, session 5

Identified Issues – UN offices

- What is the role of UN Country Office staff / joint presences and regional NGO/Red Cross presences?

Identified Issues – UN offices

- OCHA is the UN's designated support to the UN RC's function as humanitarian coordinator.
- UN agencies participating in UN Presences and Joint presences are encouraged to nominate a focal point that can take the support role of the RC/HC until RC/OCHA can take over in an emergency.
- Tasks: gather first information, initial liaison and coordination with government and key actors
- It will be the choice of each respective Cluster Lead to determine the level of involvement of its staff in a humanitarian operation and its role as **Cluster Lead**.

Identified Issues – PHT vs DMT

- How does the Pacific Humanitarian Team relate to DMT and other coordination initiatives?

Identified Issues – PHT vs DMT

- The Pacific Humanitarian Team replaces UNDMT's in Fiji and Samoa as it recognizes the importance of including all regional humanitarian responders in the Pacific.
- But existing coordination mechanisms/groups at country level are valuable and should be linked in with PHT.
- E.g. Samoa DMT, Vanuatu DRM coordination group, Solomon Islands Donor coordination meeting, DRM NAP Taskforces?

Session 4: Group Work 1

- Group 1: Fiji/Samoa (Presence of UNRC and (partial) UNCT)
- Group 2: Tonga/Cook Islands/North Pacific etc: (Limited presence of UN and non-government agencies)
- Group 3: Solomon Islands/Vanuatu etc: No RC but good presence of non-government (UN and non-UN) agencies

Questions for group discussion

The PHT is a group with members and cluster leads in different parts of the region (and sometimes outside). Yet members have offices/projects in various PICs. Also, in most countries some coordination structure exists (e.g. NDC, NGO coordination group, donor coordination group)

Within this specific “country” context:

1. What can/should be the role of regional cluster leads, UN joint offices RC offices, OCHA, and other regional organizations a) in preparedness and b) in response? (e.g. coordination, liaison, information collection, awareness, briefing, etc.)
2. What is/can be the role of existing in-country coordination groups for disaster (response and preparedness) coordination and how can/do they link with the regional PHT (e.g. Samoa, Solomons, Vanuatu, etc) a) in preparedness and b) in response?
3. What does that imply for staff training, TOR, etc?