

Regional Synthesis Report.... Pacific Regional Progress in DRM since 2009 on Monday
(courtesy of Anna Gero, 2012)

Regional Progress: Ongoing Challenges

1. Governance &
Institutional
Arrangements

Further progress needed

*“effective integration of CCA and DRM is based on the **knowledge and commitment of individuals** at the national level and on the **ability of the responsible government agencies to work together closely**” (UNISDR and UNDP, 2012: iii).*

Political Prominence of Disaster and Climate Risks



Key Messages

1. A “business as usual” approach to managing risks—one that focuses more on disaster relief than on long-term disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation—will result in increased economic and human losses from extreme events.
2. Resilient development requires **sustained and robust political authority, leadership, and accountability.**

Political Prominence of Disaster and Climate Risks



Key Messages

3. Stronger political leadership would facilitate needed inclusion of DRR and CCA considerations in national and sub-national budgetary processes.
4. Greater involvement by Finance and Economic Planning ministries, would make CCA and DRR into economy-wide and development-wide issues and would facilitate effective whole-of-government and regional approaches.

Improved Coordination and Partnerships



Key Messages

1. Resilient development requires strong coordination and partnerships at all levels.
2. Weak coordination and partnerships between institutions involved with DRR, CCA, and development limit the impact of interventions.
3. The institutional rigidity of donor organizations can make cooperation and partnership difficult.

Improved Coordination and Partnerships



Key Messages

4. A project-based approach to DRR and CCA encourages fragmented efforts and impedes enduring outcomes.
5. Links between projects and programs, both at the national and regional levels, are limited. Joint programming of CCA and DRR activities by donors and implementing agencies would better enable the causes of vulnerability to be addressed.

Grounding Risk Considerations in Development



Key Messages

1. Unless development planning in Pacific island countries focuses on the need to address hazard risks, these countries will remain among the most vulnerable in the world.
2. The separate institutional, legal, and policy frameworks for CCA and DRR are counterproductive. These frameworks also have weak and often tenuous links with the development sectors
3. Short time frames and rigid categorization of projects (as either DRR or CCA) mean little continuity from one project to the next.

Grounding Risk Considerations in Development



Key Messages

4. User friendly and targeted information is necessary for informed leadership and sound decision making as well as for the technical design and delivery of resilient development initiatives.
5. Improved monitoring and evaluation is essential to enhance the capacity of organizations and leaders to make better DRR, CCA, and development decisions in the future.

Fostering Resilient Development: *Practical Guidance...*

...for grounding risk considerations in development:

1. Strengthen support to relevant institutions to ensure that DRR and CCA are coordinated at all levels.
2. Clarify the roles and responsibilities of key actors and stakeholders and assign them based on comparative advantages.
3. Make mainstreaming of climate and disaster risk considerations in development planning and processes a priority.
4. Ensure that climate and disaster data are easy to access, and meet the needs of end-users.
5. Screen development initiatives to ensure that benefits would not be jeopardized by changing weather and climatic conditions or by an extreme natural hazard event.
6. Adapt existing instruments and tools—such as land use plans, building codes, environmental impact assessments—to achieve high levels of resilience to all hazards.

Fostering Resilient Development: *Practical Guidance...*

... for achieving robust and effective political leadership, leadership and accountability:

1. Anchor high-level coordination of DRR and CCA in a central ministry with a high level of political authority.
2. **Secure political leadership and accountability at the regional level by providing support to PIFS, in order to make DRR and CCA regional development priorities**
3. Make full use of strategic and corporate planning, budgetary processes and, harmonized DRR and CCA financing to increase pre-disaster and climate risk investment.
4. Use established participatory best practice, adapted to local contexts, to help close gaps between communities, provincial governments, and central governments
5. Ensure leaders have the knowledge, skills, and awareness to make sound decisions about disaster and climate risk management.

Fostering Resilient Development: *Practical Guidance...*

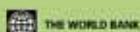
...for achieving strong coordination and partnerships:

1. **Divide labor among regional institutions so they assume suitable roles**
2. Align funding sources for CCA, DRR, and development to encourage stronger coordination and cooperation within donor organizations as well as between donors.
3. Use strong and transparent consultation and coordination mechanisms to facilitate sharing of data, good practices, and lessons learned.
4. Promote joint planning, programming, and implementation of DRR and CCA interventions by PICTS and their development partners in ways that make optimum use of the comparative advantages of each.
5. Provide flexible financing arrangements that address both current and anticipated risks and deliver both shorter- and longer-term benefits.



Acting Today For Tomorrow

A Policy and Practice Note for
Climate and Disaster Resilient
Development in the Pacific Islands
Region



**Acting Today
for Tomorrow**
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www.preventionweb.net