ICT, DRR and DM in the Pacific

Siaosi Sovaleni
siaosis@spc.int
Manager – Pacific ICT Outreach Programme
Economic Development Division, SPC
Asia Pacific Emergency Communication Forum
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About SPC

- Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC)
- Established in 1947;
- Inter-governmental Regional Organisation
- 26 member countries – USA, France, Australia, New Zealand + 22 Pacific Countries and Territories;
- Currently 600+ staff
- HQ in New Caledonia, 2 regional offices (Fiji, FSM)
- Sectors include Health, Energy, DRR/DM, Transport, ICT, Statistics, Agriculture, Marine ...
- www.spc.int
SPC 22 Pacific Members
EDD structure 2011

- Economic Development Division
  - Energy Programme
  - Transport Programme
  - Pacific ICT Outreach Programme

DIRECTOR’S OFFICE (FOR CROSS-CUTTING SUPPORT)
Challenges in the Pacific

- Widely dispersed population – tyranny of distance
- Small population
- Lack of economy of scale
- Poor infrastructure including ICT and Energy
- Lack of human capacity
- Digital Divide
- Costs of ICT still high
- Lack of resources
- Lack of collaboration and cooperation
Disasters and the Pacific

- Flood
- Cyclone (7 so far this year)
- Earthquake (>5.3, 8 this year)
- Volcano
- Tsunami
ICT in the Pacific

- Most 14 Pacific countries have less than 10% teledensity;
- Less than half of the countries have National ICT Policy;
- Only 6 of the 14 countries have an open telecommunication market;
- In the open markets mobile teledensity are around 50%;
- 2 Countries have e-Government Master Plan. 3 more have e-Gov projects;
ICT in the Pacific

- Only one country have specific cybercrime legislation. Others have some provisions under telecommunication legislation;
- Only one country have spam legislation;
- Broadband penetration in PICs less than 1%;
- GSM mobile systems in all PICs;
- Highly dependent on Satellite for international and domestic connectivity;
- 5 countries having submarine fiber optic cables.
## Policy and Legislative Environment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>National ICT policy</th>
<th>Communication Market</th>
<th>Submarine Fibre Optic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adopted</td>
<td>Open Market</td>
<td>Separate Regulator</td>
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<td>? (2012)</td>
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<td>Vanuatu</td>
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</table>
Pacific Regional Policies

1999 - Communication Action Plan (CAP)

2002 – Pacific Islands ICT Policy and Plan (PIIPP)

2005 – Pacific Plan Digital Strategy (PPDS)

2006 PPDS re-endorsed by Forum ICT Ministers

2010 – Framework for Action on ICT for Development in the Pacific
ICT Policies and legislation

- Framework for Action on ICT for Development in the Pacific (FAIDP)
  - Endorsed by the Pacific Forum Leaders (Aug 2010)
  - Noted by Head of Agriculture and Forestry (Sept 2010);
  - Noted by Pacific Maritime Association (Sept 2010);
  - Endorsed by SPC’s CRGA (26 member countries)(Oct 2010).
SPC is lead coordination agency in ICT and DRR/DM

- ICT/Technology
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management
Addressing the Challenges – DRR and DM

Framework contributes to the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy and the Hyogo Framework for Action,

Thematic Areas

1. Governance- Organisational, Institutional, Policy and Decision-making Frameworks
2. Knowledge, Information, Public Awareness and Education
3. Analysis and Evaluation of Hazards, Vulnerabilities and Elements at Risk
4. Planning for effective Preparedness, Response and Recovery
5. Effective, Integrated and People-Focused Early Warning Systems
6. Reduction of Underlying Risk Factors
Addressing the challenges

1. Leadership, governance, coordination and partnerships
2. ICT policy, legislation and regulatory frameworks
3. ICT human capacity building
4. ICT infrastructure and access
5. International connectivity
6. Cyber security and ICT applications
7. Financing, monitoring and evaluation
• **ICT Framework**
  
  — **Priorities** - Developing appropriate infrastructure to enable and support effective early warning and disaster management systems
  
  — **Target**: Early warning and disaster management systems established in all PICTs by 2015

• **DRR/DM Framework**

  — **Priorities**: National - Determine, establish and maintain effective and sustainable emergency communications systems.
  
  — **Target**: Emergency communication systems established and operating effectively by 2015
ICT in DRR and DM

- Strategic Partnerships and Cooperation – International, regional and national
- Policy and Planning – National policy and plans
- Promotion and sharing of best practices
- Raising awareness
- Capacity Building
- Infrastructure
“Many Partners, One Team”

Strategic Partnerships
Capacity Building

- Academy of ICT Essentials for Government Leaders (UN APCICT)
  
  **Objective**

  Equip policy makers, trainers and project managers with the essential knowledge and skills to fully leverage opportunities presented by ICTs to achieve national development goals and bridge the digital divide.

  **Key Features**

  - A core ICTD curriculum currently consists of 10 modules.
  - Covers basic to advanced topics of ICTD.
  - Can be delivered face-to-face or as online self-study courses.
Capacity Building - Academy Ten Modules

M1 - The Linkage between ICT Applications and Meaningful Development
M2 - ICT for Development Policy, Process and Governance
M3 - e-Government Applications
M4 - ICT Trends for Government Leaders
M5 - Internet Governance
M6 - Network and Information Security and Privacy
M7 - ICT Project Management in Theory and Practice
M8 - Options for Funding ICT for Development
M9 - ICT for Disaster Risk Reduction
M10 - ICT for Climate Change
Information sharing - Pacific Disaster Net (www.pacificdisaster.net)

- Information available online (website and mobile) and also offline (DVDs);
- Hosts material relating to Governance, Risk Assessment, Early Warning and Monitoring, Disaster Risk Management, Training and Tools;
- Sources include Countries, Bodies, Organizations and Agencies - at national, regional and international level.
- Up-to-date and live information like Alerts with notification, Events, Documents, Calendar, Contacts, Forum & Message board
- Content include Publications, Reports, Data inventories, Maps, Events, Discussion (threads), Links, Audio / Visual files etc.
Summary

- We have the political endorsement and support for:
  - Framework for Action 2010-2015 (DRR/DM)
  - Framework for Action on ICT for Development in Pacific (FAIDP)
- Some cooperation in DRR/DM/ICT (SPC| Red Cross| UNDP| ITU| UNESCAP)
- Regional Support to develop:
  - DRR/DM National Action Plan (NAP)
  - National ICT Policy including Universal Access Policy
- Establishment of National Disaster Management Offices (NDMOs) in most PICs
- Plan for deployment of EWS in some PICs;
- Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) to be established in some PICs
Next Steps - Recommendations

• Enhance international, regional and national cooperation
• Community, and national warning and emergency communication systems to be integrated into the regional and global network
• Ensure National Implementation Plans (NAPs) include establishment of early warning and emergency communication systems
• Make more resources available for emergency communication which may include pooling resources;
• Solutions to be available in the region (incl Satellite phones, portal com solutions) and preferably in the national level
• Establishment of regional and intra regional forums for emergency communication dialogue
Next Steps - Recommendations

• Development of robust National Action Plan’s National Emergency Communication plan (NAP NEC);
• Incorporation of Communication providers contingency plans into DRR/DM NAP NEC;
• Continuing awareness raising activities;
• Clear governance - better coordination and collaboration;
• Communication and connectivity
  – Opening Communication Market
  – Support for Universal Access Policy
  – Ensure Communication providers have Business Continuity Plans;
  – Support for Telecentre especially for rural and remote communities;
Thank You - Vinaka
Siaosi Sovaleni
siaosis@spc.int