

Project: Enhancing Disaster and Climate Resilience in the Republic of Palau through improved Disaster Preparedness and Infrastructure

Palau Monthly Update December 2019				
Output	Activities	Activity Details	Status as of 30 December	Next Action
1	1.1 Install VHF and HF radio (incl. of climate proofing) in key emergency operations facilities.	<p>A network of VHF and HF radio for the State Governments will be installed according to the request made by the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO).</p> <p>The network includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VHF radio stations to allow the communication to the 13 states within the main islands, • HF radio stations to communicate with the Southwestern States (State Governments, State offices in Koror and main emergency management entities). <p>The HF radio stations, and VHF antennas will be marine grade and will include back up power energy supply through solar panels as well as long life batteries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government has confirmed the specifications from the telecom experts. 7 Southern Islands have been prioritized as below considering the limited budget available. • Proposed sites with HF <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helen Reef • Hatohobei State • Sonsorol state • NEMO • Education • Hospital To consider also, if budget allows <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merir island • Pulo Anna • The equipment also includes VHF system • Kayangel, Peleliu and Angaur 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP will launch an international tender for HF/VHF radios for Palau and FSM. • HACT micro assessment to NEMO will be launched. • UNDP will make a Letter of Agreement (LOA) with NEMO (will transfer the funds to PNCC) for the installation. • The LOA should include a detailed plan and budget for the intended activities. • Once the radios come to Palau a telecom expert will arrive will check the equipment and do the programming.

		Some latest improvements in telecommunications will be also considered (option for selective calling and email messaging) as well as additional equipment (chatty beetles, personal locator beacons and In reach GPS).		
1	1.2 Install tsunami and multi-hazard warning sirens (incl of repeater stations) in key vulnerable locations.	The early warning systems will include 29 multi direction sirens to be installed in 13 States, according to NEMO request. The control centre for the sirens is proposed to be located at the NEMO facility. According to information provided by NWS and the decisions taken by the NEMO, the staff on duty could select only certain areas to sound the alarm or every siren at the same time. The sirens system will complement the community preparedness initiative currently under implementation by the NEMO.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecom expert is working in a Draft Technical Specification for Outdoor Voice & Siren Warning System with in a real acoustic scenario. • Included the result of the PNCC visit to reflect where this will be installed. Additionally, with estimated cost to see how many can be purchase, prioritize the locations and the systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specs are drafted and telecom expert want to have a second opinion from other experts. Cost estimates are also being prepared. After this action, PNCC and NEMO will discuss on the prioritization based on the allocated budget. • The UNDP will make a Letter of Agreement (LOA) with NEMO (who will transfer the funds to PNCC) for procurement, training and installation. The LOA should include the detailed plan (including specification of the siren) and budget for the intended activities.
1	1.3 Repair/Install Automated weather stations related equipment in key strategic and vulnerable	In coordination with the NWSO, five (5) automated weather stations and one (1) airport type weather station will be installed to complement the capacities to monitor weather conditions. The	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bid was closed in Oct 2019, currently under evaluation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude procurement process to be approved.

	locations both existing and non-existing according to WMO guidelines.	regular AWS will be located in Kayangel, Ngaraard, Melekeok, Koror and Peleliu States. The equipment will be installed in State Government property land, and the maintenance will be done by the NWS technical officers (by using the 13 technical officers in main station and the 5 observers in the field). The airport type AWS will be located within the NWS Office for confirmation, back up and redundancy purposes, to the information provided by the one located at the airport (which belongs to the Federal Aviation Agency).		
1	1.4 Install 4 wave rider buoys to determine ocean condition and surface wave monitoring.	<p>The NWSO has requested to modify the original request of a DART buoy for 4 wave riders buoys (3 to be installed and one spare). Considering their proximity to the coast lines, the Waverider Buoys will enable NWSO to plan and predict level of erosion and salt water intrusion through storm damage and waves on coastal areas; and to make decisions oriented to the protection of natural ecosystems.</p> <p>The wave rider buoys will be strategically located in in the West, South and East sides of the country.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As the University of Hawaii was not able to agree on the General Terms of Condition of the UNDP, another partnership agreement will be made by concluding Letter of Agreement (LOA). University of Hawai'i may need to check the timing of fund transfer from NOAA as fund transfer is done normally twice a year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Required data for the location needs to be collected from the US Navy. Conduct HACT micro assessment to NWSO depending on the budget. Draft LOA with NWSO and University of Hawai'i.

		The information provided by these buoys will be used for inundation modelling – activity to be developed by NWSO under a UNEP /GCF project - and linked also to the LIDAR study proposed within this initiative.		
1	1.5 Reconstruction of AM Frequency Modulation Tower	The AM radio tower collapsed during Typhoon Bopha in 2012. From then on, the government radio broadcast operates only in FM, covering the area around Koror (approximately 50% of the country population). The AM radio tower to be rebuilt within this Project will expand the coverage to the entire population, including the Southwestern islands. A complete assessment report was submitted by the Department of Domestic Affairs, including the type of equipment required for the reconstruction of the AM tower, the installation of the respective equipment and the construction of a shelter (to house the AM and FM radio equipment, and a mini studio).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP provided two billboards to Domestic Affairs to place them where the tower will be located for public awareness. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AM broadcast refurbishment document was finalised and sent to Domestic Affairs for revision. Expert has requested more time for the final document: transmitter specs, lightning protection. • Specs will be developed into two parts as Construction and equipment and transmitter.
1	1.6 Training course for young technicians on how to maintain the current communications Infrastructure	In order to increase current and future capacities to install, repair, maintain and manage telecommunication equipment the Project has started some discussions with the Palau	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP to consult State Governors and PCC to recruit suitable participants. This will include Electronics Program enrolees, but there are more students in different areas that could be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude contract with international consultant(s) to implement this activity.

		Community College to develop a training course for students majoring in Electronics.	recruited for training specific to the needs of this program.	
1	1.7 Monitoring including Gender Analysis & perception assessment on the impact of the project on beneficiaries	The Bureau of Gender, Aging and Disabilities is keen to promote a participatory process within the National Emergency Committee to review the instruments currently used for data collection in humanitarian assistance. This activity is linked to the training in Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) proposed in Component 3, building upon the capacities already developed in country through a training of trainers course developed by UN-Women in 2018.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Gender, SPC and NEMO will co facilitate the training. Tentative date is 25-27 February. • Red Cross will provide a list of stakeholders and NEMO the list of National Emergency Committee, (NEC) and UNDP will integrate both lists. • SPC suggested 3 days and the rest of the week some skills session more practical with 3 or 4 counterparts. • The project needs to ensure 40 % participation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise the concept note in coordination with Bureau of Gender (lead), NEMO, PRCS, UNDP. • Consolidate list of participants and agenda. • As a deliverable if the project is extended, the BG proposed that as a result there is proper presentation of the result to National Emergency Committee.
2	2.1 Provide appropriate and improved disaster preparedness and response equipment to NEMO (purchase of generator to complement existing one)	<p>The project will provide the National EOC with the required equipment for information management, monitoring and coordination.</p> <p>This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • computers and software, • multimedia equipment, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The tender for furniture was advertised 20 Nov (to be closed on 2 Dec). • Telecom experts submitted a list of equipment with estimated cost and training for the new NEOC which is under reviewed by NEMO. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation for the bids (furniture). • Telecom experts will work with the new floor to determine possible location of equipment. • NEMO to decide what equipment is optional and what will be in the scope of

		communication equipment (telephone, WIFI and fibre optic, if possible).		<p>work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generator is expected to arrive 3 February to Koror.
2	2.2 Retrofit the National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) facility to meet international and functional standards.	The conference/meeting room of the NEOC will be expanded to accommodate the increasing number of representatives from the National Disaster Management Team. Moreover, an information management room will be added to the existing building.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project had discussed with BPW to seek their support and cooperation in order to implement the activity. • Consultant provided technical parts of the tender document which is currently being revised by BPW. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP to do etendering for the work and UNDP will approach local vendors with a preconference. • UNDP to works towards an LoA for BPW to support design and built and supervision • BPW to provide an example of design and built
2	2.3 Conduct LIDAR Imagery remote sensing mapping over key and vulnerable locations. High Resolution Digital Elevation Models (DEM) for Inhabited Coastal Areas developed	The Office of the Palau Automated Land and Resource Information System (PALARIS) is the main counterpart to prepare a topographic map (1m resolution) for the islands of Kayangel, Babeldoab, Koror, Peleliu, Angaur, Sonsorol and Hatohobei (for an approximate area of 415 square kilometres). The respective contract with the specialized company will include a training on the use of the LIDAR study, with emphasis on its	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scope of work was finalized, and tender document is under drafting. the final stage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PALARIS to inform UNDP for the procurement option (international tender or direct contract) • In case of the international tender, bid will be advertised in December.

		potential for disaster risk modelling and disaster risk management.		
2	2.4 Provide key strategic islands with storage facilities to store emergency stockpiles/supplies, emergency equipment.	The project will provide the NEMO with 5 mobile warehouse facilities (tents) to be stored at the NEOC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two mobile units have been delivered and transferred to NEMO. • Three additional mobile storage units that replaced containers to arrive to Palau January 2020. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handover of the other 3 facilities
2	2.5 Appropriate equipping of emergency disaster response stations, East coast and Westcoast of Babeldaob island with response and rescue vehicles (specifically fire trucks and first responders' vehicles)	The project will procure one fire truck for the East coast and Westcoast of Babeldaob island. Specific request has been shared by the Bureau of Public Service (Ministry of Justice). The fire truck will be placed in the Melekeok Fire Department Sub-station for providing assistance to the States located in the Babeldaob Island.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITB for fire truck has been closed on 13th Nov, and the tender is under evaluation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude the bid evaluation in December. • Organize training on use and maintenance separately.
2	2.6 Provide key disaster responders and Search & Rescue institutions with 2 portable man packs VHF radio	Provide key disaster responders and Search & Rescue institutions with 2 portable man packs HF radio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A contract made for the procurement of Man packs VHF radio in October. Waiting for delivery. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skype training once the radios are delivered. Expected delivery late December or January 2020.
3	3.1 Provide emergency backup power for schools as evacuation centres (Low tech off grid electrical power	This will involve procurement of 3 solar panel systems to be installed in three schools of the South western islands of Sonsorol, Pulo Anna and Hatohobei States. For the PEA, this project is	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP has engaged the experts in Telecommunications to develop specification of solar system. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP will provide the specs of the Solar Panels to National Counterparts (NC) for revision. Once NC have specifications,

	system for three schools in Sonsorol, Pulo Anna and Hatohobei, Southern most islands).	considered a pilot initiative to then expand the provision of solar panels to all households in the mentioned islands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft specifications are the final stage for delivery. 	<p>they will need a week for internal revision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bid should be out 7 January to avoid festivities. • MoE to provide more information about the schools
3	3.2. Restoration and protection of cultural heritage sites in coastal communities rated high risk (Palau Historical Preservation Office, Vulnerability Assessment) – in line with Palau Climate Change Policy (PCCP) for Climate & Disaster Resilient Low Emissions Development.	The Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation is the implementing partner for the implementation of this activity. This includes the preparation of vulnerability assessments of 10 cultural heritage sites (to be developed by 4 international specialists already contacted by this Bureau) and climate risks mitigation works in 2 prioritized sites. The mitigation works are aimed to protect cultural heritage sites and will be developed considering a high level of participation of the communities in order to raise the awareness for the protection of cultural sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The mission to Tobi was scheduled from 4 Nov. However, the mission was postponed to February 2020 due to bad weather. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First draft of the study to be delivered in December 2019. • Discussion on the contract with boat charter due to the change of the mission.
3	3.3 Double function vehicle will be procured for the Fire Department, which can be used as fire truck but also as a 3,000 gallons water tank	A double function vehicle will be procured for the Fire Department, which can be used as fire truck but also as a 3,000 gallons water tank truck. This vehicle will have the capacity to transport water to schools, hospitals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ITB for fires/water truck has been closed on 13th Nov, and the tender is under evaluation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude the bid evaluation in December. • Organize training on use and maintenance separately.

	truck. This vehicle will have the capacity to transport water to schools, hospitals and communities affected by water shortage due to droughts.	and communities affected by water shortage due to droughts or any deficiency in the water system.		
3	3.4 Throughout this project, the NWSO and NEMO will be provided with vehicles and boats to improve their capacity to access the areas where the monitoring equipment will be installed as well as to support evacuation and humanitarian assistance in case of disasters.	<p>Mobilization to provide maintenance to climate monitoring systems as well as to assist population for evacuation and disaster management is one of the main difficulties experienced by emergency response entities.</p> <p>Throughout this project, the NWSO and NEMO will be provided with vehicles and boats to improve their capacity to access the areas where the monitoring equipment will be installed as well as to support evacuation and humanitarian assistance in case of disasters.</p> <p>Moreover, the Fire Department facilities (main station in Koror and sub-stations in Babeldaob islands) will be improved.</p> <p>a) 1 NWSO pick up b) 3.4 Tones pick up, d) 1 NEMO Vehicle c) 1 Boat</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tender for procurement of boat was closed on 18 Nov and is under evaluation. • Tender for vehicles (NEMO, NSW and BCHP) has been advertised - closed on 2 Dec 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclude the bid evaluation for the procurement of boat. • After the bid for vehicles closed. Resulted in the following: some lots didn't receive any bid. Other lots are currently under evaluation.

		d) Search and rescue		
3	3.5 Provide food preservation training to vulnerable communities through all relevant national and state actors to enhance community resilience.	To enhance food security and nutrition capacities of communities to deal with emergencies and disasters, the project will train technical officers of key institutions and organizations working at local level in food preservation methods. The intention is that families can preserve (e.g. smoking, salting, drying food) and store part of their local production to permit their use in periods of scarcity. This activity will be potentially linked to the initiative led by the Palau Red Cross related to women and humanitarian assistance, with the potential to develop a nutritionally balanced diet tailored to the capacities and habits in food consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau of Agriculture has requested support for enhancing their capacity to manage food security in emergency situations. • Due to a small budget funding was to organize a training in this topic and to help them define a tailored “food basket”. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After the stakeholder meeting, the concept note be revised by lead national counterpart and partners involved.
	3.6 Conduct Integrated Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and DRM Training of Trainers with key national and state government sectors including CSO’s that work with communities.	The Bureau of Aging, Disability, and Gender (within the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs) has proposed the delivery of a training in the methodology of Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA), considering the capacities developed in a regional training for trainers course by UN-Women. This activity will be	Please see 1.7 above	Please see 1.7 above

		linked to Activity 1.7 oriented to mainstream gender and social inclusion consideration in humanitarian assessment tools.		
3	3.7 Conduct PDNA and DRF Training of Trainers to key government sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Disaster Recovery Training (DRF) training of trainers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP Pacific and SPC will deliver the 5 days training during the 1st week of February. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEMO to revise final list of participants and provide information for a scenario agreed Typhoon Bopha. Facilitators team to approve scenario.