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

Palau Monthly Update January 2020

Output	Activities	Activity Details	Status as of January	Next Action
1	1.1 Install **VHF and HF radio** (incl. of climate proofing) in key emergency operations facilities.	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). The network includes • 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). 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.	• UNDP launched an international tender for HF/VHF radios for Palau and FSM on 1st January and will be closed 30 January 2020, but it was extended to 6 February 2020 • UNDP launched an international tender for the solar system to power the radios on 16 January and will be closed 6 February 2020.	• Evaluation of the tenders • UNDP will make a Letter of Agreement (LOA) directly with PNCC for the installation. • The process HACT micro assessment to PNCC with completion of initial documents. • The LOA should include a detailed plan and budget for the intended activities. • Once the radios come to Palau a telecom expert will arrive and 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.	• The telecom expert, NEMO and PNCC met 31 January to determine and confirmed 11 remote locations and 3 repeater sites. One remains to be confirmed. • Telecom experts to confirm following specs: 1. Tower Type & specs for the 11 confirm location. 2. Power supply Type (including battery backup) 3. Tower for the 3 x Repeater sites 4. LOS for the repeaters 5. Remote Island Tower and power specs available	• UNDP will make a Letter of Agreement (LOA) directly with 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. • The process HACT micro assessment to PNCC started with completion of initial documents. • The team of telecom experts will provide specs for the equipment that also consider the existent capacity of PNCC infrastructure.
1	1.3 Repair/Install **Automated weather stations** related	In coordination with the NWSO, five (5) automated weather stations and one (1) airport type weather station will be	• CPC and NWSO are working to clarify contents of agreements between NOAA and NIWA, as an alternative approach to include	• To clarify the content of the agreement between NOAA and NIWA.

	equipment in key strategic and vulnerable locations both existing and non-existing according to WMO guidelines.	installed to complement the capacities to monitor weather conditions. The 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).	this activity in the LOA with NWSO, which the intention to procure the equipment from NIWA • To be raised with the Project Board for their decision.	• To notify that NWSO has a risk of not having 5 standard AWSs and 1 aviation AWS as planned in case NIWA provides the same financial offer • To make sure the procurement process to be conducted in accordance with the government procurement • Once the above is clarified, this will be raised to the Project Board for their decision.
1	1.4 Install 4 wave rider buoys to determine ocean condition and surface wave monitoring.	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 Wave rider Buoys will enable NWSO to plan and predict level of erosion and saltwater intrusion through storm damage and waves on coastal areas; and to make decisions oriented to the protection of natural ecosystems.	• UNDP is drafting an LOA with NWSOs in Palau and then NWSO will channel the fund to the University of Hawaii. • It was agreed by NWSO to reduce the quantity of buoys due to the budget limitation to two wave rider buoys (1 location and 1 spare).	• Conduct HACT micro assessment to NWSO depending on the budget. • Signed the LOA with NWSO.

		The wave rider buoys will be strategically located in in the West, South and East sides of the country. 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 AM Broadcast System Rehabilitation	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).	• The specifications for AM Frequency Modulation Tower have been finalized and accepted by the relevant counterpart	• Issue a tender

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 Community College to develop a training course for students majoring in Electronics.	• UNDP had a meeting with technical instructors (Electronic and Electrical experts) to start planning the program. It was recommended that international experts are required to create the module given the new technology provided by the project, although the PCC instructors will be involved in the training as well as other national experts. • PNCC recommended the use of students learning outcomes for selecting the participants. (Math, general safety involving electrical, etc).	• Conclude contract with an international consultant(s) to implement this activity. • UNDP to draft a letter for Governors which will include background of this project, explain the activity and request from them to provide potential candidates to be trained. • UNDP to provide to the instructor's copies of the bids and specs to share information on the technology that will come to the country.
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.	• New date for the training is May (First week). • A presentation to NEC is planned to follow the training. • Progressed on the concept note in coordination with the Bureau of Gender (lead), NEMO, PRCS, UNDP with the participation of SPC.	• Bureau of Gender to discuss with NEMO Director the content of the activity. • Revise the deliverable on a proper presentation of the training of the result to NEC. Work in other logistics details

2	2.1 Provide appropriate and improved **disaster preparedness and response equipment to NEMO** (purchase of generator to complement existing one)	The project will provide the National EOC with the required equipment for information management, monitoring and coordination. This may include: • computers and software, • multimedia equipment, communication equipment (telephone, WIFI and fibre optic, if possible).	• The evaluation for the tender of furniture is being completed and UNDP is seeking alternative sourcing, waiting for freight forwarding. • UNDP is working with local providers in the installation for the Generator, protection and fencing.	• Conclude the contract of procurement of furniture. • The generator is expected to arrive on 11 February to Koror. • Telecom expert to confirm if the projector to buy is adaptable in the wall and to confirm if the equipment can allocate images from LIDAR survey or other data that NWSO can provide.
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.	• Discussion was held with Bureau of Public Works (BPW) to agree that BPW will be responsible to implement design and build for NEMO Expansion & Existing Building Refurbishment in Airai State, The Republic of Palau via concluding the LOA. • BPW and UNDP are preparing the draft LOA.	• Finalize an LoA with BPW • Issue the advertisement of the tender and conduct the pre-bid meeting (18 Feb)
2	2.3 Conduct **LIDAR Imagery remote sensing mapping** over key and vulnerable locations. High Resolution Digital Elevation Models (DEM)	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,	• A Tender for Lidar Survey in Palau was launched on 19 Dec 2019 and was extended to 13 February. • A pre-bid conference took place 15 Jan and additional information was provided to bidders. Such information included:1) High-	• After the bid closes evaluation should begin.

	for Inhabited Coastal Areas developed	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 potential for disaster risk modelling and disaster risk management.	Resolution Digital Color Imagery (aerial imagery), Quality Control, and Control Points.	
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.	• **Activity completed**. Goods handover 19 December 2019 and training was given by company 28 January 2020.	
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.	• Ten months to manufacture and two for delivery. The long production lead time is mainly due to the lead time of chassis delivery from USA. • Organize training on use and maintenance separately.	• UNDP is following up for the delivery schedule.
2	2.6 Provide key disaster responders and Search & Rescue institutions	Provide key disaster responders and Search & Rescue institutions with 2 portable man packs HF radio	• **Activity completed.** Goods were delivered to NEMO 20 December 2020 and training was given 14 January 2020.	

	with **2 portable man packs HF radio**			
3	3.1 Provide emergency **backup powe**r for schools as evacuation centres (Low tech off grid electrical power system for three schools in Sonsorol, Pulo Anna and Hatohobei, Southern most islands).	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 considered a pilot initiative to then expand the provision of solar panels to all households in the mentioned islands.	• UNDP launched an ITB for solar power equipment. Closing date is 16 January 2020.	• Evaluation should start once the bid closes. • A sustainability plan is to be developed by MoE.
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.	• To complete the project, interested parties, in this case, the company and the Office of Cultural and Historical Preservation, agreed on a new trip between February 26 and March 2, 2020. Trip is to conduct mitigation and assessment of a significant site called Ipru, a children's burial that is impacted by ocean serge and climate change. • This project is assessing 10 sites and 2 interventions for actual climate change adaptation	• Progress of the study to be delivery by Bureau of Cultural and Historical Preservation.

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 truck. This vehicle will have the capacity to transport water to schools, hospitals and communities affected by water shortage due to droughts.	**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 and communities affected by water shortage due to droughts or any deficiency in the water system.	• Ten months to manufacture and two for delivery. The long production lead time is mainly due to the lead time of chassis delivery from USA. Organize training on use and maintenance separately.	• UNDP is following up for the delivery schedule.
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.	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. 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. Moreover, the Fire Department facilities (main station in Koror and sub-	• Preliminary assessment report on 2nd tender bid currently in progress for all supply of vehicles. First Evaluation a of the 1st tender did not meet the technical specifications. • Purchase of Search and Rescue vehicle has been postponed and instead a Search and Rescue equipment is being procured.	• Delivery of the boat will take 140 days from the PO approval. (Expected date for delivery May 2020) • BPW will work in the tender documents for Design and build, construct and supervision of the Fire Department facilities of the main station in Koror. UNDP to start to the procurement of search and rescue equipment Palau Fire Department.

		stations in Babeldaob islands) will be improved. a) 1 NWSO pick up b) 3.4 Tones pick up, d 1 NEMO Vehicle c) 1 Boat d) Search and rescue equipment.		
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.	• NEMO, Bureau of Agriculture and Red Cross and NWSO agreed on the cancellation this activity to re-allocate the budget for a critical activity as the purchase of search and rescue equipment or complement the cost of Search and Rescue Unit. (See above)	• UNDP to revisit the target # of the training, under the result framework during the first board meeting. This initiative on the cancellation of the activity should be raised to the next board meeting, which will imply to reduce the indicators.
	3.6 **Conduct Integrated Gender Equality and**	The Bureau of Aging, Disability, and Gender (within the Ministry of	Please see 1.7 above	Please see 1.7 above

	Social Inclusion (GESI) and DRM Training of Trainers with key national and state government sectors including CSO's that work with communities.	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 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	• Conduct a Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) and Disaster Recovery Training (DRF) training of trainers.	• Activity to be started from 3 -7 February.	Completed.