

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
PAPUA NEW GUINEA COUNTRY OFFICE**

TWO PAGE MISSION REPORT SUMMARY

Date: 3-5 November, 2016



<p align="center">Name</p> <p>Stephen Liston – Mainstreaming Consultant; Charles Kelly – Recovery Expert Michael Sembenombo – Project Manager Philomena Emilio – Project Associate Andrew Oaego - NDC partner</p>	<p align="center">Unit</p> <p>DRM</p>	<p align="center">Tel No.</p> <p>+675 321 2877 Ext 240</p>	<p align="center">Travel Authorization #s:</p>
--	--	---	---

<p align="center">Approved Mission Itineraries:</p> <p>POM – Simbu - POM</p>	<p align="center">List of Annexes: N/A</p>
---	---

<p align="center">(From) Inclusive Travel Dates (To)</p> <p align="center">3-5 November 2016</p>	<p align="center">Key counterpart (s) in each location:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simbu: Provincial Administrator’s Office, Provincial Disaster Coordinator, Members of the Provincial Disaster Committee • Bal Numapao, District Administrator for Sinasina Yongomul and District Team
<p>Purpose of Mission:</p> <p>To conduct DRM Project inception workshop for Simbu Province</p>	

Brief Summary of Mission Outputs/Findings:

Starting in 2015, the National Disaster Center and UNDP launched the “*Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in Papua New Guinea*” project, largely funded by Australia’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). The project is geared towards providing strategic support to the Government of Papua New Guinea in reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience to disasters.

At the sub-national level, the project has identified five pilot Provinces for the implementation of DRM measures: Western Highlands, Chimbu, Madang, Central Province and Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

The project is conducting inception workshops in each of the five pilot Provinces. This is to introduce the team to the relevant stakeholders, introduce the project and start implementation of specific project activities. Additionally, the team has started collecting data on 2 of the 4 project outcomes:

- Output 2. Disaster risk management integrated into development plans and budget:
- Output 3. Preparedness and planning mechanisms and tools to manage disaster recovery processes at national and sub-national levels strengthened

**DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT (DRM) PROJECT
PROJECT INCEPTION WORKSHOP
SIMBU PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

The DRM Project Inception workshop took place at Kundiawa Hotel Conference Room on 4 November 2016. The meeting was attended by the UNDP Project Team, Assistant Director of NDC Andrew Oaego and the Simbu Provincial Administrator Mr Joe Kindar Naur and his staff including Simbu PDC Staff as well as other Simbu officials including Provincial Disaster Management Committee (PDComm) members and the District Administrator from Sinasina.

The meeting was opened by Provincial Administrator, Joe Kunda Naur. The Simbu Provincial Administrator in his introductory remarks acknowledged NDC and the Project Steering Committee for selecting Simbu for the DRM project. He stated that Disasters comes in all forms and the common disasters in Simbu that affect majority of the people are landslips and drought. Landslips significantly effects the road infrastructure and impacts trade and movement across the whole highway (from the highlands to the lowlands). The administration has a plan to reduce risk, but lacks the technical expertise and finances to refine and implement the plan. The current focus

of the team is to gather data and estimate impacts. Because of the geographic importance of Simbu and its regular landslips/landslides, a large focus is on the roads. Through the DRM Project, Mr. Naur is confident that whatever is discussed could be taken on board, followed through and solutions found to manage/reduce disaster risks on the people, environment, economy and properties.

Main Points

1. Presentations were made covering the whole project by Andrew Oaego, Philomena Emilio
2. Specific presentations were made on:
 - a. Recovery, by C. Kelly
 - b. Mainstreaming, by Steven Liston
3. Questions on the early warning/information component of the project were covered by Michael Sembenombo.
4. All Province staff attending the meeting were on board with the project and integrating DRM in their planning and budget.
5. The DRM approach in PNG has changed from its traditional response focus to Disaster Risk Reduction, then Response and Recovery.

Key Issues/Challenges

6. The main issue in the province is infrastructure especially the deterioration of the road systems in the province that affect the province to have access to basic services.
7. Coordination is a challenge. NGOs operating in the Province do not follow right process by informing the Provincial Administrator and his office/PDCom of their programmes.
8. Health Sector faces water borne diseases and a lot of malnutrition issues.
9. The Province has been dealing with disaster risk management systems at provincial level and not really reaching the most vulnerable people at the community level.

Key Points Arising from the Meeting

10. Capacity building for the province in terms of Early Warning Systems and Disaster Risk Management is needed
11. The Province has a disaster risk management plan but it could not implement it due to lack of funding and technical expertise. The Project Team requested the plan to be shared with the team.
12. Establishment of proper coordination mechanism in the province are needed, with clear procedures that the NGOs and other actors to follow through to be recognised and known before operating in the Province.
13. Provincial Disaster Committee to regular conducted meetings inviting all Government Stakeholders and NGOs to attend not only during disasters but in peace times as well.
14. It is important to look at the existing plans, identify the failures and see if these could be addressed through the DRM project.
15. Consider and build on from the existing capacity with more disaster risk reduction and community resilient activities.
16. Strengthen existing mechanisms
17. The Province would like a weather station to help forecast

Field Visit – Meeting with CEO and key staff of Sinasina Yongomul District

Discussions were around how communities approached El Nino and their recovery actions.

18. Sweet potato is the staple food and coffee is the main cash crop in the district. The El Nino induced drought and frost was unpredictable.
19. People migrated away from their homes to urban centres to live with their relatives in response to the drought.
20. There was some theft from gardens during the drought reported
21. Women were most affected during drought because of the mentality that male counterparts have that

it was a job for a woman to ensure the needs of the family were met especially when there was no food and water. For instance they walked long distances to fetch water as well as looking for and preparing food.

22. During drought, people were having only one meal a day.

23. There was an increase in the prices of goods and services during the drought.

24. In terms of recovery, people had abundance of vegetables when they first experienced rains after the drought.

If there were distribution of cash vouchers, then people would have spent the money on food as a priority. In addition, the District contains a major portion of the Highlands Highway subject to major landslips which have blocked the road on numerous occasions. These landslips affect travel throughout the highlands, but the burden of response falls on the District.

Recent Landslip

On the way to the District of Sina Sina the Administrator brought the team to see a recent landslip (that had occurred several days before) just outside the Provincial Capital of Kundiawa. The Landslip destroyed 72 houses and has caused the road to sink, over a 500 meter section. It is an ADB funded road, connecting the province's main tourist destination - Mt Wilhelm - to the Highlands Highway. People are currently passing by foot over this intersection.

Meeting with the district administration

The district of Sina Sina is at high altitude of approximately 1,400 meters above sea-level and is located along the highlands highway. The district covers approximately 60,000 people and is led by a local rugby hero, Bal Numapao who played for the Kumuls and the NRL. Land slips are a regular occurrence in the district and results of heavy rain and loss of vegetation.

Impact from the El Nino

The district was impacted by the 2015 El Niño. Some communities reacted by moving to towns, others went further into mountains to look for food. The government provided some food relief. Those that left, left a vacuum in the community. People are now slowly moving back.

People were not expecting the El Nino to occur in 2015. The district can experience long spells of dry in "normal" times. The government put out a warning in 2012 of an expected El Niño but it didn't eventuate. So people were confused. When it was announced in 2015 people were sceptical.

People realised once after planting vegetation sprouted, but did not develop further. The Open Member reacted by releasing K2 million of DSIP, but this was not sufficient to provide for 60,000 people continuously (K33). It was not enquired if the district administered the relief based on need, and if so what assessment criteria was conducted.

The community reacted as part of the recovery by overcropping. Resulting in more vegetables than needed. And couldn't sell them. Because everyone did the same. It was noted that seeds were difficult to procure from the NARI seed distribution centre, and relied on wontoks to supply fresh seeds. There is a seed bank in the highlands but when asked for sweet potato cuttings they didn't have any.

People would go to the supermarket to purchase necessary supplies, but it was anecdotally suggested that prices rose in the supermarket during this period making it difficult to procure their needs.

It was estimated by the district administrator that only approximately 5% of farmers go into business purpose farming. As there is not really a market to expand further. There is some Coffee in the cash crop. Trials to commence for some coco at this altitude to see if it work.

From a women perspective drought affected water fetching. Women had to go further away from home to collect water, and at times had to leave their customary land to do so, which at times led to confrontation with

neighbours. There are no bore waters up here in the hills and only 5 or 6 houses with water tanks. Only using rain water. Men in the meeting were quick to note that El Niño had been a hard time for the women.

During the worst part of dry season one could see worms coming out of the dry river beds. People were surviving on one meal a day.

Impact from Landslides

Landslips/slides happen regularly in the district and cause a lot of disruption. A section of the highlands highway was recently blocked for 2 months. It was eventually rectified after a local mine offered assistance – due to the negative impact the blockage was having on its own operations.

A common constraint faced by residents residing in the area is land rights. Mobility is affected by the proximity of neighbouring clans' borders. Restricting the ability of communities to minimise their exposure to risk.

Disaster Response Officer

The District Administrator is interested in appointing a full time disaster response officer, to support DRR, climate change adaptation among other activities. And is immediately looking to write to the Provincial Administration requesting the position be created. The Administrator was interested to find out if the DRM project provides training and if it was possible if the project could fund a car or computer?

According to NDC, the provincial administrator has the power to set this up, via section 13 of the Disaster Management Act.



From left to right: Inception workshop in Kundiawa with the PDComm and provincial administration. People on foot over a 500 meter interception after a land slip caused the road damage and the loss of 72 homes.

Those present at the meeting:

INCEPTION WORKSHOP

NAMES:	TITLE & ORGANISATION	Emails	CONTACT DETAILS
			Phone #s.
1. Patrick Aulikus	Manager - ICCC Commercial Division	paulakua3@gmail.com	70841163
2. Margaret Kaile	Principal Advisor - Health	mkailespa@gmail.com	72350712
3. Jacob. Kale. Isaac	support officer - Administration	JIsaac@gmail.com	716604 716074
4. Kale Soma	Principal Advisor - Planning		73024722
5. Martin Mamele	Staff Dev. officer - HRM		72724380
6. Damien Toki	DP	dami.entoki140@gmail.com	75332568
7. Andrew Bageyach	Planning's Monitoring		71894946
8. Paul Brown	Technical officer - Disaster	paul.browning@vodafone.com	70674942
8. Joe TOA	PROVINCIAL Admin office		79631484
9. Joe Kuncla Naur	Provincial Administrator		
10. BAL NUMAPO	DIST. ADMINISTRATOR		70855766
11. Michael Apa	DA for Sine Sine - PDC.	Sinebnumapo@gmail.com	
12. C. Keed	DRMA UNDA		79024852

Expected Results and Follow-up actions:

Distribution: (Copies to)

Results:

The following results and outputs were achieved during the visit to Mt Hagen:

- Project inception successfully conducted
- Better understanding by the Provincial Disaster Committee of the expected project results and activities
- Established direct relationship with Provincial Administrator's office, PDC and PDComm members
- Contact details registered

Follow-up Actions

- Follow up PDC and Provincial Administrator on the key points indicated above, including:
 - Participation of PDC at the Lessons Learned workshop – planned in POM in November 2016
 - Overview of historic disaster data & impact for the province
 - Overview of DRR budget and funds used for response
 - Budget overview, preferably by sector, for previous years
 - Review of the disaster reporting template
 - Review Sendai Framework for DRR (to be shared by the province)
 - Identify the processes and procedures Provinces follow in preparation of their Annual Plans.
 - Find out names and contacts of those in attendance at the district administration level meeting

--	--