

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

**TWO PAGE MISSION REPORT SUMMARY**

**Date: 14-16 November, 2016**



<p align="center"><b>Name</b></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"><b>Unit</b></p> <p>DRM</p>	<p align="center"><b>Tel No.</b></p> <p>+675 321 2877 Ext 251</p>	<p align="center"><b>Travel Authorization #s:</b></p>
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<p align="center"><b>Approved Mission Itineraries:</b> POM – Buka - POM</p>	<p align="center"><b>List of Annexes: N/A</b></p>
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<p align="center">(From) <b>Inclusive Travel Dates</b> (To)</p> <p align="center"><b>14-16 November 2016</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Key counterpart (s) in each location:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AROB: Office of the Chief Secretary , Department of Community Government, Director of Disaster &amp; Emergency Services, Members of the Regional Disaster Committee, IOM &amp; Red Cross.</li> <li>• Pipisu Community Members of Gogohe II LLG, Hakokohe Constituency, Buka District</li> </ul>
<p><b>Purpose of Mission:</b></p> <p>To conduct DRM Project inception workshop for Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB).</p>	

**Brief Summary of Mission Outputs/Findings:**

In 2015, the National Disaster Center and UNDP launched the “*Strengthening Disaster Risk Management in Papua New Guinea*” project, 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 enhancing capacity, 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, Central, Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB) and Madang.

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:

1. Output 2. Disaster risk management integrated into development plans and budget:
2. 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  
AUTONOMOUS BOUGAINVILLE GOVERNMENT(ABG)**

The DRM Project Inception workshop was conducted at the Disaster Office Conference Room on 15 November 2016. The meeting was attended by the UNDP Project Team, Assistant Director of NDC Mr Andrew Oaego, the Secretary of Community Government in AROB Mr Wesley Kenneth, representatives from the Departments of Education, Planning, Finance, Primary Industry (DPI), Disaster Director, International Organization for Migration (IOM) and PNG Red Cross Society. The Project team then spent the later part of the day meeting with the Pipisu community members sharing their experiences about the impacts of drought and how they managed to recover from the event.

The workshop was opened by Secretary of Community Government, Mr. Wesley Kenneth. Mr. Kenneth acknowledged UNDP for its continuous support to Bougainville and aimed for the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) to work closely with the UNDP and NDC to have in place a DRM Plan for the region. He further elaborated that It was also an opportunity to enhance and strengthen the relationship at the National

Level and looking at how we can learn from each other and continue to work together to lessen the impact of disasters in the region.

The newly appointed Director of Disaster and Emergency Services in the region, Mr Ray Himata, in his welcome remarks stressed the need for the following:

1. DRM Capacity Building for the Disaster Officers and other sectors in the region
2. Development of Regional DRM Plan & Implementation Framework
3. Continuity of DRM work in the region and not done on ad hoc basis. With this he acknowledged the partners in the room for their continuous support to ABG in DRM matters.

As a lessons learnt in the previous project, Mr Oeago informed the project team that the previous AROB DRM plan was not approved by the Autonomous Region of Bougainville Cabinet. With the support of NDC, the project team was challenged to ensure a new DRM plan is developed with Implementation Framework to guide the DRM implementation in the region.



### Main Points

1. Presentations were made covering the whole project by Philomena Emilio and Michael Sembenombo
2. Specific presentations were made on:
  - a. Recovery, by C. Kelly
  - b. Mainstreaming, by Steven Liston
3. Issues around coordination were openly discussed and ideas emerged to have coordination meetings to know who is there, doing what and where.
4. Consultation and a lot more involvement of the Department of Community Government that houses Disaster Office is of paramount importance for the success of the project in Bougainville. DRM Plan, DRM implementation Framework and SOPs developed in the consultative manner with the Department of Community Government create a sense of ownership and capacity development.
5. The DRM Project is a perfect opportunity for the ABG to create a platform, audit all DRM and CCA Plans and create a harmonised plan that is aligned with the ABG plan and priorities. This can be used to develop one M & E framework and for better coordination that avoids duplication, gaps are filled and total engagement at all levels. As per the Disaster Management Act, the Provincial Disaster Committee is expected to meet twice a year. For better coordination, the DMT arrangements at the National level can be set up in the region for the Disaster office to conduct monthly meetings for the Government agencies, NGOs and other DRM stakeholders in the region.
6. Mainstreaming DRM in other sectors plans and budgets with clear SOPs plays vital role during disasters especially for the Departmental Heads to assign roles and responsibilities to their staff. Ensures quick approval processes for effective disaster response especially during disasters.

## Key Issues/Challenges

1. Coordination remains a challenge. Some NGOs operating in the Province do not follow right process by informing the Office of the Chief Secretary, Department of Community Government and the Director of Disaster of their programmes.
2. The impacts of disasters and climate change are felt on the atolls. The project should visit and initiate some activities that can reduce the impacts of disasters exacerbated by climate change on the lives of the people on the atolls.

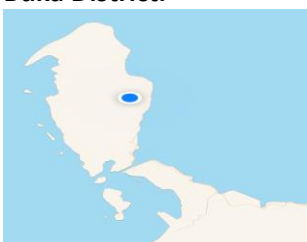
## Key Points Arising from the Workshop

1. Capacity building for the region in terms of Early Warning Systems and disaster risk management is needed.
2. New DRM players in the region must work through the Department of Community Government before operating in the region.
3. ABG Disaster Work plans to be aligned to DRM Project Work plans
4. Clear indications by the DRM Project on funding activities. Project team and ABG Disaster Office to agree on what activities in ABG Disaster work plan that the project can cover.
5. Reporting structure for the Project Assistants to be made clear; a suggestion was made that instead of reporting directly to the Project Manager, the Provincial Project Assistants should report through the Director for Disaster Office in ABG.
6. The DPI (Department of Primary Investments), covers livestock, farming, forestry and fishing. They currently conduct vulnerability assessments but not mitigation or preparation activities.
7. Good potential opportunity with the restructuring of Bougainville, can harmonise the activities being conducted by international development partners involved in DRM already. A suggestion made by the Secretary of Community Government was to conduct an audit first to identify the things happening on the ground.
8. Another area for harmonising is in the response. When a disaster happens departments put claims on the community government. However, the Community Government believes it should come out departmental budgets.
9. A constraint to future relief efforts in the province is the potentially very large amount of unpaid bills to service provider's accumulated from previous relief efforts. One member of the group suggested the level could be as high as K2 million. This hinders preparation and response to future disasters as suppliers demand previous debt settled first.



The list of the participants that attended the inception workshop is attached as Annex 1.

## Field Visit – Meeting with 2 Chiefs and people of Pipisu Village, Gogohe II LLG, of Hakokohe Constituency in Buka District.



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

1. The community has a Population of 300 people
2. Majority of the people (98%) in the community are subsistence farmers relying on banana, cocoa, taro and potatoes
3. The community has no bore water, during the dry season people resort to drinking coconut juice (water) during drought and buy food from the markets and shops in town using remittance from their family members working in towns and abroad, selling copra. During last year's El Niño there was no rain for 3 months.
4. Water sources further inland reduced in terms of quantity but did not dried up during drought. The source of water that people depended entirely on during drought was the springs on the coast at sea level from the dug up water holes by villages along the beach.
5. Women, men, girls and boys helped in fetching water to their houses.
6. Price for the water was levied by neighbouring tribe at K20 for 20 litres. Tensions surfaced during water sharing and collection at the spring.
7. Copra was the main cash crop. People earn income from the sale of copra during the drought.
8. Schools were closed due to the shortage of food and water.
9. The community did not report getting any assistance from Government, NGO or any Humanitarian Organization during drought.
10. Women were hard hit by the drought in terms of food distribution within the family when food was cooked and served women would always get the least amount or end up not having any at all because of food shortage. The biggest portion would always go to the men.
11. No one in the community has a bank account, however, many have access to mobile phones. During the El Nino the community sent messages to POM for remittances. Some family members flew in with food and money.
12. The community has had no training on DRM or agricultural to improve resilience of crops. However, community health workers have visited to provide community based awareness and training.
13. Annual development planning is done by the Chief. However, the community said there is no consultation. The village is not sure what is in the plan.
14. The community asked if they can have a pump/windmill to pipe water into the village from about a km away. This is a very good disaster preparedness activity that has to be further disseminated to the director of Disaster office in ABG to liaise with the CEO of the constituency to have it in their Development Plans.
15. All in all, it was observed that Pipisu is a good example of a self – reliant community that has worked together to reduce or cope with and recover from the impacts of drought.



#### **Meeting with the Chief Secretary**

The team had a brief meeting with the Chief Secretary before returning to Port Moresby. The main points that came up during this meeting are:

1. The DRM project activities at the community level should focus on the atolls because that is where the vulnerabilities are. The impacts of climate change and disasters severely affect the people on the atolls.
2. More partnership interaction between UNDP, NDC and ABG is highly encouraged with meaningful inputs from the ABG so that they have a sense of ownership in this project.
3. The project should work within the priorities of the ABG and not in isolation.

Expected Results and Follow-up actions:	Distribution: (Copies to)
<p><u>Results:</u></p> <p>The following results and outputs were achieved during the visit to Bougainville:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project inception successfully conducted.</li> <li>• Better understanding by the Secretary of the Department of Community Government and the Director of Disaster on the expected project results and activities.</li> <li>• Direct relationship established with the key contact persons at the Disaster Office and the Department of Community Government</li> <li>• Contact details collected.</li> </ul> <p><u>Follow-up Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Follow up with Director of Disaster and the Secretary on the key points indicated above, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Participation of Disaster Director at the Lessons Learned workshop – planned in POM in November 2016</li> <li>○ Overview of historic disaster data &amp; impact for the province</li> <li>○ Overview of DRR budget and funds used for response</li> <li>○ Budget overview, preferably by sector, for previous years</li> <li>○ Review of the disaster reporting template</li> <li>○ Review Sendai Framework for DRR (to be shared by the region)</li> <li>○ Identify the processes and procedures Provinces follow in preparation of their Annual Plans.</li> <li>○ Align ABG Disaster work plan with Project Work plan</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	