

**JOINT MEETING
of the
2013 PACIFIC PLATFORM FOR DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT &
PACIFIC CLIMATE CHANGE ROUNDTABLE**

*8th – 11th July
Sofitel Fiji Resort and Spa, Denarau Island, Nadi, Fiji*

SIDE EVENT 3: EDUCATION ON DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Introduction

In 2005, the Pacific Forum Islands Leaders¹ endorsed the Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006-2015 (PIFACC) with the goal of ensuring that Pacific Island peoples and communities build their capacities to be resilient to the risks and impacts of climate change. Similarly the Pacific has developed the Regional Framework for Action on Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management (2005-2015) (RFA) to guide relevant actions and coordination in relation to disaster risk management. Both PIFACC and the RFA position education as crucial in creating awareness as well as building the capacity of countries to be resilient to the risks and impacts of climate change and disasters.

In recognition of the potential challenges countries are likely to face as a consequence of the impacts of climate change and the increasing frequency of natural disasters in the region, the Pacific Heads of Education Systems (PHES) in its meetings in 2011 and 2012 endorsed the proposal of integrating important aspects of climate change and disasters into the curriculum of the countries. In 2012 the Pacific Ministers of Education tasked a regional working group with country representation to develop of a framework on education on climate change and disaster risk management.

Education Ministries in countries like Fiji, FSM, Kiribati, RMI, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu have started to integrate missing elements of climate change and disaster risk management into their school curricula and teacher education and together with NGO's promote school based activities on CC & DRM. New guidelines and teaching resources are being developed. TVET providers are similarly integrating DRM and CC into their curricula and Tertiary education providers are beginning to offer specialist courses in CC and DRM. Regional organizations support these efforts with funding and/or technical assistance from various development partners (such as AusAID, EU, UNESCO, UNICEF and GIZ on behalf of BMZ).

Purpose of the Session

The Platform meeting provides an important opportunity to strengthen national ownership of regional CC & DRM education initiatives and to inform the process to develop a new integrated Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management strategy from a Pacific educators' perspective. It is timely for the Pacific education sector to contribute to the discussion as a number of countries are engaged in integrating relevant elements of climate change and DRM into formal and non-formal education.

¹ The Pacific Forum Island countries are the Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Fiji Islands, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu

This session will bring together representatives of the education sector and agencies involved in Education on DRM and CC to discuss current national and regional initiatives. Participants will work to build consensus on a written intervention that will present experiences of integrating DRM and CC in the Education sector, highlighting challenges and solutions, and formulate key messages to inform the development of the integrated regional strategy for DRM and CC. The written intervention will be conveyed through a presentation on behalf of the Education sector in Technical Session 3: Increasing Resilience – the role of economic/social development sectors.

Discussion

Key questions to be discussed in the session will be:

- What initiatives are underway in Education on DRM and CC?
- What challenges have been experienced in integrating DRM and CC into the Education sector?
- How can the education sector build national capacity in DRM and CC?
- What support does the Education sector need from DRM and CC specialists?
- How can the Regional Integrated Strategy on DRM and CC support Education on DRM and CC?
- What are the key messages from the Education sector to inform the development of the integrated regional strategy for DRM and CC?

Intended Outcomes

- The regional Disaster Risk Management & Climate Change communities are informed about ongoing initiatives in education and strategic links are established.
- A written intervention with key messages on Education on DRM & CC is agreed and the presentation for Technical Session 3 finalised.
- Agreed outcome statements on Education on Disaster Risk Management & Climate Change are presented

Format

The session will include a series of short presentations describing current national and regional initiatives on Education on DRM and CC in the Pacific. This will be followed by a roundtable/ panel/ plenary discussion to finalise and approve a written intervention summarising the current state of Education on DRM and CC and key messages from the Education sector's to inform the development of the integrated regional strategy for DRM and CC. Due to the large number of initiatives underway across the region a complementary poster session (or similar) will be organised to showcase the work that can-not be accommodated in the oral presentations.

Session Coordinators

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CONCEPT NOTE TECHNICAL SESSIONS

SESSION X: TITLE

in capital in Bold face font

Font and size – Arial 11

The Concept Note should not be longer than two A4 pages and follow the below structure outlined below.

- **Introduction:** Provide relevant background information on the subject of the session
- **Purpose of the Session:** Explain how this session will contribute to the overall objectives of the Joint Meeting
- **Discussion:** Key questions that will be discussed/ answered in the session
- **Intended Outcomes:** List Key Outcomes to be achieved through the session
- **Format:** Briefly describe how the session will be facilitated, e.g. group work, plenary discussion, presentations etc.
- **Session Coordinator(s):** Provide Name, Title, Organisation and Email address of the Session Coordinator(s)