



International Labour Organization



ACT/EMP
Bureau for employers Activities

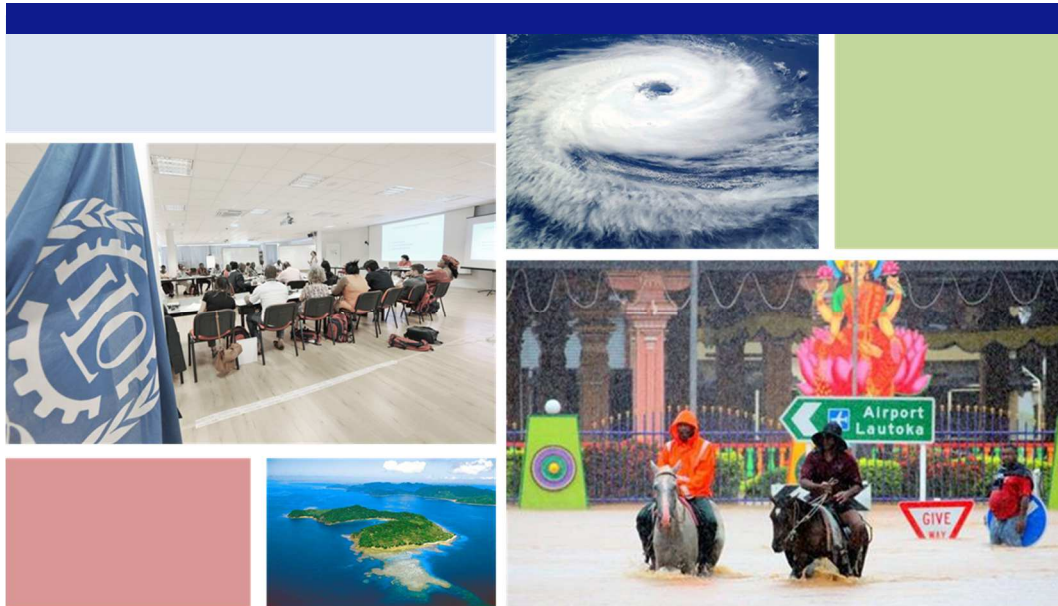


A SUSTAINABLE
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International Training Centre
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CONCEPT NOTE



WORKING OUT OF DISASTER: FROM RE- SPONSE TO RECOVERY AND PREPAREDNESS

TECHNICAL SUB REGIONAL TRAINING FOR DISASTER AF-
FECTED PACIFIC ISLAND COUNTRIES

NADI, FIJI, 18-22 SEPT 2017

RATIONALE

The Pacific is one of the most hazard¹ prone regions on earth. Vulnerability factors such as remoteness from major trade and commercial centres, high population growth, strong gender inequalities and a lingering transition from subsistence production to the cash-economy characterise many of the Pacific island countries and quickly turn a hazard into a disaster. The average annual direct losses caused by natural hazards in the South Pacific region are estimated at US\$284 million² - combined with a breakdown of traditional community-based social protection systems and slow economic growth rates since the onset of the global financial crisis, many households in the Pacific struggle to make a decent living.

From 2015 until now, the ILO has supported post-disaster action in three Pacific island countries through conducting Post-Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNAs) of the Employment and Livelihoods Sector, implementing employment-rich recovery projects and through helping micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to establish disaster-resilient business practices. The demand for preparedness and recovery tools for the MSME's is high, considering the effect of the disaster to income and employment.

The recent Ministerial Meeting on the Future of Work in the Pacific recognised the need to strengthening the capacities of ILO tripartite partners to respond to, recover from and prepare for the adverse impact of natural hazards on the economy and labour market. The development of next generation Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCP) for the Pacific countries are recognising the impact of disaster on decent work.

Given the strategic importance of disaster preparedness in the Pacific, the CO Suva together with ACTEMP and the ITCILO propose to hold a week-long sub regional technical meeting for ILO constituents and other stakeholders from disaster affected Pacific island countries and who were involved in the response.

The sub regional technical training aims to:

- (1) promote ILO tools to mainstream decent work practices in disaster response, recovery and preparedness activities;
- (2) to identify best practices and areas of improvement during recent post-disaster action in the Pacific for sharing and strategizing;
- (3) strengthen the ILO's internal capacity to respond to the demand.

OBJECTIVES

The specific objectives of the sub regional training are to:

1. promote the ILO as a key player during -disaster planning and response in the Pacific, including strengthening employer organisations to support SME's;
2. Review the Disaster Resilience and Preparedness tool for SME's developed by ILO:

¹ These include cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, tidal surges, landslides, droughts, forest fires and volcanic eruptions, as well as epidemics

² World Bank (2012). 'Pacific Islands: Disaster Risk Reduction and Financing in the Pacific', online: <http://www.worldbank.org/en/results/2012/04/01/pacific-islands-disaster-risk-reduction-and-financing-in-the-pacific>

3. enhance the capacities of government and ILO social partners in the Pacific to mainstream decent work practices during disaster response, recovery and preparedness;
4. identify together with constituents and stakeholders from disaster-affected Pacific islands countries good practices as well as opportunities for further improvements for pre and post disaster actions in the Pacific.

TARGET GROUP

The sub regional technical training programme is primarily directed at ILO constituents and other stakeholders from Pacific islands countries that were recently hit by a major disaster, i.e. representatives of national and local Government entities (Ministry of Labour, Ministry of National Planning and Public Works, Commerce) as well as selected representatives from employer and workers organisations.

Additional stakeholders who work in the Pacific on disaster-related issues for the UN or NGOs, etc. will also be invited, however, at their own cost. The maximum number of participants is 35.

Relevant ILO tripartite participants from Vanuatu, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Samoa and Tonga will be fully sponsored by the ILO. Other participants will be invited to attend the training at their own costs.

TRAINING FORMAT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The five day-long training programme will combine expert input with applied learning methodologies. Participants will receive knowledge from ILO experts and will have ample opportunity to share their insights and experiences during plenary sessions and group work. Each training day will expose participants to a different dimension of post-disaster action:

DAY 01 “Employers Focus Group” will start with an interactive introduction exercise and provide the participants with a quick overview of the training programme. Subsequently, the participants will explore the specific role of employers in Disaster Risk Reduction. ACTEMP will present its Disaster Risk Reduction toolkit for Employer Organisations to support SME’s to employer representatives, CO-Suva and ITC Turin for feedback. The employer representatives from participating countries will be joined by 10 employer representatives from the Fiji Disaster Council.

DAY 02 “Post Disaster Needs Assessments (PDNA) and Response”

will start with a brief introduction to PDNAs and participants will familiarise themselves with the PDNA coordination mechanism as well as the objective and purpose of a PDNA. In subsequent sessions, participants will receive an introductory technical training to assess a disaster’s impact on the Employment, Livelihoods and Social Protection Sector” and e.g. apply basic calculations to estimate lost days and lost income. At the end of the day, participants will share their experience in the PDNA’s highlighting best practices and lessons for better preparedness.

On **“DAY 03 – Emergency Employment & Recovery”** The first half of the day will critically analyse past emergency employment and recovery programmes in specific countries. The

second half of the day will focus on potential solutions to challenges and identifying best practice for future response, including toolkit for SME recovery.

On “**Day 04 – Field Study and Validation**” participants will embark on a half-day field study. This will give them the opportunity to relate key learning outcomes from the preceding training days by visiting selected SME’s and communities in Fiji that were impacted by Cyclone Winston to understand practical challenges and solutions on the ground. Participants will also be able to interview SME owners to test and verify their learnings from day 03. In the afternoon, participants will engage in a participatory debrief with the training facilitators.

Day 05 “Wrap-up and Evaluation” marks the end of the training programme. Participants will review and summarise key learning outcomes from the preceding days and develop a strategy to enhance future disaster preparedness and response strategies in the pacific. At the end of the day, participants will undertake a short knowledge acquisition test, evaluate their training experience and receive their certificates.

For further details please refer to the enclosed provisional timetable.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After having attended the sub regional training, participants will be able to:

- appreciate the role of the ILO and its partners in pre and post-disaster action in the pacific,
- understand the PDNA process as well as key PDNA concepts such as damages and losses, recovery needs, sectorial divisions, etc.,
- apprehend the ILO’s tools and strategies to provide emergency employment and recovery programmes as well as to enhance the resilience of SME and their business practices,
- apprehend ILO’s tools on “the role of business and its organizations in building a resilient and protecting job, enterprise and livelihood.
- identify future disaster risk scenarios in the pacific and appropriate disaster risk reduction initiatives.

METHODOLOGY

This training combines expert input with applied learning methodologies. Participants will be exposed to variety of learning methods, including expert presentations, group-work, case studies and study visits, to ensure a high-quality learning experience. n.