



## **WFP PACIFIC ENGAGEMENT**

Strengthening Emergency Preparedness &  
Response Capacities in Pacific Island Countries



**World Food Programme**

# INTRODUCTION

To save lives and protect livelihoods, the **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)** supports governments in strengthening their emergency preparedness and response capacities to mitigate the effects of disasters and reduce their impacts on vulnerable populations. This includes building capacities in logistics, supply chain management and communication technologies; strengthening risk reduction tools through Social Safety Net programmes; and bolstering sustainable food security and nutrition solutions. The Pacific region ranks among the world's most vulnerable to natural hazards. The increase of large-scale humanitarian disasters due to climate change events is considerable. Developing adequate preparatory measures to build disaster-resilient communities in such a challenging environment is a critical priority to save and protect livelihoods.

As part of its **Asia-Pacific Emergency Preparedness Strategy, which covers a 4-year programme of activities**, WFP has established a technical presence in the Pacific region. The objective is to strengthen Pacific Island

Countries' National Disaster Management Offices' capacities and capabilities to prepare for and respond to disasters, in line with WFP's global mandate and cluster lead agency obligations in the areas of Food Security, Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications. Activities are coordinated at the sub-regional level through WFP's Pacific office in Suva, Fiji, with 5 countries prioritised for national engagement - **Fiji, Samoa, Vanuatu, Tonga and the Solomon Islands** - as well as potential support in Northern Pacific Island States as required.

Supported with funds from the Governments of Australia, Japan and the United States, **WFP Pacific emergency preparedness activities are being developed in collaboration with key regional, national and local actors including UN agencies, NGOs, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, private sector and academic institutions.** These partnerships are seen as crucial to build national capacities to respond to large-scale humanitarian emergencies, as well as to improve the timeliness and efficacy of the international response.

## Fiji | Samoa | Solomon Islands | Tonga | Vanuatu

2016 ○ 2017 ○ 2018 ○ 2019

Through its 4-year Asia-Pacific Emergency Preparedness Strategy, WFP will provide critical nationally-driven capacity development services, technical support and planning within areas of WFP comparative advantage in Logistics, Emergency Telecommunications and Food Security. Services will be designed and delivered within the framework of:

### 5 MODALITIES

- 1 COORDINATION** and partnerships with private sector stakeholders; design and implementation of national-level consultations to identify and address gaps and needs
- 2 ASSESSMENT** of logistics, emergency telecommunication and food security sector capacity as well as food insecure areas
- 3 TRAINING** for skills-transfer at the regional and national level; joint emergency simulation exercises; training of trainers
- 4 TECHNICAL ADVISORY SERVICES** including emergency response planning, information management and policy advice on work-plans and procedures
- 5 EQUIPMENT, STOCKS & INFRASTRUCTURE** augmentation to strengthen national and regional response capacity

### 5 STRATEGIC AREAS





# LOGISTICS



The Pacific region regularly experiences large-scale disaster events that outstrip national response capacities. Strengthening the logistical preparedness and capacity of regional governments is at the core WFP Pacific strategy. This covers **7 areas of capacity development** aimed at augmenting governments' technical and operational readiness in disaster response; enhancing and streamlining logistics systems and procedures; and improving the efficiency of the humanitarian supply chain. In meeting the challenges of developing preparedness measures in the context of the diverse Pacific operating environments and geographic locations, WFP is providing expertise in key areas



Photo Credit: Kiki Wirahadi/WFP

of its mandate as **global lead agency of the Logistics Cluster**, tailoring it to support governments' response planning for emergencies.

## 1. National Logistics Cluster

Establish and/or strengthen national-level Logistics Cluster mechanisms, functions and procedures; draft emergency Logistics Concept of Operations; implement Minimum Preparedness Actions.

## 2. Standardisation

Standardise relief items, processes and procedures through innovative tools and in collaboration with other technical Clusters.

## 3. Information Sharing

Establish reporting mechanisms and formats; define data collection systems and tools; foster information exchange.

## 4. Trainings & Simulations

Training Needs Assessments (TNAs); delivery of credited Emergency Logistics Training curricula; inter-agency joint simulation exercises.

## 5. Shared Warehousing

Set up of shared warehousing infrastructure to maximize overall stock management efficiency; standardisation & information sharing; design and development of Standard Operating Procedures.

## 6. Private Sector Engagement

Establish partnerships with private sector stakeholders to develop linkages and interactions on response planning and appropriate agreements for provision of facilities, expertise, systems and tools.

## 7. Unsolicited Bilateral Donations (UBDs)

Define regional mechanisms to reduce UBDs through coordinated technical requirements and communication strategies.

# EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS



The availability of reliable and robust information and communication technology, supported by strong operational procedures, is essential for the effective implementation of disaster response activities. The Emergency Telecommunications programme of activities focuses on building the capacity of Pacific regional governments to better prepare for, and respond to emergencies by use of standard and efficient communication systems and networks. In coordination with



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national and regional government agencies, regulatory bodies, and partners from the humanitarian and private sectors, WFP, as **global lead agency of the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster**, is implementing and strengthening a series of emergency telecommunications preparedness measures, within the scope of **4 strategic areas**:

## 1. National Emergency Telecommunications Cluster

Strengthen emergency telecommunications cluster coordination at the national level; map emergency telecommunications inventory and capabilities in the region.

## 2. NDMOs Response Capacity

Provide technical advisory and support; conduct technical assessments; strengthen emergency communication systems; assist in the documentation of plans and Standard Operating Procedures.

## 3. Trainings & Simulations

Provide training in collaboration with partners on emergency telecommunications; support the design and implementation of simulation exercises.

## 4. Communicating with Communities

Improve the capability of responders to engage with communities through technology; propose technical solutions and support pilot projects to provide connectivity to areas in need of telecommunications access in disaster; prepare recommendations on the standardisation of electronic assessment tools.

# FOOD SECURITY



Food Security in the Pacific is both highly diverse and uncertain, due in part to the threat of climate change and the challenges associated with agricultural production in small island nations. Existing food security sector initiatives span a wide range of actors including international and local NGOs, national authorities, CBOs and regional organisations such as the Secretariat for the Pacific Community (SPC).

Through its global mandate in the Food Security sector, WFP's support seeks to leverage expertise among and between these actors to drive forward preparedness and response at the national level. WFP's support to the **Pacific Regional Food Security Cluster**, co-led by FAO at the regional and global level, aims to strengthen and expand regional knowledge and capacity for rapid food assistance response in emergencies in the region. WFP's overarching goal is to build a response-oriented approach to food

security coordination in the region that maximises and builds the capacity of national actors. The work of the cluster is guided by **5 strategic objectives**:

## 1. Regional Coordination & Partnerships

Expand the Pacific Food Security Cluster as a regional, sector-specific platform for information, exchange, strategic decision-making and research on Food Security in the Pacific, with a strong focus on enhancing preparedness, response and DRR initiatives in national-level clusters

## 2. Assessments, Monitoring & Analysis

Build and facilitate access to comprehensive data on food security and vulnerability in the Pacific Region and develop local skillsets to lead and contribute to assessment and monitoring efforts

## 3. Information Management

Ensure the effective management, sharing and production of timely and relevant information for food security stakeholders in the Pacific region

## 4. Capacity Support & Training

Develop capacity and knowledge of national authorities, staff and stakeholders at country-level to coordinate, design and lead preparedness, response, and resilience actions in the food security sector

## 5. Cross-Cutting Issues & Research

At regional level, research, compile and provide general guidance on the integration of cross-cutting issues into food security preparedness, response and resilience initiatives

## WFP COMMON LOGISTICS SERVICES & PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES

**Common Logistics Services** include regional engagement in emergency facilities' planning and gap analysis; the implementation of regional aviation assessments and updating of national-level Logistics Capacity Assessments (LCAs); and the procurement and prepositioning of key emergency response equipment.

As part of its **Programmatic Activities**, WFP will conduct extensive regional food security Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (VAM). This will be used to determine the feasibility of delivering emergency food assistance through, for example, Cash-Based Transfers, which provide WFP with additional flexibility to best tailor food assistance to the needs of people, depending on the local context. VAM

activities will also include rapid assessment training workshops, the compilation of food security data sets and food security profiling for each Pacific Island Country.



Photo Credit: Francesca Ciardi/WFP

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With the support of:

