



Disaster READY Solomon Islands

Progress Update - 2018
June 2019



Disaster READY is an AUD 50 million disaster preparedness and resilience program that is implemented through the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) by AHP partners and their local networks across the Pacific and Timor-Leste. Disaster READY represents Australia's largest ever investment in disaster preparedness in the region, and is an important element of Australia's stepped-up engagement for a more resilient Pacific.

The focus of Disaster READY is to strengthen disaster preparedness and management across what is one of the world's most vulnerable regions to natural disasters, and which is also prone to political instability. Disaster READY draws on the deep networks and partnerships developed by Australian NGOs in the region to support Pacific communities and governments to better prepare for and respond to disasters. The program focuses on ensuring vulnerable groups, including women, people with disabilities and children, are included and accounted for in disaster preparedness, management and risk reduction activities.

Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response is a key priority of action in the 2015-2030 Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Disaster READY is being implemented in Fiji, Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.

This report was developed by the AHP Support Unit drawing on individual program reports submitted by Disaster READY partners. It presents an overview of Disaster READY progress in the Solomon Islands in 2018.

The AHP Support Unit acknowledges the input and review of all partners in the development of this report.

A complete overview of Disaster READY progress across all five countries and at a program level in 2018 can be found on the AHP website (www.australianhumanitarianpartnership.org) or by contacting the AHP support unit at supportunit@ahpsu.com.

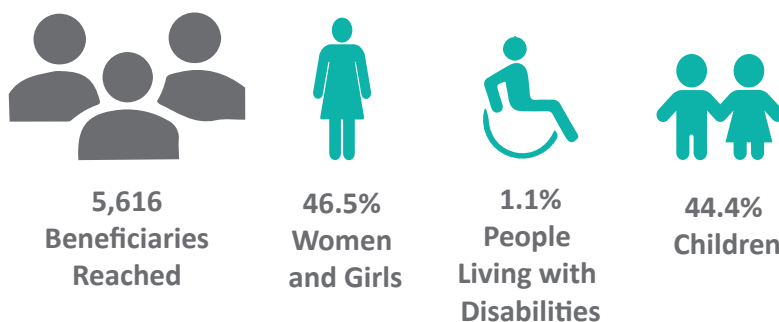
Disaster READY

Solomon Islands

2018 Highlights

- Village Disaster Climate Risk Committees established in four target communities in Makira province, averaging 50% female membership.
- Three Provincial Disaster Offices were strengthened through the recruitment of Assistant Provincial Disaster Officers in Guadalcanal, Malaita, and Temotu.
- 10 communities and four schools in Malaita and Guadalcanal provinces have developed or drafted disaster management plans following Community Based Disaster Risk Management training.
- Local partner, Live & Learn has appointed a dedicated Humanitarian Coordinator. This has enabled them to have increased involvement in the humanitarian cluster system, and to support disaster preparedness work with the Honiara City Council.

Disaster READY Beneficiaries as of December 31, 2018



2018 Partners

Anglican Church of Melanesia- ADRA Solomon Islands- South Seas Evangelical Church- United Church of Solomon Islands - Solomon Islands Christian Association- People With Disability Solomon Islands- Provincial Disaster Management Office and committees- Plan International Australia in Solomon Islands- AVI in Solomon Islands- Solomon Islands Development Trust - Australian Bureau of Meteorology- National Disaster Management Office - Provincial Disaster Management Office - Solomon Islands Meteorological Services- Private sector partners (Our Telekom, B-Mobile, SIBC, media outlets, SICCI).

Progress against Objectives - 2018

Preparedness

Communities are better prepared for rapid and slow-onset disasters.



- 23 of 37 target communities have new disaster plans in place.
- Nine of 37 target communities have tested their disaster plans.
- Four village Disaster Climate Risk Committees were established in Makira Province.
- Church partners have identified existing local beliefs and practices about disasters in 12 communities (theology of disaster risk management baseline). This information is an important step to guide future work to improve community preparedness.

Inclusion and Protection

The rights and needs of vulnerable groups are being met in disaster preparedness and response at all levels.



- Membership of each village Disaster Climate Risk Committees established in Makira Province includes at least two women and one person with a disability.
- Each of the Disaster READY lead organisations completed a gender and social inclusion self-assessment, which was peer-reviewed by the other organisations. Each organisation recognised the need to build in more inclusive approaches, particularly in relation to disability.

Progress ratings explained

The level of progress has been determined by the AHP Support Unit based on the evidence provided by the NGO partners through the Disaster READY reporting system. The ratings were allocated based on consideration of factors such as:

- What has been achieved to date? For example, training having been provided is less significant than whether there have been changes in products, practices or policies as a result of the training.
- The reach of the change – e.g. considering the number of partners which had achieved the result, and the number of communities involved.
- In some cases early progress is adequate progress to date, given the program was in its inception year etc, and the particular country context.
- The ratings are intended to inform discussion, and to assist the partners to monitor change in following years.



No Progress



Early Progress



Progress



Significant Progress

Coordination within Country Systems

Government, NGOs, the private sector and communities coordinate more effectively for inclusive disaster preparedness and response.



- Live & Learn supported a three-day cyclone awareness program at Honiara City Council Central market. This was an initiative of the Solomon Islands Red Cross, Solomon Islands Meteorological Services and the Honiara City Council Disaster Management Office. The awareness program reached a wide audience including women and children.
- Honiara City Council have improved readiness to communicate with their community before, during and after a disaster, following training and a simulation exercise facilitated by Live & Learn.
- Three Provincial Disaster Offices (Guadalcanal, Malaita, and Temotu) have increased disaster preparedness capability following the recruitment of Assistant Provincial Disaster Officers.

Strengthening the role of organisations

National NGOs and faith-based organisations have more influence and capacity in the country humanitarian system.



- Local partner Live & Learn now has increased capacity to play an active role in the humanitarian system and to support other local partners such as the Honiara City Council. This has been achieved through capacity assessments and planning, and the recruitment of a dedicated Humanitarian Coordinator.

Collaboration

AHP NGOs work effectively together and with other relevant stakeholders.



- AHP partners have identified practical ways for how Disaster READY and the Water for Women Program can interlink in preparedness and response. An MoU between the programs has been drafted.
- 10 faith-based organisations (five CAN DO and five Solomon Islands church denominations through the Solomon Islands Christian Association) established a working group which will facilitate improved coordination in their disaster preparedness activities. This represents a significant step in collaboration and a new way of working for faith-based organisations.



No Progress



Early Progress



Progress



Significant Progress

Story from the Field:

AHP Disaster READY NGOs look inwards to assess gender and inclusion

Disaster READY partners in the Solomon Islands are looking to improve gender and social inclusion capacity within their own organisations so that they can better support the local organisations and communities they are working with.

Like all countries across the Pacific, the Solomon Islands is vulnerable to natural disasters. These disasters disproportionately affect women, people with disabilities and children and strengthening the inclusion of all people into disaster preparedness work is critical.

Led by Oxfam Solomon Islands, Disaster READY partners in the Solomon Islands developed a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Toolkit. The partners used the toolkit to self-assess their organisational performance and capacity in gender equality, disability inclusion and child

protection. Each partner's self-assessment was then peer reviewed by the other partners.

High on the list of identified gaps across all organisations was the technical capacity and expertise needed to promote gender mainstreaming, disability inclusion and child protection. Disability inclusion was the lowest ranked performance indicator and all partners acknowledged the need for greater effort and resourcing towards this area.

The GESI self-assessment process means the Disaster READY partners know what needs to be done to improve their own organisational capacity, so they can provide the support and guidance needed to work towards social inclusion in disaster preparedness and management becoming the norm.



Above: World Vision Solomon Islands Humanitarian Emergency Manager, Ms Zamira Rua, leads World Vision's social inclusion self assessment. Photo credit: World Vision

Disaster READY Solomon Islands - Detailed Progress against Indicators, 2018


How to Read the Progress Tables






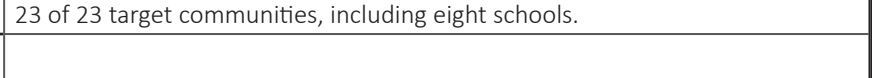






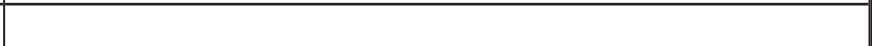
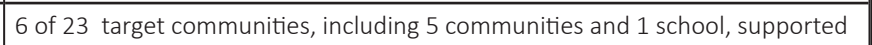




Disaster READY was designed around a core set of indicators which are consistent across the five countries. The NGOs selected which of these indicators were relevant for them to report on based on their particular work plans. In the table below, where an indicator is not relevant for a particular NGO the progress column as been blocked out.

Some target data has been included in this 2018 report. Baseline and target data will be a more prominent focus in the 2019 report for the relevant indicators. It should be noted though that the targets are indicative only, as Disaster READY is designed to be flexible to respond to the changing circumstances and lessons emerging from the program.

Objective: Preparedness

Communities are better prepared for rapid and slow-onset disasters.

 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
A	Number of individuals who directly benefit from AHP activities.	Refer Figure 1.		
B	Number and percentage of communities which have disaster plans to reduce and respond to disaster.	23 of 37 target communities.	CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	23 of 23 target communities, including eight schools.
			World Vision	
C	Number and percentage of communities that have tested their response plan.	23 of 37 target communities.	CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	23 of 23 target communities.
D	Number and percentage of communities that have implemented action plans to reduce risks.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	6 of 23 target communities, including 5 communities and 1 school, supported through the bridging funds.
			World Vision	
E	Number of communities seeking financial support for disaster plans from government		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
F	Number and percentage of communities which are receiving and acting on early warning information for rapid-and slow-onset disasters.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
G	Examples of early warnings being accessible (considering geographic reach, diversity of methods, e.g. radio, print, SMS, etc., and clarity of message).		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	

Objective: Protection and Inclusion

The rights and needs of vulnerable groups are being met in disaster preparedness and response at all levels.

 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
H	Number and percentage of community disaster plans that are inclusive of women, youth, children and people with disabilities.	23 of 37 target communities.	CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	23 of 23 target communities including 15 villages and 8 schools. 9 communities were supported through the bridging funds. Note: the committee leading the plan includes women, youth and children. However, people with disabilities have not been directly involved to date.
			World Vision	
I	Number and percentage of disaster assessment tools mandated by national committees that include questions on gender, disability and children.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
J	Number of disaster committees that have women represented, and the percentage of members that are women (by national or sub-national level).	27 of 37 target communities.	CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	23 of 23 target communities. On average 3 women representatives per committee.
			World Vision	4 of 4 target communities. Women make up approximately half of the membership across the 4 community committees and each committee has a representative from the Mothers’ Union.

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
K	Number of people with disabilities on national and sub-national disaster committees.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	4 of 4 target committees each have a person with a disability representative.
L	Examples of inclusive humanitarian practices by government during a response.		CARE	Honiara City Council attended a Care / Live & Learn emergency preparedness training, with a focus on inclusion.
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
M	Examples of men and boys, church leaders and other community leaders, and government staff addressing barriers to inclusion in disaster preparedness and response.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	Following discussions with male community leaders about the importance of women taking on community leadership roles, the men accepted equal male and female representation on the committees.

Objective: Coordination within Country Systems

Government, NGOs, the private sector and communities coordinate more effectively for inclusive disaster preparedness and response.

 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
N	Number and percentage of AHP NGOs who have preparedness and response plans that explicitly prioritise social inclusion and gender.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
O	Number and percentage of national and sub-national disaster committees that meet regularly and engage actively with the community.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
P	Examples of sub-national disaster committees which have improved disaster preparedness practices (e.g. they have mapped evacuation assets or risk profiles for communities).		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	Assistant Provincial Disaster Officers recruited in Malaita, Guadalcanal and Temotu.
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
Q	Number and percentage of evacuation centres that are inclusive of people with disabilities.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
R	Examples of improved communication between communities and government (e.g. community assessments have informed government-led responses).		CARE	Live & Learn supported a 3-day cyclone awareness program at Honiara City Council Central market. This was an initiative of the Solomon Islands Red Cross, Solomon Islands Meteorological Services and the Honiara City Council Disaster Management Office. The awareness-raising activities reached a wide audience including women and children.
			Caritas / CAN DO	Following an NDMO workshop with 11 church representatives from eight different church agencies/denominations/orders, CAN DO Disaster READY partners developed standard operating procedures that were aligned with the National Disaster Management Plan.
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
S	N/A			

Objective: Stenghtening the Role of Organisations

National NGOs and faith-based organisations have more influence and capacity in the country humanitarian system.

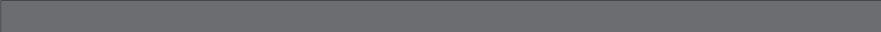



 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
T	Number of CSOs and churches represented on national disaster clusters or coordination committees.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
U	Number of national NGOs and churches that have improved operational or financial policies or practices that align with humanitarian standards.		CARE	Live & Learn participated in 2 capacity assessments - an internal capacity assessment with CARE and an inclusion assessment led by Oxfam. These assessments form the foundation of a newly developed capacity development plan for Live & Learn. Live & Learn recruited a Humanitarian Coordinator, responsible for providing dedicated humanitarian support to Live & Learn and its partners.
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
V	Examples of increased influence by national INGO offices relative to their headquarters during a disaster response.		CARE	Under the National Disaster Management Office, the Solomon Islands has six committees. Live & Learn actively participated in the Livelihood, Protection and Health committees. Live & Learn also participated in Solomon Islands Humanitarian NGO Alliance (SIAHN).
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	

Objective: Collaboration

AHP NGOs work effectively together and with other relevant stakeholders.

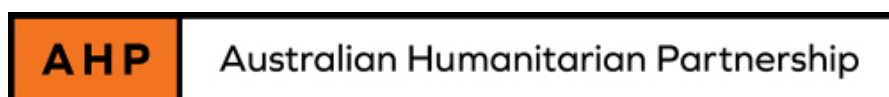
 = Indicator not part of work plan

Indicator		Country Progress	Progress by NGO	
W	Level of satisfaction of key government partners and the Red Cross with AHP coordination.		CARE	
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	
			World Vision	
X	Examples of where AHP NGOs have integrated disaster risk reduction into their other work.		CARE	Live & Learn, CARE and Plan discussed ways of working specific to Disaster READY and the Water for Women Program (Live & Learn and Plan) to identify how the programs could interlink in preparedness and response. An MoU between the programs was drafted.
			Caritas / CAN DO	
			Oxfam	
			Plan International	Live & Learn, CARE and Plan discussed ways of working specific to Disaster READY and the Water for Women Program (Live & Learn and Plan) to identify how the programs could interlink in preparedness and response. An MoU between the programs was drafted.
			World Vision	

This report has been compiled by the
Australian Humanitarian Partnership Support Unit
on behalf of the Solomon Islands Disaster READY partners.

Front Cover - Photo credit: Save the Children

The Australian Humanitarian Partnership, inclusive
of the Disaster READY program, is an initiative of the
Australian Government.



www.australianhumanitarianpartnership.org

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