



GFDRR
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

ACP-EU

NATURAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAM

**Focus Day on Post Disaster Response and
Recovery Frameworks**

ACP House - Brussels, June 9, 2017

Session 2: ACP-EU NDRR Program sharing country experiences and lessons learned

TONGA

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ACP House - Brussels, June 9, 2017

General Context

- ❑ 100,745 (2016 Census : Preliminary Results)
 - 70% urban population
- ❑ 170 islands (36 inhabited) - 5 island groups with total land area of 747km²

Country Risk Profile:

- ❑ Natural Hazards
 - Climate Change induced - **El Nino, increase in temperature, sea level rise and tropical cyclones**
 - Geological hazards - earthquake and tsunami and volcanic eruptions
- ❑ Major Risks
 - Buildings
 - Cash crops
 - Infrastructure

Major events the last 20 years

- ❑ 2002 – Tropical Cyclone Waqa
- ❑ 2009 – Niuatoputapu Earthquake and Tsunami
- ❑ 2014 – Tropical Cyclone Ian

DRM institutional organization

- ❑ Institutions in charge of DRM and CCA
 - *MEIDECC - National Emergency Management Office and Climate Change Division*
- ❑ DRM National Platform ?
 - *MEIDECC supporting the National Emergency Management Committee, which meets as necessary*
- ❑ DRM National Strategy in place ?
 - *JNAP-CCA/DRM 2010-2015. JNAP is currently being reviewed and is to be aligned with Sendai Framework*
- ❑ Are DRR and CCA part of the National Development Strategy ?
 - *TSDf 2015-2025 : National Outcome F (Land, Environment and Climate Change) - inclusive, sustainable and effective land administration, environment management and resilience to climate change and risk*
- ❑ Existing legislation, building codes etc..
 - *Emergency Management Act 2007, Environment Management Act 2010 and Building Control and Standards Act 2002*

Tonga Cyclone Ian Reconstruction and Climate Resilience Project

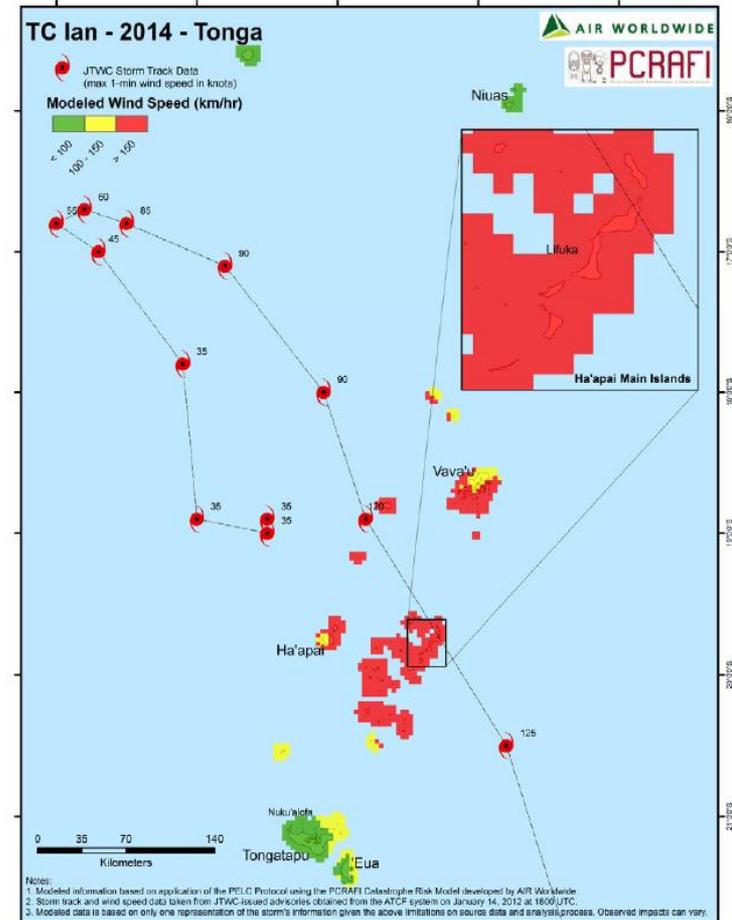
❑ BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EVENT

Severe Tropical Cyclone Ian - the most powerful storm ever recorded in Tongan waters - made landfall on 11 January 2014. The Category 5 system brought winds of over 200km/hour and hit the island groups of Vava'u and Ha'apai prompting the Prime Minister to declare a state of emergency.

❑ GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSE AND PROCESS

TC Ian first appeared as a tropical depression between Fiji and Tonga on 6 January, and took five days to develop into a Category 5 system. The slow movement of the system gave the Government time to activate its National Emergency Management Committee to coordinate district and village preparedness networks, and issue warnings over national radio.

Around 50 per cent of the estimated 1,130 buildings on Ha'apai's affected islands were completely destroyed, with over 2,300 people forced into more than 50 shelters.



Tonga Cyclone Ian Reconstruction and Climate Resilience Project

❑ DEVELOPMENT OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

- Restore housing, community facilities, and basic services to the affected population of Ha'apai; and
- Strengthen the country's resilience to natural disasters.

❑ PROJECT COMPONENTS

- Repair and reconstruction of housing and key community facilities
- Technical assistance and training for enhanced disaster and climate resilience
- Project implementation support

Recovery Phase – Recovery Strategy

The overall goal of the Post-Ian **Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Policy** is to ensure that households directly affected by TC Ian are living in safe houses in safe locations, acceptable to the family, and that contractor-built houses for the most vulnerable families are completed in a timely manner.

- Ensure households are in safe shelter while awaiting permanent housing solutions.
- Assist households to replace houses damaged beyond repair.
- Assist households to repair and retrofit other damaged houses.
- Resolve the risks of those situated in unsafe sites or with insecure tenure, as a last resort, through relocation.
- Ensure that households receiving assistance have access to public and social services.



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An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group, funded by the European Union and managed by GFDRR

Assessment follow up

❑ Recovery and Leverage

- Technical assistance to be mobilized by the project to collaborate with Government and stakeholders on the formulation of the Lessons Learned with a view to informing the development of a National Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction Framework

❑ Achievements to date

- Reconstruction and retrofitting in accordance with building code and standards
- Housing recovery and reconstruction policy
- Land consents completed
- Capacity building and up-skilling of building inspectors, GIS and affected communities
- Strengthened coordination through the Task Force Group mechanism with autonomy and authority to make decisions

Lessons learned and challenges

The ACP-EU NDRR Program value added

- Formulation and implementation of the Housing Recovery and Reconstruction Policy through technical assistance (policy consultant)
- Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financial Initiative (PCRAFI) assessment through technical expertise
- Post Disaster Beneficiary Assessment – second assessment was conducted to validate the initial assessment through formulation of the assessment questionnaire

The ACP-EU NDRR Program's contribution to the Project was instrumental in project design/preparation, securing financing and its successful implementation.

❑ Lessons learned and main challenges

- The mobilization of financing is contingent on sound risk assessment and robust policies and plans
- Assessments must be conducted in a timely but comprehensive manner