



SPC/BSRP II/PSG2/Agenda Item 5
Date: 20 March 2024

2nd Project Steering Group Meeting for the Building
Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Project – Phase II

Nadi, Fiji, Tuesday 09th April 2024

DISABILITY INCLUSION
(REGIONAL ACTIVITY)

Purpose and Recommendations

Purpose

The purpose of this session is to solicit input from countries on the design of the regional disability inclusion activity.

Summary

- People living with disabilities are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of natural hazards
- BSRP II includes a regional activity to enhance inclusion of people living with disabilities in DRM policy, planning and implementation.
- PDF was identified as a key implementation partner during the BSRPII design phase
- Pacific Disability Forum has submitted a concept proposal (Annex 1)
- The PMU seeks members input on the activity design

Recommendations

The Project Steering Group members are invited to:

- i. **Note** the concept proposal received from Pacific Disability Forum
- ii. **Provide** updates on work happening in their countries in this area
- iii. **Confirm** that the countries identified for the activity are still relevant

Annex 1 – Concept proposal received from Pacific Disability Forum

Pacific Disability Contribution to the Building Safe and Resilience Pacific II project

Background

The "Building Safe and Resilient Pacific Phase 2" program builds upon the lessons and experiences of Phase 1, with a specific focus on enhancing disability inclusion. In Phase 1, it became evident that disability considerations were essential in the pursuit of safety and resilience in the Pacific region. This recognition stemmed from a deep understanding that individuals with disabilities are disproportionately affected by natural disasters and face unique challenges in accessing and benefiting from disaster risk reduction and resilience-building initiatives.

In Phase 1, key insights highlighted the need to address the vulnerabilities faced by persons with disabilities, ensuring their meaningful participation in disaster preparedness and response efforts. It was evident that a one-size-fits-all approach to safety and resilience does not adequately cater to the diverse needs of Pacific communities, particularly those with disabilities.

As Phase 2 of the program is rolled out, the central objective is to integrate disability inclusion into all aspects of its activities. This involves developing strategies and action plans that consider the specific requirements of persons with disabilities, aiming to create more accessible and inclusive disaster risk reduction practices, infrastructure, and policies. Phase 2 represents a crucial step forward in aligning the program's efforts with the principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, emphasizing the rights, dignity, and participation of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of disaster risk reduction and resilience building across the Pacific region.

By incorporating these lessons learned from Phase 1 and fostering disability inclusion in Phase 2, the "Building Safe and Resilient Pacific" initiative endeavors to make the Pacific region safer and more resilient for everyone, leaving no one behind

Activities planned for phase 2

1. Audit and gap analysis of disability inclusion for resilience in the Pacific

The intent of this action is to capture a baseline of disability inclusion for resilience in the Pacific, both within SPC- as the regional agency with the primary DRM mandate, and one of the key agencies mandated in the PFRPD to promote disability inclusive DRM – and within the 15 BSRP participating countries.

While the full scope of the audit and gap analysis would be agreed in the BSRP II inception phase, indicatively, it would cover six key themes as reflected in Figure 1:

- a) Accessibility of and disability disaggregation within risk information
- b) Accessible essential infrastructure
- c) Accessible early warning systems and weather forecasting systems
- d) Disability inclusive financial protections following disaster events or in response to climate processes
- e) Inclusion within risk governance
- f) Inclusive recovery.

Data collected and examples of excellence, may then be able to be used to adapt existing global guidelines for disability inclusive DRM to a Pacific context (as per PFRPD).

2. Targeted actions/investments to improve disability inclusion for resilience in the Pacific

Targeted investments would occur at two levels:

- a) Within the SPC DCRP programme so that it may 'lead from the front' in disability inclusive DRM/CC action, as well as within SPC more broadly. While a full plan of investment would be informed by the audit and gap analysis, immediate actions will be identified and progressed in the inception phase.
- b) Within PICs prioritising specific disability inclusion actions. To include as a minimum: Papua New Guinea (disability data collection); and Tonga (ensuring all DRR / DRM policies and plans are disability inclusive).

3. Reviewing detailed BSRP II country and regional activity plans for disability inclusion

During the inception phase, supporting PICs to ensure the detailed action plans are disability inclusive, and that DPOs/PWDs have been appropriately consulted in their development, and will have opportunity to contribute to implementation and monitoring of the actions.

PDF contribution to BSRP11

PDF will provide two staff for the proposed activities for B SRP2 the two staff will include a

- consultant who will be looking after the key research work along the audit and deep analysis of disability inclusion for resilience in the Pacific and
- a full-time staff will look after activity 2 which is targeted actions and investments to improve disability inclusion for resilience in the Pacific and reviewing detail be SRP two country and regional activity plans for disability inclusion.

Activity 1

The consultant will conduct a six-month research to capture a baseline of disability inclusion for resilience in the Pacific, both within SPC- as the regional agency with the primary DRM mandate, and one of the key agencies mandated in the PFRPD to promote disability inclusive DRM – in 7 BSRP participating countries.

The primary purpose of this assessment is to understand gaps better in the inclusion of persons with disabilities in national disaster risk management (DRM) and climate resilience (CR) processes and strategies in these BSRP2 countries.

1. Fiji
2. Vanuatu
3. PNG
4. Kiribati
5. RMI
6. Samoa
7. Tonga

The research will focus on the recognition that collectively people with disabilities are systematically marginalized and excluded from full and equal participation in society and societal processes. Primarily, the reasons are barriers to access that are both structural and nonstructural. These barriers can be removed or mitigated through effective social policy, implementation of existing norms and standards, and public will. The assessment will provide recommendations that make preparedness and recovery efforts more disability inclusive. Key focus areas for research will be.

- a) Accessibility of and disability disaggregation within risk information
- b) Accessible essential infrastructure – preconditions for inclusion- Accessibility

- c) Accessible early warning systems and weather forecasting systems precondition for inclusion- accessibility and support services
- d) Disability inclusive financial protections following disaster events or in response to climate processes. – precondition for inclusion- Social protection
- e) Inclusion within risk governance – all six Preconditions to Inclusion
- f) Inclusive recovery. – all six Preconditions to Inclusion

The PDF contracted Consultant will be supported by the full-time staff from PDF with regards to providing necessary information from the countries to allow the consultant to conduct the desk review would come up with the relevant findings to support with the preceding activities.

Activity 2

The PDF full time staff will lead a pilot project in three BSRP 2 countries. These will be.

- 1. Fiji
- 2. Kiribati
- 3. Samoa

The target investment to Improve disability inclusion will be focusing on integrating the holistic PDF 6 precondition for inclusion 1. Accessibility 2. Support Services 3. Non-Discrimination 4. Social Protection 5. Community Based Inclusive Development 6. Assistive Devices to strengthen Government DRM systems focusing on the areas below. PDF and SPC we'll identify key areas within the BSRP2 countries DRM system.

Activity 3

PDF project staff lead we'll work together with be SPC BSRP2 project to review detailed BSRP II country and regional activity plans for disability inclusion. The review of the country plans will be guided by the six PDF preconditions for inclusion.

PDF will work with 15 countries supported by BSRP 2 within six months of the inception phase.

Work-plan

Objective – Strengthening Disaster Risk Governance in the Pacific

1.3 - Status of systems to track inclusion of people with disabilities in DRM (disaggregated by country)

When	Responsibility	Activity	Linkage to BSRP2
January -June 2024	PDF Consultant and PDF lead staff	PDF Consultant conduct desk review on 7 BSRP countries to identify gaps in Disability Inclusion.	Output 1.2
March 2014 – June 2025	PDF BSRP2 lead staff.	target investment to Improve disability inclusion will be focusing on integrating the	Output 1.2

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		<p>holistic PDF 6 precondition for inclusion 1. Accessibility 2. Support Services 3. Non-Discrimination 4. Social Protection 5. Community Based Inclusive Development 6. Assistive Devices to strengthen Government DRM systems focusing on the areas below. PDF and SPC we'll identify key areas within the BSRP2 countries DRM system.</p>	
<p>Jan 2024 – Oct 2025</p>	<p>PDF BSRP2 lead staff.</p>	<p>review detailed BSRP II country and regional activity plans for disability inclusion.</p>	<p>Output 1.2</p>