



Disaster responders participate in an exercise at the Camp Coordination and Camp Management Training of Trainer in Port Moresby. © Peter Murodera/ IOM 2021

Highlights

- Milne Bay Provincial Disaster Risk Management Strategy and Standard Operating Procedure launched through IOM, USAID Support.
- IOM, Provincial Disaster Centres Partner to Build Community Resilience to Disasters in Morobe and Western Provinces.
- IOM Promoted Peace and Development Planning in Conflict-Affected Communities in Hela and Southern Highlands Provinces.

Milne Bay Provincial Disaster Risk Management Strategy and Standard Operating Procedure Launched through IOM, USAID Support

The International Organization for Migration (IOM), in partnership with the National Disaster Center, continues to support provincial governments to strengthen capacities in Disaster Risk Management (DRM), through the Provincial Disaster Centres (PDCs).

On 3 December 2021, local authorities in Milne Bay officially launched the Provincial DRM Strategy and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). The Provincial DRM Strategy and SOP for Milne Bay received technical

inputs and funding assistance from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance in its development.

This DRM Strategy and SOP is a living document that promotes the localization of the Sendai Framework (2015-2030) principles, contributing to strengthening resilience and reducing disaster losses. It defines the roles and responsibilities of the provincial government and its stakeholders in preparing for, and responding to disasters, including implementing recovery actions following a disaster.

“It is great news for Milne Bay to have its Provincial DRM strategy and SOP to better coordinate disaster risk reduction interventions and emergency response,” said

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Milne Bay’s Provincial Administrator, Ashan Numa in his remarks at the launch. He highlighted that there had been lack of coordination in DRM matters in the past and launching the DRM Strategy and SOP will improve coordination in in the province.



IOM, Provincial Authorities at the launch of Milne Bay’s Provincial DRM Strategy and SOP. © Gracia Moliola/ IOM 2021

“The DRM SOP is a guide to help us better respond to emergencies and disaster with the support of our partners, and also provides a leverage to the Milne Bay Integrated Provincial Development Plan,” noted Steven Tobessa, Milne Bay Provincial Disaster Coordinator.

The launch was attended by various stakeholders including Papua New Guinea Red Cross Society, National Airports Corporation, and the National Broadcasting Corporation.

IOM recognizes inadequate funding and insufficient human capacity as a challenge during the implementation, and it remains committed and proactive to supporting the province in risk management and disaster response.

IOM, Provincial Disaster Centres Partner to Build Community Resilience to Disasters in Morobe, Western and Hela Provinces

Communities that become exposed to extreme weather conditions and are prone to natural hazards are always the first responders to an emergency. Improved community-based preparedness and mitigation can help save lives and minimize disaster losses.

IOM, local authorities, and communities of Zumara in Morobe province, and Moian, Drimdamasuk, Atkamba and Senamrae in Western province launched their Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) plans that were developed with the inputs of women, men, youth, and vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities from the target communities.

Drafting and finalization of these plans received technical inputs from IOM and PDCs. Launching of CBDRM plan in Morobe was held on 17 December 2021, following the successful launch of CBDRM plans in Western Province on 22 October 2021. The launches were witnessed by Ward Councilors, provincial authorities, and local communities. Government and IOM staff present at the launches encouraged the communities to take ownership in implementing their CBDRM plans.



Zumara women fetching safe drinking water from the IOM supported water point. © Samike Gagee/ IOM 2021

Administrator for North Fly District, Greg Isau commended IOM for its tireless efforts in the district and stressed the need for stronger working partnerships.

“The Government continues to provide services to the people through disaster management programs. However, there are gaps and challenges that we face. We appreciate very much the support and partners such

as IOM as well as donor funding from USAID,” said North Fly’s District Administrator, Greg Isau. “This is first of its kind for the province, where such plans are developed and owned by the local communities, as living documents to build upon. Local communities must work closely with Government officers and other relevant partners in implementing their CBDRM plans,” he added.



IOM, local authorities and Zumara community celebrate launch of Zumara’s CBDRM plan in Morobe Province. © Peter Muroreera/ IOM

Max Maina, North Fly District Disaster Coordinator expressed gratitude to IOM and USAID for promoting community resilience to natural hazards in the province saying, “With the technical support of IOM, the District has shifted from just responding to disaster events, to empowering communities including developing their community-driven risk management plans.”

In complement to operationalizing their CBDRM plans, IOM through USAID funding provided communities with material support such as form water tanks, roofing sheets, cement, and galvanized iron poles, improving communities access to clean and safe drinking water in Zumara, Drimdamasuk and Senamrae (rain-fed catchment), and Atkamba (combination of gravity-fed and solar powered system).

In Drimdamasuk, the community improved its preparedness to disasters through refurbishing its evacuation centre following IOM’s material support.

Funded by Hela Provincial Government, IOM is also supporting Puju, Yambraka and Kuandi communities to develop and implement their CBDRM plans.

IOM’s programming is implemented in close cooperation with the National Disaster Centre and Provincial Disaster Centre and aligns to UN’s Sustainable Development Goals and Papua New Guinea’s National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework (2017-2030).

IOM Promoted Preparedness through Training Disaster Responders on use of the Displacement Tracking Matrix

IOM trained disaster responders in East Sepik and Western Provinces on how to utilize the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in their work.

Attended by 23 participants, the training was held in Wewak town from 1-3 December 2021, and funded by USAID. The participants were from the provincial, district, and local level government offices, Save the Children, CARITAS, and local communities of Dandan (Kadovar), Biem, and Ruprup. “I am grateful to be here and will use the knowledge gained in this training,” said a participant from Dandan Care Centre.



IOM delivering the DTM training in Wewak Town, East Sepik Province. © Peter Muroreera/ IOM 2021

The Deputy Administrator for Wewak, Godfried Rausem highlighted the risk posed by recurring volcanic activity and sea-level rise that put the lives of many local communities at risk in his remarks. He highlighted that preparedness measures are essential to track those displaced people and require aid during a disaster.

IOM’s DTM training equipped participants with knowledge on field-level data collection, processing and reporting to inform better the planning and evidence-based responses to multi-sectoral needs of internally displaced persons.

IOM Supported Joint-Assessments in Response to Emergency Situations that Affected Local Communities

IOM, at the request of the National Disaster Centre and Madang Provincial Disaster Centre (PDC), deployed a Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) assessment on 26 October 2021 in response to volcanic activity on Manam Island.

The assessment deployed by IOM, and Madang PDC staff equipped with DTM skills identified 2,460 men and 2,188 women affected by the volcanic activity and needed assistance, and Madang PDC supplied food rations as part of the initial response. A DTM report¹ was published and circulated widely to state and non-state entities to help inform evidence-based planning and decision making.



Assessment team's visit to Lorengau community affected by king tide in Manus Province. © Peter Murosera/ IOM 2021

IOM also joined the National Standby Assessment Team to assess communities affected by king tide related flooding that occurred between 3-6 December 2021 in East Sepik, Manus, and the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB). Assessment findings will inform IOM's response to the needs of most vulnerable households.²

In Southern Highlands, IOM supported the PDC to conduct an assessment following a landslide that affected Topa community on 27 December 2021. IOM funded by USAID, will deliver the needed assistance (water, sanitation, and NFIs) to Topa residents.

IOM, National Disaster Centre Strengthened Capacities in Camp Coordination and Camp Management

IOM, funded by the USAID delivered a Training of Trainers (ToT) on Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) to strengthen disaster preparedness, response, and early recovery in Papua New Guinea.

As part of its efforts to strengthen the capacity of PDC, this CCCM ToT organized by IOM in partnership with the National Disaster Centre (NDC), equipped disaster responders, largely the Provincial Disaster Coordinators, with the knowledge and skills to manage and coordinate assistance, services, and protection activities in displacement sites, including formally planned care centres or camps, as well as camp-like settings such as spontaneous sites, collective and transit centres. Also, the ToT equipped participants with the knowledge and skills to replicate the CCCM training in their respective provinces.



Disaster responders participate in an exercise at the CCCM ToT in Port Moresby. © Peter Murosera/ IOM 2021

IOM's CCCM programming ensures participation and representation of all groups of displaced communities through setting up and supporting committees and groups led by community members and establishing communication channels to disseminate information and receive feedback. It empowers the aid workers to deliver services for displaced people, applying international and

¹ Available at, <https://dtm.iom.int/reports/papua-new-guinea-%E2%80%94-situation-update-%E2%80%94-manam-volcanic-activity-11-november-2021>

² See, <https://fb.watch/a4ZSKTDoH3>

national legal frameworks to achieve minimum humanitarian standards through the participation of the affected population.

The ToT started with opening remarks by the Chief of IOM Mission in Papua New Guinea, Serhan Aktoprak, USAID’s Development Assistance Specialist, Julie Hulama, and Director of Papua New Guinea National Disaster Centre, Colonel Carl Wrakonei. Speakers reminded that this is the first ToT on CCCM in Papua New Guinea and will aid disaster preparedness and response for displacement affected communities.

Hosted in Port Moresby from 06-10 December 2021, the ToT was attended by 24 participants from the National and Provincial Disaster Centres.

IOM’s Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific (CHAMP) validation workshop in Port Moresby

A one-day validation workshop for a multi-country IOM project in the Pacific region was successfully completed with key IOM partners on the 29 November 2021 in Port Moresby.

The validation exercise was aimed at contextualizing and validating the ‘Community Health and Mobility in the Pacific’ (CHAMP) manual so that it is relevant and applicable to Papua New Guinea (PNG) by gauging the views of various stakeholders from government and civil society organizations through a consultative process.

A set of validation guidelines were developed and used through individual and group participation with the aim of incorporating feedback from these sessions into the existing training resource.

The workshop supported by the IOM Development Fund was attended by selected stakeholders from Port Moresby representing both government and civil society organizations who have been working closely with IOM

in Papua New Guinea in the space of protection/gender/ climate change and health and who also have programs at community level with a network of community volunteers across the country.

Conflict Affected Communities in Hela and Southern Highlands Supported with Community-Peace for Development Planning

Funded by the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund (UN PBF), IOM supported conflict-affected communities of Guala, Kikita, and Tigibi in Hela province, and Munihu, Pambal, Megi and Yame in Southern Highlands supported conflict affected communities to develop their Community Peace for Development Plans (CPDPs).



Community members draft inputs for their CPDP during the planning in Hela Province © David Kuna/ IOM 2021

To complement operationalizing the CPDPs, IOM through UN PBF funding will provide material support for selected community-driven projects such as Village Court Building for Megi that are identified in the CPDPs, and sustain peace and development at the local level.

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