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Pacific Humanitarian Architecture

Peter Muller, OCHA Pacific

24 August 2012, New York

www.unocha.org

www.PHTpacific.org





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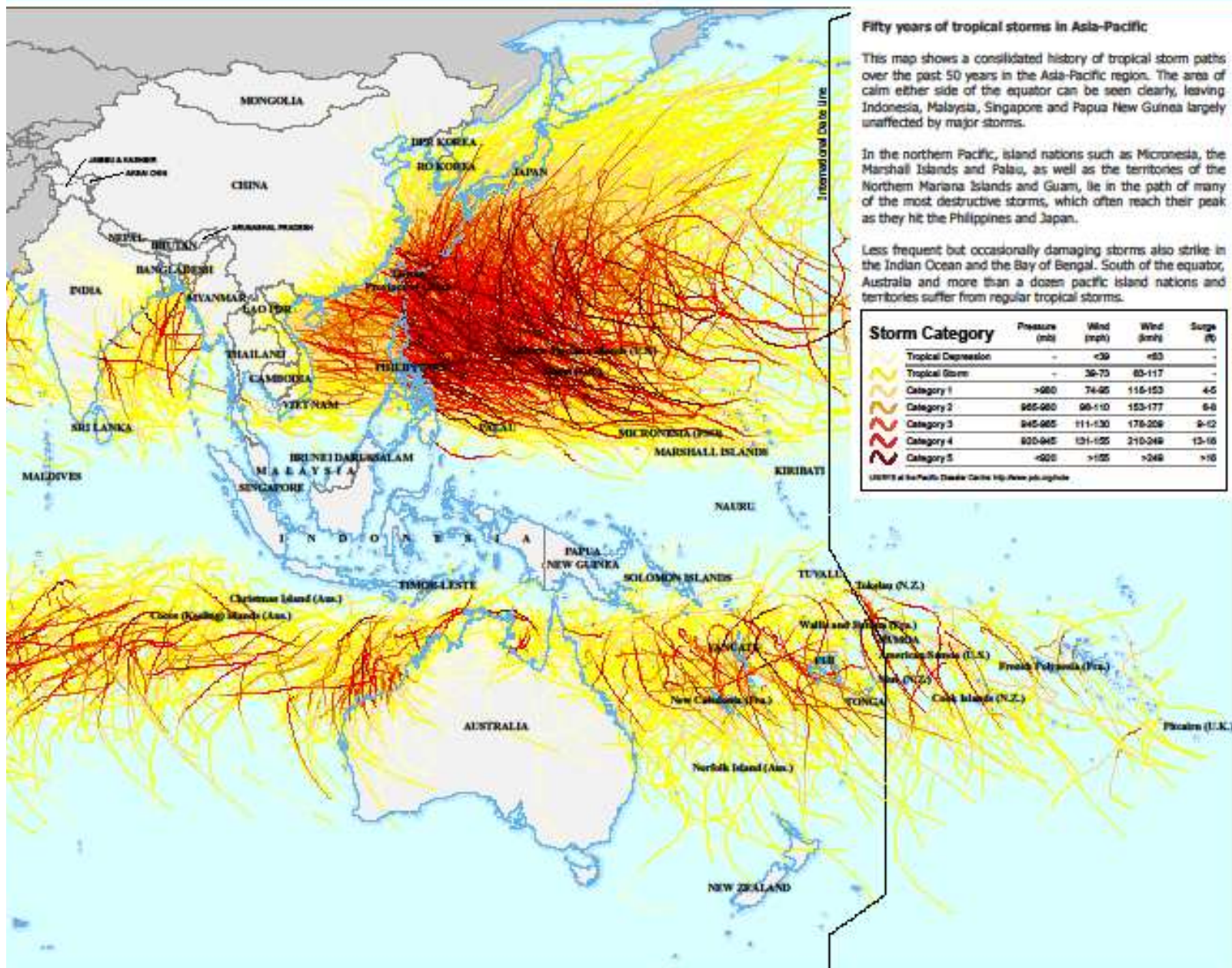
Specific Context of Humanitarian Assistance in the Pacific

- High degree of disaster risk
- The vast ocean mass – tyranny of distance
- Small and scattered population on small islands
- Limited local/national capacity
- The Pacific Paradox
- International/Regional responders operate from different locations in the Pacific



Tropical Storms in Asia-Pacific: 1956 - 2009

Issued: 01 May 2011



Fifty years of tropical storms in Asia-Pacific

This map shows a consolidated history of tropical storm paths over the past 50 years in the Asia-Pacific region. The area of calm either side of the equator can be seen clearly, leaving Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Papua New Guinea largely unaffected by major storms.

In the northern Pacific, island nations such as Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Palau, as well as the territories of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam, lie in the path of many of the most destructive storms, which often reach their peak as they hit the Philippines and Japan.

Less frequent but occasionally damaging storms also strike in the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal. South of the equator, Australia and more than a dozen Pacific island nations and territories suffer from regular tropical storms.

Storm Category	Pressure (mb)	Wind (mph)	Wind (km/h)	Surge (ft)
Tropical Depression	-	<39	<63	-
Tropical Storm	-	39-75	63-117	-
Category 1	>980	74-95	118-153	4-6
Category 2	965-980	96-110	153-177	6-8
Category 3	945-965	111-130	178-208	9-12
Category 4	920-945	131-155	210-249	13-18
Category 5	<920	>155	>249	>18

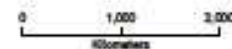
USPDS at the Pacific Disaster Center <http://www.pdc.gov/pds>

Country Naming Convention

UN MEMBER STATE
Territory or Associated State
DISPUTED TERRITORY

Map Doc Name:

OCHA_ROAP_StormTracks_v4_11051
Creation Date: 20 May 2011
Projection/Date: Behm/WGS84
Web Resources: <http://ochaonline.un.org/ro>



Map data source(s):
UN Cartographic Section, FAO, Global Discover
UNEP/US, Pacific Disaster Center

Disclaimer:
The designations employed and the presentation material on this map do not imply the expression of an opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of a country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

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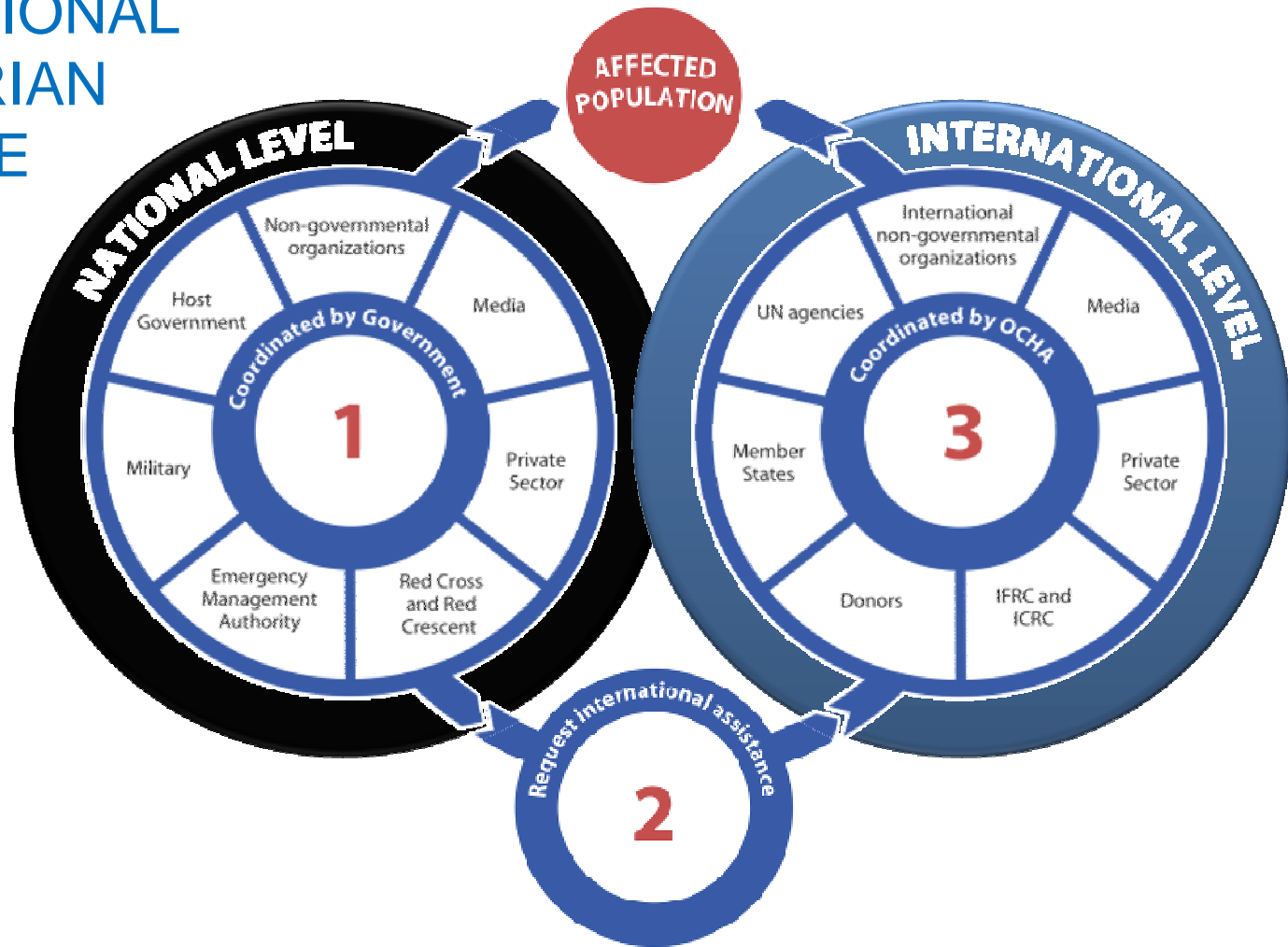
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(INTER) NATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Upon request the UN and international organizations assist national governments and partners in humanitarian assistance when the scale of the disaster exceeds the national capacity.





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Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT)

Means to get there:

- Preparedness activities:

- Contingency Planning activities
- Trainings, simulations (cluster coordination, Log cluster etc..)
- Cluster-specific preparedness (Standard operating procedures, Contingency plans)

- Ongoing activities:

- Information sharing: on what's going on
- Knowledge sharing: new developments in the humanitarian community
- Contact lists maintained

- Response activities:

- Assistance for initial rapid assessments and sectoral assessments
- Cluster coordination during response
- Disaster Response





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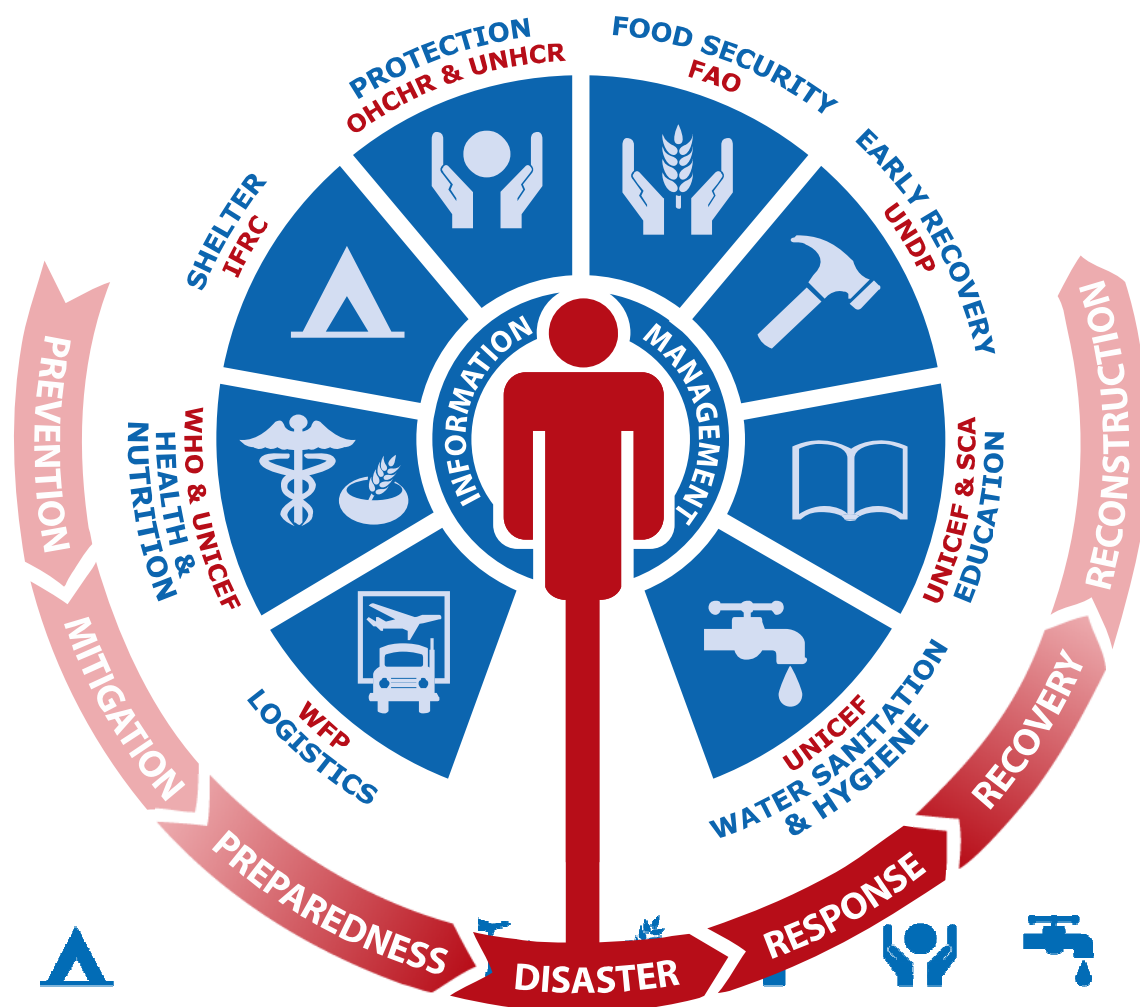
Pacific Humanitarian Team (PHT)

- **Formed in 2008**
- **Partnerships:**
Composed of all humanitarian response organizations that operate in the Pacific region, including UN, NGOs, International Federation of the Red Cross and National Societies, Donors
- **Oversight :**
UN Resident Coordinator, w/ OCHA support
- **Predictability:**
Decision-making, coordination and operations through PHT:
 - a. Heads of Agency Group (cluster lead agencies)
 - b. Inter-Cluster Coordination Group
 - c. Clusters
- **Accountability:**
UN Resident Coordinator is accountable to the UN Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs for the success of the international humanitarian operation and the achievement of its goals



Clusters, Cluster Leads/Convenors

- 8 'Clusters' (sectoral working groups with predefined structure and accountability)
- Can be rolled out in affected areas immediately if needed



DISASTER

RESPONSE





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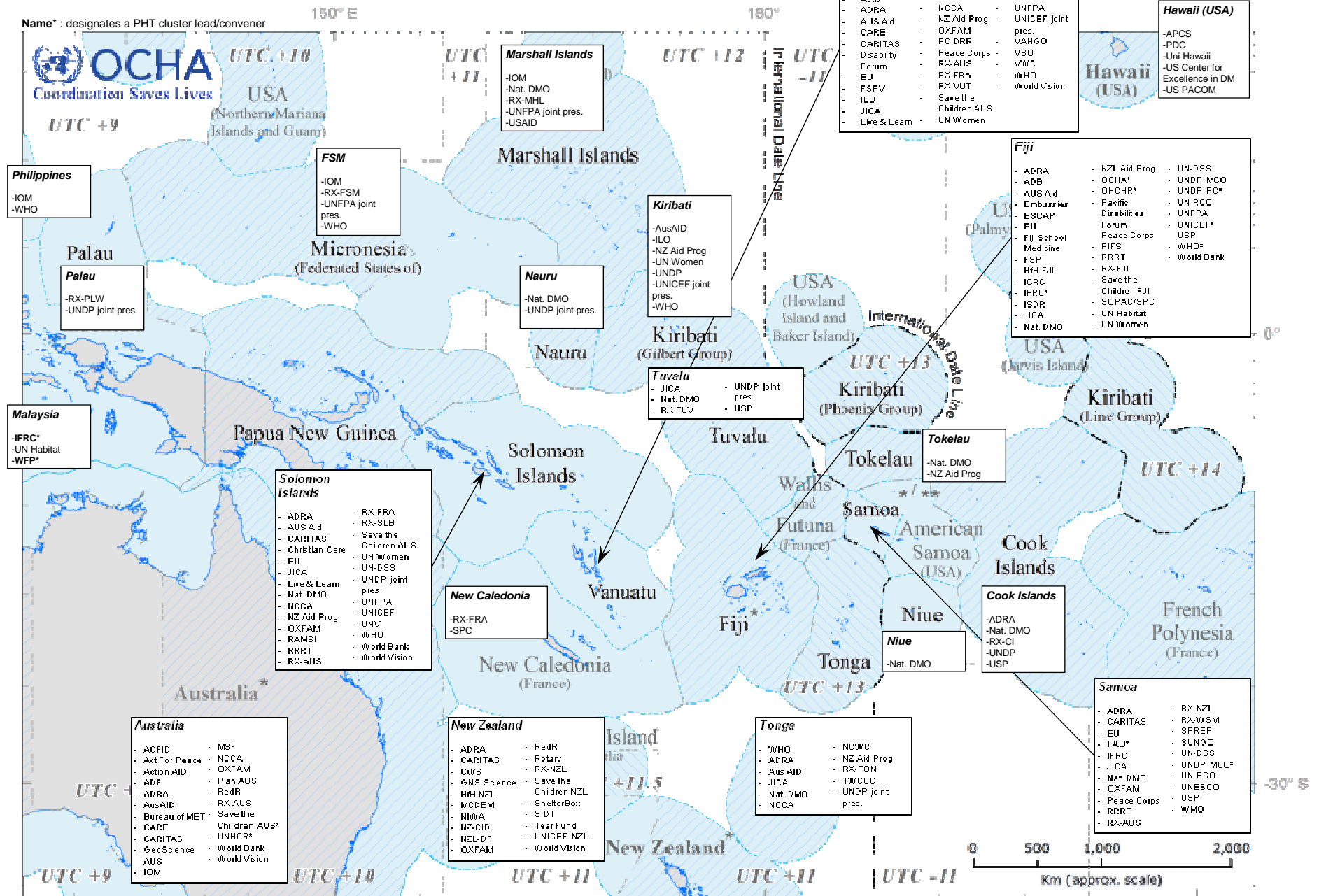
Ok, but really, what is the PHT?

The PHT is a group of approx 900 people working for development/humanitarian agencies, donors, national governments and inter-government organizations how stand by to participate in humanitarian action in the Pacific region.



	Health/ Nutrition	WASH	Shelter	Logistics	Protectio n	Recovery	Emerg. Educatio n
# People	25	32	26	25	52	34	27
# Org	22	29	24	20	42	29	25
# locations	7	9	9	10	6	10	8

Key Humanitarian Partners in the Pacific (2012-01)



* Map not adjusted for daylight saving time (+1 hour). Samoa and New Zealand start 25 September 2011. Australia (only south coast, Adelaide, Cairns, Sydney, Melbourne) starts 02 October. Fiji starts 23 October 2011. Samoa to change time zones to UTC +13 on 29 December 2011.

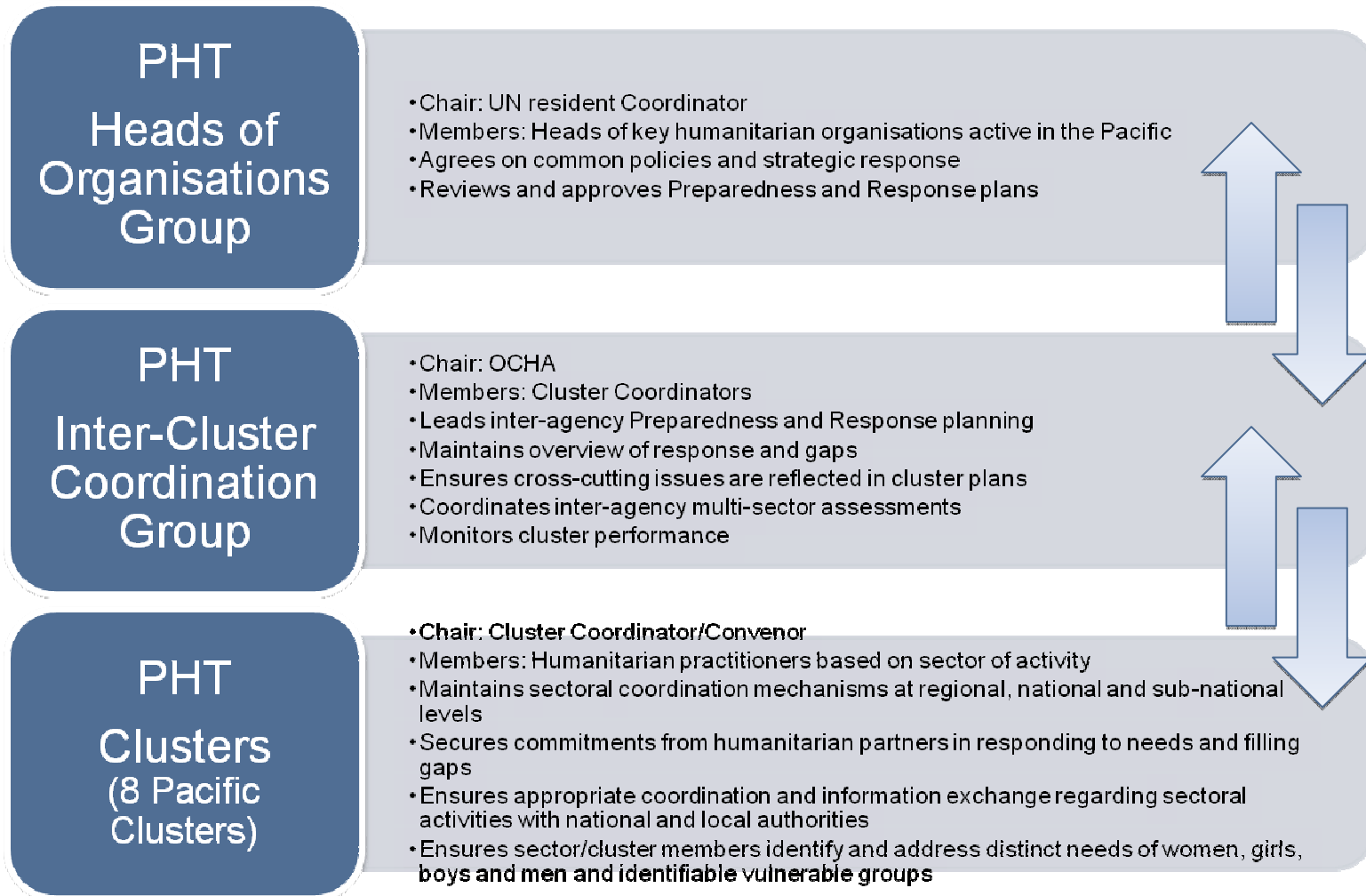


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Three layers of coordination





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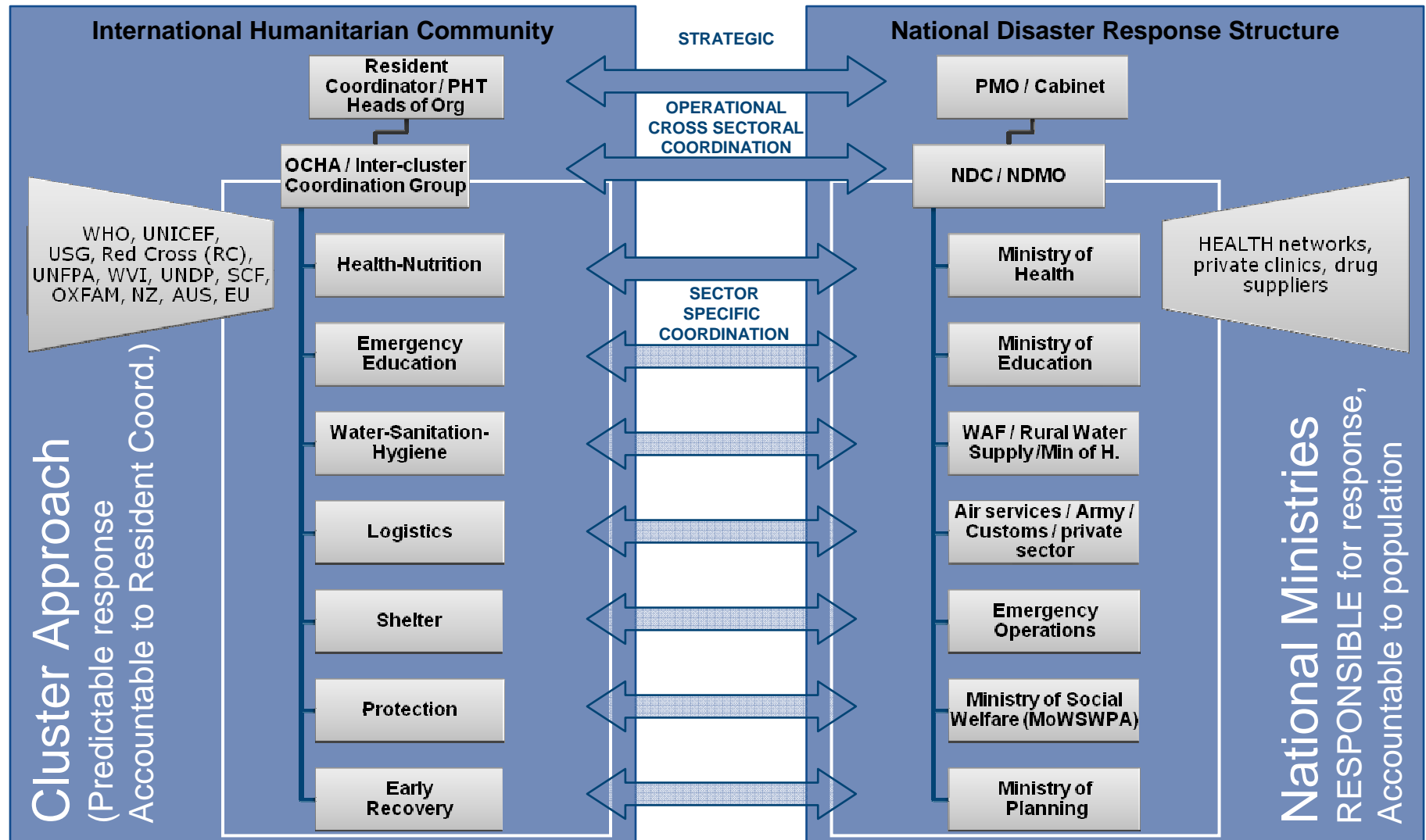
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In collaboration with:
Government of Fiji

Linking with National Coordination mechanisms





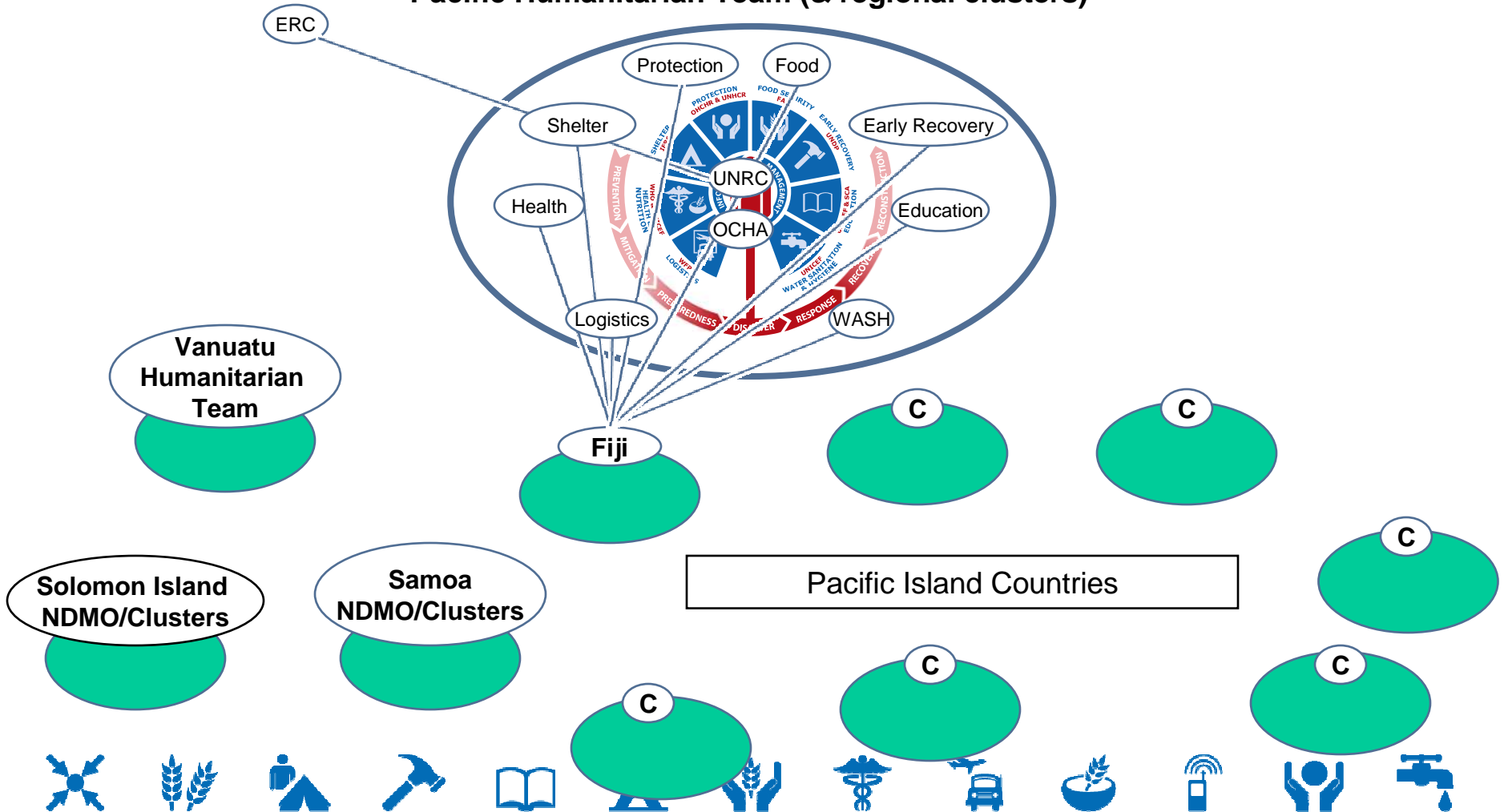
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- Pacific Humanitarian Team - Example of PHT support to PICs

Pacific Humanitarian Team (& regional clusters)





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Emergencies supported by the PHT since 2008

2008

- High Sea Swells: PNG, Solomon Islands, RMI, FSM (Dec)

2009

- Fiji Floods (Jan)
- Guadalcanal floods, SI (Feb)
- Ambrym Volcano and Flood, Vanuatu (Apr)
- Samoa & Tonga Tsunami (Sep/Oct)
- Gaua Volcano, Vanuatu (Dec 09 – May 10)
- TC Mick in Fiji (Dec)

2010

- Rendova Tsunami, Solomon Islands (Jan)

- TC Pat in Aitutaki – Cook Islands (Feb)
- TC Tomas in Fiji (Mar)
- TC Ului in Solomon Islands (Mar)

2011

- TC Vania in Vanuatu (Jan)
- TC Atu in Vanuatu (Feb)
- Drought Response Planning in Kiribati
- Drought response in Tuvalu

2012

- TD Floods in Fiji (Jan)
- TC Jasmine in Vanuatu (Feb)
- TD Floods in Fiji (March)





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Levels of Response by PHT

Depending on the **scale of the disaster**, and based on **needs** and **request for assistance** by the affected Government, the PHT can support in one of the following ways:

- **Level 1: In-country or agency capacity**
 - a. Response is entirely managed with in-country capacity. Humanitarian organisations coordinate with each other and in partnership with National Authorities
- **Level 2: Additional capacity is required, activation of ‘cluster approach’**
 - a. Response is largely managed by in-country partners, but response requires extra capacity in the form of coordination and/or program staff deployed to the affected country from a regional capacity.
- **Level 3: National capacities are overwhelmed**
 - a. Response is largely managed by staff who are not from the affected country; Many staff are deployed from abroad, organizing themselves using a cluster approach; support is requested from global capacities. National partners are coordinated with, and kept informed





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For better Humanitarian Action

We need improved:

- Accountability
- Predictability
- Effective coordination
- Improved partnerships through:
 - Structure, Coordination, Responsibilization, Information Sharing

- Coordination is only required when there are multiple actors.
- Additional coordination is needed when there are multiple NEW actors.
- Communication and information are essential for coordination and decision-making

























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Samoa Tsunami- Satellite Imagery Observations

Upolu Tsunami Damage - Aufaga (West)

Low lying areas along coast show significant tsunami impact.



USAID

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

14° 2'23.83"S 171°31'27.02"W

Pre-Event Imagery



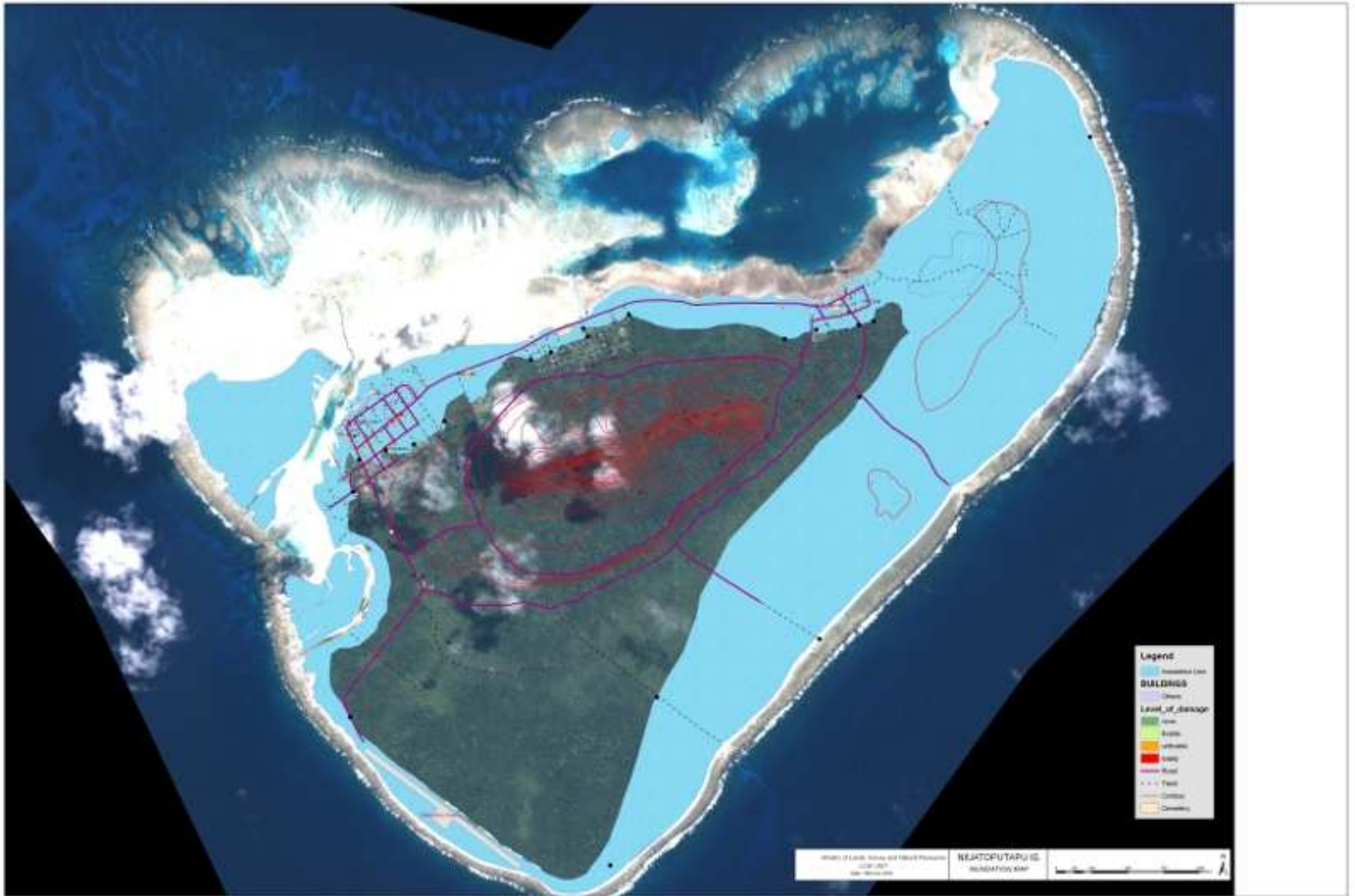
Locator Map



Produced by: Geographic Information Unit
Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
U.S. Agency for International Development
Imagery provided under the NextView Contract
Image Date: September 30, 2009
GLIDE #: TS-2009-000210-WSM
Produced: October 7, 2009











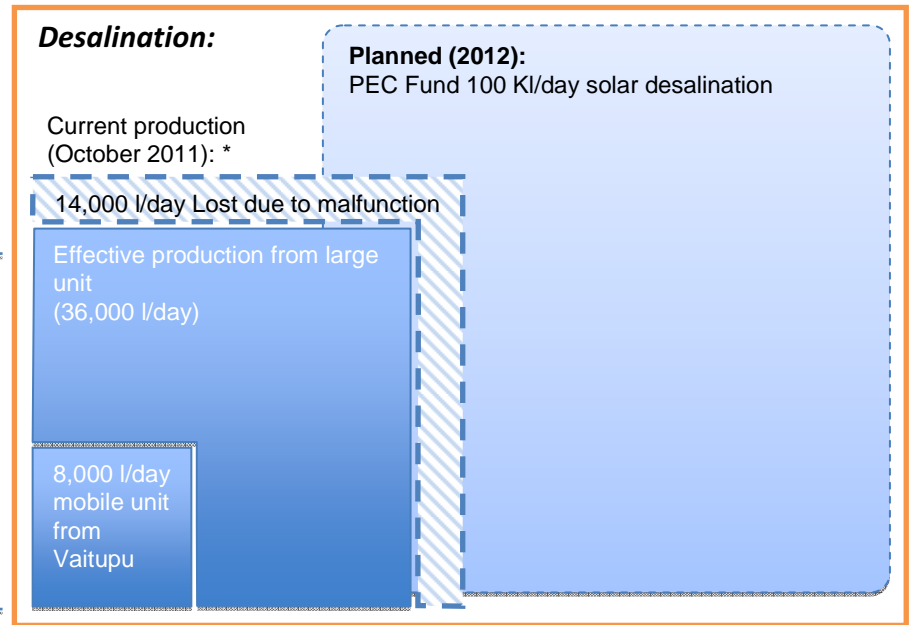
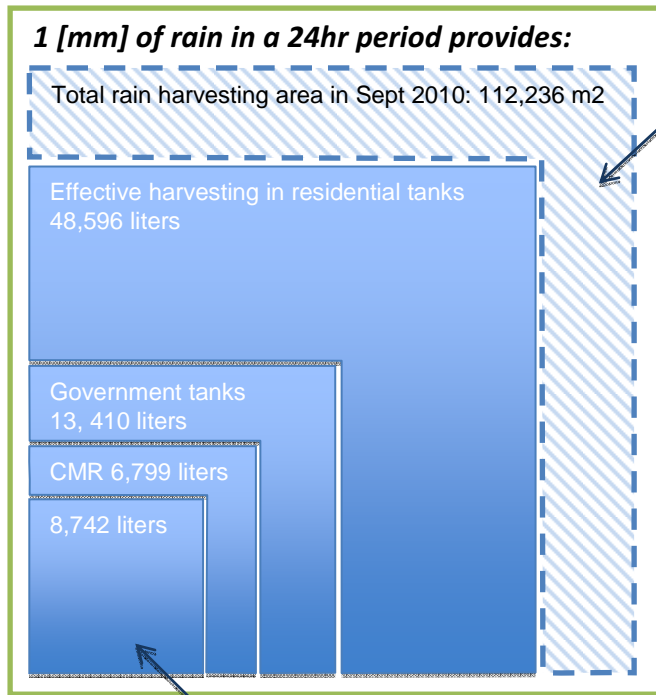




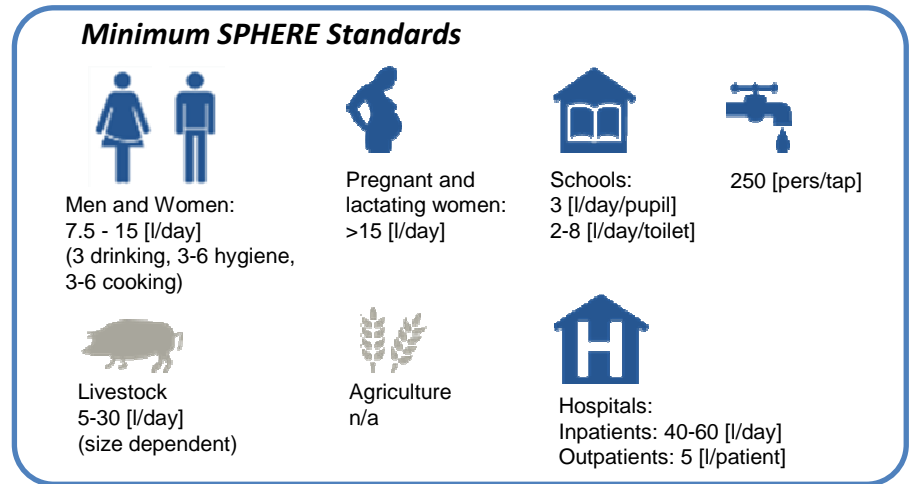
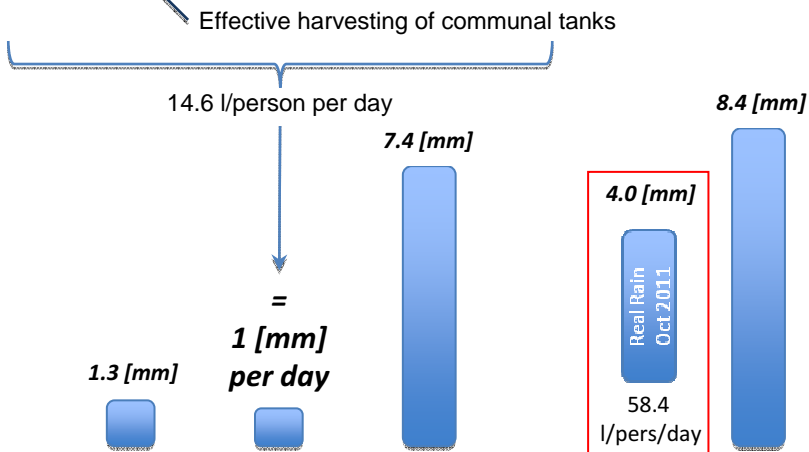
Funafuti, Tuvalu [2011 pop: 5,300]

Water not harvested due to improper guttering: 39,690 liters

NB: This is a purely theoretic model useful for providing an indication of scale in rain capture and desalination.
See sources for more information



* Emergency NZL-DF desalination not included



In September 2011, it rained on average 1.3 [mm] per day: 18.9 l/pers/day

In an 'average' September, it rains 7.4 [mm] per day: 108 l/pers/day

And 8.4 [mm] per day in an 'average' October: 122 l/pers/day

Sources:
 Rainfall for Funafuti: Tuvalu Meteorological Service (records 1947-2011)
 Rainwater harvesting statistics: Rainwater Harvesting (RWH) survey of Funafuti (Sept 2010)
 Population: Tuvalu Central Statistics Division estimates for Funafuti for 2011 (5,300 persons)
 Minimum SPHERE standards: SPHERE handbook 2011









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OCHA Pacific - Focus areas of work

Supporting emergency response & preparedness:

- Coordination

- Support NDMOs and national coordination networks
- UNRC / Pacific Humanitarian Team & Pacific Clusters
- OCHA deployments, UNDAC, Partners (RedR, TSF, DHL, etc.)
- Contingency Planning, simulation exercises
- Actively participate in regional DRM networks

- Information Management & Humanitarian Analysis

- 3W (Who, What, Where)
- Baseline info & Coordinated Needs Assessments
- Reporting, Maps

- Resource Mobilization

- Humanitarian Action Plan (HAP), Funding Appeal





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What works

- Prepositioning
- Contingency planning, lessons learned, SimEx
- Agreed standards and tools (HAP, CNA)
- IM, Data preparedness
- National partnerships (e.g. Vanuatu)
- Investment in inclusive coordination – regional and national
- Linking/integrating humanitarian action with development programmes (DRR/sectoral)
- Flexibility of PHT - different approach per country based on risk, capacity, opportunity
- Shift in thinking – development/emergency





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Challenges

Operational

- Coordinated Needs Assessments
- Displacement due to natural disasters
- Food security after emergencies
- CMCoord

Strategic

- Need for on-going investment in coordination capacity – national and regional (clusters and DRR)
- Crowded space, CCA/DRR, etc.
- Transition from humanitarian response to recovery/development
- Joint programming for DRM





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Challenges

- Need for on-going investment in coordination capacity – national and regional (clusters and DRR)
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Thank You



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La coordination sauve des vies

La coordinación salva vidas

Координация спасает жизни

بالتنسيق نُنقذ الأرواح

致力协调，挽救生命