

9th TWG MEETING ON DISASTER RELATED STATISTICS

'DEVELOPMENTS AND INITIATIVES ON DISASTER RELATED STATISTICS - SAMOA'

Mr Benjamin Sebastian Sila (Samoa Bureau of Statistics) On behalf of Samoa's Disaster Management Office (DMO)



PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- > Enabling environment
- Data Management
 - Data Compilation
 - Data Sharing
 - Data Utilization
- Challenges
- Disaster Related Statistics Framework (DRSF)



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ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

National Disaster Council/(NDC)	The cabinet, chaired by the PM, as decision making body
National Emergency Operation Center (NEOC)	Collates, evaluates, publishes data
Disaster Advisory Committee (DAC)	Inter-agency data management platform during a disaster
National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Management (DRM) 2017-2021	Guides the implementation of the National Disaster Management Plan (NDMP)
Disaster Management Office (DMO)	Under the Ministry of Prime Minister and Cabinet (MPMC), coordinates, develops and implements DRM programmes
Disaster and Emergency Act 2007	A legal framework for disaster response, supported by the NDMP
National Disaster Management Plan	Outlines the roles of the agencies, as a national and collective approach to disasters.
Declaration of a Disaster	A mechanism to ignite disaster response for 48 hours, and as necessary additional 48 hours
2015 Statistical Act	Provision for the Bureau to assist in mandated disaster-related collection and compilation



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DATA MANAGEMENT

DATA COMPILATION Initial Damage Assessment (IDA), SBS for DMO	A structured first 72 -hours reporting form on hazard types, damaged infrastructure(s) / assets, affected population, household location, total persons in household disaggregated age sex and disabilities	
A Call Center , DMO	A database of incoming calls to NEOC to be conveyed to Response agencies for response deployment	
Disaster international Assistance	Data shared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), the MPMC and the Ministry of Finance (MOF)	
Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA), SBS,	MOF & MFAT - led assessment with reference to SBS data to calculate damages and losses of each disaster occurrence	
Disaster Final Report, DMO	Assessed & harmonized report following the harmonization (e.g. shared concept, household definition, village boundaries)	
DATA SHARING Hazards Map, DMO	Contains areas vulnerable to flooding, landslide and Tsunami	
Pre & Post Disaster data, DMO	Shared data on population by sex, age, location, and household maps	
A shift from PAPI to CAPI, SBS	A shift from Paper and Pen Interview (PAPI) to Computer- Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) to ensure quality statistical information and services from a statistical system	

ATA UTILISATION to guide Disaster Management

- Locations of evacuation signs and areas, inland settlements/ relocation of coastal households, positioning of tsunami warning sirene
- Roll out of Community Disaster & Climate Risk Management Program in the communities
- Implementation of Risk Management Plans by Government Ministries, SOEs and Schools has monitored and enforced by DMO
- Improved GIS and mapping outputs for decision making.
- Implementation of the Vaisigano Catchment Project (VCP), a new bridge and a retention wall with the support of Climate change project of Civil Society Support Program CSSP



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CHALLENGES

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TECHNICAL CHALENINGES		
Varying household definitions and village boundaries	SBS, Red Cross, Samoa Water Authority (SWA), MNRE, Electric Power Corporation (EPC) and Office of the Electoral Commission (OEC).	
Data disintegration	Data is fragmented as damage and loss is assessed by various sectors such as Health, Infrastructure, Utilities etc.	
Data is Inadequate	Gaps in GIS points of the affected areas hinder the effective field deployment of response front liners	
Data is not monetized	No 'dollar' damage and loss information data	
MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES		
Inadequate Staff and resources/ equipment	Having to use public servants/ equipment from various government agencies to collate data	
No Information Management System (IMS)	No platform to house/ centralize relevant disaster related statistics	
No Centralised Database	No facility to link SBS with frontline agencies, e.g. MNRE, Fire and Emergency Services Agency (FESA), Ministry of Police (MOP), Ministry of Health (MOH), Red cross & DMO.	



ONWARD TO DRSF?

- **Enabling environment:** For now, there are sufficient policies and regulations in place to enabled the formation of disaster related working groups, technical groups and committees.
- > **Standards:** there is a need for standards to monetise disaster investments, measures, damage and losses, perhaps, by MOF partnering with all the relevant sectors.
- > Coordination: DMO needs to spearhead the coordination in disaster related statistics e.g. for networking and regular meetings to update related programs and data.
- > **Resources:** scope to optimise resources from MPMC through the DMO to develop DRSF, and later to use DRSF to leverage national, regional and international cooperation/ mobilisation
- Momentum: need to align DRSF with SDGs and regional and international best practices to be acquired by attending regional and global events.

