Highlights

- IOM trained state and non-state actors on the use of the Displacement Tracking Matrix to aid disaster preparedness and response in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.
- IOM extended the Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) programming to East Sepik, Hela and Southern Highlands Provinces.
- IOM, Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement International (OISCA) trained local farmers from disaster prone areas on conservation farming in East New Britain Province.

Emergencies and Disaster Management

IOM in close cooperation with the National Disaster Centre (NDC) continues to support Papua New Guinea’s Government (national, provincial and local level) in addressing disaster risks associated with natural hazards through applying the Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) programming. As part of its support to vulnerable and at-risk communities, IOM conducted training of trainers to introduce CBDRM to East Sepik, Hela and Southern Highlands Provinces. By doing so, it is hoped that the vulnerable and disaster-prone communities become more actively engaged in the identification, analysis, monitoring and treatment of disaster risks—in order to reduce their vulnerabilities, and enhance their own capacities by developing and implementing their respective CBDRM Plan.

As part of its preparedness and capacity development efforts, IOM trained disaster management actors in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville on the use of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to help improve the collection and use of displacement data during crises situations. The DTM will help in the systematic collection, processing and dissemination of information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations.

In East New Britain Province, 55 local farmers from disaster prone areas were recipients of IOM’s conservation farming training delivered from 07 to 11 October 2019 following a request by United Church Women’s Programme in Navunaram circuit. Delivered with the technical assistance from the Organization for Industrial Spiritual and Cultural Advancement International (OISCA) Rabaul Ecological Technology Training Centre, the training aimed to improve crop production and food security at the local level.

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Displacement Tracking Matrix

IOM trained state and non-state actors, from 14 to 15 November 2019, on the use of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) to aid disaster preparedness and response in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (AROB).

Funded by USAID and held in Buka town, the training attracted 26 participants (14 men and 12 women) from the AROB government, Papua New Guinea Immigration and Citizenship Authority, Non-Governmental Organizations, the United Nations, churches and media. The training focused on field level data collection and how to generate information products that better inform planning and evidence-based responses to the multi-sectoral needs of internally displaced people. It also addressed the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse and gave participants an opportunity to share their knowledge and experience of conducting assessments in crisis situations.

The AROB’s Deputy Chief Secretary welcomed the training. “Systematic data collection and analysis is essential to shaping emergency preparedness and response,” he said. IOM’s DTM is designed to capture, process and disseminate information systematically to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of mobile populations in places of displacement or transit. It also profiles the displaced for better targeting of relief assistance, especially to the most vulnerable, including people living with disabilities, chronically ill people, and women and children.

“We look to IOM and the Shelter Cluster to utilize the DTM tools to help us have a better picture of not only where people are located, but who are the most vulnerable, what types of assistance do they want, and what type of assistance do they need,” said UN Humanitarian Coordination Specialist — who leads the Papua New Guinea Disaster Management Team Secretariat. IOM, in close cooperation with the national and provincial Disaster Centres, UN and NGO partners, has successfully deployed DTM in various emergencies in several Papua New Guinea’s Provinces and AROB.

Resilience Building

IOM extended the Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) programming to East Sepik, Hela and Southern Highlands Provinces and delivered a Training of Trainers (ToT) on CBDRM to identified community representatives and government staff (provincial, district and local level government). The Table below shows the training dates and number of ToT participants by Province.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Beneficiary Provinces</th>
<th>Dates of Training</th>
<th>No. of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>East Sepik</td>
<td>10 to 13 Dec 2019</td>
<td>26 (21M, 5F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Highlands</td>
<td>28 Oct to 01 Nov 2019 (Joint ToT for the two Provinces)</td>
<td>14 (9M, 5F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hela</td>
<td>9 (6M, 3F)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The CBDRM places local communities at the heart of decision making and implementation of disaster risk management activities, promoting greater community ownership of disaster risk reduction efforts at the local level. Applying the knowledge gained from the training and using locally available resources will help beneficiary communities improve the preparedness and resilience to natural hazard impacts through local, community driven initiatives supported by local authorities.
In Oro Province, IOM delivered a five-day disaster management training (04 to 08 November 2019) to Ward-level Disaster Management Committees from targeted 15 communities. Attended by 30 participants (15 men and 15 women), the training equipped the community members on the effective implementation of community-based disaster risk reduction interventions, including strengthening their awareness on disaster management.

“We are happy to be attending this training and look forward to supporting our communities to better prepare ourselves for crises events,” noted a training participant. Delivered in partnership with Oro Provincial Disaster Centre, the training covered content on disaster mitigation, preparedness and response, participatory health and hygiene education, and water and sanitation.

Food and Livelihood Security

Fifty-five local farmers (15 men and 40 women) from disaster prone areas in East New Britain Province were recipients of IOM’s conservation farming training following IOM’s response to a request by the United Church Women’s Programme in Navunaram circuit. Delivered from 07 to 11 October 2019, with technical assistance from OISCA Rabaul Ecological Technology Training Centre, the training introduced to farmers upland rice farming including rice nursery and transplanting. It also equipped farmers with the knowledge on crop rotations and use of organic fertilizers to improve soil productivity and crop yield. IOM provided the farmers with rice seeds and watering cans during the training.

The training for Navunaram Circuit communities marks the fourth Conservation Farming Training delivered by IOM in East New Britain Province in 2019, directly benefitting a total of 211 farmers (73 men and 138 women).