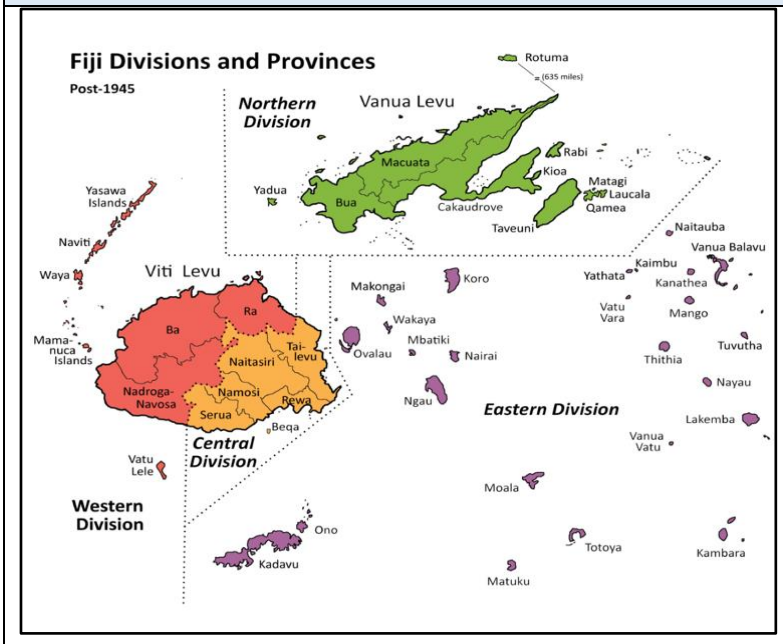
# BSRP II Fiji Country Implementation Plan

| 1. SUMMARY | |
|---|---|
| **EDF 11 indicative fund allocation** | National Allocation: EUR740,000<br>Regional Allocation: EUR93,242 |
| **Timeframe** | 1 April 2023 – 31 July 2026 (40 months) |
| **National activities** | **KRA 1: Integrated Data Collection, Storage, Analysis and Use**<br>1.1 Establish a Centralised Risk Database system<br>1.2 Upgrade Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET) capacity<br>**KRA 2: Sub-National Risk Assessments, Risk Profiles and Tools**<br>2.1 Support Integrated Vulnerability Assessment (IVA) process.<br>2.2 Strengthen collaborative governance and systems for forecasting and EWS information<br>**KRA 3: Legislative, Policy, and Institutional Arrangements Reviewed and Operationalised**<br>3.1 Develop online tracker system to monitor implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2018 – 2030<br>**KRA 4: Infrastructure and Equipment**<br>4.1 Assess, refurbish and standardise District/Divisional EOCs, including fit out (4-5 DEOCs subject to assessments and prioritisation), including SOPs.<br>**KRA 5: Stakeholder Communications, Engagement and Awareness**<br>5.1 Develop and test multi-hazard multi-media warning platform in negotiation with telecommunication companies.<br>5.2 Communications, engagement, awareness along with visibility<br>**KRA 6: Coordination of Project Activities**<br>6.1 In-Country Coordinator<br>6.2 Project Steering Committee |
| **In-country project governance structure** | The Prevention and Mitigation Committee under the National Disaster Council will serve the role of National Project Steering Committee |
| **Lead collaborating agency** | National Disaster Management Office. Ministry of Rural and Maritime Development and Disaster Management<br>Upgrade of Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET) capacity to be led by Seismology Unit Ministry of Lands and Minerals (tbc) |

## 2. COUNTRY CONTEXT




A total of 333 islands make up the archipelago of the Fiji Islands, with a land area of 18,270 km$^2$ spread over 1,281,122 km$^2$ of exclusive economic zone. The country has a population of 884,887 (2017 census), 69% of which are under 40 years. Fiji has one of the most developed economies in the Pacific, with diverse forestry, fishing and agriculture sectors, and significant contributions from mining and tourism. The country's GDP per capita in 2017 was USD 5,589 and has experienced growing urbanisation (494,252 deemed urban in 2017 compared to 424,846 in 2007).

Fiji is exposed to both hydro-meteorological and geotechnical hazards. The country is in the cyclone region, averaging three events every two years with a severe event (category 3–4 cyclone) every three to four years. Indications to 2050 are for an increase in the severity of cyclone systems, though the number per year may not vary. Rising sea levels, extreme precipitation, storm surges and thunderstorms have caused devastating flood damage in recent years. About every five years, an El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) event occurs and can result in severe droughts.

Climate change impacts and disasters are being felt nationwide, from the interior of the high islands to the maritime islands fringing the main islands. Heavy erosion, landslides and sediment transportation from the hills appear as damaging sedimentation in the coastal waters and reefs. Subsistence and cash crop farmers are being increasingly affected by floods and soil losses, while coastal dwellers are being affected by coastal erosion and losses in biodiversity.

Tropical Cyclones are the principal cause of major floods. Rainfall begins while the centre of the cyclones is still some distance out at sea. As it approaches rainfall intensity increases. Rapid runoff from an already saturated catchment results in extensive floods. Other severe weather events with high intensity rainfall also cause floods, but these are of lower magnitude and less frequent. On average, 15 tropical cyclones affect Fiji each decade and each one causes high intensity rainfall. The magnitudes of floods are dependent on the tropical cyclone system, its distance from land, its intensity, and its movement and speed. Flash floods are infrequent, and damage restricted to smaller sub-catchments. Storm surges exacerbate flood levels in the coastal zone. When the eye of the tropical cyclone passes close to shore or traverses land, surges are inevitably generated. Floodwater discharge is restricted, and riverbanks are often breached. Seawalls are over-topped with large storm surge.

Between 1983 to 2003 seven major floods affected Fiji which damaged property and claimed lives. Tropical Cyclone Kina flood (January 1993), followed a severe drought induced by the El Nino event of 1992/93, was the most severe in recent history, with estimated damages amounting to USD 100 million and the loss of 23 lives. In the Rewa watershed people from the urban, peri-urban and rural areas sustained damage and losses. Across the country more than 120,000 people (approximately 10% of the population) suffered serious losses and had to be supplied with food rations for up to six months to cope with the disaster. The flood-induced losses have serious social and economic implications. Relief and rehabilitation costs are high. The national GDP and government's development plans and programmes are adversely affected. Resources earmarked for capital development works must be urgently redirected for relief and rehabilitation.

(Reference; 1. Director, Suva Water Supplies, Samabula, Fiji, 2. Population figures from 1996 census)

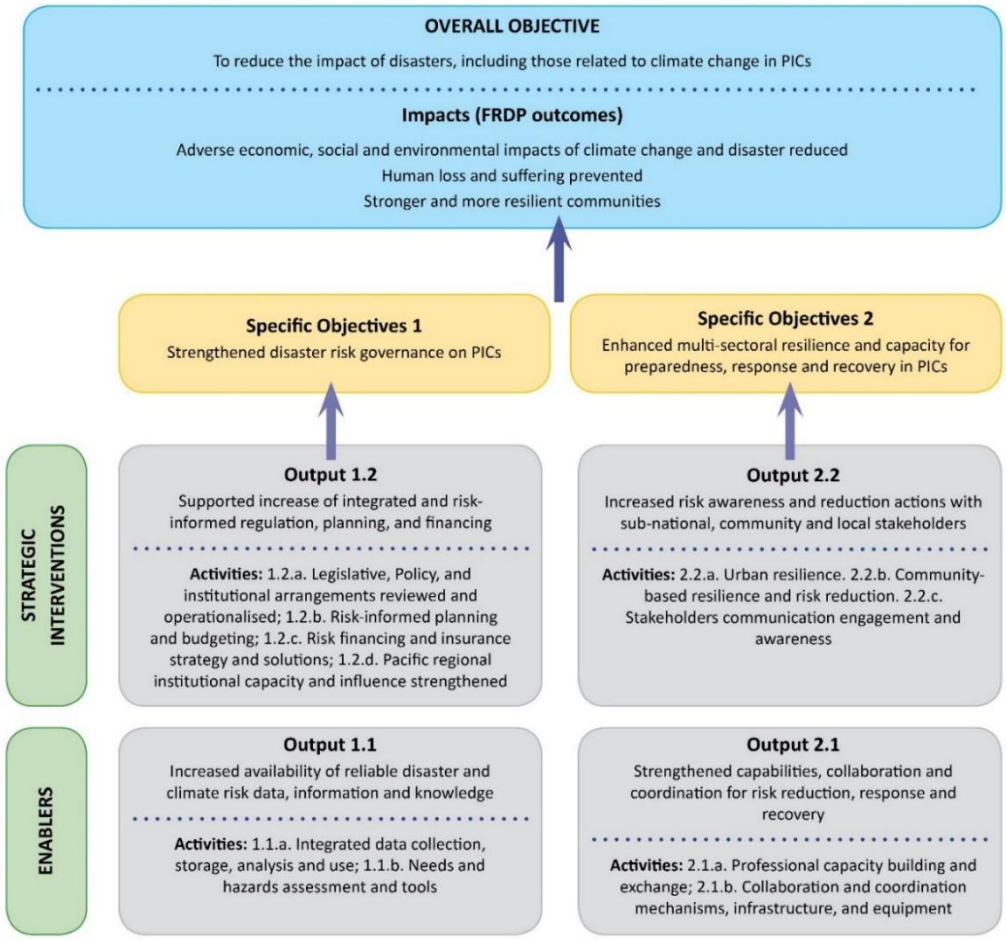
DRM is governed by the 1998 Natural Disaster Management Act which articulates the institutional arrangements from national, divisional and district level. Adoption of international and regional guidance

instruments such as the World Humanitarian Summit outcomes, Sendai Framework for DRR and FRDP has led to an ongoing review of the Act, which was supported by BSRP I. Consequently, an updated National Disaster Management Bill has been completed and is awaiting Cabinet approval. The NDMA is complemented by the 1995 National Disaster Management Plan and the 2018-2030 National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy.

## 3. BSRP II and the EU ACP NDRR Programme

Building Safety and Resilience in the Pacific Phase II (BSRP II) is a sub-programme of the **11th European Development Fund (EDF) Intra-ACP Natural Disaster Risk Reduction (NDRR) Programme.** The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to reducing the impacts of disasters, including those related to climate change, and to increase resilience in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. This is to be achieved through three specific objectives that align with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030: SO1: Disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk is strengthened; SO2: Investment in disaster risk reduction (DRR) for resilience is increased; and SO3: Disaster preparedness for effective response and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction is enhanced.

BSRP II has the overall objective of reducing the impacts of disasters, including those relating to climate change in Pacific island countries. Anticipated impacts to be achieved are aligned with the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) outcomes; i.e. Adverse economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change and disasters are reduced; Human loss and suffering is prevented; Communities are stronger and more resilient. BSRP II's work programme is structured under two specific objectives; namely, i) Strengthened disaster risk governance in PICs; and ii) Enhanced multisectoral resilience and capacity for preparedness, response and recovery in PICs. There are four outputs feeding into these objectives. Output 1.1 – Increased availability of reliable disaster and climate risk data, information and knowledge and Output 1.2 – Supported increase of integrated and risk-informed regulations, planning and financing feed into Objective 1. Output 2.1 – Strengthened capabilities, collaboration and coordination for risk reduction, response and recovery; and Output 2.2 – Increased risk awareness and reduction actions with sub-national, community and local stakeholders feeds into Objective 2.




Participating Pacific Island countries have each identified priority national activities under the broader project framework as described above. Fiji has identified 10 national activities under 6 Key Result Areas (KRAs) which are detailed in Section 4. In addition to Fiji's **national activities**, BSRP II includes support for the following **regional activities:**

- **A**ssessing the cost of climate change and disaster impacts;
- Regionalisation of Disability Inclusive DRM;
- Risk financing advisory support (support to 3-5 countries);
- Strengthen SPC's long-term DRM/CC capacity;
- Professional capability building and exchange;
- Support for Pacific representation at regional and global forums;
- Communications, engagement awareness and visibility.

In addition to the Project Management Unit, BSRP II will appoint a number of technical specialists to support with the implementation of regional and national activities. These positions are budgeted for under project outputs and are funded from national and regional allocations linked to these outputs. Three of these positions are intended to be full-time; while the others are shared with other SPC projects and range between 25 – 75% Full-time Equivalent.

**Output 1.1 - Increased availability of reliable disaster and climate risk data, information and knowledge**

- Technical Adviser (DRM/CC Operations) (Band 9; 1FTE) – 50% of time allocated to Output 1.1
- GIS Officer (Band 8; 0.25FTE)
- Systems Engineer (Band 12; 0.25FTE)

- Information Management and Governance Specialist (Band 8; 0.25FTE)

**Output 1.2 - Supported increase of integrated and risk-informed regulations, planning and financing**

- DRM/CC Adviser (Band 11; 0.75FTE)
- DRM/CC Analyst (Band 10; 0.5FTE)
- Data and Records Assistant (Band 7; 0.5FTE)
- Gender and Social Inclusion Adviser (Band 9; 0.05FTE)
- Risk Financing Specialist (Band 10; 0.5FTE)

**Output 2.1 - Strengthened capabilities, collaboration and coordination for risk reduction, response and recovery**

- Knowledge and Skills Transfer Coordinator (Band 8; 1FTE)
- Procurement Engineer (Band 10; 1FTE)

**Output 2.2 - Increased risk awareness and reduction actions with sub-national, community and local stakeholders**

- Technical Adviser (DRM/CC Operations) (Band 9; 1FTE) – 50% of time allocated to Output 2.2
- Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Adviser (Band 8; 0.75FTE)

As with BSRP Phase I, funds have been set aside to support up to 12 In-country Coordinators for a period of between 24 -42 months depending on the country plan needs. Additional funds are ear-marked for a coordinator for Papua New Guinea's Multi-hazard Early Warning Centre, and 3 staff to serve as Tonga Cluster Coordinators.

## 4. NATIONAL PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

**OVERALL OBJECTIVE**

Better prepare Fiji to manage disaster risk and to respond to disasters

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1**

Strengthen disaster risk governance in Fiji

**KEY RESULT AREAS**

**KRA 1: Integrated Data Collection, Storage, Analysis and Use**

1.1. Establish a Centralised Risk Database system.

1.2. Upgrade Oceania Regional Seismic Network (ORSNET) capacity.

**KRA 2: Sub-National Risk Assessments, Risk Profiles and Tools**

2.1. Support Integrated Vulnerability Assessment (IVA) process.

2.2. Strengthen collaborative governance and systems for forecasting and EWS information.

**KRA 3: Legislative, Policy, and Institutional Arrangements Reviewed and Operationalised**

3.1 Develop online tracker system to monitor implementation of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Policy 2018 – 2030.

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 2**

Strengthen disaster preparedness and awareness in Fiji

**KRA 4: Infrastructure, and Equipment**

4.1. Assess, refurbish and standardise District/Divisional EOCs, including fit out (4-5 DEOCs subject to assessments and prioritisation), including SOPs.

**KRA 5: Stakeholder Communications, Engagement and Awareness**

5.1. Development and testing of multi-hazard multi-media warning platform in negotiation with telecommunication companies.

5.2. Communications, engagement, awareness along with visibility.

**KRA 6: Coordination of Project Activities**

6.1. In-Country Coordinator

6.2. Project Steering Committee

## 5. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

### 5.1. Organisational Structure and Responsibilities

The BSRP Project Management Unit (PMU) operating from the Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) division at SPC is responsible for providing oversight of the day to day running and implementation of the BSRP within the respective beneficiary countries. The NDMOs of each beneficiary state are the designated BSRP country focal points and work in close collaboration with the PMU.

The PMU works closely with the respective NDMOs to ensure that project activities are implemented effectively and efficiently while also ensuring that the National Steering Committee is informed of project implementation progress as well as challenges and solutions through regularly updating the NSC via regular email contact and NSC meetings. The PMU has dedicated country officers to handle county specific affairs and implementation. As country focal points for the BSRP they are responsible for the day to day running of BSRP including supporting the NDMO to conduct National Steering Committee meetings, compile reports for the NSC and the ACP-EU on a quarterly basis and overseeing financial expenditure and developing budgets and budget revisions were necessary.

The National Steering Committee is the approving body for BSRP activities within the respective beneficiary states and will provide approvals for activities for funding; review and approve the annual workplan for the BSRP and CIP as and when needed; and meet to discuss progress implementation and counter measures and solutions where implementation has stalled.

### 5.2. Procedures

The NSC approves activities and budgets developed as part of the Country Implementation Plan that was developed through national stakeholder consultations to determine national priorities.

The PMU works with the SPC Procurement Unit to develop the necessary contracts, LOAs and MOUs for implementation of each NSC approved activity. Contracts are developed based on provision of necessary justification and using SPC procurement guidelines.

Letters of Agreement and contracts between SPC and the implementing agency detail timelines for implementation of activities along with funding disbursements attached to deliverables for the activity. Contracts for technical assistance both long and short term, may be established between the SPC and the implementing agency or consultant.

The PMU will continue to work in close contact with SPC Finance for release of funds as per contracts, LOAs, MOUs developed.

SPC's EU approved procurement procedure and processes for collation of acquittals will be used for all transactions.

### 5.3. Reporting and M&E

The PMU works in close collaboration with the NDMO and implementing agency to gather progress reports which are compiled on a quarterly basis and presented to the National Steering Committee and EU

Delegation Office in Suva. Annual narrative and financial reports are also compiled by the PMU for each country and presented to the National Steering Committees and the EU at the end of each year.

In-country coordinators will be responsible for coordinating the implementation of country activities. This will involve mobilising stakeholders, establishing workflows and costings for each country activity, seeking endorsements, coordinating procurements and the collating acquittals. In-country coordinators will be supported in developing their work programmes (with milestones) by the PMU Implementation Officers and they will regularly communicate progress on workflows to the PMU via online project management tools. This will allow for the monitoring of progress at the activity level by the PMU and allow for early intervention in the event of blockages. In the absence of In-country coordinators, the role of coordination and reporting on national activities will fall to the NDMO director, or delegated nominee.

In addition, and in collaboration with the PMU, each country will develop a detailed logframe to facilitate monitoring and evaluation of the country level activities. Realistic and measurable indicators will be developed at both the output and outcome levels (where possible) and accompanying strategies for gathering data to 'measure' the indicators will be designed.

The PMU will also undertake monitoring visits to beneficiary states to ensure activities are implemented efficiently and effectively and within given timeframes and budgets. Dates for country monitoring visits will be agreed between the PMU country focal point, the NDMO and the NPSC and monitoring reports will be presented to the NSC once monitoring visits are concluded.

### 5.4. Gender and Social Inclusion

All national activities will be screened to identify entry points for integrating gender and social inclusion considerations. Particular attention will be given to the special needs of women and girls, the elderly, the infirm and people with disabilities as it is recognised that these groups are disproportionally vulnerable during and after disasters.

## 6. BUDGET