
Annex A

Points of Contact and Current & Recent Projects



Pacific Region
Infrastructure Facility

ANNEX A:

POINTS OF CONTACT AND CURRENT & RECENT PROJECTS

1 PRIF DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Point of contact: Fiji: Kristina Katich kkatich@adb.org All other countries: Vivian Castro-Wooldridge <vcastro@adb.org>

Current ADB projects that can inform the INBCSP-TA:

Country	Project	Point of Contact
Regional	Mapping analysis of where to focus ADB efforts in the region, based on an overview of what has been done already along with other informational inputs and criteria.	Alexandra Galperin
Tonga	Multi hazard assessment for Tongatapu	Alexandra Galperin
Nauru	Nauru Sustainable Urban Development Project. (NSUDP)	Vivian Castro-Wooldridge Freddie Pitcher Matthew Giesemann
Fiji	Support for the Fiji National Building Code	Kristina Katich

World Bank

Point of contact: Fei Deng <fdeng@worldbank.org>

Current World Bank projects that can inform the INBCSP-TA:

Country	Project	Point of Contact
RMI	RMI Building Code support TA-currently being scoped. The TA is planning to support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> practical guidance and awareness-raising materials for the new building codes (currently under development outside of this project scope), climate informed guidelines for new developments (including risk-informed development control guidelines, building and urban design standards), and outreach and awareness-raising activities with community, private sector, and other stakeholders to support implementation of the above. 	Andrew Hurley
Samoa	Safer Schools Roadmap which includes valuable information on the role of the NBC in schools design	Andrew Hurley
Tonga	TC Ian Housing reconstruction project, MOI engaged Arup to undertake a review of aspects of the code, including the development of a housing supplement to guide code compliant housing designs. As per email exchanges, approval from MOI to share the reports is pending.	Andrew Hurley

Country	Project	Point of Contact
Tonga	Safer Schools Roadmap which includes valuable information on the role of the NBC in schools design	Andrew Hurley
Tuvalu	Tuvalu Building Code support TA	Andrew Hurley
Vanuatu	Vanuatu Infrastructure Reconstruction and Improvement Program-Phase 2, which is a component of the Global Program for Safer Schools -Pacific Roadmap Safer Schools Roadmap and includes valuable information on the role of the NBC in school design.	Andrew Hurley

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Point of contact: Tim Simpson <Tim.Simpson@dfat.gov.au>

Current DFAT projects that can inform the INBCSP-TA:

Country	Project	Point of Contact
Regional	Australian Infrastructure Financing Facility for the Pacific (AIFFP)	Tim Simpson
Regional	Australia Pacific Climate Partnership (APCP)	Clare White
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Infrastructure Management Bill Assistance (SIIMBA)	Russ Streader
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Infrastructure Investment Program (SIIP)	Rebecca Lane
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands Shelter Guide (funded under the Australian Humanitarian Partnership – Disaster READY program using consultants Habitat for Humanity Fiji and RMIT University)	Darryn McEvoy
Vanuatu	Vanuatu Shelter Guide (funded under the Australian Humanitarian Partnership – Disaster READY program using consultants Habitat for Humanity Fiji and RMIT Uni)	Darryn McEvoy
Fiji	Fiji Shelter Guide update (funded under the Australian Humanitarian Partnership – Disaster READY program using consultants Habitat for Humanity Fiji and RMIT Uni)	Darryn McEvoy
Fiji	Fiji Wind Standard (funded by APCP through James Cook University)	Geoff Broughton

New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (NZMFAT)

Point of contact: Jeff Whitty <Jeff.Whitty@mfat.govt.nz>

Current NZMFAT projects that can inform the INBCSP-TA:

Country	Project	Point of Contact
Nauru	Nauru Energy Efficiency on Demand Side (NEEDS) Initiative	Miniva Harris Ralph Karhammer
Nauru	Supporting Mainstreamed Achievement of Roadmap Targets of Energy in Nauru (SMARTEN)	Phaedora Harris Eugene Robson

Other Partners

The four other PRIF partners:

- Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- US State Department
- European Union (EU)
- European Investment Bank

do not currently have projects that would inform the INBCSP-TA. Point of Contact is via the PRIF Urban Development Working Group.

PRIF

PRIF have the following project that can inform the INBCSP

Country	Project	Point of Contact
Regional	Guidance for Managing Sea Level Rise Infrastructure Risk in Pacific Island Countries	Connon Andrews

2 PRIF MEMBER PICS

Introductory letters were sent to PRIF member PICs in February 2022 as the table below:

PIC	Name	Gov Agency
Cook Is	Director Ms. Jeannine Daniel	Infrastructure Cook Islands
Fiji	Director Mr Andrew Pene & Secretary Vinal Deo	Ministry of Infrastructure and Meteorological Services and Ministry of Health & Medical Services
FSM	Director Mr. Robert Goodwin	Department of Transportation Communications and Infrastructure
Kiribati	Director Mr. Toani Toatu	Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy
Palau	Director Mr. Brian Melairei	Bureau of Public Works Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Industries
Nauru	Director Ms. Annalina Solomon	Department of Infrastructure
Niue	Director Mr. Clinton Chapman	Ministry of Infrastructure
RMI	PMU Manager Mr. Melvin Dacillo	Project Management Unit (PMU) Ministry of Works, Infrastructure and Utilities
Samoa	ACEO Ms. Tilianamua Aloalii	Ministry of Works Transport and Infrastructure.
Solomon Is	Director Mr. Philip Wessey Baura	Ministry of Infrastructure and Development
Tonga	CEO Mr. Lopeti Heimuli	Ministry of Infrastructure Nukua'lofa, Kingdom of Tonga
Tuvalu	Assistant Secretary Mr. Pisi Afaaso	Public Works Department
Vanuatu	Director Mr. Leith Veremaito and Director Mr. Malcom Tarileo	Department of Local Authority and Public Works Department.

3 REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

The table below indicates the regional stakeholders that have been consulted on the INBCSP-TA

Stakeholder	
1	Coalition for Disaster Resistant Infrastructure (CDRI)
2	Green Climate Fund (GCF),
3	Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)
4	International Organisation for Migration (IOM)
5	Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)
6	Pacific Community (SPC)
7	Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP)
8	Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP),
9	Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) and Rights and Inclusion Australia (R&IA)
10	Pacific Partnership for the New Urban Agenda (PP-NUA)
11	Pacific Quality Infrastructure (PQI) Project
12	Référentiel de la construction de la Nouvelle-Calédonie (RCNC) – (New Caledonia Construction Reference).
13	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
14	Standards Australia, Standards New Zealand, International Code Council (ICC),
15	United Nations Development Program UNDP
16	United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
17	UN Habitat
18	UN Office for Disaster Risk Construction (UNDRR)
19	US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), United States Department of the Interior

Stakeholder descriptions and details of email correspondence and meeting outcomes are outlined below.

Coalition for Disaster Resistant Infrastructure (CDRI)

CDRI is a partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programmes, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and knowledge institutions that aims to promote the resilience of new and existing infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks in support of sustainable development. CDRI, with support from member countries and organisations, is in the process of setting up Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS), a dedicated initiative for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that provides quality technical and financial services to make SIDS infrastructure resilient to climate change and disaster events.

Green Climate Fund (GCF).

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) is a fund established within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as an operating entity of the Financial Mechanism to assist developing countries in adaptation and mitigation practices to counter climate change.

Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

GGGI is a treaty-based international, inter-government organisation dedicated to supporting and promoting strong inclusive economic growth in developing countries and emerging economies. GGGI have been commissioned under the 2021 Fiji Low Emissions Climate

Resilient Development Program to develop a Sustainability Chapter for the Fiji National Building Code. As this is expected to complement the ADB support to the forthcoming revision of the Fiji NBC, ADB and GoF Ministry of Infrastructure and Meteorological Services (MoIMS) requested the INBCSP team complete a review of the chapter. A comprehensive review was undertaken and provided to GGGI, ADB and the MoIMS. The review identified two main concerns:

1. From a regulatory, legal, and enforcement standpoint, the "Recommended" or "Guidance" elements would be more appropriate for a separate document (rather than an NBC annex) that is non-mandatory. The guide could be then referenced by owners or government procurement on how to achieve the mandatory requirements and/or if they want to go above the minimum required sustainability requirements.
2. In its current form, the document does not appear to be written as a regulatory document that is enforceable & numerous concepts presented appear to be more appropriate for a "Fiji Guideline or Code of Practice for Sustainable Buildings." From a practitioner's point of view, it would also be appropriate to integrate sustainability requirements into the appropriate Fiji NBC Chapter.

GGGI have indicated that they would be interested in preparing sustainability chapters for other PICs if an official request is received from the PIC.

International Organisation for Migration (IOM)

IOM is a leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental, and non-governmental partners to:

- help ensure the orderly and humane management of migration to promote international cooperation on migration issues,
- assist in the search for practical solutions to migration problems, and
- provide humanitarian assistance to migrants in need, including refugees and internally displaced people.

In a new Fiji project, which is expected to start in June 2022, IOM will be working closely with the Fiji National Disaster Management Office on developing National Evacuation Centre Management Guidelines which will have information related to minimum standards for the design of Evacuation Centres. These standards will have relevance to the new Fiji NBC.

Pacific Islands Forum (PIF)

The Pacific Islands Forum is the region's main political and economic policy organisation. While primarily concerned with policy it does also fund infrastructure related projects such as PQI (refer below). Interaction between the PIF and the INBCSP may be best confined to specific projects (such as PQI) and through the Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP).

Pacific Community (SPC)

The Pacific Community (SPC) is an international development organisation and is the principal scientific and technical organisation in the Pacific region. The SPC is owned and governed by its 27 member countries and territories and has been supporting development in the Pacific since 1947.

A meeting between SPS and the INBCSP team was held on 9 March 2022. Main topics discussed included:

- *Hazard and exposure* data sets, including upskilling and building capacity to obtain datasets.
- *Water security*, rainwater and ground water harvesting is a key SPC interest. Less than one quarter of water supply in PICs is covered by water utilities. Noted the importance of roof rainwater collection and sanitation to be included in building manuals. Noted the recent MFAT funded project on gutter and rainwater improvements in Nauru, Niue, and Tonga.

- *Rainfall frequency* and intensity in relation to climate change. (Kiribati study - rainfall is inadequate noting that more than 90% of houses rely on groundwater and that attention needs to be applied to private shallow wells and public water supplies. The SPC infrastructure project on Christmas Island for Drinking water supply was noted).
- *Drilling standards* need to address substandard drilling techniques.
- *Coastal inundation* - noted that under the TCAP project SPC are finalising coastal inundation hazard products for all islands (high resolution). SPC are starting a project with the New Zealand National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) working on hazard/risk assessment and risk informed decision in RMI, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Samoa and Tonga.
- *Sustainable aggregate* risk profiling scenarios (RMI).
- *Town planning* risk profiling in Malekula and Tanna, Vanuatu.
- *Building codes and building acts* to regulate the construction supply chain.
- *Capacity Development* - connecting with PRIF on options for improving water and sanitation capacity. Training of water technicians in outer islands.
- *Eco-sanitation*, standard designs for composting toilets. Noted that UNICEF are working on eco WASH systems in schools and healthcare centres.

Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP)

The Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP) is the umbrella implementation mechanism for the Framework for Resilience Development in the Pacific (FRDP) and was established in 2017. The FRDP provides high level strategic guidance to different stakeholder groups on how to enhance resilience to climate change and disasters in ways that contribute to and are embedded in sustainable development. The PRP have established a Technical Working Group on Resilient Infrastructure and Resilient Housing. The TWG comprise a range of persons from various organisations with a focus on preparedness-response-recovery to resilient infrastructure and housing and disaster management. Organisations include:

- New Caledonia Construction Reference (NCRC)
- National Disaster Management Office representatives from Kiribati, Fiji, Cook Islands
- Habitat 4 humanity Fiji, New Zealand, and New Caledonia
- SPC
- PQI
- IRIS-CDRI
- UN Habitat
- PRIF

Pacific Islands Development Program (PIDP)

The PIDP, based at the East-West centre Honolulu Hawaii, provides the nations and peoples of the Pacific innovative capacity building, interchange among regional leaders, and policy-relevant research on priority issues.

Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) and Rights and Inclusion Australia (R&IA)

PDF are a constituency of 71 organisations of, and for, persons with disabilities and individual members representing diverse groups of persons with disabilities and their supporters in 22 Pacific Island countries and territories. PDF have engaged R&IA to prepare regional disability and accessibility standards and enforcement guidelines.

Pacific Partnership for the New Urban Agenda (PP-NUA)

The New Urban Agenda was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in October 2016, and it was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly at the seventy-first session in December 2016. The New Urban Agenda represents a shared vision for a better and more sustainable urban future.

The formal launch of the Pacific Partnership for the New Urban Agenda (PP-NUA) brings together 8 regional organisations to accelerate action on sustainable urban development. This includes UN-Habitat, UN-ESCAP, the Commonwealth Local Government Association, Compass Housing Services, EAROPH, ICLEI Oceania, Melbourne University and Monash University. The PP-NUA calls on all actors at the local, national, and regional levels to address issues of social equity, urban economy, environment and resilience and governance and to link Pacific concerns with global processes in the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

A meeting was held between the PP-NUA and INBCSP teams on 25 January 2022 and PP-NUA provided with a copy of the Inception Report. PP-NUA noted that providing support for capacity building development of guidelines on land capacity for site permits would be an excellent fit for the PP-NUA available skills. They offered to provide:

- An investigation and summary of the NUA initiatives that the Pacific Islands have committed to, highlighting any links to building codes, urban planning, and infrastructure resilience.
- A summary of commitments and studies that are part of the Regional Pacific Nationally Determined Contribution Hub (NDCs) that link building codes to urban planning.
- Any other PIC urban studies and related climate change initiatives that are linked to building codes and standards.

Pacific Quality Infrastructure (PQI) Project

The PQI project sits under the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat and is in an early stage of development to establish regional quality infrastructure frameworks for standardisation, metrology, conformity assessments, and quality promotion for all Forum Island countries. PQI is based in Suva and has three staff, a coordinator, project manager and financial manager /admin officer.

The Inception Report was provided to PQI, and a meeting was held between the INBCSP team and Ulrich Diekmann, the PQI Regional Quality Infrastructure Coordinator, on 16 March 2022. Key take outs from the meeting relating to NBC and building standards coordination and harmonisation were:

- While PQI are not overly concerned with Building Codes, the standards that different codes reference are of mutual interest.
- A regional standards committee to coordinate the harmonisation, development and adoption of standards and a regional committee for testing to enhance current capacities for testing of materials are to be established shortly. These committees will have an interest in how PRIF are supporting building standards, inspection and certification.
- For materials testing, PQI interest is on supporting existing laboratories and instituting a laboratory network, not establishing new laboratories. PRIF noted that there are currently concrete testing laboratories at works departments in Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomons and RMI have access to local US army testing laboratories.
- Initial PQI emphasis is on trade, however there is also a chapter in the broader PQI concept note for “Beyond Trade” that will include relevant standards for design and construction of hard infrastructure.
- Pacific Islands Forum members have nominated focal points in most PICs for standards harmonisation and development. Most of these focal points are based in departments of commerce, trade, and industry. PQI will share this list with PRIF and PRIF will share their list of PoCs with PQI.
- Standards Australia (SA) is one of PQI’s main implementing partners. PQI have finalised a contract with SA to provide basic training and assist the PQI committee develop new standards.
- To date there has been no meaningful collaboration between PQI and Standards New Zealand (SNZ).

- PQI noted that access to standards is a major issue for PICs.
- Of particular interest to PRIF is the development of product standards related to locally sourced construction materials, such as native timbers, thatch, sand, and aggregate (such as coral and phosphate pinnacles) and design technics and methods standards related to vernacular architecture. PQI have a mutual interest in product standards as they relate to exportable goods that can generate income for PICs.
- PQI would have an interest in being involved in the INBCSP stakeholder survey to be distributed in April.
- A long-term goal of PQI is to establish a portal with access to all regional standards.

Référentiel de la construction de la Nouvelle-Calédonie (RCNC) – (New Caledonia Construction Reference).

The Inception Report was provided to the RCNC, and a meeting was held between PRIF, RCNC, SPS, Pacific Forum and the Pacific Resilience Partnership on 15 February where RCNC presented their Oceanic Housing Study. The objectives of the meeting were:

- Sharing of multi-hazard risks information that will inform the Oceanic Housing Study
- Support for the development of vernacular guidelines to target buildings not covered under the NBC in other PICs not currently part of the Oceanic vernacular guidelines program.

PRIF noted that there are currently 4 levels of codes and guidelines being used in PICs:

1. National Building Codes: high level codes targeting all buildings; public, commercial, institutional, industrial, and housing. The codes are mandatory and supported by legislation.
2. Home Builders Manuals: companion volumes to the NBC with drawings, tables, and guidelines illustrating how a simple house can be construction to comply with the legal requirements of the NBC.
3. Shelter guides: a guide targeting preparedness-response-recovery for buildings in disaster prone areas, in particular urban settlement areas where materials used are a mixture of manufactured and local materials and the quality of construction is poor and does not comply with the NBC. Shelter Guides have been developed by Habitat for Humanity Fiji with the RMIT university under DFATs Australian Humanitarian Partnership – Disaster READY program (refer item 3.1-DFAT).
4. Vernacular Guidelines: guidelines for traditional housing structures constructed using local materials and techniques but which do not comply with the NBC. Guidelines are Currently being developed for Fiji, New Caledonia, and Vanuatu by the RCNC. Kiribati has approached RCNC if they can be included in the program.

PRIF noted that the INBCSP-TA specifically targets levels one and two and takes a holistic approach encompassing legislative and instructional frameworks, compliance capacity building and promotion and awareness. It was also noted that in some countries, eg Solomon islands, the NBC only targets buildings on registered land and public buildings on custom land. Housing on custom land is excluded and that having guidelines for vernacular architecture would be a useful resource for these situations.

In relation to the meeting objectives PRIF advised:

- One of the key objectives of the INBCPS was to collate and share available data on multi hazards that would support PIC building design and inform the structural and WASH chapters of PIC building codes. PRIF will share what they have with RCNC.
- While the INBCSP-TA are interested to hear about developments under levels 3 & 4 and will record and share the developments with PRIF partners and members, level 3 & 4 activities are not a key focus of the INBCSP-TA.

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

SPREP is the regional organisation established by the governments and administrations of the Pacific charged with protecting and managing the environment and natural resources of the Pacific. One of the four Regional Goals of SPREP, which has relevance to the INBCSP-TA is: “*Pacific people benefit from strengthened resilience to climate change*”. One of the climate resilience projects is the development of electrical installation guidelines for Nauru. These guidelines will be relevant to the new Nauru Building Code.

A meeting between SPREP and the INBCSP-TA team was held on 23 December 2021 where input was provided by the INBCSP team into the Nauru electrical installation Terms of Reference. Requests for proposals were advertised in February and a consultant is due to be appointed in March. SPREP have requested that the INBCSP team join the inception meeting with the consultant once a contract has been signed.

Standards Australia, Standards New Zealand, International Code Council (ICC),

Standards Australia (SA) is Australia’s primary standards organisation. It is non-government and non-profit and is recognised through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Australian government as the main standards development body in Australia. The MoU recognises SA as Australia’s representative on the International Organization for Standardisation (ISO) and the Pacific Area Standards Congress (PASC).

Standards New Zealand (SNZ) is a business unit within the New Zealand Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE). SNZ manage the development and publication of standards and standards-related solutions and publish and sell New Zealand, joint Australian/New Zealand and international standards. SNZ is New Zealand’s representative for the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

SA and SNZ work together to develop joint standards (AS/NZS). Most of the building standards referenced in the southern PIC NBCs are AS, NZS or AS/NZS standards.

The International Code Council (ICC) is a major global source of model codes and standards. The International Building Code is a model building code developed by the ICC. It has been adopted for use as a base code standard by most jurisdictions in the United States and the main building code used by northern PICs (FSM, RMI and Palau).

United Nations Development Program UNDP

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a United Nations organization tasked with helping countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable economic growth and human development. It has a focus on governance, which is an important part of this TA, improving legislative and institutional frameworks around building codes and building capacity and capability to better support building code compliance.

The Inception Report was provided to the UNDP and a meeting was held between the INBCSP-TA team and UNDP pacific based representatives on the 4 March 2022. The INBCSP team noted they would share with UNDP opportunities for building control legislative and institutional support that will be identified during the technical assistance, and which will be summarized in the Final TA report.

Take outs from the meeting included:

- UNDP priority is risk informed development.
- UNDP recommend stakeholders use the ISO risk management standards to identify risk.
- In the Pacific – UNDP are focusing on:
 - Residual risk after a disaster.
 - Livelihoods after a disaster.
 - Restoration of basic services.
- UNDP is part of the CDRI.

UNDP noted the following UNDP projects that may be relevant to improving building codes:

- Fiji project - rural housing, Fiji. TC Yasa. Habitat for Humanity.
- Retrofitting project based on historical loss and damages in private sector in India.
- Development of an ISO for resilient infrastructure with a coastal and tsunami focus that is driven by a UNDP partner in Japan – Tohoko university.
- Digital solutions. In Nepal assisted government with e-building codes.

United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF is a United Nations agency responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide. UNICEF's activities include improving sanitation and providing emergency relief in response to disasters.

UNICEF have been involved in the sanitation and governance aspects of various Safe Schools projects around the Pacific, specifically in Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. These projects are relevant to the public building health and amenity sections of NBCs.

The Inception Report was provided to UNICEF and a meeting was held between the INBCSP-TA team and UNICEF Pacific based representative on 11 March. PRIF requested UNICEF provide a list of schools and sanitation projects that they are involved with around the Pacific together with the focal point and email address of the implementor for each project. The INBCSP-TA team noted they will share with UNICEF any information that may be relevant to UNICEF Pacific activities.

UN Habitat

UN Habitat is the United Nations Human Settlements Program for human settlements and sustainable urban development. It is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. It is a member of the United Nations Development Group. The twin goals of the Habitat Agenda are:

- adequate shelter for all and
- the development of sustainable human settlements in an urbanising world.

UN Habitat is one of the key partners in the Pacific Partnership for the New Urban Agenda (PP-NUA) and has been closely involved in DFAT’s Australian Humanitarian Partnership – Disaster READY program - developing shelter guides for Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. It has been directly involved in building code projects in the Caribbean and Asia.

INBCSP will set up a meeting with UN-Habitat to discuss recent and current UN Habitat building code related projects in the Pacific, and collaborations with PRIF development partners, in late March-early April.

UN Office for Disaster Risk Construction (UNDRR)

The UNDRR have appointed a new head of the UNDRR Office for the Pacific. Two pieces of work that have been highlighted by the UNDRR that may be interest to the INBCPS-TA are:

1. The global consultation on ‘Principles for Resilient Infrastructure’, taking place on March 28, 2022. UNDRR is developing these global principles to raise awareness and set an understanding of what “resilient infrastructure” constitutes.
2. The 2022 Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction , 19 – 22 September 2022 (Brisbane, Australia). One of the pillars is “resilient infrastructure” and the UNDRR Pacific head is leading the development of this pillar. SPC have noted that this conference is an opportunity to ensure that Pacific issues and voices are well embedded in the UNDRR program.

PRIF are considering whether the INBCSP-TA should be involved in the September conference.

It is noted that considerable information is available on resilience, and there are many different definitions looking at numerous aspects, from preparedness to recovery. UNDRR, UN Habitat, ISO, British Standards, Australia, FEMA all have their definition. Some link to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the New Urban Agenda, Paris Agreement and Sendai Framework, some with disaster resilience, climate resilience, etc....and some with links to sustainability, building materials and components.

Buildings Codes are a critical piece to the puzzle. There are new building code trends to transition from acceptable standards of structural sufficiency, fire safety, health and amenity to functional recovery, pushing building codes away from life safety and towards lower damage faster recovery times post-hazard event Governments, insurance, owners and businesses are realising that they are spending too much time and resources trying to recover post-disaster (with some areas never getting back to their pre-economic activity levels) and this distracts from advancing development and retaining business.

These concerns will need to be considered when facilitating support from PRIF partners.

US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), United States Department of the Interior

The USACE is an engineer formation of the United States Army that has three primary mission areas: engineer regiment, military construction, and civil works.

The Office of Insular Affairs in the US Department of the Interior has engaged the US Army Engineer District, Honolulu to develop a Critical Infrastructure Design Guide (CIDG) for the insular areas. The CIDG will provide design guidance for standardising and improving the quality and long-term performance of construction projects which are critical to island communities. The areas included in this project are American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the US Virgin Islands, FSM, RMI and Palau.

The Honolulu District developed a similar Design Guide for the Kwajalein Atoll because of many years of code compliant designs which still resulted in premature system failures and unsustainable designs and construction. The guide has been shared with the INBCSP team. It was clear that the hot, humid, and corrosive atoll environment demanded additional guidance to ensure that resilient materials were specified and that designers were aware of the unique requirements for island environments. The Insular CIDG is being developed by a local Architect/Engineer firm, INK/Stantec Honolulu.

A Webinar, attended by the INBCSP BCS, was conducted by the USACE on 13 January 2021 to summarise the findings of the INK/Stantec's e-mail and telephone surveys of building codes and local issues/interests. The CIDG was issued 10 March 2022.

USACE have requested that PRIF be a resource and reviewer for the design Guide. This has been agreed by PRIF and the INBCSP BCS will review the CIDG late March 2022.

4 CONTACT DETAILS

Contact details for all development partner, member PIC and regional stakeholder project personnel and other related personnel are available from PRIF on request.