



Pacific  
Humanitarian  
Team

# Realigning the Pacific Humanitarian Team Approach

**Pacific Humanitarian Partnership Meeting**

Thursday 20 October 2016



# Common Feedback

- Confusion around **the role of the PHT and how it – including regional clusters – relates to national systems** and structures. What is the PHT and what does it do exactly?
- Concern international staff come in after a disaster and **don't know about existing systems and structures**. They try to bring in standard international systems and ways of working and don't pay enough respect to existing national structures.
- National governments / partners want to better understand international systems and mechanisms. They want to know **what support is available and how it can be activated**.



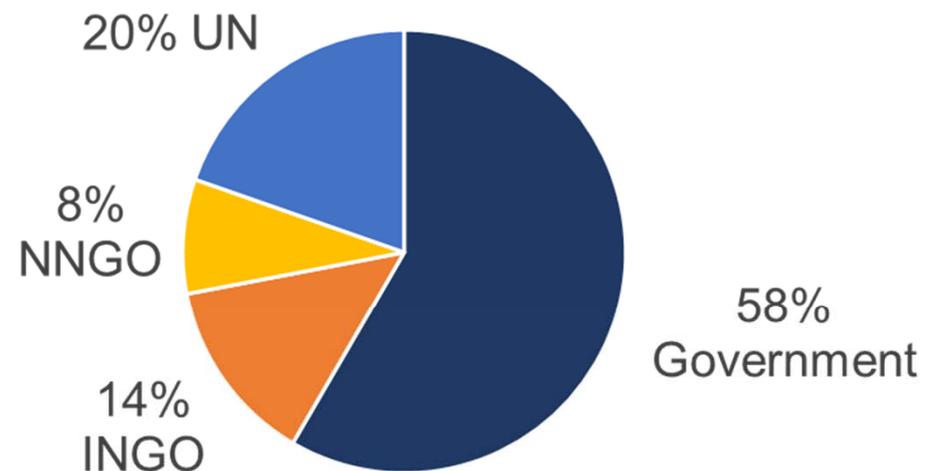
# How we got to here

- Pre-PHT**
  - Existing, and evolving, national disaster management systems and capacity.
  - Existing international support – UN, NGOs, bi-lateral
- 2008**
  - PHT established** at first Regional Inter-Agency Contingency Workshop “**to foster regional partnerships and thereby improve regional humanitarian response capacity**”
- 2009**
  - Regional Inter-Agency Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (EPREP)** developed
- 2012**
  - PHT endorsed by Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)** as part of the global humanitarian system



# PHT in Disaster Response

- Since 2008 the **PHT has responded to more than 30 disasters in both the North and South Pacific**
- The PHT has mobilized technical expertise, relief items and funding in support of national disaster responses
- In TC Winston and TC Pam, PHT supported appeals raised more than US\$42 million
- **Two-thirds (66%) of funding received under the TC Winston Flash Appeal was for activities implemented by national Government and NGOs**



# Drivers for Change

## Lessons from Recent Disasters

- TC Pam, TC Winston, El Nino
- Feedback & After Action Reviews

## World Humanitarian Summit

- Pacific Consultations (2015)
- Istanbul Summit (2016)

## Changes in External Environment

- Increasing national capacity
- Shift towards integrated approach



- 1. What is the PHT?**
- 2. What does the PHT do in Response?**
- 3. What does the PHT do in Preparedness?**
- 4. Country Preparedness Package Pilot**



# What is the PHT?

- **A network of humanitarian organisations that work together to assist Pacific Island countries in preparing for and responding to disasters.**
- The PHT recognises and respects national Government leadership in disaster preparedness and response
- The PHT is guided by and committed to humanitarian principles and gender equality.
- The PHT promotes participation and accountability towards affected communities to ensure the needs and rights of all disaster affected people are met, including the most marginalized and vulnerable.



# PHT Structures

**PHT Heads of  
Organisation Group  
or 'Principals'**

**Regional  
Inter-Cluster  
Group**

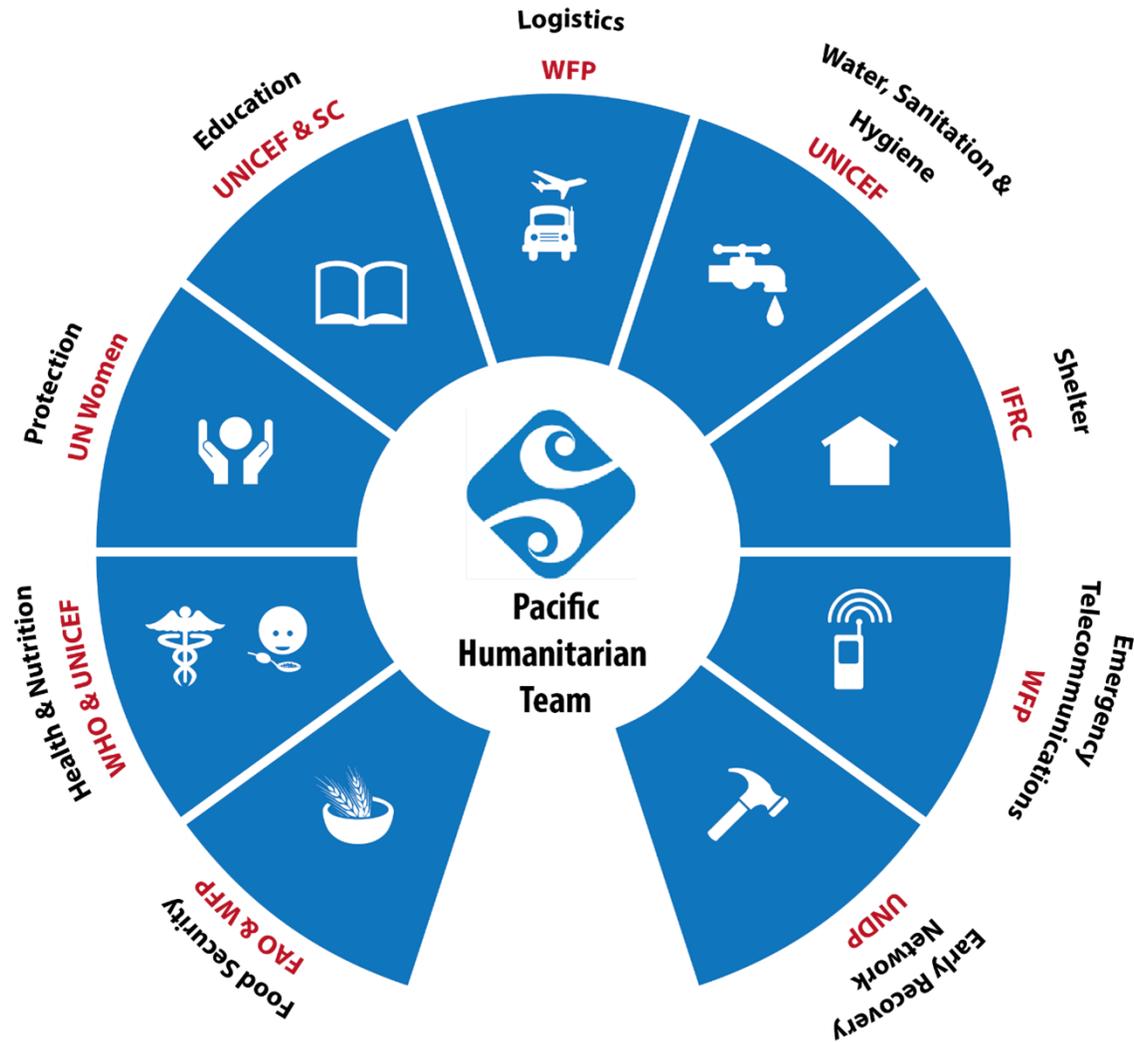
**Cluster Support Teams**  
- 9 Cluster Support Teams  
- Lead Agencies

- Email groups
- Online information systems  
[pht.humanitarianresponse.info](http://pht.humanitarianresponse.info)
- Pacific Humanitarian Partnership (PHP) meetings

**OCHA  
(PHT Secretariat)**



# Cluster Support Teams



# What does the PHT do in Response?

Provide **support to existing national and local response systems**, based on specific requests for assistance from national Governments.

Resource Mobilisation

Emergency Stocks

Technical Expertise

Coordination Support

Assessment Support

IM Support

Communications and Advocacy



# What does the PHT do in Preparedness?

Work with national Governments and partners to ensure necessary arrangements are in place to enable effective international support to a nationally-led disaster response.

The PHT's has now adopted a **country-specific approach to its preparedness work**. This recognises that every country and every context is different, and requires unique approach

## Country Preparedness Package (CPP)



# Country Preparedness Package (CPP) Pilot

- A process in which national and international actors develop and agree upon **a country-specific approach** for how they will work together in a disaster
- **International actors more aware of existing national disaster plans, systems and structures**
- National actors become **more aware of international support options** and how they can be activated
- Developed and agreed with the national government in advance of a disaster



# CPP Sections

CPP is broken into Sections, each focused on a particular issue or topic.

Each section will document key information about that topic including;

## National Arrangements

- Summary of existing national systems and structures
- Links to key national reference documents (eg disaster plans)
- Names and contacts for key national structures

## Support Arrangements

- Based on discussions with national government and partners
- Outline likely international support needs and how they will fit into national structures

## Reference Information

- Links to international reference documents and guidance
- Provides reference standards as a guide



# CPP Sections

## Basic Requirements

- Risk Monitoring Mechanism
- Legislation (inc IDRL)
- Disaster Structures, Plans, Policies and SOPs
- Engagement of Prime Minister / Senior Political Figures
- Engagement of Ministries (inc Planning & Finance)
- Awareness of International Humanitarian Systems & Principles
- Gender and Protection Mainstreaming
- Plan / Mechanisms for Slow Onset Disasters

## Coordination Arrangements

- National Level Partner Coordination Mechanism (eg Clusters)
- Sub-National Level Partner Coordination Mechanisms
- NGO Coordination/ Engagement Mechanism
- Civil-Military Coordination Arrangements
- Private Sector Engagement & Coordination
- Partner Presence and Capacity Mapping

## Advanced Preparedness Planning

- Disaster or Simulation in Past 18 Months
- Specific Contingency Plan

## Information & Assessments

- Assessment Protocols / Mechanisms
- Information Management Systems (inc Data Preparedness)
- Response Monitoring Mechanisms
- Public Information Mechanisms (inc Communicating with Communities)

## Operational Arrangements

- Emergency Funding Mechanisms (inc Funds & Systems)
- Logistics Capacity, Planning & Infrastructure
- Emergency Telecommunications
- Standard Relief Assistance Package Planning
- Visa/Entry Requirements

## Cluster / Sector Arrangements

- Health & Nutrition
- Education
- WASH
- Food Security & Livelihoods
- Protection
- Shelter
- Early Recovery



# Completed Country Preparedness Package

- **Agreed with national government and partners**
- Made available online on [humanitarianresponse.info](http://humanitarianresponse.info)
- Able to be updated with new national arrangements or support agreements
- Printable version able to be given to incoming international staff
- **Used as the basis for quickly deploying tailored international support to nationally-led disaster response operations**



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