

National Society-IFRC-WFP Capacity Strengthening Initiative

Monthly Report: PACIFIC

November-December-January 2019

1. What has happened in the last month/s?

The first Logistics Development intern was hosted during Nov-Dec 2018. Selected from Ba Province Branch of Fiji Red Cross in western Fiji, a full briefing program was provided by IFRC and WFP to the intern to provide a proper orientation to the work of both organizations. A range of mandatory and optional on-line trainings were also used to supplement the learning of the intern.

The detailed workplan for the Intern was confirmed and she joined IFRC and WFP representatives to participate in the Polynesian Sub-Regional Logistics Cluster workshop and visit to Tonga Red Cross in Nuku'alofa, Tonga. Supported by IFRC and WFP, the intern developed a first draft of an emergency item stockholding plan that could be used by Red Cross-National Societies in the Pacific and potentially national logistic Cluster to promote pre-positioning strategies and in turn common storage.

The first intern concluded her placement by completing debriefing and reporting.

2. What is going well? What are the challenges?

Feedback from first intern was overwhelmingly positive about the experience. The first intern had very little prior technical logistics experience or knowledge, meaning that learning about the role of the Logistics Cluster, IFRC supply chain systems and best-practice storage site management procedures were new subjects encountered for the first time. Given the prior level of knowledge, the intern did exemplary work to produce a first draft of an emergency item stockholding plan, however the template needs further support and refinement before pilot testing. The IFRC OPLSC unit in the Asia-Pacific Regional Office in Malaysia is providing some assistance with technical support.

Monthly meeting are taking place between WFP and IFRC in Suva, Fiji to regularly discuss the progress of initiatives. However, there are remaining contractual questions from IFRC global team yet to be resolved.

3. What is planned for next month?

The second intern placement and workplan will be confirmed and organized by IFRC. We hope that this intern will undertake training and support WFP roll out of PALM across their home island

Additionally, on-going support to the first intern to implement learnings from the internship within her home organization must be provided. As a next step, it is planned the first intern

will participate and help support a one-week residential stock management training for Fiji Red Cross Branches being planned by IFRC and Fiji Red Cross in February 2019.

4. Any reflections or questions

Some highlights from the debriefing and final report of the first intern placement included:

- The IFRC on-line learning platform was very informative and useful. The intern plans to fundraise locally to buy her Red Cross Branch office a computer so that other Red Cross volunteers can do the trainings. The intern was also introduced to the Logistics Cluster on-line training system - <https://logcluster.org/trainings>
- The intern reported that she learnt more in 2-months than some of her peer volunteers say they learn in 2-years
- She felt well supported throughout the internship and would recommend the internship to others

Hosting an intern from a Red Cross Branch office also allowed IFRC and WFP staff to better understand some of the challenges of local Red Cross volunteers in Branches in Fiji.



Logistics Development intern, Vani participates in the Amazing Race - an interactive training method get logistic practitioners familiar with LCAs

Logistics Development intern, Vani is at Nuku'alofa ferry terminal with colleagues from Polynesia getting transport and storage option during the simulation exercise.

