



unitar

United Nations Institute for Training and Research



From
the People of Japan

Project Completion Report 2022 Cycle



WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN TSUNAMI-BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMME FOR WORLD TSUNAMI AWARENESS DAY

TARH0058

DIVISION FOR PROSPERITY

30 June 2023, Hiroshima, Japan

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Acknowledgements



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- Mr. Alexander Su'a – Lawyer; President - Samoa Faafafine Association
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- Ishinomaki City Government
- Hirogawa Town Government
- Institute for Climate and Peace



Executive Summary

The 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami and the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami were two of the most devastating tsunamis of the last two decades. They have led to serious reflection on the destructive forces of nature and the impact these hazards have on our communities and the accomplishment of the 2030 Agenda.

Socially vulnerable people such as women, the elderly, youth, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous people, refugees, migrants and other marginalized people become even more vulnerable in emergencies. Empowering women to take part in decision-making processes reduces their vulnerability to disasters and benefits whole communities.

Programme Summary

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), with its partners, ran the **2022 Women's Leadership in Tsunami-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programme for World Tsunami Day** from 12 September 2022 to 11 March 2023. The 2022 cycle marked the seventh round of the Programme and the first time it included a second phase.

The Programme sought to empower professionals to help their countries and communities better prevent, prepare for, confront and recover from disasters. It paid particular attention to the gender-specific capacities and vulnerabilities in communities.

It was open to adults of all genders from around the globe, with priority given to applicants from the Pacific region, especially from small island developing states.

The first phase was a 10-week online learning course on the fundamentals of disaster risk reduction, as per previous years in 2020/21. The new second phase was a one-week in-person workshop, held in Apia, Samoa. Participants developed skills and knowledge for disaster risk management and leadership.

The Programme was implemented by the long-standing supported by the Government of Japan.

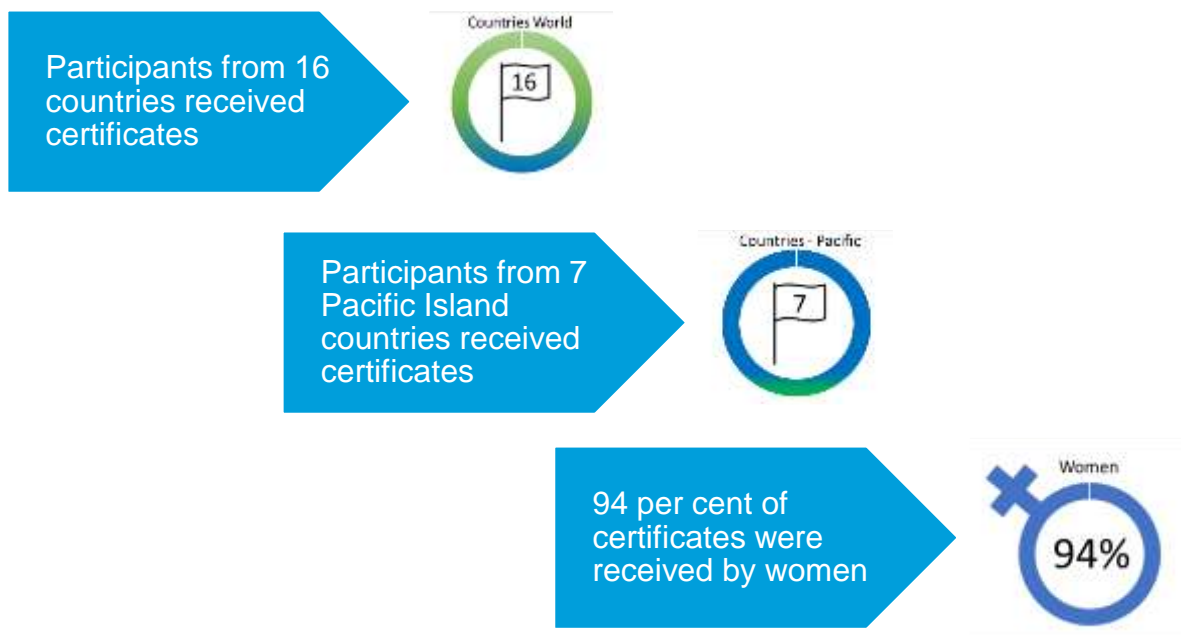


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Programme Statistics

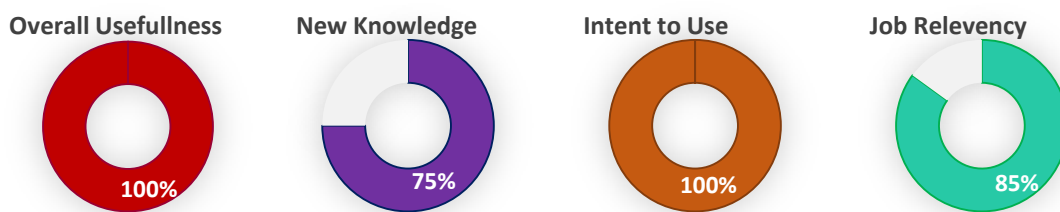
The 2022 Programme issued a total of 83 certificates of completion by the end of both phases.



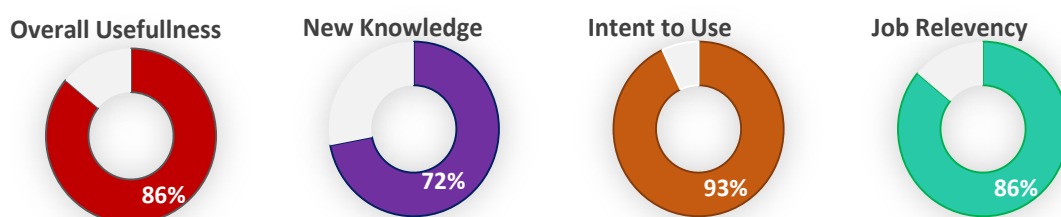
Outcomes

All participants ranked *overall usefulness* and with *intent to use* in phase I as 100 per cent. The *job relevancy* of the training material including *new knowledge* gained, were equally ranked in both phases. However, *new knowledge* obtained ranked the lowest of all the indicators. This could be an implication of the successful adoption of knowledge about the Sendai Framework, DRR concepts and practices: being rooted and mainstreamed in the daily practices.

Phase I



Phase II



Lessons Learned

Disaster risk reduction accounting for climate change **continues to be a key priority**, especially for the Pacific region. **Interest in the training programme is growing exponentially**, especially from Southeast Asia as well as from DRR professionals with decades of experience.

The return of **in-person training has had a huge positive impact** on the participants which included networking with experts, resource persons and colleagues. **Participants stayed in touch afterwards**; some set up a working group **and published a scientific paper**.

Programme alumni are making noticeable contributions to the disaster risk reduction field, and some have returned as resource persons for the Programme.

Participants indicated that **increasing relevant Pacific content** greatly enhanced their learning experience.

Only 71 per cent of participants felt the workshop was long enough, meaning others **wanted the workshop to be longer**.

Technical and connectivity instability, the cost of the internet, and technological access continue to be a challenge for many participants in the Pacific. It is nonetheless promising that participants found creative ways around the problem for their final group presentations for Phase II (Annex VI).

Local interest in the programme event was noted during Phase II that was held in Samoa. News publications in the local media and interest from the local population was also observed (Annex VIII).



About Us

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), established in 1963, is the dedicated adult-learning training arm of the United Nations. We deliver innovative learning solutions to individuals and organizations to enhance decision-making and support action towards a better future.

The Division for Prosperity is one of the seven divisions of UNITAR and consists of the Public Finance and Trade Programme Unit and the Hiroshima Office. Driven to “leave no one behind”, we provide creative, cutting-edge learning solutions to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

We strive to reach society’s most vulnerable, including women, youth, and those in conflict situations. Our clients are individuals and institutions in least developed countries, small island developing states and conflict and post-conflict countries.

With staff in Geneva and Hiroshima, as well as field staff across the world, our reach is global, allowing us to deliver critical training and support to learners from more than 90 countries.

On behalf of the Division, I thank you for your support for our work and vital mission. Working together, we can make meaningful progress in building the next generation of changemakers and move closer to eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities for a sustainable, inclusive and prosperous future for all.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Kumamoto'.

Mihoko Kumamoto

Director

Hiroshima Office, Division for Prosperity

United Nations Institute for Training and Research



Programme Summary

The 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami and the 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami were two of the most devastating tsunamis of the last two decades. They have led to serious reflection on the destructive forces of nature and the impact these hazards have on our communities and the accomplishment of the 2030 Agenda.

As the climate crisis worsens, the number of recorded disasters worldwide has drastically increased as has their intensity. Human-created disasters such as the Russian-Ukraine war and biological hazards like COVID-19 significantly disrupt industry, production and the food supply chains – highlighting the need for a comprehensive response that addresses multiple hazards.

Socially vulnerable people such as women, the elderly, youth, children, persons with disabilities, indigenous people, refugees, migrants and other marginalized people become even more vulnerable in emergencies. Empowering women to take part in decision-making processes reduces their vulnerability to disasters and benefits whole communities.

Against this backdrop, UNITAR, with its partners, ran the **2022 Women's Leadership in Tsunami-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Programme for World Tsunami Day** programme, from 12 September 2022 to 11 March 2023.

The 2022 cycle marked the DRR Programme's seventh round since its launch in 2016 and the first time it was expanded to include a second phase. The programme was fully supported by the People and Government of Japan.



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Objectives

The programme sought to empower professionals to help their countries and communities better prevent, prepare for, confront and recover from disasters.

The programme goal is to develop an “all-of-society” inclusive approach as guided by the Sendai Framework. The programme paid particular attention to the gender-specific capacities and vulnerabilities in communities, and the foundational knowledge of disaster risk reduction.

In the second phase, selected participants were trained in leadership and management skills important to disaster risk reduction and management in the Pacific Islands.

At the end of each phase, the participants should be able to:

Phase I

- Develop an inclusive country DRR plan
- Describe the key principles of disaster risk reduction, with a focus on the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
- Discuss the international and regional frameworks on disaster risk reduction
- Describe ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction
- Develop an increased understanding between climate and disaster risks
- Outline community-based DRR and what it means for an all-of-society approach
- Explain key lessons learned from Japan’s experience with disasters including the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami
- Illustrate the importance of gender-inclusive leadership in the context of DRR
- Describe climate-resilient and peace-oriented leadership
- Describe good practices in gender-inclusive DRR in the Pacific, Asia and Japan
- Report on and discuss norms and challenges regarding an all-inclusive approach to DRR
- Describe key elements of the multi-hazard approach, including biological hazards
- Describe multi-stakeholder coalition, and challenges in the Pacific

Phase II

- Describe important characteristics necessary for leadership and management in relation to Disaster Risk Management and the DRR experience
- Develop a technical understanding of risks associated with disasters that are more common in the region
- Outline effective communication skills in DRR and a working professional understanding of working with the media
- Discuss the needs of vulnerable groups for inclusivity in DRR planning
- Develop a deeper understanding and appreciation for nature-based solutions, indigenous and traditional knowledge and its relationship with local resilience

2022 Cycle Participants

The Programme was open to adults of all genders from around the globe, with priority given to applicants from the Pacific region, especially from small island developing states.

More than a hundred learners joined the 2022 DRR Programme, of which 65 earned a certificate from Phase I and 18 received certificates from Phase II. A total of 83 certificates were issued at the completion of this programme.¹

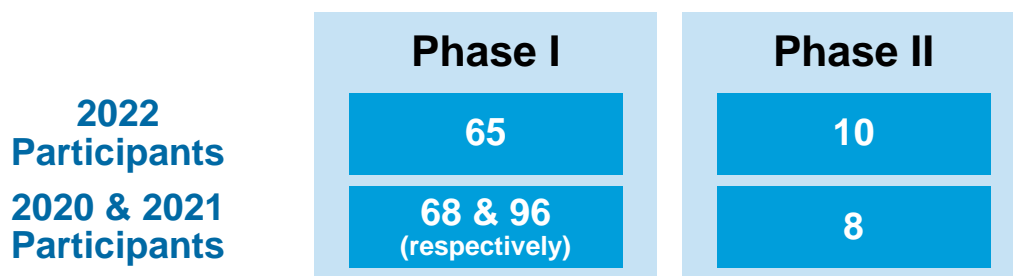


Table 1: Number of Participants who participated in Phase I and number who went onto Phase II

Many of the participants were from Pacific small island developing states. They joined from backgrounds including government, international organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector. Women accounted for 93 per cent of the certificates issued, while men accounted for 6 per cent, and the remaining 1 per cent was other gender (non-binary).

Participants from 16 countries received certificates from Phase I, while participants from nine countries received certificates in Phase II. Since 2016, the Programme has issued a total of 372 certificates, with the majority to women from the Pacific Islands.

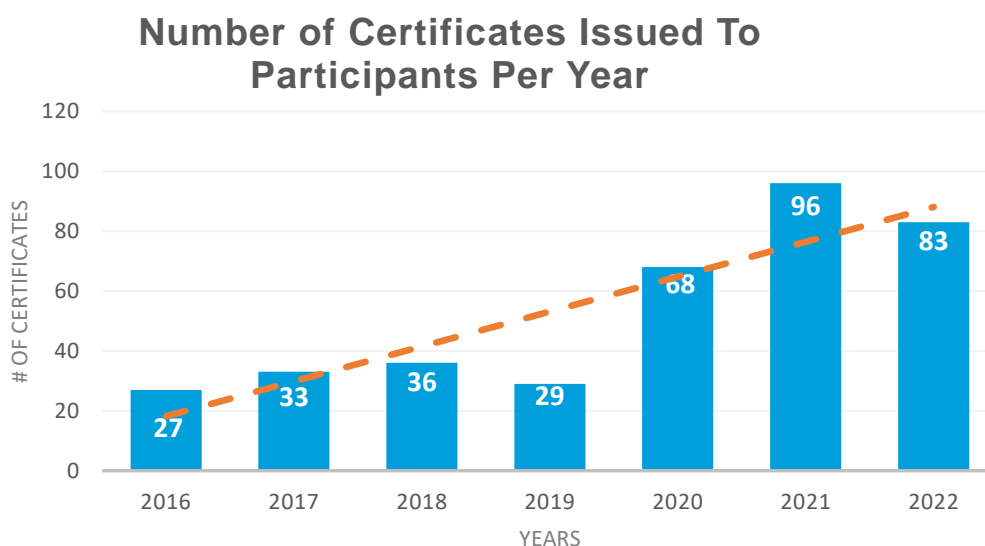


Diagram 1: Number of Participants who received certificates per cycle

¹ To receive a certificate of completion for Phase I, participants were required to complete EdApp online courses, contribute to weekly discussions and raise questions, complete the assignment and final individual proposal, and complete the final programme evaluation. For Phase II, participants were required to participate and complete the training workshop(s) and complete the evaluation and feedback on Phase II.

Of the certificates issued for Phase I, 26 (40%) were to participants from the Philippines, 11 (17%) from Samoa, 8 (12%) from Tonga, 4 (6%) from Fiji, 3 (5%) from Indonesia, 2 (3%) each from Vanuatu and Papua New Guinea, and one each (1.55%) from Afghanistan, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, Turkey, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Pakistan, India and Germany

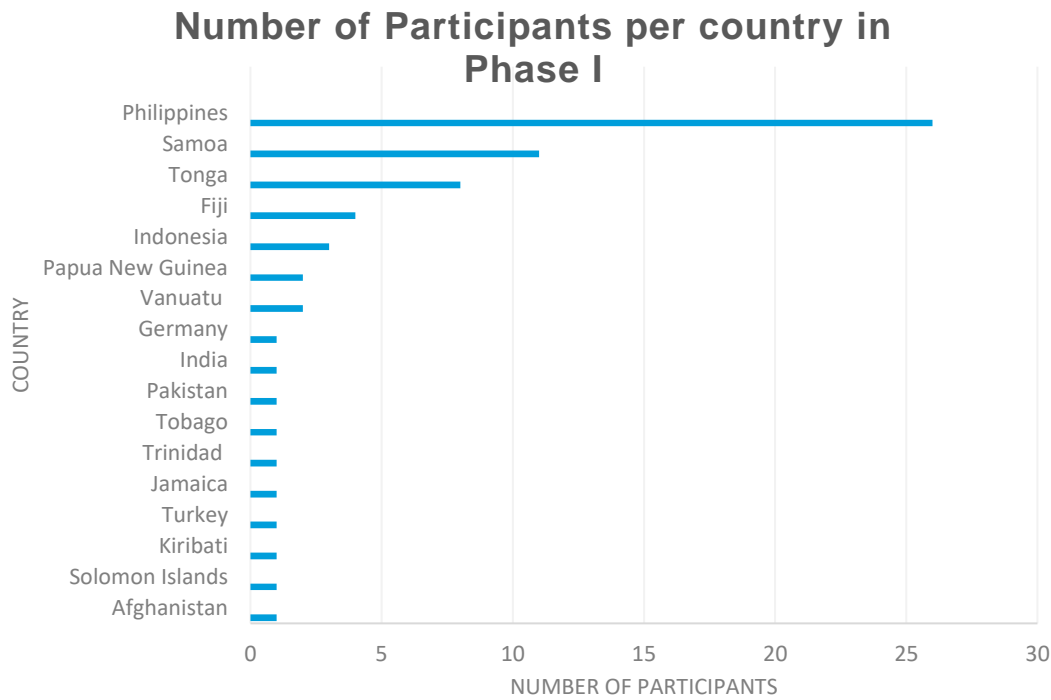


Diagram 2: Number of Participants from each country who received certification at the completion of Phase I of the 2022 programme

Of the certificates issued for Phase II: 4 were for participants from Samoa, 3 each from Tonga and the Philippines, two each from Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea, and one each from Kiribati, India, Federal States of Micronesia and Fiji.

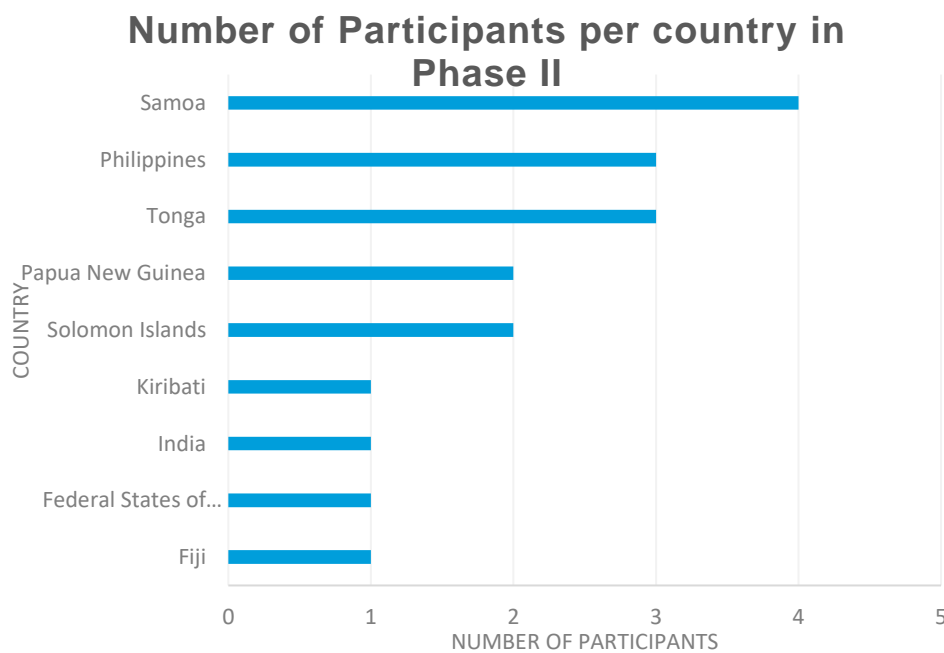


Diagram 3: Number of Participants from each country who completed Phase II of the 2022 programme

The largest number of 2022 Programme participants were from government and non-government organizations.

2022 PARTICIPANTS BY SECTOR

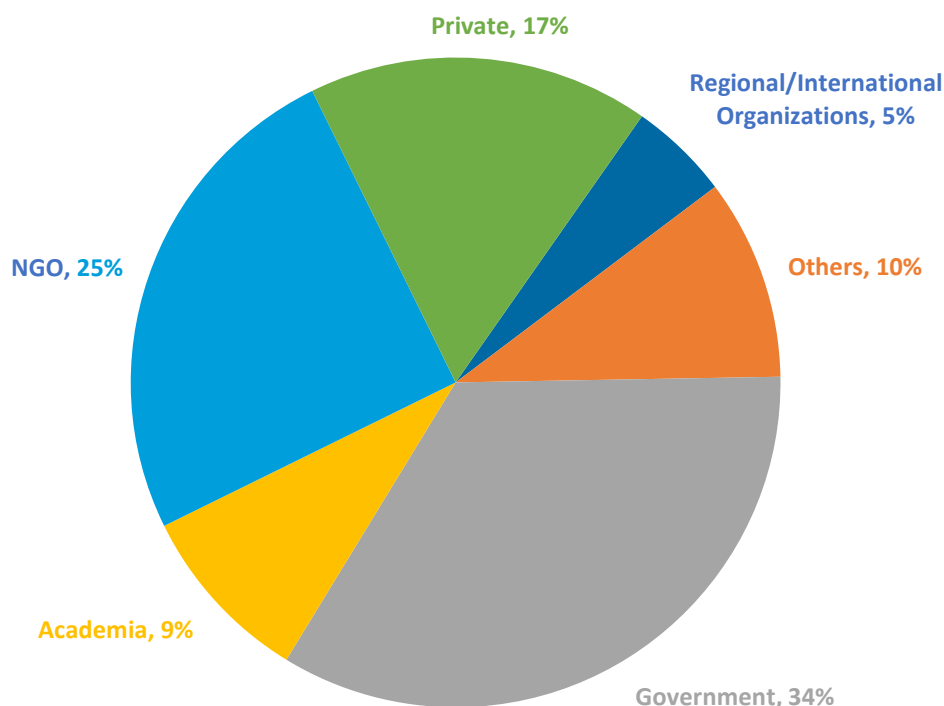


Diagram 4: Representation for each of the sectors in the 2022 programme. Percentage of participants per sector.

“ Despite the limitations, surprisingly, the training gave me a very pleasant and a good life turning experience. A lot of things that I cannot make sense in the past were manifested in this training.”

Dr Liberty Nolasco from the Philippines

Structure and Methodology

The 2022 Programme started with a needs assessment and contained two phases.

Needs Assessment

A needs assessment was undertaken to ensure that the Programme was aligned not only with DRR best practices but with the participants' self-assessed needs. We also considered feedback and evaluations from the Programme's previous cycles, relevant literature and interviews with regional and thematic experts.

Phase I

Phase I was 10 weeks of online learning with on-demand e-lessons, exercises and live webinars with experts. It started on 12 September 2022 and concluded on 2 December. Participants were required to submit a personalized DRR plan and a final assignment. Phase I drew from the extensive disaster experience of Japan, with complementary content from the Pacific and Southeast Asian experiences.

Introduction to DRR and Japan's Experiences

Participants learned about the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami and the 2018 heavy floods in Western Japan, and the importance of having a solid DRR plan. They learned about the basics of the Sendai Framework and the DRR initiatives of Sendai City and witnessed the difference in outcomes between having and not having a DRR plan. At the end of section 1, participants submitted a draft DRR plan as their first assignment.

Online Training Course – Sections

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific

This section focused on climate change and disaster risk reduction in the Pacific. Participants explored the international framework on disaster risk reduction in the context of the Pacific and learned about the linkages between climate change and disasters. In addition, they learned about the COVID-19 pandemic and its responses. Participants reviewed case studies from Japan and the Pacific.

Women's Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction

This section focused on gender equality and women's leadership in DRR. Participants considered why women's empowerment is necessary for DRR and how women's leadership leads to more equitable planning. They looked at DRR through a gender lens and developed essential leadership skills so they can take initiative and lead in DRR planning.

Preparing for Future Disasters: Preparedness and Community-based DRR

Participants were introduced to human rights-based considerations in developing an inclusive DRR plan that includes the socially vulnerable – such as persons with disabilities, children and the elderly. Other topics covered: community-based DRR, DRR education, community-inclusive DRR evacuation drills and passing down the spirit of DRR through rituals and ceremonies.

Participants completed on-demand e-learning courses on EdApp, an online microlearning platform, to gain a solid grounding in the topics. Each section included micro lessons, with virtual-reality tours and interview videos. Gamification was used to reinforce the learnings.

**Asynchronous
e-learning**

Subject-matter experts gave live webinars on disasters and risks, gender, climate change, traditional knowledge, and other topics. New video material, such as from survivors of the 2009 Samoa-Tonga tsunami, allowed participants to hear the voices of survivors and professionals and leaders from disaster-affected areas in the Pacific as well as in Japan.

**Voices of
experts and
disaster
survivors**

**Online
Learning -
Content**

The physical study tours and evacuation drills that defined the in-person trainings before the COVID-19 pandemic and conveyed the real impact of disasters were replaced with new material employing new technologies including virtual reality, video documentaries that used aerial drone technologies, and 3D maps.

**New
technologies**

Assignments

Participants were required to produce a localized DRR plan. The DRR plan had to include the following levels. (1) individuals/families, (2) communities/organizations, and (3) national/regional. In addition, participants submitted an individual project addressing risks in a sector of their choosing.

Participants joined five live webinars and interacted with experts from Japan, the Pacific and Southeast Asia. A new feature was the inclusion of disaster scenarios to generate discussion among participants and work as a group to formulate a DRR plan to address risks associated with specific individuals and hazards. Each webinar had different scenarios with fictional characters experiencing a particular disaster risk.


Webinars

Phase II

Phase II was a one-week in-person training workshop held in Apia, Samoa, from 6 to 11 March 2023. Its theme was Leadership and Management for Disaster Risk Reduction. Participants were selected based on their final assignments in Phase I. Participants who completed the online training in the 2020 and 2021 rounds were also invited, as they had no opportunity to meet in person at the time due to the COVID-19 pandemic and border closures.

Phase II gave participants an immersive and visceral experience with a Pacific perspective. At the end of the workshop, the anniversary of the 11 March 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami was observed.

Subject-matter experts were selected from local and regional organizations based in Samoa and presented on areas that contribute to the Phase II learning objectives. See Annex IV for the Phase II workshop agenda



Direct learning with experts

Participants learned directly from subject matter experts in a range of fields related to leadership and DRR management.

Participants went on physical study tours to areas affected by the 2009 Samoa-Tonga Tsunami, on the island of Upolu, Samoa. The participants also visited the National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), the Samoa Red Cross and other areas vulnerable to disasters.



Site visit tours



Interactive Learning

Participants were divided into small working groups where they could collaborate on their final group presentations. Peer-to-peer learning also took place in general sessions. Some participants said that it helped to learn that they shared similar experiences and environments with others, despite coming from various backgrounds.

Timeline

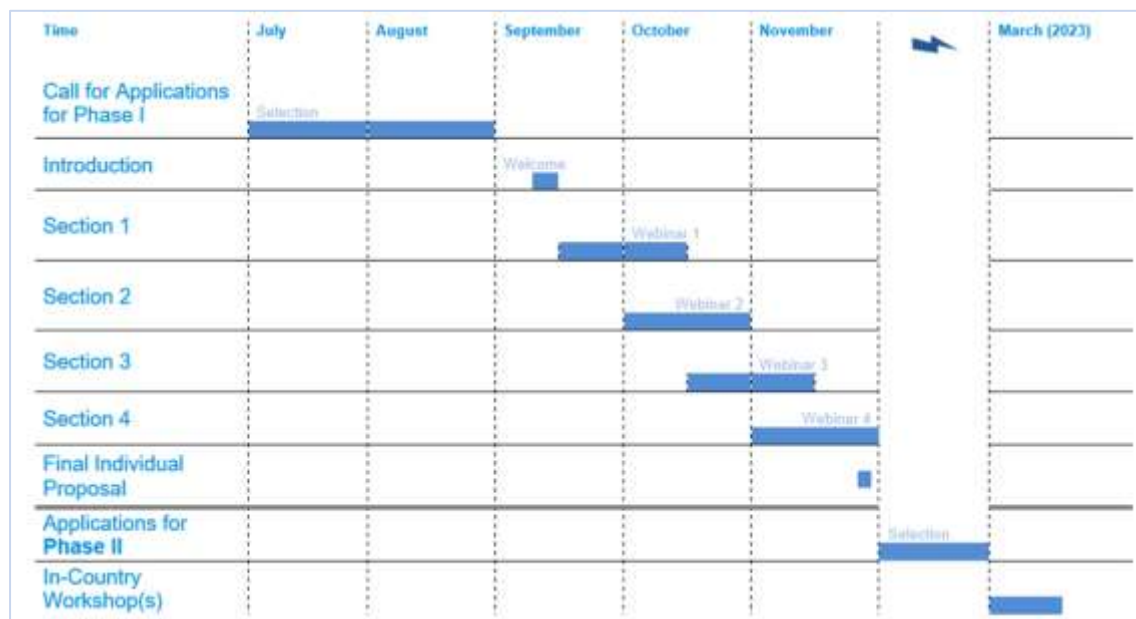


Diagram 5: The 2022 programme cycle timeline

2030 Agenda

The Programme supported the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the following SDGs.

Goal 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

4.5 By 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations

Goal 5 Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life

Goal 11 Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

11.5 By 2030, significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the direct economic losses relative to global gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

11.b By 2020, substantially increase the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and develop and implement, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, holistic disaster risk management at all levels

Goal 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and disasters in all countries

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning

13.b Promote mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing states, including focusing on women, youth and local and marginalized communities

Goal 16 Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

16.7 Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels



Outcomes

At the end of the phases, participants were asked to evaluate the Programme on the following:

1. UNITAR standard programme evaluation indicators: “New information,” “Job relevance,” “Intent to use,” “Overall usefulness”
2. Relevance of learning objectives and extent to which participants met learning objectives
3. Effectiveness of the methodologies
4. Knowledge changes from before to after the Programme

UNITAR Standard Programme Evaluation Indicators

The standard UNITAR programme evaluation indicators are as follows:

- **New information** evaluates to what extent the Programme provided new knowledge to the participants. Participants were asked to rate the statement “The information presented in this Programme was new to me.”
- **Job relevance** evaluates to what extent the Programme was relevant to a participant’s professional roles. Participants rated the statement “The content of the Programme was relevant to my job.”
- **Intent to use** evaluates to what extent the participants intend to use their new knowledge. All participants agreed or strongly agreed with the statement “It is likely that I will use the information acquired.”
- **Overall usefulness** evaluates to what extent the participants saw the programme as useful and was assessed by the statement “Overall, the Programme was useful.”

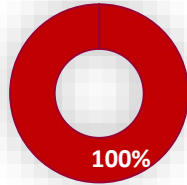
“ I express my gratitude for the opportunity to participate in 2022 cycle of UNITAR Women’s Leadership A Tsunami-based Disaster Risk Reduction Training Programme. It was truly a knowledgeable, practical and useful experience.”

Saumya Singh from India

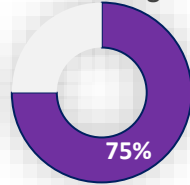
Phase I

Ninety-two per cent of participants responded to the survey at the end of Phase I. All participants found the Programme useful overall and all intended to use the knowledge and skills they acquired. Meanwhile, 85 per cent of participants found the training relevant to their current job and 75 per cent indicated the Programme provided them with new knowledge.

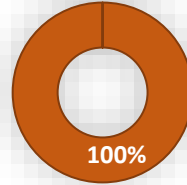
Overall Usefulness



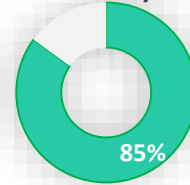
New Knowledge



Intent to Use



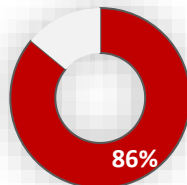
Job Relevancy



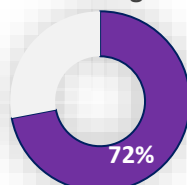
Phase II

According to the survey at the end of Phase II, 86 per cent of the participants found the Programme useful overall and 93 per cent intended to use the knowledge and skills acquired. Meanwhile, 86 per cent of participants found the training relevant to their current job, and 72 per cent indicated the Programme provided them with new knowledge.

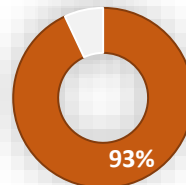
Overall Usefulness



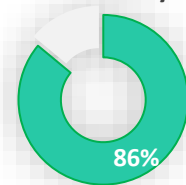
New Knowledge



Intent to Use



Job Relevancy



Relevance of Learning Objectives and Extent to Which Participants Met Learning Objectives

At the end of each phase, participants responded to a survey to assess the relevance of the course objectives to their learning needs and the extent to which they met the learning objectives. For both phases, the majority of participants indicated that they “mostly” or “fully” reached the training objectives, a great indication of the increasing knowledge of the participants.

Phase I

The Phase I training was based on these learning objectives:

A1: Ability to Describe the Key Principles of DRR, Sendai Framework for Action and Sustainable Development Goals.

A2: Discuss Ecosystem based DRR.

A3: Illustrate key lessons learned from Japan’s experience regarding natural hazards including the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami, and the 2018 West Japan Floods

A4: Describe key elements to reduce risks of biological hazards.

A5: Illustrate the importance of gender-inclusive leadership in the context of DRR.

A6: Describe good practice and report on norms and challenges regarding women’s leadership in the Pacific, Asia, including Japan.

A7: Outline Community-based DRR

A8: Outline the importance of multi-stakeholder coalition in DRR.

A9: Develop inclusive DRR plan.

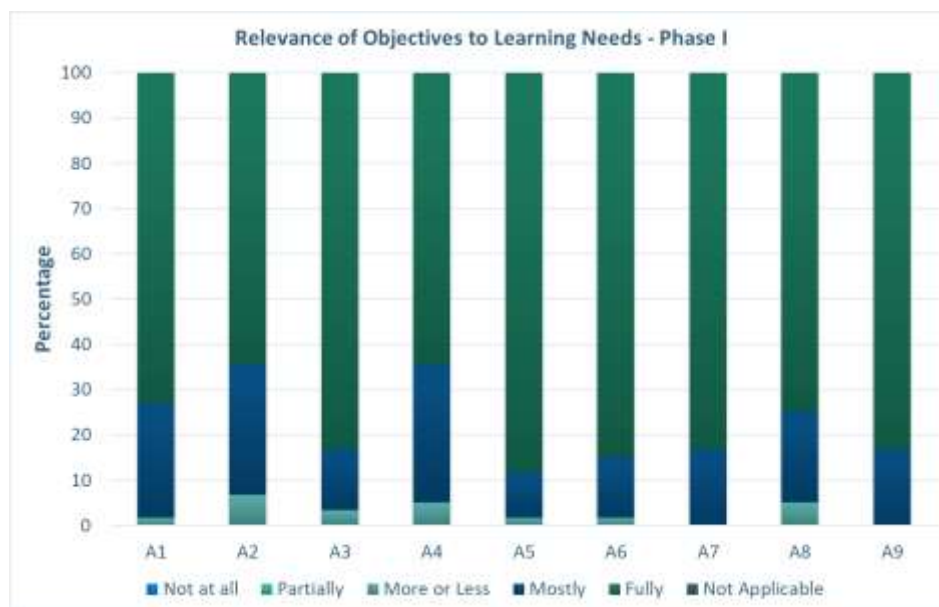


Diagram 6: Relevance of the Objectives to the Learning Needs of the Participants during Phase I

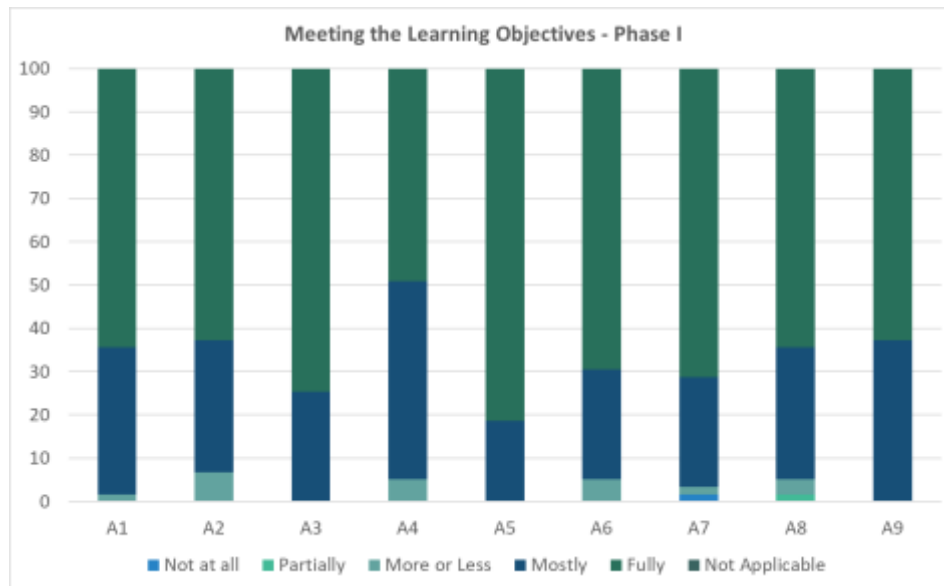


Diagram 7: Participants ranking of how they meet the Learning Objectives during Phase I

Phase II

The Phase II training workshop had the following 11 learning objectives.

A1: Understanding the Science - Volcanoes, Earthquakes and Tsunamis

A2: Understanding the Science – Droughts, Storms and Floodings

A3: Pacific Disaster Experience and the Role of Research in DRR

A4: Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and DRR

A5: Leadership and Management

A6: Ecosystem-based DRR

A7: Community-based DRR

A8: People with Disabilities

A9: Gender and DRR

A10: Communication in DRR

A11: Working with the Media

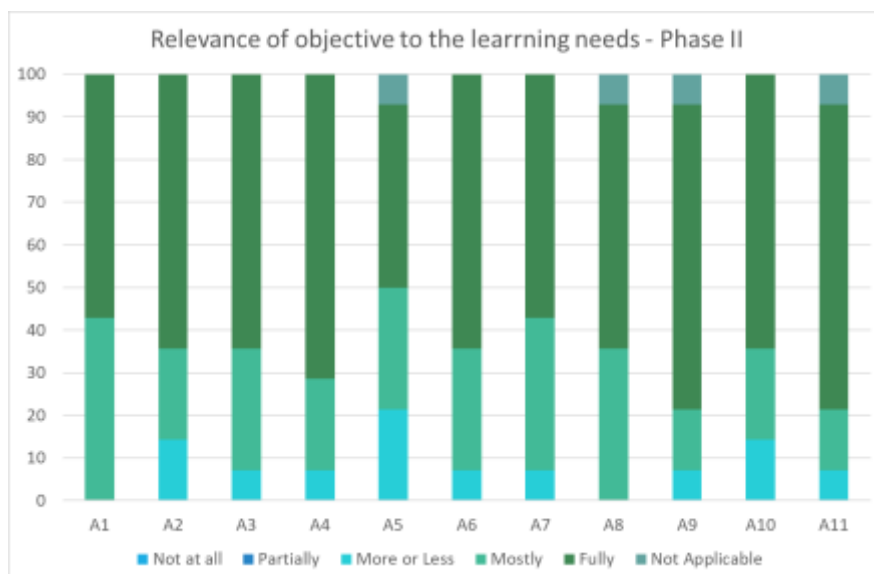


Diagram 8: Relevance of the Objectives to the Learning Needs of the Participants during Phase II

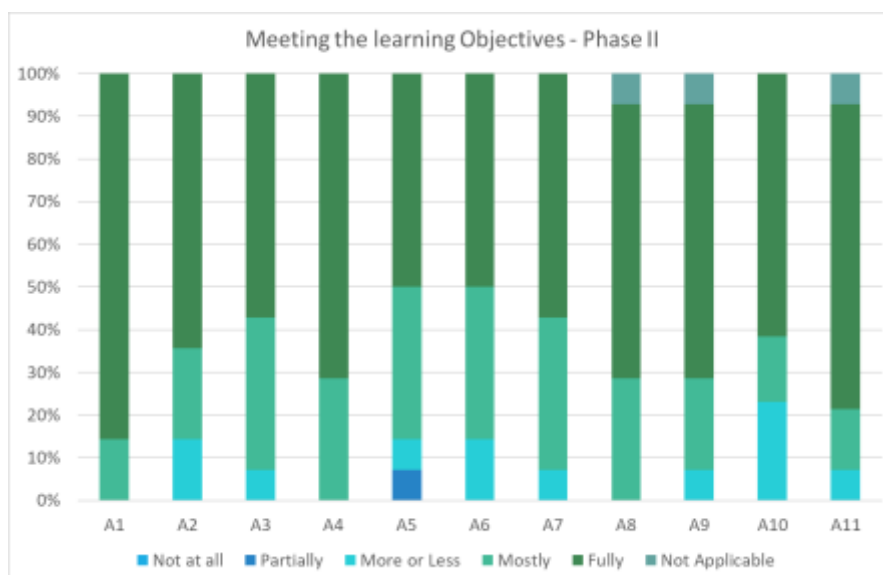


Diagram 9: Participants ranking of how they meet the Learning Objectives during Phase II

Effectiveness of the Methodologies

In Phase I, participants learned through a combination of on-demand e-learning courses and live webinars with experts, readings and exercises, and assignments. In Phase II, 18 selected participants participated in in-person learning with subject-matter experts, site visits, and group work and exercises. Overall, 97 per cent of participants strongly agreed the Programme’s methodology was useful as per the learning objectives, with the remaining 3 per cent indicating a neutral stance.

Knowledge Change

Phase I

In all areas of Phase I, significant increases in the knowledge of participants were achieved (see Annex 1). The most significant changes were recorded in the following areas:

- Japan's Disaster Experience
- Importance of Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction
- Women's Leadership
- Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Planning

For Phase I, Gender-Inclusive Leadership in the Context of DRR saw the highest increase in knowledge, with 80 per cent of survey respondents saying their gains in knowledge from the Programme was "high".

Phase II

In Phase II, significant increases in the knowledge of participants were also noted (see Annex 2). The most significant changes were recorded in the following areas:

- Understanding the Science – Hazards
- Role of Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction
- Persons with Disabilities
- Traditional Knowledge

For Phase II, Traditional Knowledge received the highest level ("high") of increased knowledge, with 93 per cent of survey respondents saying their gains in knowledge from the Programme was "high".

“While difficult, I appreciated the DRR Training over the past 10 weeks. I learned a lot, especially when it comes to integrating gender into planning. This is something that I can benefit from and incorporate in my professional role as a project engineer, and personally as a family leader.”

Manuia Lameta-Brown from Samoa

Lessons Learned

Building women's capacity and leadership skills in disaster risk reduction including climate change is a key priority. According to the participants, the keynote speakers Chief Executive Officer – Samoa Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and the Ambassador of Japan to Samoa, climate change and resilience to disasters are high priority for Samoa and the Pacific region. Local interest in the Programme was also noted during the workshop in Samoa, which received local news media coverage (Annex VIII).

Increasing relevant Pacific content greatly enhanced the learning experience of participants, especially from the Pacific Island countries. However, more we need to find a better content balance among the Pacific, Japan and Southeast Asia.

Interest in the training programme is growing exponentially, with high interest from Southeast Asia. Additionally, we observed consistent participation from small island developing states outside the Pacific, namely from the Caribbean and the Indian Ocean. Working professionals already in leadership or management positions to address DRR, also joined the programme.

Thanks to the programme's near-decade history, **alumni often return as resource persons or mentors or in other capacities.** In the 2022 Programme, two of our resource persons were alumni. It shows the longer-term influences of our programme on our alumni's work and their support to new cadres of professionals.

The return of **in-person training has had a huge positive impact** on the participants. Those who joined the Phase II in-person workshop benefited through networking with other professionals, not only with colleagues but also resource persons and experts in the field. Seventy-one per cent of participants felt the duration (the length of the workshop and the sessions) were satisfactory; a few participants wished the Phase II workshop to be longer.

After the workshop, **Phase II participants continued communicating, set up a working group and published a scientific paper.** This demonstrates the powerful influence of the in-person component of the programme.

The 2022 Programme **received many applications** and 83 learners earned certificates of completion. However, the changes from group work to more individual work removed some accountability and pressure on participants to complete the assignments. The Programme may therefore need to consider returning some aspects of group work to ensure a higher completion rate.

Technical and connectivity instability, the cost of the internet, and technological access continue to be a challenge for many participants in the Pacific. It is nonetheless promising that participants found creative ways around the problem for their final group presentations for Phase II, including using video recordings (Annex VI).



Conclusion

The 2022 Programme was a great success, especially with the return of the in-person component. Since the DRR Programme transitioned to be 100 per cent online in 2020 to work around the COVID-19 pandemic, UNITAR has seen a significant increase in the number of participants who complete the Programme. Creating the in-person second phase to build on the online learning was a necessary and effective step for the participants who showed great potential to further their work in disaster risk reduction in their communities.

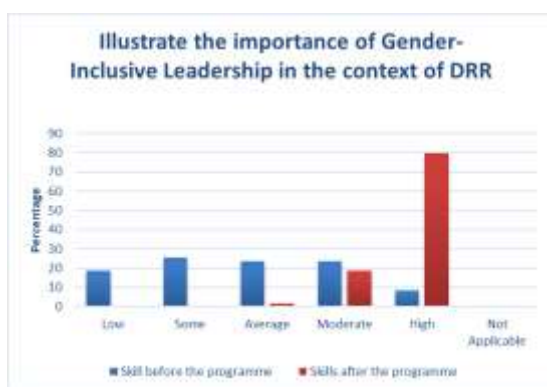
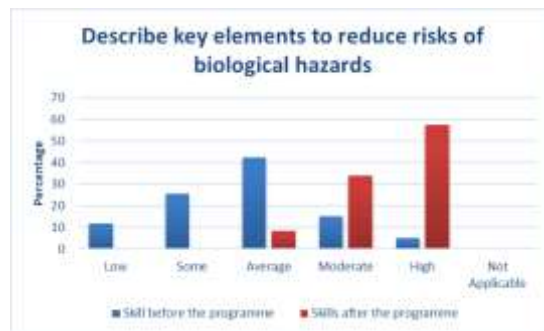
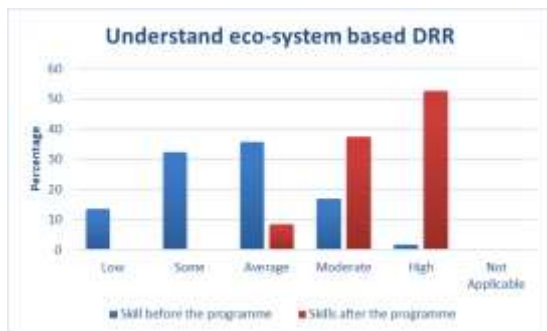
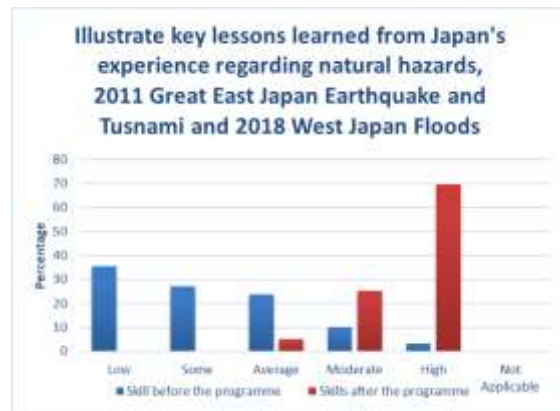
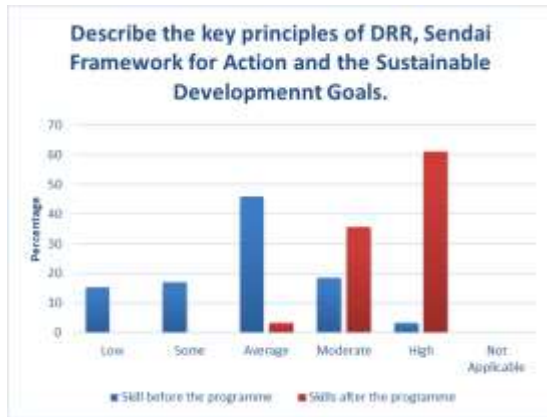
The 2022 Programme brought together a high number of experts as training facilitators, presenters, mentors and resource persons. The number of women alumni in leadership roles, including those who return to help the DRR Programme, is a testament to the positive impact this programme is having on the Pacific community and in empowering women to lead disaster risk reduction efforts.

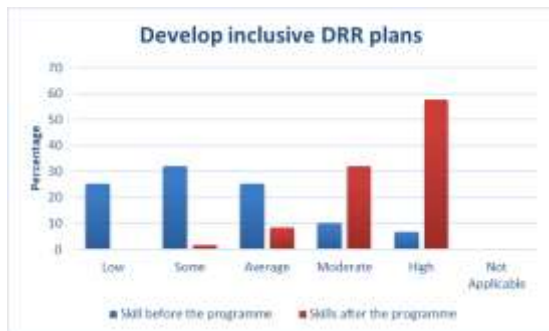
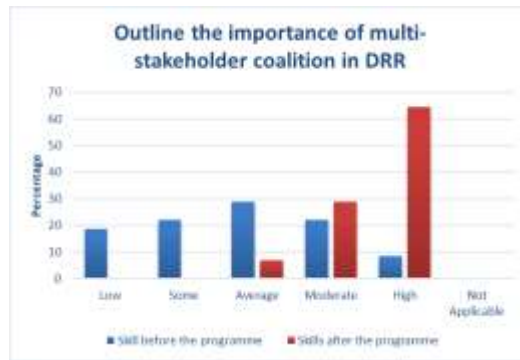
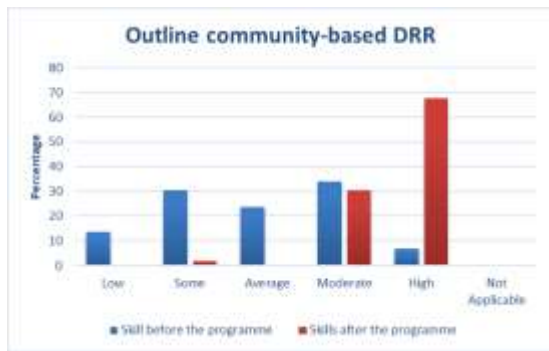
The 2022 Programme was a great success, especially with the return of the in-person component



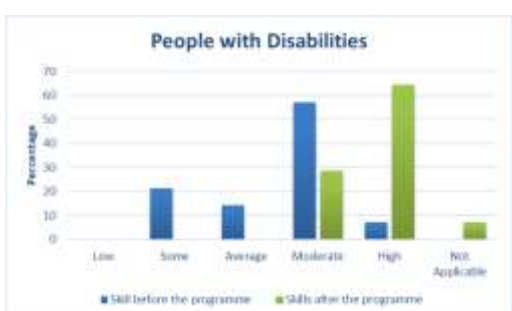
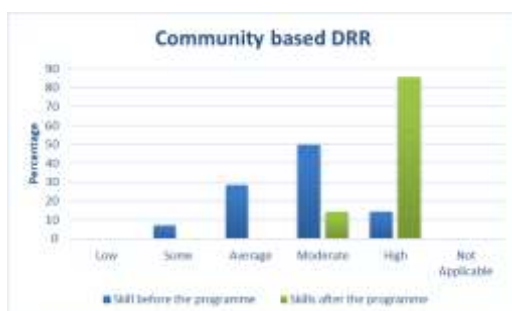
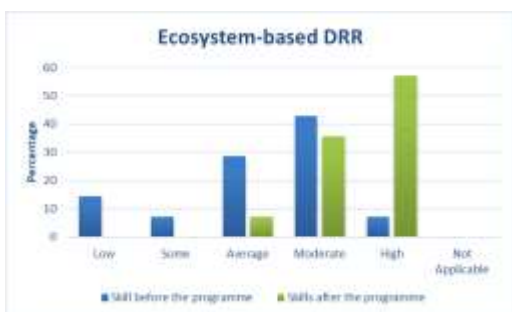
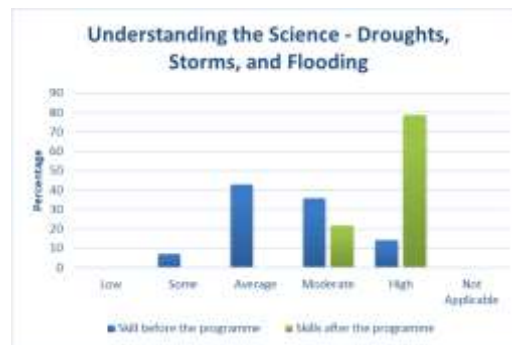
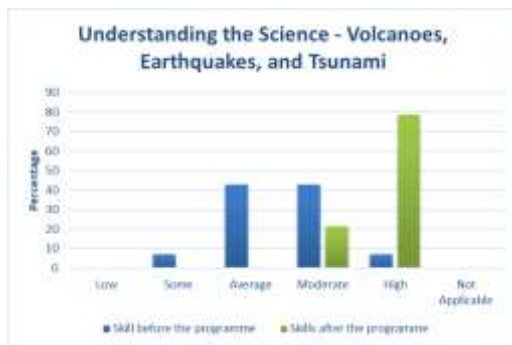
ANNEXES

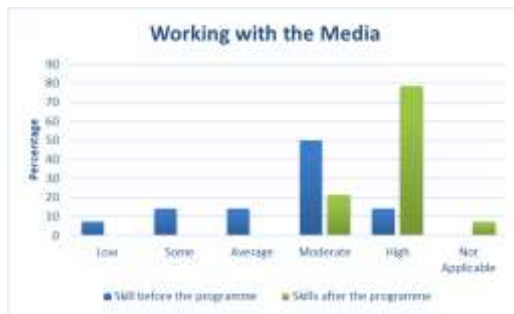
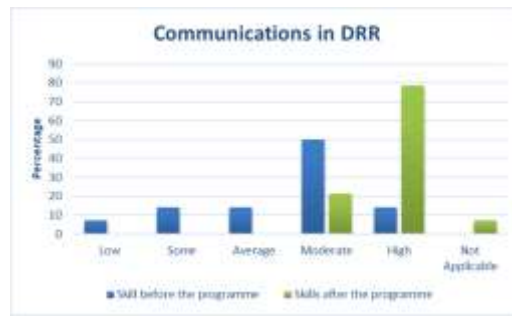
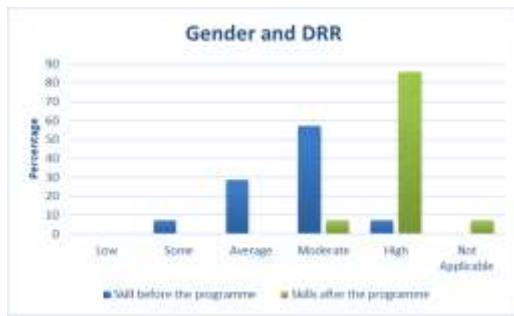
ANNEX I: Increase in Skills and Knowledge (Phase I)





ANNEX II: Increase in Skills and Knowledge (Phase II)





ANNEX III: Phase I Training Programme Agenda

Section		Courses
Section 1	12-20 Sep	Week 0 – Introduction to the Mobile Learning and the UNITAR Training
Online EdApp -Introduction		
Introductory Webinar	14 Sep	Opening – UNITAR Team Ms. Branwen MILLAR, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)
Section 1	21-27 Sep	Week 1 – Introduction to DRR
Online EdApp - Introduction to DRR and Japan's Experiences.	28 Sep-4 Oct	Week 2 – Sendai and SDGs
Webinar 1	5 Oct	Dr. Laurice JAMERO, Manila Observatory – Philippines Dr. Tomoko TAKEDA, The University of Tokyo – Japan
Section 2	5 – 12 Oct	Virtual Study Tours
Online EdApp - Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Pacific	12 – 18 Oct	Week 4 – Climate Change and Disasters in the Pacific and Asia
	19 - 25 Oct	Week 5 – Hazards and Build Back Better
Webinar 2	26 Oct	Ms Moana FAKAVA-KIOA, National Emergency and Disaster Management Office – The Kingdom of Tonga Dr Noralene UY, Anteneo de Manila University
Section 3	26 Oct-1 Nov	Week 6 – What is Gender and Why Gender Equality?
Online EdApp - Women's Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction	2 - 8 Nov	Week 7 – Gender and DRR
	9 - 15 Nov	Week 8 – Women's Leadership in DRR
Webinar 3	16 Nov	Jessica WALKER, UN Women – Fiji Ms. Molly NIELSON, National Emergency Operation Centre, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment – Samoa
Section 4	16-22 Nov	Week 9 – Preparing for Future Disasters
Online EdApp - Future Disasters: Preparedness and Community-based DRR	23-29 Nov	Week 10 – Leave No One Behind; Community-based DRR
Webinar 4	30 Nov	Ms Ruci SENIKULA, Pacific Disability Forum – Fiji Ms. Lorna P. VICTORIA, Center for Disaster Preparedness, Philippines
End of training	2 Dec	Final Submission

ANNEX IV: Phase II Training Workshop Agenda



UNITAR HIROSHIMA WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN TSUNAMI-BASED DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRAMME FOR WORLD TSUNAMI



	Monday 6 March 2023 Arrival	Tuesday 7 March 2023	Wednesday 8 March 2023	Thursday 9 March 2023	Friday 10 March 2023	Saturday 11 March 2023 Tohoku Tsunami Day	Sunday 12 March 2023
Venue: Orator Hotel	Conference Room	Conference Room	Conference Room	Island Tour	Conference Room	Conference Room	Garden
09:00-9:30			Recap		Recap	Recap	
09:30-10:00	Registration	Opening Remarks Keynote Speakers Group Photo Introduction Agenda Objectives	Session 4 Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and DRR Ms. Siosinamele Lui COSPPac Climate Traditional Knowledge Officer Secretariat of Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Island Tour Upolu Island 8:55 Bus 9:00-10:00 Samoa National Emergency Operating Center Tour 10:05-11:02 Red Cross 11:30 Apia	Session 8 People with Disabilities Mr. Faatino Utumapu Nuanua o le Alofa \ Mr. Andrew Taofi Nuanua o le Alofa Herbert Bell Nuanua o le Alofa	Session 12. A Group Presentation - Preparation	

	Monday 6 March 2023 Arrival	Tuesday 7 March 2023	Wednesday 8 March 2023	Thursday 9 March 2023	Friday 10 March 2023	Saturday 11 March 2023 Tohoku Tsunami Day	Sunday 12 March 2023
11.30-13:00		Participants Report	Session 5 Leadership and Management Muliagatele Dr. Potoae Aiafi Oceania SMART		Session 9 Gender and DRR Alexander Su'a- President Fagalima Tuatagaloa- VP Samoa Faafafina Association Vanilla Ice Heather (TBC) ROGERS Va'agi Kevin Schuster- President Samoa National Youth Council Papalii Mele Mauala UNWomen	Session 12. B Group Presentation	

	Sunday 5 March 2023 Arrival	Monday 6 March 2023 Arrival	Tuesday 7 March 2023	Wednesday 8 March 2023	Thursday 9 March 2023	Friday 10 March 2023	Saturday 11 March 2023 Tohoku Tsunami Day	Sunday 12 March 2023
14:00-15:00	Registration		<p>Session 1 Understanding Volcanos, Earthquakes and Tsunami</p> <p>Dr. Anita Latai-Niusulu Lecturer National University of Samoa</p>	<p>Session 6 Ecosystem- Based DRR</p> <p>Tuifuisa'a Dr. Patila Amosa Visa Chacellor National University of Samoa</p>	<p>Island Tour Upolu Island</p> <p>12:30 Bus</p> <p>13:30-15:00 Aleipata- Lalomanu</p> <p>15:40-16:30 Poutasi</p> <p>16:30-17:30 Cross Island Road</p> <p>18:00 Orator Hotel</p>	<p>Session 10 Communications in DRR</p> <p>Ms. Patricia Mallam Knowledge Brokerage Office, CLimSA Project SPREP</p> <p>Ms. Rachel Nunn-Crichton Technical Adviser- Information, Knowledge Management and Brokerage SPREP</p>	<p>Address by Ambassador of Japan</p> <p>14:46 Minute of Silence</p>	

	Monday 6 March 2023 Arrival	Tuesday 7 March 2023	Wednesday 8 March 2023	Thursday 9 March 2023	Friday 10 March 2023	Saturday 11 March 2023 Tohoku Tsunami Day	Sunday 12 March 2023
15:30-16:30		<p>Session 2 Understanding Droughts, Storms and Flooding</p> <p>Dr. Richard Crichton, Consultant - University of the South Pacific. & Dr. Ven Paolo Valenzuela, Research Fellow – National University of Singapore</p>	<p>Session 7 Community based DRR</p> <p>Ms. Molly Nielson Director- Samoa National Disaster Management Office</p>		<p>Session 11 Working with the Media</p> <p>Mata'afa Mr. Sosikeni Lesa Media Consultant</p>	<p>Certificate Ceremony</p> <p>End of Programme</p>	
16:30-17:30		<p>Session 3 Pacific Disaster Experience and the Role of Research in DRR</p> <p>Tuiloma Dr. Susana Tau'a Associate Professor National University of Samoa</p>	<p>Synthesis</p> <p>UNITAR DRR Team</p>		<p>Synthesis</p> <p>UNITAR DRR Team</p>		
18:00-21:00		<p>Workshop Reception Orator Hotel</p>					

ANNEX VI: Article by Alumni in Anthropocene Science

Singh, S., and R.K. Mall. “Building the Road to a Resilient Asia–Pacific: A New Dawn Begins for Women’s Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction in Samoa”. *Anthropocene Science* (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s44177-023-00058-0>

Anthropocene Science
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s44177-023-00058-0>

NEWS & VIEWS

Building the Road to a Resilient Asia–Pacific: A New Dawn Begins for Women’s Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction in Samoa

Saanya Singh¹ · R. K. Mall²

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“You educate a man, you educate a man. You educate a woman, you educate a generation”

—Bridget Young

Every year thousands of catastrophic disasters result in both tangible and intangible losses across the globe (UNISDR 2015; Mall et al. 2019). Loss of life, uprooted livelihoods, destruction of ecosystems and an irreversible loss of natural and cultural heritage occur due to disasters (Hong et al. 2018; Indriono-Burns et al. 2021; Ndirirah et al. 2022). In the year 2022 itself, a cumulative of 307 natural hazards and disasters were recorded globally affecting 183 million people with 30,704 deaths and an economic loss of US\$ 223.8 billion (CRED 2023). While the aftermath leaves the world devastated, the only way to prevent such an enormous loss is through preparing for response, recovery and rehabilitation before the disaster occurs (Mall et al. 2019). Along with the natural occurrences, the rising global temperature is expected to increase the frequency and severity of natural disasters, particularly the hydro-meteorological hazards that impacts a large population of the Asia-Pacific region (Mehler et al. 2014; IPCC 2021). Asia-Pacific is one of the world’s most disaster affected region and is vulnerable to climate change (Thomas et al. 2014; Shaffiq et al. 2020). Disasters such as Earthquakes, Tsunami, increasing intensity and frequency of cyclones with sea level rise continue to threaten the existence of small island developing states in the Asia-Pacific region (Shaffiq et al. 2020). The Indian Ocean Tsunami 2004 is recorded as one of the worst Tsunami disasters resulting in thousands of deaths affecting millions of populations across different countries followed by the Great

East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami of 2011 which struck the northern part of Japan and killed around 19,000 people, leaving millions homeless (Saito 2014). While the disasters occur with same intensity over a region, the impact suffered by the people differ owing to their exposure, adaptive capacity and sensitivity that determine their vulnerability to the disaster. Amongst the worst sufferers of these impacts are the women and girls who are affected in a disproportionate manner (Valdes 2009).

Being the women, women tend to put the needs of others before themselves which eventually makes them more vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and disasters (Valdes 2009; Erman et al. 2021). The existing socio-cultural barriers impede women from voicing their concerns, taking their own decisions, affecting their social, educational and financial independence as well as limit their opportunities of taking lead in society. Lack of women in decision making and leadership roles excludes their unique perspectives, knowledge, experiences and more importantly gender-specific needs from disaster risk management initiatives (Binczyk et al. 2020; Zaidi and Pordham 2021). In such scenario, there is an urgent need to encourage and ensure women participation in disaster risk reduction planning and decision making at various levels of action, policy and governance.

With the aim of empowering women to take leadership roles in DRR initiatives, the UNSTAR Women’s Leadership in Tsunami-based Disaster Risk Reduction Training Programme for World Tsunami Awareness Day 2022, was held during 7th–11th March 2023 in Apia, Samoa (Fig. 1). The training programme was organised by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima office with the support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Govt. of Japan. The in-person training which spans the second phase of the DRR leadership programme resumed after 2 years of virtual training due to global pandemic with participants from 9 countries of the Asia-Pacific region took part in the training, hailing from Fiji, India, Kiribati,

Fig. 1 UNSTAR women’s leadership in tsunami based disaster risk reduction training programme for World Tsunami Awareness Day 2022. The ambassador of Japan to Samoa, H. E. Keisuke Seta, (Guest of Honor) and Ms. Frances Respens (CEO, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa) with the 18 participants and UN officials (Photo: UNSTAR)



Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga (UNITAR 2023). It was also the first time the training was held outside Japan. The participants were selected based on their expertise that included academicians working in the field of Climate Change and DRR, DRR and resilience practitioners, healthcare, human aid professionals, teachers, business, policy and governance, etc., envisioning a multidisciplinary yet holistic approach towards DRR leadership. The programme comes under the mandate of promoting Leadership and Inclusion of UNSTAR Division for Prosperity in which women are trained in practical skills and knowledge to lead gender-inclusive and community-based disaster risk reduction initiatives to better prevent, prepare and recover from disasters. The motivation of the training programme stems from the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, a major agreement aimed to substantially reduce loss of life, livelihood and increase disaster risk resilience through developing local and national DRR frameworks including international cooperation (UNISDR 2015). The Sendai Framework promotes inclusion of women in DRR initiatives as an integral component for effective disaster preparedness and response. The training programme focuses on five of the sustainable Sustainable Development Goals, i.e. Quality Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Reduced Inequalities (SDG 10), Sustainable Cities and Communities (SDG 11), Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (SDG 16) (UNITAR 2016).

The 5-day training programme was inaugurated by the prayer from Bishop Pauline Taulili, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, followed by the address from the guest speakers H. E. Mr. Keisuke Seta, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Samoa and

Ms. Frances Respens, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Samoa. In her address, Ms. Respens motivated her strong belief in women’s capability to lead with a Samoan proverb “E na le fa’afu’u a tina ma tina’i’i” which means women can achieve anything they set their heart to. H. E. Mr Seta emphasised on the importance of collective effort in building a resilient community of which women are an integral part of. Ms. Miboko Kamamoto, Director—Division for Prosperity, UNSTAR, reflected on the history of the UNSTAR Hiroshima Women DRR leadership programme, its vision and consistent efforts to building a more gender-inclusive, empowered and resilient communities across the globe.

The objectives of the training programme were to equip the participants with leadership and management characteristics pertaining to disaster risk management; develop an understanding of risk associated with disasters, women-based solutions, indigenous and traditional knowledge and their contribution to building resilience; challenges of vulnerability groups for inclusivity; and communication with media. The training sessions included lecture from the experts, group exercises and study visits to 2009 Tsunami affected areas of Upolu Island, organisations working with disaster management and response in Samoa such as National Emergency Operation Centre, Samoa Red Cross and United Nations office. These disaster activities were created to impart the participants with both technical understanding of the disasters, disaster preparedness well as learn from multi-institutional and gender-inclusive disaster response.

“It is all in the planning” emphasising on the importance of planning, Ms. Fensia Molly Fa’asatao Nielsen, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Disaster Management Office (DMO), spoke on the organisational structure of DMO,

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Published online: 17 May 2023



ANNEX VII: Media Coverage



Mar 6 (Newsline Samoa): “Regional Women Leaders Learn From Samoa’s Past Disasters”

<https://newslinesamoa.com/regional-women-leaders-learn-from-samoas-past-disasters/>

Mar 9 (Newsline Samoa): “UNITAR Hiroshima Women’s Leadership Training Programme for World Tsunami Awareness Day held in Samoa”

<https://newslinesamoa.com/unitar-hiroshima-womens-leadership-training-programme-for-world-tsunami-awareness-day-held-in-samoa/>

Mar 10 (Samoa Observer): “Pacific reps undergo risk-reduction training”

<https://www.samoaoobserver.ws/category/samoa/102446>

Mar 18 (Newsline): “Leaders remember the Great East Japan Tsunami”

<https://newslinesamoa.com/leaders-remember-the-great-east-japan-tsunami/>

Mar 19 (Samoa Observer): “Great East-Japan earthquake, tsunami remembered”

<https://www.samoaoobserver.ws/category/columns/102568>

ANNEX VIII: Contribution to the 10 Core Values of UNITAR Division for Prosperity

	Additional explanation	Response
(1) Generate change agents		
Number of people trained		83 (Phase I: 65; Phase II: 18)
Intensity of Training	Number of hours engaged (e.g., 100 hours). Type of training (hybrid, online, f2f)	60 hours, online (EdApp: 40; Assignment: 4; Individual work: 6; Webinar: 10)
(2) Engage in coalition building		
Disaggregated data by:		
Gender	Male vs. female vs. others	93% women / 5% male / 1% others
Stage of country development	How many participants are from industrialized vs. developing countries? How many from LDCs/SIDS?	54% SIDS / 46% others. 98% developing / 2% industrialized countries. 6% LDC
Urban vs Rural	How many from the capital vs. others	Not Available
(3) Build partnership		
Number of partnerships	How many partnerships?	25
Quality of partnership	Global, regional or local organizations?	9 global, 12 national, 4 local
	To enhance substance or financial contribution	Substance
(4) Boost relevance		
Feedback from participants	Use relevant quotes from participants	In the report
(5) Enhance contextualization		
Number and quality of coaches/mentors	How many coaches/mentors were engaged	14
	How many coaches/mentors were local or regional vs external?	14 Local
	How many coaches/mentors were former participants / alum of UNITAR programmes?	2 alumni
(6) Promote gender equality		
Number of female participants	How many and percentage	77 female (93%)
Number of participants who completed the gender modules	How many and percentage	83 individuals (100%)

	Additional explanation	Response
Gender marking	Give a rating from 0 to 3 using the following criteria.	3
	Gender-markers 0 – Outputs/Projects that are not expected to contribute noticeably to gender equality and the empowerment of women (GEEW) 1 – Outputs/Projects that will contribute in some way to gender equality but not significantly 2 – Outputs/Projects that have gender equality as a significant objective 3 – Outputs/Projects that have gender equality as principal objective	
(7) Foster innovation		
Diversity of modes of delivery	Short description of what innovative modes were introduced	The addition of an in-person regional training workshop as part of Phase II. Including the continuation of the previous development of 360° VR video, video documentary, 3D maps, drone-shot video
Adoption of innovative adult learning methodologies	Short description of what innovative adult learning methodologies were introduced	EdApp on mobile devices (cellular phones, tablets and computers)
(8) Champion ownership		
Quality of partnerships with local stakeholders	Short description	Various local and regional speakers were invited from diverse sectors (academia, government, international organizations and private)
Quality of the action plans	Short description of final outputs produced by the participants if any such as action plans	Participants developed comprehensive knowledge of DRR concepts and produced DRR plan in groups
(9) Stimulate sustainable development		
Number of participants who successfully completed the SDG modules	Same as left	83 (100%)
(10) Cultivate financial sustainability		
Funding size	Same as left	Major