



Working Towards Good Governance For Effective Risk Reduction – Fiji Experience

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Reduction**

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Guiding Principles for the Establishment of Legal, Institutional and Policy Framework on Risk Reduction



- Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action
- United Nations Millennium Development Goals
- Plan of Implementation on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, 2003
- Regional Comprehensive Hazard And Risk Management (CHARM) Guideline
- Pacific Position Paper for the WCDR, 2005
- Disaster Risk Management Review Outcome

Disaster Risk Reduction Measures & UN Millennium Development Goals



Government promoting the UN Millennium development goals to raise rural living standard and alleviate poverty.

- Implementation of sectoral development programs.
Improve health and education services
- Govt Self-Help Program – Govt contributes two-third cost of project by rural communities
- Formulation of Div & Dist Development Plans to properly plan & coordinate future rural development initiatives
- Review of rural development planning machinery and Fijian administration

Legal and Regulatory Framework



- ❑ Natural Disaster Management Act (NDMA) deals with emergency and disaster management
- ❑ Sectoral legislations deal with sectoral programs aimed at risk reduction
- ❑ Social Justice Act – Govt support through Affirmative Action covering 29 programs in key areas: a. Education & Training; b. Land & Housing; c. Participation in commerce; d. Participation in all levels of the state

Review of Disaster Management Legislation and Plan



- ❖ Identify necessary measures and mechanisms for improving disaster management arrangements
- ❖ A streamlined approach for the management of both natural & human induced disasters
- ❖ To reflect comprehensive and strategic approach towards disaster risk management
- ❖ Determine emergency management arrangements for technological disasters and complex emergencies
- ❖ Minister to make regulations

Constraints



- Legislation restricted to natural disaster
- Legislation yet to cover the paradigm shift towards Comprehensive Hazard Assessment and Risk Management (CHARM)
- No supporting regulations for effective disaster risk management, and to ensure compliance and enforcement mechanisms are in place
- Limited resources for effective monitoring and enforcement

Policy and Planning



- ❑ National Strategic Development Plan, 2003-2005 emphasises a comprehensive and strategic approach on disaster risk reduction under five policy objectives:
- ❑ To mainstream Disaster Management into the national development decision making process.
- ❑ To improve Hazard and Risk Management
- ❑ To improve community awareness of risk, preparedness and response
- ❑ Assist communities to be self-reliant and self-sufficient in the face of disasters
- ❑ To invest in infrastructure development to mitigate disaster impact



National Disaster Management Plan

Provides the policy framework for:

- Disaster operations/emergency response
- Relief operations
- Rehabilitation/Recovery
- Education, awareness and training
- Mitigation

Disaster Risk Management Policy Implementation – Problems/Constraints



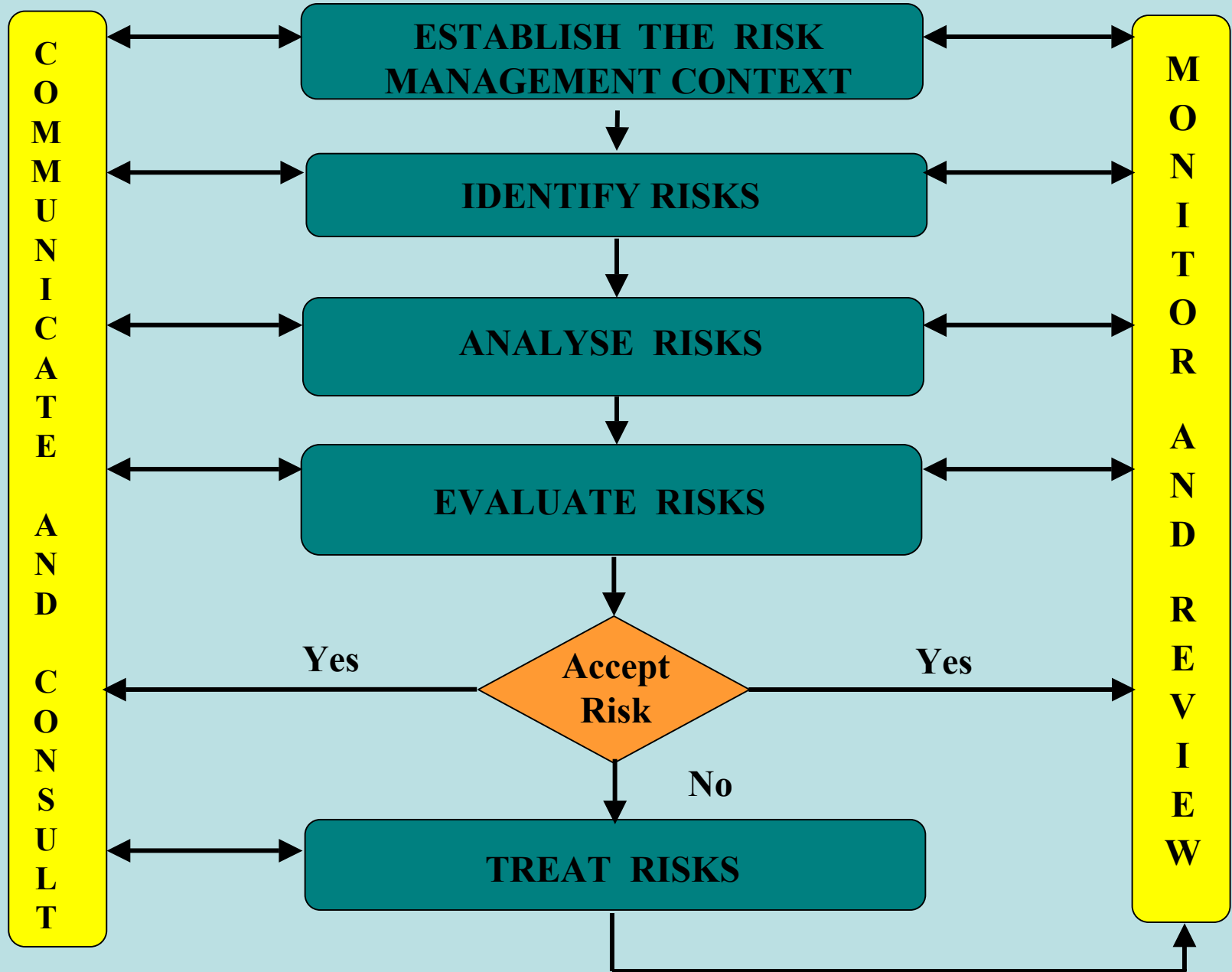
- Lack of education, awareness & training
- Absence of enabling mechanism –
Implementation Guide & working documents
- Absence of personnel with proper knowledge,
competence & commitment
- Competing priorities
- No financial commitment by Government
- Lack of support at political/decision making level

Paradigm Shift: Comprehensive Hazard And Risk Management (CHARM) Program



- ❑ All hazards whole of country approach
- ❑ Development planning tool designed to provide a systematic decision-making process
- ❑ Risks clearly defined & prioritised
- ❑ Integrating risk management into national development planning
- ❑ CHARM mainstreaming in govt articulated under the Fiji Strategic Development Plan 2003-2005
- ❑ Development of CHARM Implementation Guide and Training Program

CHARM Process Overview

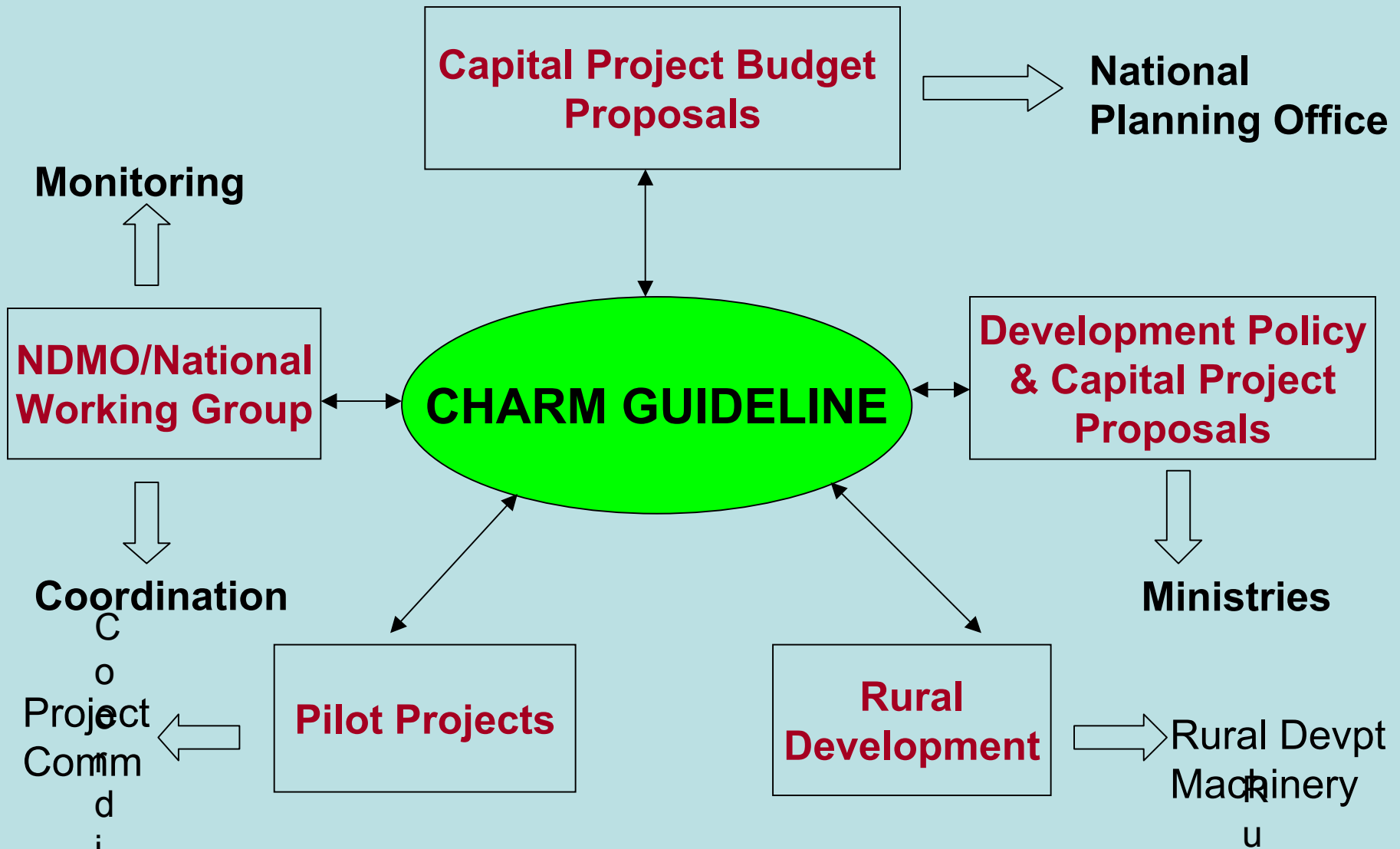


Government Policy on CHARM Implementation Strategy



- Budget Submission – 2006 Capital Project Budget Proposal Template to include CHARM Requirements
- Development Policy Proposals - Consultation with National Working Group Mandatory.
- Project Implementation – Project Committee to provide screening/monitoring mechanism
- Rural Development – CHARM included in Capital Budget Program Working Guide

CHARM IMPLEMENTATION FLOW-CHART





Development Policy Proposals, CHARM Consultations Obligatory – WHY ?

- ❑ Risk reduction to be taken into account at the initial stage of policy development to drive the mainstreaming process
- ❑ Comprehensive strategic approach means involving others to move in a common direction to achieve tangible results
- ❑ CHARM is a holistic approach that involves collaborative efforts & pooling/utilization of resources
- ❑ CHARM mainstreaming as **Core Business** within the framework of government program activities

Development Policy Proposals Consultations - Benefits



- Increased awareness on risk reduction among policy and decision makers
- Enhance collaborative partnerships in identifying and treating risks
- Enhance information sharing & networking
- Maximize utilization of resources & avoid duplication
- Recognise risk reduction as an integral part of development policy proposals
- Government to invest in risk reduction programs to enhance socio-economic development

Suva Earthquake Risk Management Pilot Project (SERMP) – CHARM Application



- ❑ Multi-disciplinary study - involved 46 agencies during 1995-1997
- ❑ One of the largest pilot projects of its type ever attempted in a PIC
- ❑ Study produced a comprehensive information resource on earthquake hazard and tsunami risks for the city of Suva
- ❑ Recommendations (90) of the study report are currently being implemented
- ❑ Recommendations provide the basis for legal, policy and institutional framework

Opportunities offered by SERMP



- Development of new project implementation, management and scientific techniques that suit PICs
- Collaborative multi-agency project management and implementation strategies
- Project development concepts based on facilitation and capacity building, and new scientific methodologies
- Partnership with local, regional and International organisations

Tourism Sector – Billion Dollar Investment

- ❑ Involves virtually all agencies
- ❑ Combine Law Enforcement Agencies Working Group established
- ❑ Risk Management Working Group established
- ❑ Adopted the Greenglobe 21 but most hotels only reached Accreditation and not Certification Level

Tourism Sector

- Govt not in favour of legislative review with regard to capping for personal liability but to consider other options like risk management
- Risk management to be an integral part of Tourism development.

Tourism Sector – Constraints

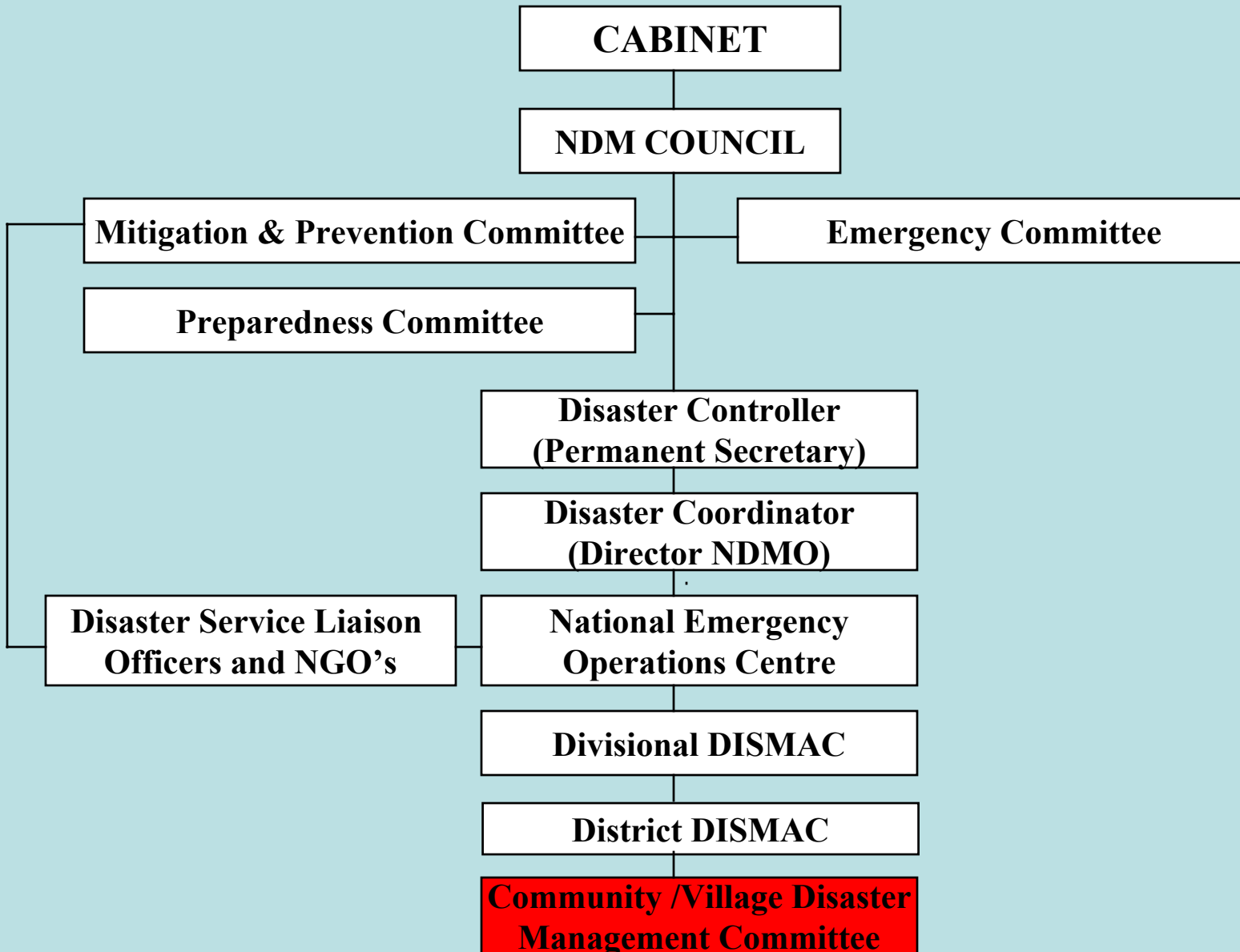
- Lack of risk data available in other Ministries on the Tourism industry
- Lack of consultation and engagement with agencies
- Monitoring compliance and enforcement mechanisms need to be reviewed

Structural Changes to strengthen Community Participation



- Current structure restricted to government authority, responsibility & networking
- Communities & their committees do not feature
- Structure perpetuates dependency & complacency
- Preparedness shift as the ultimate goal
- Focus on Government/community partnership

NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



Community Participation – How ?



- Legislative Review – Community Leaders endorsed inclusion of community in the structure
- NDMO conducted community based training
- NDMO assisted development of Village Disaster Plan
- CHARM included in Community Development Capital Budget Program Working Guide
- Ongoing consultation with Community Development Committees
- Training of Youth Volunteer Groups

Community Participation - Benefits



- Greater community awareness
- Better organization at community level
- Enhance Community empowerment and ownership
- Reduced Government costs
- **FROM SELF PITY TO SELF HELP**

National Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation Fund (NDRRF)



- Dedicated Fund established under section 16 of the Disaster Act to deal with disaster relief & rehab
- PM's National Disaster Committee responsible for the Fund
- Established in the 2004 budget with a sum of FJ\$2 million
- Solicit contribution from private sector & external donors and develop partnership

National Disaster Relief And Rehabilitation Fund



- M/Finance to conduct study to enable investment of funds in government securities to generate income
- Fund also deal with preparedness & disaster risk reduction programs & activities
- Tax incentives for private sector to cover under the Rules and Regulations of the Fund

NDRRF – Constraints



- Competing priorities & state of economy – inhibiting factors
- Need to review financial & procurement procedures for emergency response & relief
- Review investment policy
- Obtaining donor agencies and private sector support