

Season's Greetings!

As we come to the end of another interesting year for the Natural Hazards Inc. business cluster, we are pleased to see initiatives coming to fruition in many areas.

With the appointment of Phillip Gibson as MFAT Special Envoy for Disaster Risk Management, we are pleased to be a part of the Special Advisory Group aimed at bringing closer relationships between NGO's and Government Agencies.

Our thoughts are with those that have suffered through the many events occurring this year not only in the Pacific and in the Philippines but globally.

Whilst many of our colleagues are still busy in Canterbury, projects in Indonesia, Vietnam and the Pacific Islands are ongoing with progress being made in the ASEAN region through efforts by John Norton, Beca and GNS Science.

We would like to congratulate Graham Nel on his success winning 5 Awards, including the prestigious Supreme Award, at the 2013 Porirua Westpac Business Excellence awards.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year and look forward to catching up with you again in the coming months.

Blair Griffiths & Graeme Carroll, Co-Facilitators

From the Co-Chairs:

Continuing from last year, 2013 has seen some excellent presentations from many of our members; we would like to thank them and those who have hosted meetings throughout the year.

There have been some wonderful insights into activities being carried out, such as NIWA's projects in Fiji which are not only providing much needed waste water treatments but also providing the local community with a means of earning additional income, thereby improving the quality of livelihoods for all concerned.

2014 offers many more opportunities for Natural Hazards Inc. members as we continue our closer engagement with MFAT and others around the Pacific and South East Asia, existing projects show positive results and further projects are undertaken.

We look forward to seeing you next year and wish you all a safe and Merry Christmas.

Greg Szakats & Hannah Brackley, Co-Chairs



Recent News – Projects

Underway by Cluster Members:

Emergency Preparedness and Business Continuity Workshop, Tonga, 11-14 November 2013 - Graham Nel, Disaster Prepare Limited.

The week long workshop was formally opened by the Acting Prime Minister, Mr Samiu Vaipulu and other VIP Guests included the Australian High Commissioner, Mr Brett Aldem and the New Zealand High Commissioner, Mr Mark Talbot.

The event was attended by 26 participants from 16 businesses.

The following 3 major outcomes were achieved:

- Highlighting Tonga's vulnerability to natural disasters;
- Creating more resilient communities by introducing the concept of 'family emergency plans', which was used as a precursor to participants' business emergency plans.
- Assisting businesses to create their own emergency and business continuity plan.
- Developing a private sector disaster response forum.

The participants decided to establish a 'working group' to define future tasks and goals and lead the industry into the creation of a structured organisation. All participants and interested businesses will be able to find templates and documents available for free to download as a 'Toolkit' on www.TBEC.to.

This covers all important aspects of emergency planning as well as numerous checklists and templates.

Comment from Tonga Business Enterprise Centre

TBEC want to deeply thank our Trainers, Chris Elphick, Graham Nel and Philip for their outstanding work. Big Malo 'Aupito also to the New Zealand Aid Programme for supporting the opportunity for our businesses to be trained on this vital topic.

A big thank you too to the TBEC team of organisers – Ilaisaane Tupou and Suliana Pahulu for the great effort in putting this together.



Interesting Links

For the latest news and events from other organisations:

- CERA (Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority): www.cera.govt.nz
- Canterbury Earthquakes Royal Commission: <http://www.canterbury.royalcommislon.govt.nz>
- New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering: www.nzsee.org.nz
- NZ Aid Programme: www.aid.govt.nz/

Natural Hazards Inc. Members' Expertise

- Strategies for disaster risk reduction, readiness, response and recovery.
- Development of organisational frameworks for emergency management.
- Emergency management education.
- Community preparedness for natural disasters.
- Multi-hazard land use planning.
- Improvement of building controls, standards and codes.
- Seismic retrofit strengthening of buildings, including simple houses.
- Seismic isolation of important buildings such as hospitals, schools, emergency management centres, government buildings, apartment buildings and heritage buildings.
- Tsunami and flood risk assessment, modelling and mitigation strategies.
- Disaster risk insurance strategies and systems.

Natural Hazards Inc. Key Contacts

Co-Chairs:



Dr Hannah Brackley
GNS Science
+64 4 570 4564, +64 21 481 581
h.brackley@gns.cri.nz



Greg Szakats
URS Limited
+64 4 496 3760, +64 21 680 387
greg.szakats@urs.com

Facilitators:

Graeme Carroll and Blair Griffiths
Global Reach Associates Limited

Graeme.Carroll@globalreachassociates.com
Blair.Griffiths@globalreachassociates.com

PO Box 10681
Wellington 6143
New Zealand
+64 4 470 5554, +64 21 435 401