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Delivery of the first **“Essentials of Humanitarian”** course in the Kingdom of Tonga

*with kind support from: Rotary Melbourne | Rotary Balwyn | The Baker Foundation*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

RedR Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Country on which we work, the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation, and their connections to land, sea, waterways and community. We pay our respects to their elders past and present. We also extend our respects to other First Nations communities around the world whose lands and communities we work on.



## OBJECTIVES

- The work of RedR Australia – **Who we are** and **Who we work with**.
- From the field – The Pacific region and the Kingdom of Tonga
- Covid-19 and the Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha'apai Volcano eruption and tsunami response.
- Background to the delivery of the Essentials of Humanitarian Practice course in Tonga.
- Course delivery and initial impact.



# WHO WE ARE



## Humanitarian Recruitment

RedR Australia is a leading international humanitarian response agency that selects, trains and deploys technical specialists. We recruit and deploy skilled people and training to help communities plan, prepare, rebuild and recover before, during and after crises and conflict.

## International Deployment

RedR Australia maintains a roster of more than 750 technical specialists who are deployed across the entire humanitarian program cycle including preparedness, response and recovery. In 2021 we deployed 114 specialists to support 31 partners in 30 countries.

## Humanitarian Training

The people we deploy are experts in their fields and have undertaken our training to ensure they are well prepared for field work. They hit the ground running when deployed to support disaster or conflict affected communities. RedR Australia provides access to training for our roster members via our United Nations partner agencies. This means they are well equipped to provide best practice in the field.

**The Essentials of Humanitarian Practice** provides foundational knowledge for working within the modern humanitarian system and for responding to an international crisis that involves a global response.

**Hostile Environment Awareness Training** that prepares deployees who will be exposed to challenging, insecure, remote or hostile environments due to lawlessness, political instability and armed conflict.

Both are five-day residential courses delivered in Australia at the Victorian Emergency Management Institute, Mt Macedon, and in Amman, Jordan and Suva/Nadi, Fiji.

## WHO WE WORK WITH

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- Government agencies such as the National Disaster Management Office
- Regional organisations such as the Pacific Community (SPC)
- UN Agencies and Secretariat partners
- Organisations of Persons with Disabilities
- Grassroots Civil Society Organisations such as Fiji Council of Social Services



## RedR experience in the Pacific

- Capacity and capability of national emergency / disaster responders.
- Preferred ways of working (Localisation).
- Accessibility to capacity development / capacity sharing opportunities.
- Empowering Pacific through Pacific Islanders.
- Challenges: Funds to support Pacific Islander Associate Trainers and Deployees.



## Kingdom of Tonga – National Emergency Management Office

- Request to assist in rapid development of capacity in emergency responders were requested in October / November 2021.
- Challenges: Funds and logistics due to Covid-19 restrictions.

*“Funding during response is not an issue, but how can organisations be well prepared to respond if they don’t have funding?”\* - National Actor*



## Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai Submarine Volcano eruption

*15 January 2022*

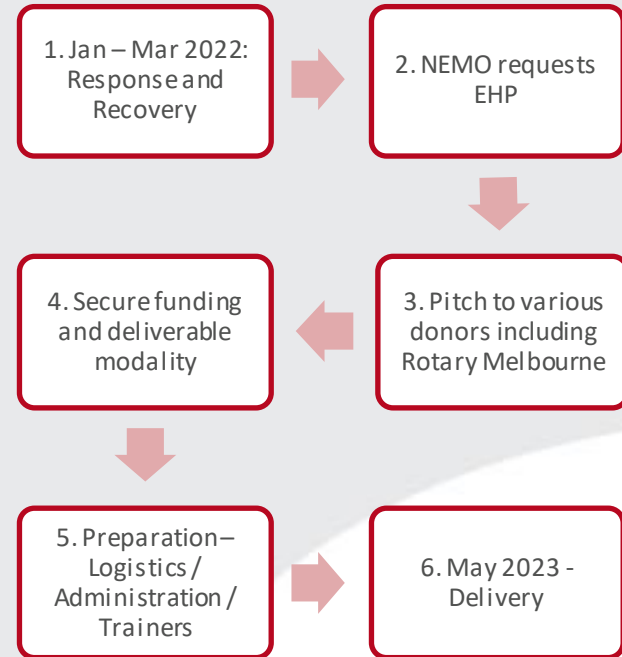
- Population of 105,000 people across 36 islands. 100,000 based in Tongatapu.
- Disruption of communication caused serious implications on the economy.
- 30% of household consumption and 40% of national GDP depends on remittances from international migrants sent via the internet.
- Challenges: Access and Covid-19 restrictions.





## Essentials of Humanitarian Practice Course preparations

- Approximately 18 months of preparation and discussions.
- The delivery was only possible due to Rotary support for various reasons:
  - Donors do not see this as tangible.
  - Training is not part of 'response' funds.
  - Pacific to Pacific support – Building of Associate Trainers



## What does it take to Walk the Talk on Localisation?

- Approximately 12 months to train an Associate Trainer to deliver the EHP.
  - 4 x EHPs (attendance, trial delivery, full delivery, final delivery).
  - Cost: AUD35,000 – AUD40,000
- Approximately 24 months to build a Course Coordinator.
  - 8 x EHPs for a Course Coordinator.
  - Cost: AUD70,000 – AUD80,000



**Impact of your support:**

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