

**SPC/GIZ**  
**Coping with Climate**  
**Change in the Pacific**  
**Island Region**

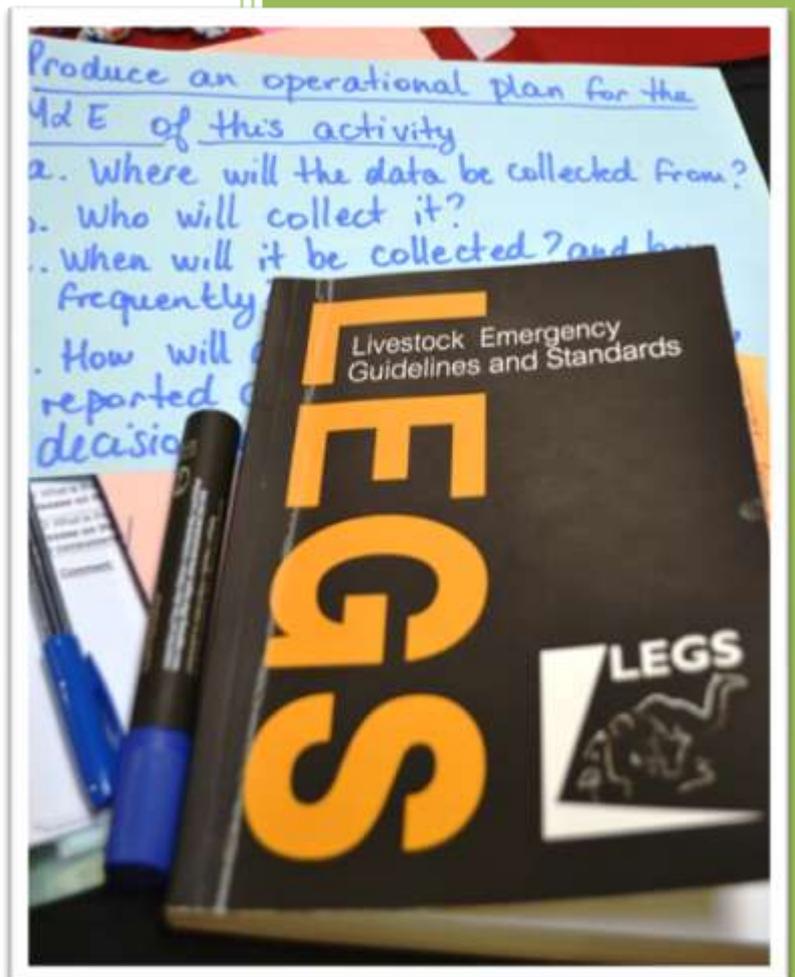
Post-training report:  
**Livestock Emergency Guidelines & Standards (LEGS)**

October 29 to November 1, 2012  
Tanoa International Hotel Nadi, Fiji Islands

**giz**



**WSPA**



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## Executive summary

The Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) are a set of international guidelines and standards for the design, implementation and assessment of livestock interventions to assist people affected by humanitarian crises, such as natural disasters (LEGS Project, 2009). LEGS is a planning and coordination tool intended for all who are involved in livestock-based interventions, specifically NGOs, multi-lateral agencies and governments who are implementing interventions in disaster areas where livelihoods are derived from livestock (LEGS Project, 2009). It is also relevant for policy and decision-makers within donor and government agencies whose funding and implementation decisions impact on disaster responses. The LEGS tools are also useful for the education sector, humanitarian and community-based organizations. A good understanding of LEGS provides guidance on how livestock production organizations and disaster management agencies can work together in protecting and rebuilding livestock assets in crisis-affected communities. As the suggested interventions will save lives of animals during disasters, the main focus of LEGS is to save the livelihood of communities particularly those who rely on livestock as a source of revenue.

The joint SPC/GIZ Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Region (CCCPIR) programme aims to strengthen the capacities of Pacific member countries and regional organisations to cope with the impacts of climate change. The program aims to improve advisory and management capacity of regional organizations and assist Pacific island states in implementing adaptation strategies for climate change. The organization of this first LEGS training in the Pacific region through the CCCPIR program is focused on capacity building and dissemination of technical information on animal welfare, disaster risk reduction and disaster management as one way of climate-proofing the livestock sector.

The LEGS training was conducted in partnership with the World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA), the world's largest alliance for animal welfare. WSPA provided the technical expertise through their certified LEGS trainers who facilitated the training sessions using case studies from Africa and Asia. The LEGS training participants included members of the SPC Animal Health and Production team, representatives from the animal health and production departments and disaster management agencies of six (6) Pacific island countries including Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu. Students from the Fiji National University taking up Diploma in Animal Health also took part to represent the youth in agriculture and the education sector. A total of twenty-six (26) participants completed the 4-day training.

Although the LEGS approach is a new concept in the Pacific, it gained positive reception from the regional participants. Majority of the participating countries committed to advocate integration of livestock interventions in their national disaster plans. The relevance of a national animal health & production emergency response plan was also realized. Country representatives requested for technical assistance from SPC and GIZ to develop their own livestock emergency response plans using the Animal Health Emergency Response Plan (AHERP) template developed by SPC AHP. Organizing a LEGS Training-Of-Trainers (TOT) for the Pacific region was also another common suggestion. The group agreed that a LEGS TOT will allow the efficient conduct of a series of LEGS training at the national level by 2013. The trained trainers from the Pacific will also facilitate the incorporation of more case studies from the region into the LEGS handbook and training exercises, making the LEGS training all the more appropriate to the Pacific context.



*Figure 1. Participants of the first Livestock Emergency Guidelines & Standards (LEGS) training for the Pacific region posed for a group photo.*

## Introduction

The Animal Health and Production (AHP) theme is one of the thematic teams under the Land Resources Division (LRD) of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). SPC AHP proposes activities that will provide Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) with the best knowledge and foundation for livestock production and disaster management planning to achieve climate adapted livestock production systems in the region. The AHP team supports the following overall objectives of LRD:

1. Improved food and nutritional security in the Pacific region.
2. Integrated and sustainable agricultural and forestry resource management and development.
3. Improved biosecurity and increased trade and forestry products.

These objectives best express the expected outcome of adapting livestock systems in the PICT to climate change.

The Livestock Emergency Guidelines and Standards (LEGS) are a set of international guidelines and standards for the design, implementation and assessment of livestock interventions to assist people affected by humanitarian crises, such as natural disasters. It aims to support both saving of lives and the saving of livelihoods through:

1. Assisting in the identification of most appropriate livestock interventions in emergencies
2. Providing standards, indicators and guidance notes for these interventions based on good practice.

LEGS is intended for all who are involved in livestock-based interventions, specifically NGOs, multi-lateral agencies and governments who are implementing interventions in disaster areas where livelihoods are derived from livestock. It is also relevant to policy and decision-makers within donor and government agencies whose funding and implementation decisions impact on disaster responses. A third audience for LEGS includes educational institutions, humanitarian and community-based organizations. A good understanding of LEGS will provide valuable knowledge on how livestock production organizations and disaster management agencies can work together in protecting and rebuilding livestock assets in crisis-affected communities.

This LEGS training is the first to be held in the Pacific region. This six (6) countries participating in this training included Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu. Each identified country was invited to nominate a representative from the animal health and production department and from the national disaster management agency. Two students from the Fiji National University taking up Diploma in Animal Health were also invited to represent the youth and the education sector. Participants found the conduct of the training very timely as the 2012 cyclone season begins in the region with a projection of nine (9) cyclones expected to pass through the Pacific in the next six (6) months.

The training course on livestock disaster risk preparedness and Livestock Emergency Guidelines & Standards (LEGS) for the Pacific region was organized with the following objectives:

1. Improve knowledge on livestock climate disaster planning at village, national and regional levels.
2. Develop awareness on climate proofing the livestock sector by disseminating technical information on animal welfare, disaster risk reduction and management.
3. Information sharing and networking with livestock units in other regional organizations to facilitate transfer of knowledge and experiences related to adapting livestock to disaster and climate change.

As an output of the training, participants are expected to:

- Understand their role in disaster risk management and contribute their skills and experiences during the training.

- Understand and promote the use of LEGS in protecting livelihoods of local villages and farmers, particularly those who rely on livestock, during natural disasters.
- Perform well in written and practical exercises
- Be able to provide up to date reports on effects of natural disasters on livestock and community livelihoods, and recommend appropriate rehabilitation measures.
- Provide significant inputs in incorporating livelihood interventions and responses in local/national disaster management plans.

This 4-day training was organized in close collaboration between GIZ, SPC and the World Society for Protection of Animals (WSPA) as part of the SPC/GIZ Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR) program. GIZ provided the necessary funding for the training resources while the Secretariat of the Pacific Community acted as the coordinating body to facilitate training arrangements for the trainers and participants. WSPA Asia provided the technical expertise through their certified LEGS training facilitators.

### **Disaster management & LEGS training**

A chairperson was selected each day from the group of participants to supervise the timing of the sessions and assist in the discussion of any issues raised during the training.

#### **Day 1: Introduction to climate change and disaster management**

Chairperson: Mr. Jiuta Waqavonovono (Fiji, NDMO)

Dr. Ken Cokanasiga, Program adviser for SPC Animal Health and Production team, formally opened the week with an inspirational address. In his talk, he emphasized that the inclusion of the livestock interventions in national disaster strategies is crucial to the survival of the livestock sector in the region as the Pacific face the impacts of climate change. And because of this, he acknowledged the three collaborating agencies – SPC, GIZ and WSPA - for providing the opportunity to the animal health and production organisations and disaster management agencies to work together in enhancing skills and collaboration between the two sectors. Dr. Cokanasiga also highlighted that those who will be completing the 4-day training will be the first few individuals in the Pacific region to be trained in LEGS.

#### **Presentation highlights**

##### **SPC/AHP and climate change**

*Mr. Nichol Nonga, SPC AHP*

The presentation provided a brief overview of the SPC Climate Change Engagement Strategy outlining the key focus of the SPC climate change activities. The speaker highlighted the activities of Land Resources Division in contribution to the implementation of this strategy. With the vision of evidence-based technical and institutional support to PICTs governments and livestock producers to assist in the adaption of livestock systems to climate change, the speaker described how the Animal Health & Production team of SPC LRD aligns their work plan and services to assist the PICTs in climate-proofing the livestock sector in the Pacific region. Some of the activities mentioned included:

- Conduct of a livestock and climate change workshop in 2011 and documentation of workshop outputs.
- Development of the climate change fact sheets for smallholder livestock farmers and policy makers
- Collaboration with PICTs livestock stakeholders to identify climate adapted breeds, local feed stuff/ingredients and sustainable production systems.
- Development of an AHP strategic plan mainstreaming climate change into the AHP work plan and technical advice (Paravet modules, animal waste management, disease surveillance, climate adapted animal husbandry practices).

## **Climate variability, trends and projections**

*Mr. Ravind Kumar, Fiji Meteorological Services*

The presentation focused on climate variability, trends and models. The speaker used the environmental change projections for Fiji to demonstrate the impacts of climate change in the Pacific region. The presentation pointed out the importance of reliable climate data to come up with a good projection of future climate. The available sea level data for Fiji is too short to deduce long term sea level rise projections. Other projections mentioned included:

1. Warmer and wetter future but likely drier dry season.
2. Increased evaporation and aridity, except between latitudes 5oN and 10oS.
3. Slight decrease in wind speed in the equatorial and northern parts of the region, and small increase in the south.
4. Slight increase in humidity, with decreases along the equator and around Papua New Guinea.
5. Small decrease in sunshine.
6. Slower ocean mixing and nutrient supply to the surface.
7. Further sea level rise and ocean acidification.

The FMS team also provided a sample copy of the reports of Pacific Climate Change Science Program (PCCSP) Vol 1 and 2, and copies of the PCCSP country report for Fiji.

## **Role of SOPAC Division**

*Mr. Noa Tokavou, SOPAC*

The work of the Applied Geoscience and Technology Division of SPC, commonly known as SOPAC, focuses on assessment of natural resources, systems and processes and management of vulnerability and risks identified in the Pacific region. The speaker explained the policy drivers of disaster risk management. The presentation highlighted the assistance and capacity building activities being provided by SOPAC team to effectively put in place disaster risk management plans in each island country of the Pacific. The speaker pointed out that when it comes to disaster management planning at the regional and national level, the forestry and extension services most actively participate. He called upon the livestock sector, both regional and national level, to exert more effort to collaborate with disaster management focal persons in order to facilitate integration of livestock interventions in disaster plans. He also mentioned that with more involvement and integration, the livestock sector will be able to access more climate change funding and DRM funding opportunities (i.e. NDF, GFDRR, GEF).

## **Country presentations**

Representative from the countries was provided with a presentation template to guide in the preparation of the joint AHP and DMO country presentations.

- It was common to all six countries for the disaster management offices to look after all sectors during times of natural disasters, with different government departments providing some contribution in implementing response and rehabilitation activities.
- All six countries have experienced disasters which significantly affected livestock. Disasters involving livestock included disease outbreaks, drought, flooding, cyclone and tsunami.
- None of the disaster management processes in all six countries have specifically defined and identified livestock interventions for implementation during times of disasters.
- Among the six participating countries, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Samoa has a livestock emergency response plan:
  - Fiji has an Animal Health Emergency Response Plan (AnHERPlan) that was developed in 2010 and partially used to address the American Foul Brood (ARB) virus 2011 outbreak in bees.
  - PNG has the Emergency Animal Disease Contingency and Technical (ErADiCaTe) Plan which was used during the 2006 New Castle Disease outbreak in poultry population in PNG.

- Samoa has the Preparedness Plan (PP) designed as a guide to help identify the key components of a response to a suspected exotic animal disease. Some of the activities are currently being implemented as part of quarantine and border control measures.
- The Fiji AnHERPlan was developed with a focus on resource mobilisation to respond to an animal disease outbreak. Representatives from the Fiji Ministry of Primary Industries pointed out that the AnHERPlan is a living document that requires regular updating. It was also mentioned that there is a need to update and modify the identified response activities in the plan to make the implementation more effective and practical. Another constraint identified was the lack of awareness within the public service that the AnHERPlan exist.
- All countries find the need to develop (SI, Vanuatu, Tonga) or update (Fiji, PNG, Samoa) existing livestock emergency response plan to respond not only to animal disease outbreaks but also to address disaster risk caused by natural calamities.

### **Early Warning System and Disaster Preparedness**

*Dr. Ong-Orn Prasarnphanic, WSPA Asia*

The flag system is an early warning system recommended by UNDP for community in times of disaster. Different flag colours – usually white, orange and red - are designated to indicate what level of disaster are expected or had struck the community. The flag system can also be used for managing livestock during disasters. A veterinary disaster triage will be important in managing limited veterinary resources and controlling spread of diseases within herd in evacuation sites. Setting up a triage will require grouping of animals according to their health conditions. The colored flags will be used to identify the severity of the health conditions of animals. This will allow identification of animals that will benefit from treatment given the limited resources available during disasters.

Short videos on livestock evacuation developed by WSPA were shown. DVD copies were distributed to each country during the end of the week.

*Specific learning outcomes:*

- Familiarized with the standard disaster management structures applied in the region and the specific disaster management processes implemented in participating PICTs.
- Developed awareness on availability of country-specific climate change predictions as documented by PCCSP.
- Learned possible early warning systems that can be used in livestock sector to complement traditional Pacific knowledge on environment (i.e. cloud formation) and animal behaviour (i.e flocks of birds flying to high grounds).
- Identified the important materials necessary for livestock evacuation.

### **Day 2: LEGS training**

Chairperson: Mr. Mikaele Saipa'ia (Tonga, AHP)

Day 2 marks the beginning of the formal LEGS training sessions. WSPA Asia volunteered to facilitate the LEGS training through their certified LEGS trainers Dr. Ong-orn (Aim) Prasarnphanich and Ms. Elodie Guillon. Dr. Aim is a veterinarian and the Disaster Management Responsibility Project Officer for WSPA Aisa. She is also the LEGS Asia Representative. Ms. Guillon is the Education Manager for WSPA Asia.

The facilitators from WSPA Asia started the LEGS training session with a friendly exercise, with each participant introducing another based from the information provided in a sheet of paper patterned from the famous Facebook social networking site. Participants were then asked to write their training expectations and fears using sticky note pads which were posted in boards. Some of the significant comments included:

- Discussion on the practical uses and application of LEGS before undertaking the 3-day LEGS session to make sure those LEGS is really relevant to the Pacific region.
- Training should cover saving humans during emergency because who will use the livestock if humans are destroyed during disasters like tsunami.

The facilitators addressed the comments above by providing clarifications that LEGS is a decision-making tool developed with an animal welfare perspective. The use and adaptation of LEGS for disaster response in the Pacific only serves as an option for people and organisations who are implementing interventions. A participant from a national disaster agency reminded the group that the activity is aimed at capacity building, and the application of LEGS during emergency will depend on the government or the organisations' priorities.

As the session 1 continued, the facilitators provided the history, objectives and the aim of the LEGS approach. Participants were also familiarised with the use the LEGS handbook. Figure 2 illustrates the 4 stages involved in the LEGS approach and the suggested planning tools for each stage. The uses of **common standards**, **minimum standards**, **key indicators** and **guidance notes** for the LEGS approach were also discussed. It was also emphasized that it is important to consider four cross-cutting issues in intervention planning: (1) gender and social equity, (2) HIV/AIDS, (3) security and protection, (4) environment. The group agreed that for the Pacific region, it will be more relevant to include other individuals who have ailments as a cross-cutting issue rather than to single out people with HIV/AIDS.

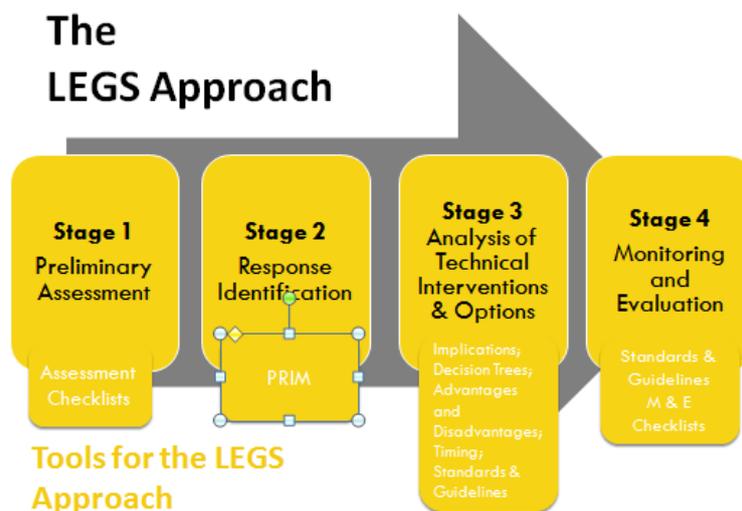


Figure 2. The four stages of LEGS approach with the suggested tools for disaster response planning.

Session 2 clearly defined terminologies commonly used in LEGS including hazards, disasters, vulnerability, capacity and livelihood. Participants were also familiarised with the standard disaster/risk management cycle and the LEGS phases for slow and rapid-onset disasters. Session 3 required dividing the participants into small groups to complete a preliminary assessment exercise for a case study from a disaster scenario in a Thailand province. An assessment checklist was used as a tool for this exercise. The assessment checklist was used to determine the role of livestock in the community livelihoods, the impact of the disaster and for contextual situation analysis. The session ended with the group presentation and discussions on the preliminary assessments.

#### Specific learning outcomes:

- Familiarized with the general contents and use of the LEGS handbook.
- Identified and incorporated cross-cutting issues in livestock intervention planning applicable to the Pacific context. Understood and differentiated the definitions of terminologies

commonly used in disaster planning such as hazards, disasters, vulnerability, capacity, livelihood, etc.

- Understood the definition and purpose of standards and key indicators in planning and implementation of livestock interventions.
- Learned the difference between rapid onset, slow onset and complex disasters.
- Learned how to conduct initial assessments to determine the capacity of the community to manage and access livestock/livestock products before and after disasters.
- Identified possible livestock interventions that can be implemented in disaster-affected communities in the Pacific.
- Learned how to conduct initial assessments to determine suitability of proposed livestock interventions in the community using participatory approach and how project planners can adjust these methods to make it more useful in the Pacific setting.

### Day 3: LEGS training

Chairperson: Mr. Leuta Saifoloi (Samoa, STEC DMO)

After a recap of the previous day's activities and an energizer, the Session 4 commenced with a group exercise on response identification using the Participatory Response Identification Matrix (PRIM) tool. PRIM is a participatory planning tool which uses the findings of the preliminary assessments (Stage 1) to facilitate discussions with local stakeholders to identify which interventions are most appropriate, feasible and timely. The rest of the day was allocated for Session 5 which covered Stage 3 of the LEGS approach. The theories for designing a response program was discussed using several LEGS tools including summary of options, decision tree, timing table, advantages/disadvantages table, common standards, key indicators and guidance notes. The trainers facilitated a coordination exercise (using a cotton wool). The groups ended the day with a group exercise on designing and presentation of a response program.

*Specific learning outcomes:*

- Learned how to facilitate a participatory process to identify the most appropriate and feasible livestock intervention among a list of proposed activities for the disaster-affected community and how these methods can be adjusted to be more appropriate for the region.
- Understood the uses of different decision-making tools to design a disaster response program and how these methods can be adjusted to be more appropriate for the Pacific.
- Applied the use of the decision making tools to facilitate a systematic and participatory process of developing a response program for a disaster-affected community (case study).

### Day 4: LEGS training

Chairperson: Mr. BaiGeorge Swua (Vanuatu, Agriculture)

The groups efficiently managed to complete the tasks and exercises on schedule for the past few days of the training. After a review of the previous day's activities, exercises for Session 5 continued during the morning session. The importance of considering the perspective of different stakeholders in designing of a response program was stressed to minimize bias.

Session 6 covered the fifth and last stage of the LEGS approach which is monitoring and evaluation. The groups were tasked to define the indicators to be used for the monitoring and evaluation of each of the proposed activities in the response program developed for the case study. The groups were asked to define the **process indicators** which measure the implementation of the activity/program; and the **impact/outcome indicators** which measure the change that occurs as a result of the proposed activity. It was emphasized that the indicators for each of the activities should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound (SMART). For this exercise it was highlighted that M&E of emergency livestock interventions should use participatory approaches/methods and should include feedback from beneficiaries to help ensure quality results.

Impact assessments should also aim to understand the role of projects in increasing or decreasing livelihoods benefits.

As a final group activity, participants were divided by country – for Fiji, further subdivided into Fiji AHP, NDMO, and SPC – and were asked to define their commitments as a follow through after the completed LEGS training. The groups have indicated the following commitments as a next step for LEGS in the Pacific region:

1. Fiji
  - A. Ministry of Primary Industries, Animal Health and Production Division
    - More training for staff
    - Use LEGS in field
    - Develop SOPs for DM integrating LEGS
    - More simulated exercises in 2013
    - Stakeholder consultation on animal issues
    - Training of Trainers
  - B. Ministry of Provincial Development and Disaster Management
    - Present to the heads of department in the division (within 2 weeks time)
    - Incorporate some of the findings to the NDMO policies (awaiting invites from AH&P Fiji)
    - Explore and integrate policies to sectoral agencies
  - C. SPC
    - Request LEGS for TOT –for our regional training (next 12 months).
    - Adaptation of LEGS manual to the Pacific situation.
    - Undertake simulation exercises as per country request (with 24 months).
    - Provide technical assistance to incorporate LEGS into existing national disaster plans in PICTs.
2. Vanuatu
  - Participate in a training of trainers.
  - Develop a Livestock Emergency Procedure Guidelines for livestock in Vanuatu using LEGS . The draft is expected to be in mid 2013.
  - Conduct training to livestock personnel/officers and farmers on the emergency response procedures.
  - Conduct drill exercises and refresher course on LEGS procedures.
  - Incorporate LEGS procedures into NDMO standards and guidelines (2013).
3. Tonga
  - Integrating LEGS to
    - Development of a Livestock Emergency Response Plan by mid-April 2013.
      - Phase 1 - Consultation (Dec 2012 – Feb 2013)
      - Phase 2 - 1<sup>st</sup> Draft LERP (Mar – May 2013)
      - Phase 3 - Final LERP (June – Mid July)
    - Policies and regulations
  - Capacity building for livestock staff
4. Samoa
  - Participate in a LEGS TOT
  - LEGS training for Ministry of Agriculture staff and rural community.
5. Solomon Islands
  - Government and relevant partners must understand and take ownership of LEGS (by 2014).
  - Integrate LEGS to the response operation of NDMO.
  - Establish a committee to coordinate LEGS be end of 2013
  - Greater advocacy of LEGS across all sectors/partners
  - TOT by WSPA by June 2013

## 6. Papua New Guinea

- Adopt the LEGS and interventions concepts to suit the local/country's emergency response and contingency plan.
- Training relevant stakeholders in LEGS emergency preparedness.
- Maintain communication link with WSPA for further developments.
- Simulation exercises

The media crew from Fiji One broadcasting network conducted a short interview and video shooting of the LEGS trainers and participants. A news clip about LEGS was later shown during the Fiji One six o'clock evening news.

The 4-day training sessions was finalised with a simple ceremony for the awarding of certificates, distribution of training keepsake (USB from GIZ; bags, livestock evacuation and LEGS DVDs from WSPA) and a simple token (T-shirt and USB from GIZ) of appreciation for the WSPA trainers. The overall reception to the LEGS training was positive and there was consensus among the participants that the week's sessions has been productive and successful.

### *Specific learning outcomes:*

- Understood how each step and tools of the LEGS planning process can be adapted to the Pacific context.
- Identified specific commitments of different agencies to progress integration of livestock interventions in national disaster plans.

## Evaluation

The opinion of the training participants is very important in the design of future programs of SPC, GIZ and WSPA. The participants' feedback on the contents of the LEGS handbook and training sessions are critical in improving the delivery of future LEGS trainings. A separate evaluation form for SPC/GIZ and LEGS was provided for each participant to get some thoughts on the relevance of the training topics, manner of delivery of the sessions, appropriateness of training arrangements and other general comments. The LEGS evaluation form focused on the appropriateness of the contents of LEGS handbook and the delivery of training by the certified LEGS trainers.

## Conclusion

Livestock production in the Pacific region is an integral part of the social and cultural systems, with livestock featuring prominently in most traditional ceremonies (SPC, 2010). Although livestock contributes significantly in the region's economy, livestock is less prioritized during disaster evacuation and rehabilitation. Through this LEGS training, the benefit of putting in place and prioritising livestock interventions was realized by animal health and production sector and disaster management agencies. Participants recognized the potential role of livestock in re-establishing food security and re-building of livelihood for the immediate recovery of disaster-affected communities in the Pacific. The contents of LEGS does not focus on saving lives of animals but more on empowering individuals with the skills and knowledge to effectively implement livestock interventions that will lead the way to recovery of community livelihood and self-sufficiency after disasters.

## Recommendations

1. Develop LEGS awareness in the region. Request for WSPA's assistance in designing a short program (half-day) to be used by the participants (pilot group) to promote LEGS awareness in their respective country and agency.
2. Support delivery of LEGS training at national level. GIZ and/or SPC, as a regional organization, will have more resource opportunities to support additional LEGS training at national level. This will greatly assist in developing awareness and to promote the relevance of integrating livestock interventions in national disaster plans.

3. Initiate organization of a LEGS Training-of-Trainers (TOT) in the region. Having certified trainers based within the Pacific island countries will allow the efficient conduct of LEGS training at the national level. As an alternative, funding support can be provided to selected representative from the Pacific region to attend LEGS TOT scheduled outside the region. These options will require close coordination with WSPA and the LEGS Coordinators.
4. The trained trainers from the Pacific will also facilitate the incorporation of more case studies from the region into the LEGS handbook and training exercises, making the LEGS training all the more appropriate to the Pacific context. *SPC will assist in gathering feed-back and lessons learnt from the different member countries and developing those case-studies in consultation with WSPA and the LEGS coordinators for their integration in the LEGS manual and in the LEGS training.*
5. Continue to encourage countries to develop a livestock emergency response plan. The SPC AHP developed the Animal Health Emergency Response Plan template to facilitate immediate resource mobilization during times of animal emergencies. This template was intended for countries to adapt based from the available resources at the national level. With SPC AHP providing the technical support, the development of a national livestock emergency response plan will facilitate incorporation of livestock interventions and LEGS approach into national disaster response plan in the Pacific island countries.
6. Encourage countries to collect baseline data and information. During the sessions, Dr. Cokanasiga mentioned that one of the constraints in the region is the lack of basic data to which makes the conduct of initial assessments difficult, particularly for animal health and production. For current and future activities, it is important to emphasize in regional and national program activities the relevance of collecting baseline data which can be used for initial assessments for livestock interventions.

## References

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- SPC. (2010). *Livestock Policy Brief*. Suva, Fiji: Secretariat of the Pacific Community.

## Annex: Participant list

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