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Ministry of Civil Defence
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PO Box 5010 Wellington

Courier Address

Level 9
22 The Terrace
Wellington

Telephone: 04 473 7363
Facsimile: 04 473 7369

Enquiries

Communications Advisor
emergency.management@dia.govt.nz

Contributors

Margurite Fahy
Sarah Stuart-Black
Jenna Rogers
Peter Kingsbury
David Coetzee
Rusty Ritchie
Sara Leighton
Jo Horrocks
Jon Mitchell
Tony Cronin
Craig Hamilton

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MESSAGE FROM

John Hamilton



Communities count

The focus for civil defence emergency management in New Zealand is always going to be on people, whether it's their physical safety and well-being or the protection of their property and livelihoods.

Circumstances over the past few months served to emphasise the vagaries of the environment in which we live. As a result of recent storms, a considerable number of people throughout New Zealand required support and assistance varying from evacuation to the restoration of utilities. The origin of that support varied too from neighbours, volunteers and community organisations to regional groups and arrangements and nationally based departments and agencies. Some people received support quickly; inevitably some got it later than was desirable. In some (fortunately rare) occasions, no assistance was received. Others literally weathered the storms and got through.

The national goal for civil defence emergency management is to generate a resilient New Zealand, but there is still a long way to go. It is resilience in a community that enables people to cope with the hazards and risks confronting them and to get through. The challenge we continue to face is how to increase the number in the category that are able to get through with minimal additional assistance.

The foundation for creating resilience is the four Rs of reducing risk, being ready, having the ability to respond and recover from an emergency. Effort is being applied vertically through all segments of New Zealand and horizontally across all four Rs in the knowledge that concentrating on any one of them will be at the expense of the others. But we need to have a better understanding of what comprises resilience and how to improve it in communities.

Our knowledge and appreciation of the hazards and risks faced has been assisted greatly with the release of the National Hazardscape Report, launched by the Minister of Civil Defence, The Hon Rick Barker, and Mr Maarten Wevers, the Chief Executive

of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet at the Minister's Forum in Wellington in September. The concept of resilience was the central theme for the Minister's Forum. The information contained in the hazardscape report will be factored into public education and will help to improve awareness and preparations at all levels. CDEM Groups are encouraged to use the report as the basis for initiatives in their own areas. Similarly, activities throughout communities during Disaster Awareness Week, 8-12 October 2007, will promote preparation at home and work helping to reduce risk and better enable people to get through.

People are the focus for our efforts. But in the circumstances we frequently face, the demand for resources is likely to exceed the capacities available. People and communities must appreciate that they are expected to make the initial response with the resources immediately available while additional assistance and support is marshalled. Get Ready and Get Thru! Understanding of the environment in which communities live reveals their extensive interdependencies. Again it is people that are involved; they design and maintain the systems in use. They know local cause and effect relationships. We need to ensure we make use of this knowledge and these relationships during planning and preparation before an emergency to improve resilience, promote a swifter response and improve recovery.

The success of civil defence emergency management in New Zealand is based on relationships. It is a community activity in which everyone has a part to play. Understand the situation that could be faced in each setting; think about what could be done. Take the initiative, make some preparations and lead the way to a more resilient New Zealand by being better prepared and better able to Get Thru. ▲

National Hazardscape Report

The National Hazardscape Report, published by Officials' Committee for Domestic and External Security Coordination, and launched at the Civil Defence Emergency Management Minister's Forum on 20 September 2007, is the first New Zealand Government report to provide a thorough description of the New Zealand hazardscape.

The National Hazardscape Report provides a contemporary summary of the physical nature, distribution, frequency of occurrence and impacts and consequences of 17 key hazards affecting New Zealand. The hazards described in the National Hazardscape Report include geological, meteorological, biological, technological and social hazards. The National Hazardscape Report also provides information on how the hazards are currently managed across reduction, readiness, response and recovery.

Four key factors influencing New Zealand's current landscape are also discussed in the National Hazardscape Report. These are climate variability and climate change, human modification of the natural environment, demographic trends, and reliance on technology.

The following is an excerpt from the report:

New Zealanders have been, and continue to be, at risk from a broad range of hazards. However, the types of emergencies that have occurred in New Zealand have changed over time. In the 1800s and early 1900s many people died in shipping accidents, fires and epidemics – the 1854 measles epidemic and 1918 influenza epidemic

collectively accounted for more than 12,600 deaths. The Mt Tarawera eruption in 1886 and Hawke's Bay earthquake in 1931 were the most significant natural events of this period, with 153 and 256 deaths respectively.

Since the mid-1900s relatively few people have died from natural hazards, with most hazard deaths attributed to transport accidents. The three main transport accidents were the Tangiwai train derailment in 1953, the sinking of the Wahine in 1968, and the Air New Zealand flight TE901 Mt Erebus crash in Antarctica in 1979. The crash of flight TE901 remains New Zealand's deadliest disaster with 257 deaths.

Since 1970 there have been many floods causing significant evacuations of people and damage to property, but few deaths. The most notable natural hazard event in the last 20 years was the 1987 Edgecumbe earthquake.

The National Hazardscape Report is a non-statutory document aimed at informing policy makers, hazard managers and their advisors in carrying out hazard and risk management at the national and local level. Copies of the National Hazardscape Report will be sent to all key civil defence emergency management stakeholders. If you haven't received a copy, or would like additional copies please send an email to peter.kingsbury@dia.govt.nz. ▲



The 1979 Abbotsford landslide. This landslide prompted changes to legislation enabling territorial authorities to refuse building permits on hazard-prone land. Photo: Otago Daily Times.



The female Asian gypsy moth. Photo: John H Ghent, USDA Forest Service.



The 1918 influenza pandemic was the worst disease outbreak to hit New Zealand. Photo: Alexander Turnbull Library.



Pleasant Point near Timaru after the June 2006 snowstorm. Roads took many days to clear in some areas. Photo: Jeff Tollan.

Have your say: Civil Defence in New Zealand

On 26 July 2007 Civil Defence Minister Rick Barker invited New Zealanders to have a say in how we achieve a resilient New Zealand by making submissions on the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Strategy.

The strategy lists the high-level goals and objectives of the civil defence sector and was released for an eight-week period of public consultation. This is a strategy for all New Zealanders because it's everyone's responsibility to understand and manage the hazards we face.

The key message of 'Get Ready Get Thru' campaign is that we all need to be aware of the hazards we face in this country and be prepared to manage by ourselves for up to three days in the event of an emergency.

The strategy itself is a key element in how we 'get ready' and how we 'get thru' and was developed by the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management in cooperation with the civil defence sector.

Everyone has an opportunity to take a look at the draft strategy and voice their expectations of civil defence in New Zealand and the process for realising those expectations. The final date for submissions is Friday 21 September 2007. The draft strategy and information about making a submission are available at: www.civildefence.govt.nz Submissions can be e-mailed to nationalcdem.strategy@dia.govt.nz or sent in writing to National CDEM Strategy 2007, CDEM Policy, Department of Internal Affairs, PO Box 805, Wellington. ▲

Exercise Ruaumoko

In November 2005 Government approved the National CDEM Plan to come in to effect on 1 July 2006. At that time government directed that there be two national-level disaster preparedness exercises to test New Zealand's all-of-nation arrangements for responding to a major disaster.

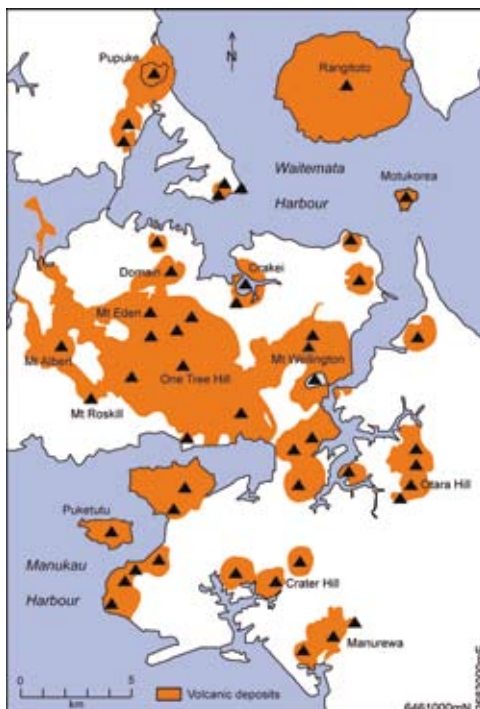
The first of these, Exercise Capital Quake, took place in November 2006 and tested arrangements for responding to an earthquake in Wellington.

Exercise Ruaumoko is the second of these national exercises, to be based on a volcanic eruption in Auckland. The exercise will be conducted over four months from November 2007 to March 2008, culminating in two main exercise days, 13-14 March 2008. It will be conducted at local, regional and national levels. Exercise Ruaumoko will therefore be a Tier 4 (national-level) exercise in accordance with the National Exercise Programme.

The exercise is jointly led by the Auckland CDEM Group, MCDEM, and the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC). The exercise will be supported by the Northland, Waikato, and Bay of Plenty CDEM Groups, central government departments, emergency services, lifeline utilities, and other agencies and organisations, as appropriate.

Planning for this exercise started in January 2007 with the formation of a Steering Group consisting of Mike O'Leary (MCDEM), Harry O'Rourke (ACDEMG Group Controller), Ross McLeod (ACDEMG CEG Chair) and Pat Helm (DPMC). An Exercise Co-ordination Team has subsequently been working on planning and delivery of the exercise.

The scenario for Exercise Ruaumoko will be a volcanic eruption somewhere in the wider Auckland metropolitan area. The exercise will commence with the identification of precursor seismic activity in the Auckland region in November 2007, such that planning meetings are required. In early 2008 unusual and sustained seismic activity in the Auckland region will prompt further attention. As the source of seismic activity becomes shallower, it will become clear that a volcanic eruption is imminent.



A volcanic eruption in Auckland could block roads, destroy buildings and affect essential lifelines such as water supply, sewerage reticulation, electricity and telephone and radio services. In the vicinity of a volcano vent, total destruction would occur. Evacuations may be needed, as well as an extensive public information programme. Significant economic, political and social issues could follow.

The exercise will consider all of these issues in the face of ambiguous information on the size, location and timing of an eruption. While the possible location of the vent may be refined over the period of a few days or weeks, much uncertainty will remain, and organisations will have to make significant decisions with far reaching consequences based on imprecise information.

For further information on please contact Jo Horrocks jo.horrocks@dia.govt.nz ▲



Biggest ever South Island-wide CDEM exercise

As this issue of *Impact* goes to print more than 2,000 people are about to take part in one of the biggest Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) exercises held in the South Island for many years.

Exercise Co-ordinator, Jon Mitchell, from the Canterbury CDEM Group said that Exercise Pandora '07 will be held on September 14 -15 to test a South Island-wide initial response to a major earthquake on the Main Alpine Fault.

The exercise will involve people

from all the South Island CDEM Groups, most local councils, emergency services, welfare organisations and government agencies, as well as staff operating from the National Crisis Management Centre beneath the Beehive in Wellington.

The Canterbury CDEM Group is leading the exercise, with support from the other South Island Groups and the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management.

"Our aim is to reinforce the co-

operation and co-ordination that we must have to respond to an emergency that could affect the whole South Island,"

Mr Mitchell said. "This is a crucial CDEM role – collecting and analysing information so that it can co-ordinate the response by affected communities, local authorities, emergency services, health services, utilities and all the other organisations that would be involved." ▲



Photo: Tourism New Zealand

Kapiti Coast opens purpose-built EOC

The Kapiti Coast has got ready and it will get through now that it has its purpose-built and designed Emergency Operations Centre.

The centre was officially opened by Minister of Civil Defence, Rick Barker on 23 August before an audience of nearly 100 and a display of emergency vehicles including a Helipro helicopter with full search and rescue kit and fire bucket.

One of few purpose-built Emergency Operations Centres in the country, the 550m² building was designed by engineers Connell Wagner and built by Paraparaumu company Redican Allwood.

It is constructed mainly of wood and designed to survive a Richter Scale 8 event. In addition to earthquakes it is designed to withstand floods, tsunami inundation, coastal erosion, storms, lightning strike, toxic gas cloud and tornadoes as well as power, water and phone outages.

It has 100 piles driven four metres into ground through old swamp to an ironsand base with the floor set one metre above ground clear of any possible flooding. The timber frame, timber roof trusses and colour steel roof were all chosen for their lightness and strength.

As well as the day-to-day activities of the emergency management team the centre is ready for rapid activation for use in CD emergencies, search and rescue operations, rural fire operations, pandemic operations and any other emergency.

It will also serve as a base for CDEM training for staff and volunteers, general council staff training and for use by outside agencies such as the police and fire service.

The facility will be in daily use by Red Cross who have an office and store in the building and will be using the garages as a base for their "Meals on Wheels" operation. Weekly training sessions will also be held.

The building has a generator with five days supply of diesel and more available within the nearby council depot if needed; 46,000 litres of water stored on the bank behind the building, 23,000 litres and an additional 23,000 litres at the end of the Red Cross garages for their use.

The finished building and fit out will cost around \$1.6 million. ▲



Minister of Civil Defence Rick Barker at the helm of the Operations Desk



Opening day for the new Kapiti EOC with one of several specialist emergency vehicles on display



The complex has been designed to be energy efficient and self-reliant in the event of power and water outages. A communications mast has also been erected.



New Waitakere EOC nears completion

The new \$2.8 million EOC for Waitakere City due to be officially opened by the Minister on 25 September. Minor internal work has yet to be completed along with finishing landscaping. More information on this new facility will feature in the next issue.

Storms, flooding, tornadoes

From Northland to Clutha, few regions have been spared this winter, and who would of thought Taranaki would experience a swarm of tornadoes!



Hikurangi Swamp, Northland resembling a lake.

Northland hit again

On Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 July a large storm hit the upper North Island causing widespread damage to the Northland, Auckland and Coromandel areas. This storm followed closely the flooding of 29 March 2007 that also affected large farming areas in Northland.

The storm resulted in large-scale flooding, slips, tree falls and property and pasture damage throughout the Northland Region. Thousands of households were without power and telephone for at least 72 hours. A large number of residential properties were damaged and there was significant commercial property damage. Welfare centres were set up across the region located close to the worst affected communities where power outages were significant. This enabled affected people to receive hot meals and have showers.

Rainfall figures across the top of the North Island indicate that in excess of 200 mm of rain fell in some places, with intensities up to 34 mm/hr in some areas. The storm was also accompanied by severe wind, at times exceeding 180 kph.

Far North District Council received 6,523 calls relating to the storm from 9-13 July and 16 July. Its website received, on average, 8,000 hits per day during the storm – nearly 3,000 above the norm.

As the storm moved south-east, heavy rain occurred in

Hawke's Bay 17-18 July, primarily affecting the Hastings and north western parts of Central Hawke's Bay. In a very short period, the region moved from drought-like conditions to a point where much of the region had over-saturated ground conditions. A number of homes in rural Hastings district were threatened by rising water levels and storm water flows.

The total cost of the storm is estimated to exceed \$50m.



Coastal surges Whangarei making driving treacherous.

Taranaki's tornadoes

"Resilience" was the word on everyone's lips during Taranaki's tornado emergency early in July. At least six tornadoes struck various Taranaki townships on 5 July, a day after a tornado wreaked havoc in the New Plymouth CBD.

The 5 July swarm damaged at least 73 homes to varying degrees, mainly in the coastal town of Oakura, however damage was reported across the province. Other property damage included hundreds of fallen trees. At least one farmer was thought to have had 380 pine trees leveled, with another at Kapuni losing 120. Thankfully, there were no deaths and just one serious injury suffered by a teenager caught amidst shattering glass. Three children underwent trauma counseling.

A State of Emergency was declared by the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group at 8pm on Thursday, 5 July. The declaration was terminated at 10am on Saturday, 7 July. According to CDEM Controller David Lean, the emergency brought out the best in people.

"Such was the enthusiasm to help out that the Fire Service eventually had to turn away volunteers," he said. "No one needed the beds Civil Defence was able to offer on the night – those whose houses were uninhabitable were taken care of by family, friends and neighbours.

"And the morning after the maelstrom, Oakura and other affected communities were abuzz with energy as hundreds flocked to help with the clean-up and repairs – assisted by generous material donations from businesses."

Civil Defence Minister Rick Barker inspected the damage in Taranaki and held a media briefing in New Plymouth the day after the tornado swarm, commenting favourably on the CDEM and community response.

"I get the general impression that the people of Taranaki are very resilient," he said. "They've got good communities which support them well. Everywhere I've been it's not just the family that's been affected but those around them too, helping to clean up, tidy up – just a fantastic effort. I think Taranaki can take a bow."

The scale of the damage stunned David Lean. "We saw trampolines up trees. We saw glass literally embedded in steel. We saw a 40ft fully loaded container blown some 60ft down into a swamp. We saw a garage that had been moved 100m over the neighbour's fence and into a paddock, and the lawnmower was still sitting in the place where somebody parked it ... how nobody got hurt beats me."

At the peak of the emergency on the Thursday night, there were reports of 8,000 households without power. By the next morning, power had mostly been restored in North Taranaki but 2,600 households were still without power in South Taranaki. Major roads were open and a welfare hotline had been established by the Ministry of Social Development.

There was concern about water supplies, however, with power out to the water treatment plants at Kapuni, Rahotu and Okato. The Civil Defence Emergency Management Group made an urgent plea for residents to conserve water.

By Saturday morning, the situation had improved sufficiently for the state of emergency to be lifted. Police were still on round-the-clock patrol at Oakura however, and although most power was restored, Powerco still had 120 people in the field.



Chaos in Pari St, in the New Plymouth CBD, after a tornado on 4 July lifted the roof off the nearby Placemakers store.

An early task for the recovery team was distributing leaflets around Oakura giving advice on property damage, insurance, personal welfare and the sort of help available. A welfare centre set up at the Oakura Bowling Club during the emergency remained opened throughout the following week. The Ministry of Social Development welfare hotline also remained operational.

By August, the Insurance Council had estimated the 5 July tornado damage bill at \$6.5 million, with another \$2 million incurred the day before in New Plymouth.

Clutha District flood emergency

Prolonged rain in South Canterbury and coastal Otago on Monday 30 July resulted in significant flooding. Both Canterbury and Otago CDEM Groups were involved. Worst affected was the Milton area of Clutha District where more than 90mm of rain fell flooding houses. More than 50 people were evacuated from 20 flood-affected homes and roads were closed isolating communities.

The Mayor of the District, Juno Hayes declared a State of Emergency for the Bruce Ward at 8:40pm. The state of emergency was lifted the next morning at 9.00am after rain had eased, SH1 north and south of the town had reopened and a recovery plan implemented.

The area was affected by flood on Anzac Day 2006 so for many residents who had only recently completed repairs, this flood was heartbreaking. Only the day before, the Council had approved funding for the first stage of a flood protection scheme in the area. ▲



Heartache for families in Milton flooded for the second year running.

Canterbury CDEM Group EOC training a success

The Emergency Management Training Centre (EMTC), the Canterbury CDEM Group's Private Training Establishment, has successfully delivered the first of its new EOC courses at three separate locations across the Group area.

The EOC course has been exclusively licensed by EMTC from the Justice Institute of British Columbia, Canada. EMTC has modified the Canadian package to build upon and enhance co-ordinated incident management systems in New Zealand EOCs.

Participants on the three courses came from Canterbury district and city councils, fire service, police, St John Ambulance, the two Canterbury District Health Boards, as well as Ministries of Health and Civil Defence Emergency Management – making it a truly multi-agency experience. Each course involved about ten hours of contact time and consisted of presentations by an emergency management trainer with EOC experience, syndicate work, and a final role-play table top exercise.

Participants ranged from knowing nothing about an EOC to experienced EOC staff and managers. Even though the course is aimed more for people who know little about an EOC, experienced staff said it was a great refresher and



Multi-agency Management Team taking part in the end of course table top exercise in the Timaru District Council EOC

helped them understand how the CDEM Group is trying to establish consistency in EOC operation.

The training material and EOC Guideline are now being further enhanced, prior to the material being made available to the Canterbury CDEM Group member and partner organisations. A CDEM Group EOC or Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) version of the training guideline is also under development. Specialist EOC operations, planning/intelligence and logistics training packages have also been acquired by EMTC and will begin to be provided in the near future.

For further information contact James Thompson, james.thompson@emtc.ac.nz. ▲

Tai Poutini graduates

The inaugural Tai Poutini Polytechnic Emergency Management Graduation ceremony was held on Saturday 14 July 2007 in Palmerston North. The graduation was attended by graduates, their friends, family and EMANZ and Tai Poutini staff. The ceremony saw 48 students graduate with their Level 2 and/or Level 4 Certificate in Emergency Management.

Many of the graduates had completed the study required to gain their certificates in their own time. Jan Pryor, a level four certificate graduate, explains "[it is] a lot of work but it doesn't feel like work because it's actually fun. All the stuff that you do, the more technical stuff, is fun... so you get the excitement as well as study."

The level two and four Certificates in Emergency Management are relatively new qualifications intended to develop professionalism within the emergency management sector. Awards were presented by EMANZ Chief Executive Steve Glassey who stressed the importance

of recognising achievement and rewarding excellence. "All our graduates are making an outstanding contribution to the emergency management sector and it is their dedication and hard-work that will shape the way that the sector grows and how it is seen by others."

For more information visit www.emanz.ac.nz, phone 0800 4EMANZ or email info@emanz.ac.nz. ▲



Peter O'Sullivan, Director of National and Industry Programmes at Tai Poutini Polytechnic, presents Liz Smith with her Level 4 Certificate in Emergency Management.

CDEM training news is supplied for the benefit of the sector. Coverage does not necessarily imply endorsement by MCDEM.

CORRECTION

Last month we published an appeal for more people to consider becoming part of a USAR search dog team in order to address a national shortage. Unfortunately we published an incorrect email address.

The correct contact details for all enquiries is searchdogs@usar.govt.nz.



Wellington Region CDEM Controllers course

Nineteen CDEM controllers and recovery managers from the Wellington region had the opportunity to collaborate and learn from each other and their CDEM managers during a two-day course held in Masterton 17-18 August.

The course began with the theory behind declarations and controllers' powers, understanding lifelines and welfare arrangements in the Group as well as the roles of other CDEM Groups in supporting the Wellington CDEM Group during large scale emergencies.

The participants were then divided into six groups and tasked with the application of this theory in four tabletop exercises. The exercises focussed on chemical spill, earthquake and flood scenarios in different parts of the region, "bringing the reality of these scenarios to the controllers' and recovery managers' doorstep", according to Don McGuire, course manager and Kapiti Coast CDEM Manager.

Leigh Halstead (controller for Kapiti Coast District) shared his experiences during the 2004 floods in the Rangitikei District where he was controller (without any previous experience or training) at the time. That he struck an accord with the group was evident in the next day's exercises where participants were often overheard referring to Leigh's experiences.

According to Rian van Schalkwyk, Wellington CDEM Group Manager, the course also had value for the region's CDEM managers in that they acted as facilitators for the six exercise groups. This way the CDEM managers



were placed in a position of reviewing and commenting on responses to the particular scenarios by the groups. Similarly controllers and recovery managers were able to get acquainted with the CDEM managers.

"We would like to view this course as the beginning of an on-going development programme for our controllers", said Rian. "At the end of the course controllers and recovery managers agreed to commit to such a programme twice a year. We appreciate such commitment from our managers and the challenge is for CDEM managers in the Group to keep this programme going".

Keith Evans and David Coetzee, Regional Emergency Advisors from MCDEM, also participated. "This course reflected the excellent partnerships between CDEM managers in the Group, and I congratulate them for what they have organised as well as the controllers and recovery managers in the region for investing their time", said David Coetzee, MCDEM Central Region Coordinator. ▲

MCDEM web partnership with Volunteering NZ

It has been another busy year for emergency volunteers and recent events such as the Northland, Flaxmere and Milton Floods and Taranaki Tornadoes have demanded much from volunteers.

Communities greatly appreciate the contribution made by emergency volunteers. To help facilitate this, the Ministry continues to work in close partnership with non-Government agencies such as Volunteering New Zealand (VNZ) as well as Government agencies such as the Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector and the Department Of Internal Affairs Local Government and Community Branch in the support of emergency volunteers.

One way of directly supporting volunteers is to encourage more people to consider becoming an emergency volunteer. The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between MCDEM and VNZ to develop a webpage for emergency volunteers on the VNZ website will provide a source of information for potential and existing volunteers.

The webpage will detail the great variety of emergency volunteer opportunities available from volunteer fire fighters through to welfare volunteers who support victims of disasters and help in recovery.

MCDEM's Get Ready Get Thru campaign message has

always been that everyone is their *own* volunteer in terms of being prepared for disasters. This webpage is one way for community members to consider how they might take this initiative to their local community through volunteering. ▲



A volunteer assisting with food distribution. Photo: Red Cross

Review of National CDEM Planning Project

Phase I: Review of 'the Guide'

The project to review national CDEM planning arrangements, as set out in the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan (the Plan) and the Guide to the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan (the Guide), is well underway. The project is being undertaken in two phases. The focus of Phase I is to identify and recommend amendments to the Guide and this has commenced. Phase II is to review and recommend amendments to the Plan and this is to commence in July 2008.

Phase I (Review of the Guide) will have two outputs. Output 1 is a general update to the Guide. Amendments are based on developments in CDEM that have been completed by July 2007. Updated sections of the Guide will be released as v1.1 in November 2007. Output 2 is the wider review of the Guide involving sector consultation and development and is to be released in November 2008.

Feedback on the Guide

Agencies with responsibilities and/or arrangements specified in the Guide (including Government Departments, NGOs, emergency services, lifeline utilities, and CDEM

Groups) were consulted during August with feedback due on 7 September.

The purpose of this consultation was to identify changes in arrangements or possible developments that may need to be updated in the Guide. In addition to this, agencies were asked to give general feedback on the document as it currently stands in order to provide them with an opportunity to feed directly into the review process.

It is important to note that consultation with agencies in relation to Phase II of the project (Review of the Plan) will commence in 2008.

The next step in the process is to work with agencies to develop and refine identified areas. This will involve further liaison with agencies and input from a CDEM Working Party, in addition to consultation with the sector in mid 2008, providing further opportunity for feedback.

If you would like more information please contact: NationalCDEM.Plan@dia.govt.nz ▲



Disaster Awareness Week

Nearly everyone in New Zealand believes that it is important to be prepared for a disaster. The numbers of New Zealanders actually making a plan for themselves and their families at home and at work is gradually increasing – the gap is closing between thinking about it and doing something. Just on a quarter of New Zealanders are prepared for an emergency when they are at home, but the figures are lower for people when they are at work.

When asked, people say it's the Get Ready Get Thru ads on TV that made them think. The more they see, the more they add to their survival kit. There will be more TV and radio ads leading up to Disaster Awareness Week October 7-13. Radio hosts will also be chatting about how to Get Ready and Get Thru. There will be articles in local papers as well as specific regional events. Different themes will feature each day, from getting a good supply of water to building resilience in homes, neighbourhoods and communities.

Media resources to assist CDEM Groups promote this event can be downloaded from the MCDEM website.

As well as the media campaign, this year the Ministry has asked schools to look at using the What's the Plan Stan teaching resource for children aged 5 to 12. This resource has proved highly successful. It was originally published for teaching children aged 8-12. After using it, teachers gave it high praise and asked that it be extended so that they could use to teach children aged from 5-12.

As well as a new story book and audio CD of the stories being read, updated information has been added in the first of the regular updates to the What's the Plan Stan CD. All of this information is available on www.whatstheplanstan.govt.nz. The updates include the latest

Customised press advertisements for each region are just one of the resources available for CDEM Groups on the MCDEM website to promote Disaster Awareness Week.

on disasters as well as the inspiring story of Tilly Smith, the 10 year-old English school girl whose knowledge of the early signs of a tsunami saved the lives of people on a beach in Bali during the Boxing Day tsunami. ▲

CDEM Specialist Services

The beginning of the new financial year brought a celebration for the CDEM Specialist Services with the final new member of the team joining us, Jane Pierard; welcome Jane! Jane's profile was featured in the July 2007 e-bulletin which is available from the MCDEM website.

A busy year lies ahead and much of the past two months have been spent involved in detailed planning for the work programme and activities. As described in the July edition of Impact, the Unit is focusing on several priority areas.

CDEM professional development

In response to your valued feedback, we began a review of national CDEM professional development in January. The review identified two key roles for the CDEM Specialist Services Professional Development Team: To provide leadership and the strategic direction for CDEM Professional Development; and to assist and support you by developing a framework based on your needs and best practice.

Our objective is to work with you to have an integrated framework of programmes that support the development of people involved in CDEM. The monthly e-bulletin always includes a section on professional development based on your feedback, so keep an eye out for updates. Information is also available on the professional development page of the MCDEM website.

One exciting area of work for the CDEM Specialist Services Unit is the development of competency banding which will clarify emergency management roles, functions and attributes and provides an evidence-based CDEM professional development framework. This will ensure MCDEM is better able to support your needs at the strategic level. More information will be provided in e-bulletin over the coming months.

Upcoming MCDEM courses

The 2007 courses are now fully booked. Confirmed dates for early 2008 courses:

PIM Course	7 April 2008
Recovery Manager's Course	14-15 April 2008
Controller's Course	9-11 April 2008

Watch out for more information in the next eBulletin. For further information, contact MCDEM Professional Development CDEMProfDev@dia.govt.nz or contact your local REMA.

CDEM library

Following the review of options for updating the content of the CDEM library collection and delivery of library services, the collection has been relocated from the Royal New Zealand Police College library, to the Department of Internal Affairs library (Level 2, 46 Waring-Taylor Street, Wellington). Library services will be provided to MCDEM and the CDEM sector by the professional librarians of DIA Information Services.

Your feedback has helped in pinpointing the key issues of accessibility and the need to update the holdings. We

are working closely with the DIA librarians to develop a range of new information services and to optimise arrangements for access. Physical browsing of the collection will be possible once the collection is fully catalogued and established in its new home.

Details of the new service arrangements will be publicised as soon as possible. During the transition period to full service delivery, any library information requests can be directed via Richard Smith (EM Research Analyst – Richard.Smith@dia.govt.nz) who will liaise on your behalf with the DIA librarians.



By Sarah (Norm) Stuart-Black

UN courses

Next month New Zealand is hosting two courses for the United Nations, after eight months of planning and preparation. A total of 55 representatives from across the Asia-Pacific Region will be travelling to New Zealand for these courses. Impact will feature an article on the international activities in the next issue.

International Recovery Network

The International Recovery Network was launched on 10 July 2007. This follows more than three years of ongoing collaboration between New Zealand and Australia in conjunction with Auckland University of Technology which is currently expanding its emergency management programmes. This initiative is a web-based network with access to resources, chat rooms, noticeboards and more interactive features. Members from across the world will have password access. If you are interested in joining please register using the web address and login details below, then register your details as an individual user.

Website: <http://www.autonline.ac.nz>

Username: Guest NZ

Password: k1w1

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the CDEM Specialist Services team with any questions or comments. ▲



The Specialists Services team: (Left to right) Sarah Stuart-Black, Peter Kingsbury, Peter Wood ('Woody'), Jonny McKenzie, Richard Smith, Alex Tait (seated), Jane Pierard, Brett Jones

NZ delegation returns from Peru

On August 15 at 6:40pm local time, an earthquake of magnitude 8.0 occurred near the coast of central Peru, at a depth of about 30 km.

PTWC issued a Tsunami Bulletin, followed by a Warning and a Watch, but not for New Zealand. Even so, MCDEM's Rostered Duty Officers monitored the situation. Over 14 hours later, a tsunami was detected by sea level recorders in NZ waters but the maximum amplitude (peak to trough) was only 30cm, at the Chatham's (NIWA).

As at 9 September the Instituto Nacional de Defensa Civil (INDECI) of Peru reported 519 people dead and 1,844 injured; 52,761 buildings destroyed and 22,887 buildings damaged. Widespread communications and power outages occurred in the impacted areas. The Panamerican Highway, the Carretera Central, and other main transport routes suffered heavy damage from land sliding and subsidence.

The New Zealand Society of Earthquake Engineering sent a six-person reconnaissance team to spend a week inspecting the damage and consequences from the earthquake.

The reconnaissance was conducted by the NZSEE, supported from its own funds and with generous support from the Earthquake Commission and the Department of Building and Housing. Other contributing organisations were GNS Science, Greater Wellington, Transit NZ, and Connell Wagner, the employers of team members.

Emergency Management Adviser, Craig Hamilton, of Greater Wellington's Masterton Office, joined the team at short notice prior to departure.

Team leader David Hopkins said Lima, the capital city of 8 million people, was not seriously affected, but the towns of Pisco, Ica, Chincha and Paracas suffered extensive damage and major disruption.

A feature of the earthquake was the extended duration of shaking; buildings were rocked for two minutes. In the worst-affected areas, ground-shaking was comparable to what could be expected in a major earthquake along the eastern part of the North Island. This provided the team with an indication of likely performance of buildings and infrastructure in New Zealand.

Relevant points for New Zealand CDEM noted by the team included:

- The good performance of buildings that were well designed and well built such as water towers, bridges and grandstands
- The importance of communications immediately following an event
- The importance of planning – and the four R's
- The wisdom of special protection for hospitals, such as the base isolation used recently in Wanganui and Wellington. Ica Regional Hospital for example, was extensively damaged and put out of commission.
- The need to plan the co-ordination of international response and aid
- The survival with minimal disruption of industrial facilities, including a steel mill, did much to mitigate economic effects
- The value of an effective building controls regime.

The team also observed local impacts of the tsunami.



Members of the New Zealand delegation: Dr Rafael Benites, Dr David Hopkins (team leader), Craig Hamilton, Dr James Burr, Rudolf Kotze and Dr Darren Bell. The group is standing in front of the remains of a church in which 148 people were killed when it collapsed.

Two of Craig Hamilton's initial impressions related to the 4R's and Intelligence versus intelligence.

"In New Zealand we have a 4R approach to CDEM. Combined, these elements are wide reaching, engage many different agencies and enable comprehensive emergency management.

"Peru was very much in a response and recovery mode during our visit. This helped me recognise that the 4R's are not a step by step sequence, but are interlinked. For example, a significant number of the houses damaged during the earthquake were of adobe-style construction and did not appear to comply with building codes. So considering this point within the 4R's framework you have:

"Currently in *response* and working towards *recovery* – a house has fallen down causing at the very least a displaced person or family. What are the short, medium and long-term solutions to shelter this family? Will they build to the same standard again (as I observed many people already doing)?

"Linking back to *reduction* – What can be done to reduce the risk of these houses failing again in a similar event resulting in the same issues?

"Consider *readiness* and linking back to *response* – Did response plans take into account the likely number of deaths, injured and displaced due to the construction of these houses?

"During this earthquake event casualty and damage figures reported fluctuated significantly from one report to the next raising concern about the credibility of these numbers and how they were being generated.

"This brought to mind two things: Firstly, the need to understand *intelligence* versus *information* so that you and those to whom you report, have the confidence to use it for planning and decision making.

"Secondly, this intelligence is often generated at the local level. As such local management of intelligence gathering is critical. However, it is equally critical that situation reporting from the local level is accurate to enable regional co-ordination and national support." ▲