

**AITUTKI SCHOOLS RECOVERY PROJECT  
2010-2011**

**COMPLETION REPORT  
to 30 June 2011**

*“Education – the best possible learning environment.”*

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**PREPARED BY  
Ministry of Education**

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## **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This completion report on the Aitutaki School Recovery Project is prepared in accordance with the terms and conditions of the tripartite agreement between New Zealand Agency for International Development, Cook Islands Ministry of Education and Aitutaki Recovery Committee.

The completion report covers the affected four schools (3 public and 1 private school) on Aitutaki by Tropical Cyclones Pat in early morning 10<sup>th</sup> February 2010, which caused widespread damage to the three schools in terms of infrastructure and school resources.

Total funds committed for 2010/2011 is \$100,000.00

Work has been carried out during the eighteen month period from September 2010 through to June 2011

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

Tropical Cyclone Pat, Category 3, hit the Southern Cook Islands in the early hours of 10 February 2010 (Cook Islands time), and Aitutaki island was seriously affected, with major infrastructural damage, although the airport, wharf and hospital only sustained minimal damage. At its height Tropical Cyclone Pat was classified as a category 3 cyclone bringing destructive wind gusts of over 100 knots. On 10.02.10 The Prime Minister of the Cook Islands declared a 'State of Disaster' for Aitutaki. Given the scale of the resulting damage it was somewhat miraculous that there were limited casualties and no deaths reported.

The Ministry of Education conducted a preliminary assessment of the **education** sector, which consists of the four schools on Aitutaki, one secondary college and three primary schools with approximately 500 students and 41 teachers. The assessment concluded that one building of the SDA School totally collapsed while the other school building at the same site was severely damaged. The other three schools are also either partly or severely damaged and one of them is still in use as an evacuation centre accommodating around 18 evacuees. The New Zealand Defence Force provided assistance in the clean-up and temporary repair of the school buildings. UNCIEF provided 10 School-in-a-boxes and 7 Recreation Kits.

The preliminary report highlights quantity resource damaged during the cyclone. The total resource damage cost amounts within the vicinity of \$115,036, although at the time of the report there was missing costing to some of the library reading resources and it was estimated to be around \$15,000 which would tally the total estimated damage cost to \$135,000. From the costing report, some of the furniture and electronic resources identified are fairly historical but the costing is based on today's cost.

### 3. OBJECTIVE

Central to the Education policy framework is the contention that high quality education sector cannot be built by government alone. It depends on creative and dynamic partnerships between families, communities, the public sector and international partners.

The adoption of the Cook Islands Master Plan (EMP) in 2008 was an important milestone for education in the Cook Islands as it sets direction for the government in meeting its responsibility for education and provides clear statement as to the value and priority expected.

*An essential component of the EMP is the commitment to **Infrastructure and Support** - to provide appropriate legislation, research, guidelines and standards which support delivery and enhance opportunities for learning. Establishing fully resourced schools to meet the teaching and learning needs of all learners*

### 4. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- The Ministry of Education conducted a damage assessment report on the school infrastructure and resource damage immediately after the cyclone dated Wed 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010.
- A resource assessment report with financial costing by school submitted to the Aitutaki Recovery Committee for inclusion to the National Recovery Plan
- Funding arrangement sourced from NZAID to fund this project
- Ministry of Education to source quotes from local and external suppliers for the resources
- Partnership agreement with MOE, NZAID, MFEM and OPM for the delivery of the project
- Operational disbursement to suppliers - MFEM
- Monitoring and management of disbursement of resources to schools – MOE

#### 4.1.1 Araura College

The home economic classroom that houses Form 1 and Form 2 class are the worse affected rooms with 100% of its school resources damaged, followed by the Office administration computer lab and the School Library

- Home economic block – All of the students and teacher furniture, curriculum and electronic equipment were totally destroyed
- Office Teachers' Computers – with damage to the roofing, rain and sea spray significantly affected the damages to all the computer accessories in the computer lab
- The partial de-roofing structure of the school library also affected partial damage to electronic equipments and library resources



#### **4.1.2 Araura Primary School**

Although the infrastructure damage to the school affected only four class rooms being de-roofed, the intensity of the wind and rain caused immense access through the window panes causing flooding to classrooms. This affected major damage to furniture, electronic equipments, curriculum and reading resources



#### **4.1.3 Vaitau School**

The infrastructure damage to Vaitau school was minimum however as the school is located near the lagoon and the worse affected area during the cyclone, it caused immense flooding and sea spray access to classrooms therefore affecting damage to resources in furniture, electronic equipment and curriculum and

reading resources. The assessment also found that doors were jammed due to sea spray rusting the internal door components



#### **4.1.4 SDA Teakaroa School**

This would be the worst affected school with 95% of its resources in furniture, electronic equipments, curriculum and reading resources were either destroyed or are unable to be recovered due to the intensity of the damage. The remaining 5% resources, the SDA community and teachers were able to store them in a safer environment.

- Devastating site of the SDA Teakaroa School



## 5.0 RESOURCE BUDGET COST

### Project Cost Estimate - \$100,000

Cashflow	Jul-10	Aug-10
Quotes for Computers	28,965	
Quotes for Furniture & Chairs		22,255
ECE Furnitures Kit		3,600
Quotes for copiers	15,200	
Quotes for electronic equipments		7,991
Laptops	1,300	
Curriculum resources		19,799
Fridge/Freezer - Home Economic		890
<b>Total</b>	<b>45,465</b>	<b>54,535</b>

## 6.0 RESOURCE ACHIEVED

RESOURCE	DETAILS	ACHIEVED
Computers	Procured 33 computers which were distributed to the 4 schools	Fully implemented
Curriculum resources	English literacy books Library books NCEA Curriculum text books	Fully implemented
Photocopiers	4 x RICOH photocopier issued to the 4 schools	Fully implemented 1 x Araura College 1 x Araura Primary 1 x Vaitau School 1 x Teaakaroa SDA School
Furniture and Chairs	Desk and chairs supplied to 4 schools	Fully implemented

## 7.0 FINANCIALS

### Financial Acquittal Report

Ministry of Education  
Rarotonga  
Cook Islands

Date of Acquittal Report  
24<sup>th</sup> August 2011

Name of Project: Aitutaki School Resource Recovery

Name of Country / Programme:

Koru Record ID#:

Period covered by the acquittal

From: July 2010

To: 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

#### 1. Financial Statement

Balance of funds carried forward		\$100,000	
EMCI funding for the period	\$0		
Other income received		\$0	
<b>Total income</b>		<b>\$100,000</b>	
Less total expenditure		\$99,906.00	
<b>Balance of funds on hand (as at date of Report)</b>		<b><u>\$93.06</u></b>	(equivalent to NZ\$93.06) (where applicable))

#### 2. Reconciliation of expenditure against agreed Budget

#	Original Budget Line Item	Budget Amount	Actual Expenditure	Amount of over / under expenditure	± % variation to budget
	<b>Computers</b>	<b>30,528</b>	<b>38,330</b>	<b>(7,802)</b>	<b>126%</b>
	<b>Furniture &amp; Chairs</b>	<b>22,255</b>	<b>16,080</b>	<b>6,175</b>	<b>72%</b>
	<b>ECE Furnitures</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,337</b>	<b>0%</b>
	<b>Photocopiers</b>	<b>15,200</b>	<b>12,525</b>	<b>2,675</b>	<b>82%</b>
	<b>Electronic Equipments</b>	<b>7,991</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>7,642</b>	<b>4%</b>
	<b>Curriculum Resources</b>	<b>19,799</b>	<b>32,622</b>	<b>12,823</b>	<b>165%</b>
	<b>Fridge/Freezer</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>0%</b>
	<b>totals</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>99,906</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>100%</b>

#### 3. Statement

I declare that the above information is true and correct and confirm:

1. EMCI funds were received and used only for the agreed purpose(s), and



2. All conditions attached to EMCI's funding have been met, and
3. EMCI funds have been fully utilised for the intended purpose, OR
4. There are unspent funds and I understand that MFEM will deduct this amount from the next  
tranche payment OR a cheque is attached returning these funds to MFEM.

Anthony Turua

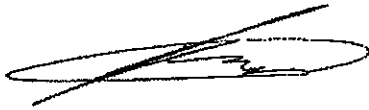
Chief Finance Officer

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Full Name (in block capitals)

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Title / Position (e.g. CEO)



24<sup>th</sup> August 2011

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Signature

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Date

## 8.0 CHALLENGE AND LESSONS LEARNT

### 8.1 Challenges and Lessons

Challenges related to the project:

- Transportation of materials in a timely manner
- Relevancy of materials/equipment
- Timeliness of project
- Duplication of resources procured by other agencies
- Lack of resources available at time of procurement
- Delay in rebuilding of destroyed classroom and replacement of resources

This has been an experience of post disaster recovery and the delay of administration has been a challenge. A way forward would be to streamline some of the management process to react to urgent needs.

## **9.0 CONCLUSION**

This has been an experience of post disaster recovery and the delay of administration has been a challenge. A way forward would be to streamline some of the management process to react to urgent needs.

The Cook Islands Ministry of Education believes it has achieved the objectives of this project as guided by the Education Master Plan to provide standards which support delivery and enhance opportunities for learning. Establishing fully resourced schools to meet the teaching and learning needs of all learners

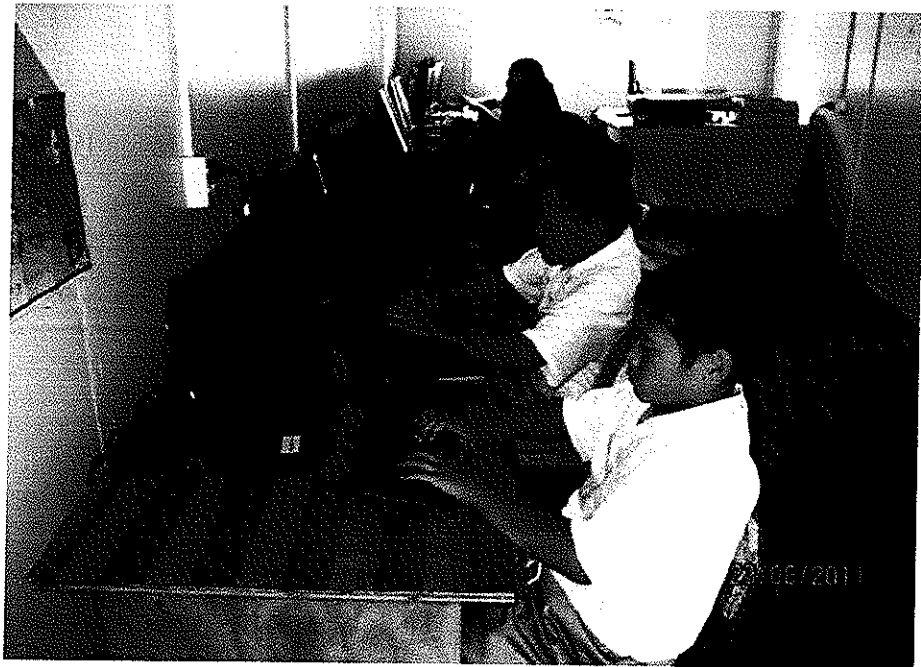
The Cook Islands Ministry of Education is grateful for the considerable financial support of the New Zealand Government and the management of the Aitutaki Recovery Committee. The ministry would like to acknowledge the efforts and assistance of the Aitutaki Community, Principals, teachers and students for their support in returning operation to normality.

Kia Orana e Kia Manuia

Anthony Turua  
Chief Finance Office  
Disaster Management Controller  
Cook Islands Ministry of Education

## **10.0 Evidence of resources to Aitutaki School**

These are the resources we received from Pat Recovery Funding:

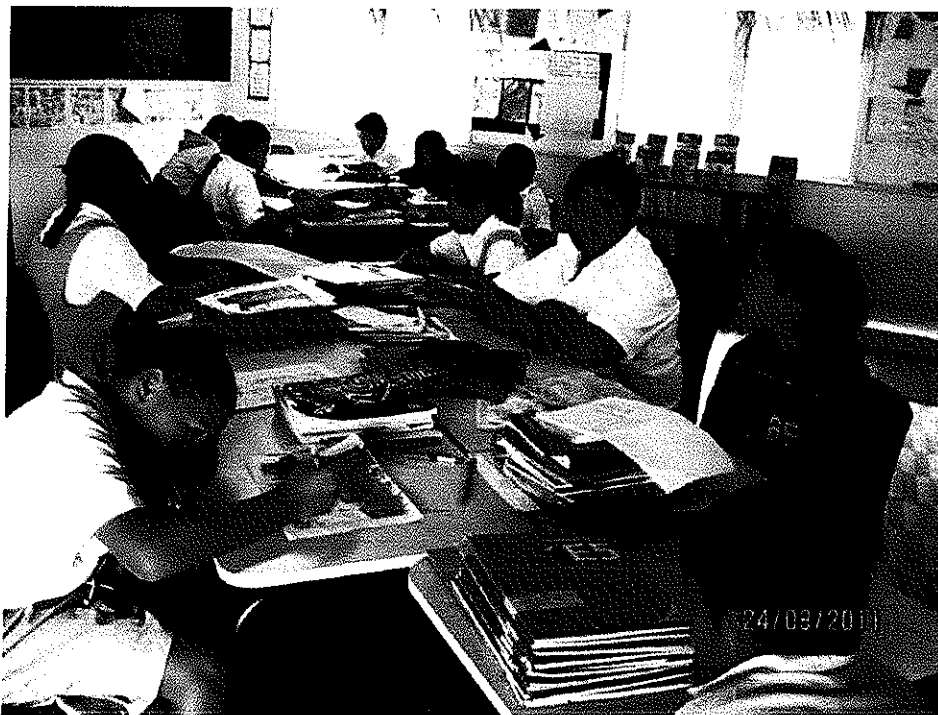


Year 5&6 students enjoy the use of donated computers in the Computer Room





Photocopier: RICOH Aficio MP 2000Le



20 Students' Desks without chest – Year 5&6 classroom



30 Students' Desks with chest –Year 1&2 classroom



Printer: LaserJet M1212MFP