



UNITED NATIONS
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Wok Bung Wantaim

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Bridging Gaps in Emergency and Disaster Response

The United Nations Country Team is committed to strengthening its disaster response mechanisms and disaster preparedness. UNRC Dr. Jacqui Badcock said this during the Cyclone Guba Lessons Learned workshop at Lamana Hotel from 7—8 August 2008.

Effects of Cyclone Guba—Taututu village along Mamba river, Oro Province



UP COMING EVENTS

8th September
International
Literacy Day

21st September
International
Literacy Day

“Every disaster is unique and distinct. There are common and generic issues that always emerge but dealing with the impact will always be unique and distinct as ground dynamics differ from one area to another, said Dr Badcock. She added: “the objectives of this Lessons Learned workshop reflect the urgency to collectively address the harmonization of our approaches ensuring structured and efficient delivery of emergency services and synergy in our activities—optimizing the use of resource to cover urgent humanitarian needs and identifying early recovery requirements at the earliest possible opportunity.”



Message from Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, UNFPA Executive Director

International Youth Day 12 August 2008—“Youth and climate change: time for action”

About a quarter of all people on Earth are between the ages of 10 and 25. With adequate knowledge and skills, this generation can become a strong advocate for sustainable development and the preservation of natural resources. They can engage their communities to find solutions to reduce the impacts of climate change. They can ensure that we meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Young people must be involved in the development and implementation of plans, policies and programmes impacting the environment. UNFPA is committed to partnerships between youth and adults and promoting inter-generational dialogue and cooperation.

COMMON ADVOCACY CORNER

DSG Migiro outlines how the UN can help countries meet development goals

The UN can best help countries reach their development goals by focusing on national priorities, continually improving its programmes, and ensuring adequate resources for its activities, Deputy Secretary-General Asha-Rose Migiro told the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council on July 10.

“In all operational activities for development, the United Nations is focused on building the capacity of programme countries based on their national priorities,” Ms. Migiro said. The unique value of the UN’s contribution is even more important now in the changing environment of development cooperation. The UN must define its role among new actors and new approaches, make the most of opportunities to change, and become more efficient and effective to keep pace with emerging demands.

The Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review (TCPR) conducted by the General Assembly last December concluded that strengthening the UN’s capacity to assist countries involves continuous improvement in effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, and impact, along with a significant increase in resources. It also identified specific actions to achieve these objectives, Ms. Migiro said. She stressed that helping countries respond to the many challenges they face today will require an increase in funding for the UN system.

“At the national level, we need to support the central role of the Resident Coordinator in improving the UN’s effectiveness in responding to country priorities. At Headquarters, we need to simplify and harmonize business practices,” the Deputy-Secretary-General said. She noted that the recent reform of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination which made the UN Development Group one of its pillars, should help the UN to respond more coherently to the Policy Review’s demands.



Deputy Secretary-General—
Asha-Rose Migiro

This is YOUR weekly update. Please tell us about the progress on “Delivering as One”. We would love to hear from you. Send your article ideas or suggestions to elizabeth.turi@undp.org

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