

# Loij Community Ebeye, Kwajalein Atoll

## Hazard Vulnerability Capacity Mapping Report

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**GFDRR**  
Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery

**ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program**

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**IOM**  
UN MIGRATION

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# **Hazard Vulnerability and Capacity Mapping with Early Warning Systems Methodology**

## **Introduction:**

The Community Hazard Vulnerability and Capacity Mapping with Early Warning System (HCVM) has been designed to assist communities and facilitators in conducting HVCM exercise and producing HVCM reports as part of the IOM Community Vulnerability and Capacity Mapping Exercise and Assessment (CVM) Project. The objectives and steps taken allow the facilitators to implement in a way that follows facilitators to ensure the communities is leading the process. It acknowledges that each community is unique, certain variations in the methodology are possible; however, the three sessions included are considered the minimum in order to effectively conduct the exercise. Community members' time is voluntary and valuable and there are many competing pressures, so it is essential that facilitators are always well prepared, efficient and mindful of not wasting time. The minimum time required to conduct all the activities in the HVCM is ten hours of community time. Not all members will be required for all ten hours.

## **Objectives and Process:**

Under the objective of the CVM program, IOM and its partners will conduct HVCM exercises in up to 10 communities across the RMI. HVCM is set to complement and inform other community based climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction activities such as:

The specific objective of the HVCM is to increase community members' awareness of disaster risk and the impacts of climate change in their community and help them to plan activities to reduce vulnerability and increase resilience to both slow and fast onset disasters as well as impacts of climate change. HVCM is a participatory, community-led series of activities that provides essential context-specific information on the local impact of climate change and community vulnerability and existing capacities.

In addition to assessing existing disaster preparedness capacity, HVCM can also help us to better understand the communities we work in in order to address their unique concerns. HVCM is an effective entry point to the community and offers an opportunity to allow community members to share their opinions on what is important to them. The results of the exercise can help us to focus future climate adaptation and disaster risk management plans, trainings and disaster mitigation measures towards the specific concerns of the community.

Where feasible, it is preferable for the activities to be conducted in Marshallese. Facilitators are Marshallese and speak both English and Marshallese.

The HVCM exercise will generally require three sessions:

1. Sensitization and Community Profile
2. Physical Mapping and Hazard Vulnerability Matrix
3. Early Warning System Mapping and Profile
4. Summary and Action Plan Generation

In all sessions, we should emphasize to participants that we are here to learn from them; we need them to teach us about their community. Much of the success or failure of the exercise will hinge upon everyone's participation and input. In all sessions, it is important to ensure participation of all groups in the community including women, different age groups including youth and any 'outsiders' in that community such as immigrant or under represented groups. It is essential that the community feel ownership of this process with facilitators only guiding the process. As with all community engagement, it is also important to be very clear at the outset as to what IOM's role and not to raise unrealistic community expectations. Sessions 2 and 3 will require snacks and drinks for all participants. Where possible community contributions such as coconuts or other refreshments should also be encouraged.

Throughout the HVCM, it is important that special consideration be provided to ensure the participation and engagement of traditionally under-represented groups. Ensuring women and youth are actively encouraged to participate is a critical ingredient to the success of the process. Natural disasters have the capacity to disproportionately affect vulnerable groups in society and the mapping exercise should assist the community in appreciating that physically and mentally disabled persons in particular will require additional support in protecting them from the identified hazards. It is therefore a critical outcome of the mapping exercise that these people be identified and their locations identified on the map. If possible ensure their participation in the HVCM exercise.

The following report is the output of the HVCM exercise.

## LOIJ Weto

### Community Profile

#### Questions

About how many people live in your community?	50+
What are the major occupations of community members? (income and subsistence activities)	Loij is rural area not everyone goes to work mostly the men and only few ladies. Is like 3 out of 10 person in house will go to work.
What local resources does your community depend on? Explain why.	We Health and Wellness Garden here but is not that strong and good still need more help in improving.
How are decisions made in your community? Who has the authority?	The local government and the traditional leader
What social groups are active and what purpose do they serve?	Church group Club ko an kora Youth Male club
What natural hazards affect your community?	Wave Inundation Typhoon
What are the social problems your community is facing?	Underage drinking alcohol and smoking Older male drinking kava everyday from 10pm – 1 or 3 am in the morning Mostly everyone is unemployed – families are facing hunger and so many more problems due to this
What are the main strengths of your community?	Family, Local Government, and Community Leaders
Are there any new community improvement projects planned?	None
Is the community participating in programs to improve natural protective barriers? (Mangrove, Steep slopes, rivers)	None
What natural disasters have occurred here in the past 100 years?	Typhoon Cyclones Drought Fire
Are there many people of different heritage in the community?	Fijian Kiribaties

## Ebeye, Loij Community Hazard, Vulnerability, Capacity Mapping Exercise – Final Report

### Introduction:

The session of Hazard, Vulnerability and Capacity Mapping (HVCM) and Early Warning System (EWS) exercise was commenced on September 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 at

*Chief Kikai Jatios resident.* A total of 26 community members attend the workshop. 14 Males and 12 Females attended the workshop for Loij Hazard Vulnerability Capacity Mapping and Early Warning System.



Community Breakdown	Consultation
Male	14
Female	12
<b>Total</b>	26
Children	
Disabled	
Government	Majority

## Loij Town Community Profile Statement

### **Background**

The population of the community is 50+ people. Loij community, though it is separated from Ebeye community, it is also under the Kwajalein Atoll Local Government and all decisions are made by the Council and the Traditional leadership.

The people living on the islet lives along the coastlines. Their livelihoods includes self-employee, running small canteen, fishing, little farming, working with the National and Local Governments and working as contract workers with contract companies under USAKA.

### **Geography and Location**

**Hazard:** The people in Loij community had a previous HVCM exercise and action plan from 2014 and only wanted to update; Back in May 2014, the highest votes of disaster were Inundation Waves, Typhoon, and Drought. This year, the community kept the hazards they voted for and worked only on modifying needs. The needs that were rank the most by community members: Generator, IOM donate water catchment, and Solar radio.

**Capacities:** Traditional Leadership, Local Government Leadership, Senator(s), Women Organization, Church Leadership, Youth Organizations, Local and National Police and the Community Organization are the strength of the community. They are the decision makers and the community listens to because they know these decisions are for the betterment of the community and wellbeing.

## Hazard Vulnerability Matrixes

<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Vulnerabilities/ Weaknesses</b>	<b>Adaptive Capacities/ Strengths</b>	<b>Short term Actions</b>
<b>Inundation wave</b>	No seawall Not enough plants to protect the coastline Low-land Low-housings	National and Local Governments Church leaders Women Club Youth Club Men Club Community Org. Strong traditional Leadership/Iroj & Alaps	Build seawall Plant trees Elevate homes Emergency Kits Transportation
<b>Typhoon</b>	Not enough safe house No VHS radio No hospital No Doctors No transportation for evacuation No seawall No emergency kits	National and Local Governments Church leaders Women Club Youth Club Men Club Community Org. Strong traditional Leadership/Iroj & Alaps	R/O Unit Alarm System Disaster Plan Seawall Typhoon-proof structure Solar innovation Evacuation Transportation Generator

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	No emergency kits		Transportation Generator
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**Community Action Plan Table**

<b>Hazard</b>	<b>What can be done?</b>	<b>Who within community can be the focal point to lead the plan?</b>	<b>Who from outside of Ebeye can be focal point to lead the plan?</b>	<b>When can it be done?</b>
<b>Inundation wave and Typhoon</b>	Water catchments  Water Pumps (R.O Units)	Wesley Lemari KALGOV	MIRCS IOM National Govt. NDMO	January 2019

*Table above states the votes of Loij community members about what the town really needs.*

**Early Warning System (EWS) Mapping** (Group work)

This report identifies the Early Warning System that the people Loij Community town created.

To capture the ideas of the whole Loij community, participants were placed into three groups of which were Ladies, Gentlemen, and Youth. The ideas and thoughts of Loij community is also stated down the table chart below.



	<p>What type of preparations do families do for this specific hazard?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Flashlight, Radio, Batteries, Water, Food, Knife</b></li> </ul>
	<p>What type of preparations would community leaders be responsible for?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Community Leaders can help look for grants to maintain evacuation shelters, ensure that shelters are always open in times of disasters, and seek local government help to provide food and water</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Does your community early warning system adequately warn all community members?</b></p>	<p>Please describe whether or not you believe all community members receive early warnings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Elderly and disable might not receive early warnings as well as family members who are busy in jobs and at home who may not have chance to receive the early warning messages.</b></li> </ul>
	<p>Are there any groups in your community that may not receive early warnings?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Yes</b></li> </ul>
	<p>Are there special considerations for vulnerable groups, like people with disabilities or the elderly?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Elderly, disable, children, mothers</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>How could your community's early warning system improve?</b></p>	<p>Would equipment like sirens or alarms help? If so which specifically and why?</p> <p><b>YES. A siren that is very easy to use and understand can really have make things easier in time of disaster</b></p>
	<p>Would better early warning coordination and planning help? If so, how do you think this could be achieved?</p> <p><b>Yes if we there is a plan for EWS and if the ones running it will to their parts I believe is going to be perfect.</b></p>

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## Summary

The community in Loij stick to the hazards that they agreed on 4 years ago keeping wave inundation

An underlying theme in the action plan is recognition that laws, programs and plans are already in place but education, participation, and implementation are needed.

In conclusion, the HVCM and EWS Mapping Exercise for Loij was successful and points were taken that ownership and initiative has to be community driven by utilizing their existing capacities to address their concerns.

It is anticipated that with the commencement of the World Bank funded CVM project, the communities will be better prepared and improved their capacity to identify appropriate community actions to deal with the hazards.