Recovery from Large Scale Disaster: New Zealand

APEC Workshop on Recovery from Large Scale Disaster  Sep 2008

Peter Wood
Outline

• Vision and context
• Natural, Social, Built, & Economic environments
• Reduction of risk
• National Crisis Management arrangements
• Focus on Recovery
• EQC – the Government catastrophic insurance scheme
Vision

“Resilient New Zealand – Communities understanding and managing their hazards”
Context

- All hazards, all risks
- The 4Rs –
  - Reduction of risk
  - Readiness
  - Response
  - Recovery
  - cf. PPRR
Recovery in NZ is defined as:-

“The coordinated efforts and processes to effect the immediate, medium and long term holistic regeneration of a community following a disaster”.
Integrated Holistic Recovery

- Social Environment
- Natural Environment
- Built Environment
- Economic Environment

Community
The Natural environment
The Natural environment
Volcanoes (Holocene – Active)
Smithsonian Institute
Volcanoes

Auckland
Mayor Island
White Island
Edgecumbe
Taranaki
Taranaki/Egmont
Tarawera
Maroa
Ruapehu
Tongariro
Okataina
Bay of Islands
Raoul Island

active in the past 300 years
active in the past 10,000 years
The Natural environment
Earthquakes (post 1970)
USGS
1840 - 2000

- M 7.0 +
- M 6.5 - 6.9

Seismic hazard
Natural environment - weather
Migrations from Polynesia.

The Social environment.
Migrations: From Polynesia; later Europe; and Asia

Treaty of Waitangi, 1840

Women’s Suffrage: 1893

Constitutional Monarchy, 1852

Population: 4.3 Million 2008

Migrations continue...
Localised hazards and Urban Development
Built Environment
Built Environment: Lifelines / Infrastructure
Economic environment

![Real Gross Domestic Product (annual average % change)](source: Statistics New Zealand, Datastream)
Reduction: of hazards and risks

- Risks are treated through:
  - strategies addressing sustainability
  - legislation, such as the Resource Management Act, the Building Act; the Earth Quake Commission Act
  - regulations; codes; good practice guidelines, such as the Australian and New Zealand Risk Management Standard (AS/NZ4360:2004 -> ISO 39000).
Readiness and Response: all risks

- National Crisis Management arrangements
- Legislation: Civil Defence Emergency Management Act, Health Act, Police Act, Biosecurity Act, etc
- Emergency preparedness,
- Exercises
- Feed back from domestic and international events
National Crisis Management model

Strategic level

- Stakeholders group
- Media coordination
- DESC Ministers
  - Departmental Chief Executives (ODESC)
  - Officials group
- Central government agencies
- Analysis group

Direction

- Police
- NZ Fire Service
- Lead agency (e.g., Ministry of Health, Chief Executive)
- National Crisis Management Centre or alternate site
- MCDEM
- Defence
- Other agencies/clusters
- Response coordinator/controller

Advice

Operational level

local response & recovery activities (includes CDEM arrangements as necessary)
Parliament House & the Executive Wing
Communities supported

[People and their social, economic, built and natural environments]
Communities and Health Sector

[Individual and community health needs]

Local organisations
Local authorities
Regional organisations
CDEM Groups
National organisations
MCDEM

Hospital services
Community services
Public health services
Treatment and rehabilitation services

District health board providers

21 District health boards

For example:
ambulance services, pharmacists,
laboratories, radiology; PHOs, GPs,
Māori/Pacific providers; midwives,
private hospitals, community trusts;
disability support services.

Private/non-govt. providers

4 District health board regions
Northern, Midland, Central, Southern

Ministry of Health
Advise on policy; provide health information and process payments; facilitate collaboration and co-ordination; implement, administer and enforce legislation and regulations; plan and fund services; plan and maintain nationwide service frameworks.
Co-ordination and leadership role in emergency management.

Cabinet/DESC/Minister of Health
Government
Communities and Lifeline Utilities

[People and their social, economic, built and natural environments]
Recovery in NZ …

- Recovery addresses *the consequences of emergencies*, as they affect communities across all hazards.

- Planning and activation is designed around *managing the consequences / effects* of given events, rather than planning for the event itself.
Recovery in NZ …

- Is planned and evaluated
- Is a process of regeneration. In practice this means that ‘things will never be the same’
- Is an opportunity to increase resilience - put back better
- encompasses community and the four environments:
  - social, built, natural, economic
## Generic recovery structure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Groups</th>
<th>Social Environment</th>
<th>Economic Environment</th>
<th>Natural Environment</th>
<th>Built Environment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subtask Groups</td>
<td>Safety &amp; Well-being</td>
<td>Individuals</td>
<td>Natural Resources</td>
<td>Residential Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Businesses</td>
<td>Waste Pollution</td>
<td>Commercial/Industrial Property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Welfare</td>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Amenity Values</td>
<td>Public Building &amp; Assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Government</td>
<td>Biodiversity &amp; Ecosystems</td>
<td>Rural Farmland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lifeline Utilities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APEC Recovery from large scale disaster Sep 2008**
The cost of private insurance against natural disaster risk is generally too great for homeowners, if such insurance is available at all.

This leaves the Government to pick up the costs of rehousing after a disaster.

The Earthquake Commission (EQC) is New Zealand’s solution to the need to fund the rehousing of homeowners after a natural disaster.
The EQC Scheme

- Statutory cover – set by legislation
  - The Earthquake Commission Act and Regulations 1993
- Residential property only
  - Dwelling, contents and land
- Physical damage only
  - Including destruction under proper authority
- Defined perils
- Flat premium rate
- Covered on purchase of private sector fire policy
  - If you have fire cover, you have EQC cover
What’s covered?

- Dwelling inc. outbuildings
- Contents
- Main access within 60 m.
- Services within 60 m.
- Land under and within 8 m.
- Retaining walls within 60 m.
The Perils

- Actual or imminent physical loss or damage as a direct result of:
  - Earthquake
  - Volcanic Eruption
  - Landslide
  - Tsunami
  - Hydrothermal activity
  - (Land only) storm and flood
  - Including fire following any of these
Scheme Coverage

- **Buildings** – first NZ$100,000 per dwelling
- **Contents** – first NZ$20,000 per policy
- **Land** – market value of land lost or damaged
- **Premium** - .05% of scheme sum insured (no charge for land cover)
  - So maximum annual premium $67.50 inc. gst.
- **Replacement value cover** (with some exceptions)
  - **Contents** follows private sector cover
- **Claims must be lodged within 3 months**
Conclusions

- Recovery is planned for.
- Recovery, is a good time to reduce risk, but -
- Public / Private partnerships are needed to address *Put Back Better*.
- New Zealand waits to be re-tested on its next *Recovery from Large Scale Disaster*. 
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With contribution from

www.civildefence.govt.nz

www.eqc.govt.nz