

Case Study – Koro Fiji

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Summary

Following Cyclone Winston, the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) arranged for a shipment of Pak Flat Tanks to be sent to Fiji as part of the immediate humanitarian response. The tanks were sent to schools on Koro Island, which lies in the Koro Sea between Fiji's two largest islands, and was one of the worst-hit by Cyclone Winston. Post the cyclone, the area had virtually no housing, and food was down to 5% of the requirement.

About (Background)

The Australian Government, through AusAID, provides official development assistance to countries mainly in Australia's own region, the Asia-Pacific. At times of emergency, AusAID has both the flexibility and expertise to respond swiftly and effectively. The agency has a proud record of delivering humanitarian assistance to vulnerable populations caught in conflict zones or natural disasters such as cyclones, floods and earthquakes.

The Challenge (or Problem/Objective)

"They need their houses to be constructed. At present all houses were ruined by Cyclone Winston," a local said.

"And foods, currently the food security level at Nassau are 5 per cent to 10 per cent.

Maybe by next week there will be no more food."

Other residents on Koro Island told local media how several people were killed by huge waves whipped up by the cyclone.

The scale of the devastation became clearer as authorities made contact with smaller islands impacted by the category five storm.

The Solution

The Pak Flat Tank was chosen by DFAT because it is the only tank that can be deployed in large volumes using emergency air transport. Pak Flat Tanks were delivered on foot, in the back of 4x4's and by helicopter, due to the damage to transport infrastructure.

The Pak Flat Tanks allowed locals to start gathering water from the frequent rain showers off the roofs of the few remaining cyclone proof buildings on Koro.

Results

The tanks were installed only after training, with the local logistics proving a challenge with the massive volume of aid arriving from around the world. This led to a changed attitude on behalf of local NGO's with Pak Flat Tanks now pre-positioned into local cyclone proof buildings to be assembled in the immediate aftermath of a natural disaster.



Contact us for more information on how Greenco Water and the Pak Flat Tank can assist your humanitarian effort/business.

Greenco Water

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