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Climate Change and Security: Risks, Responses and Resilience

ADB Resilience Learning Month

21 October 2025



PNG - An Overview

- PNG has population of more than 11 million
- PNG has the largest landmass (462 840 square km) in the Pacific region, shares with Indonesia and Australia.
- Economy largely depends on extractive industries mainly mineral and petroleum resources which also provides considerable job opportunities for both local and international experts.
- PNG has the third largest tropical rainforest after the Amazon and Congo.
- Vast natural ecosystems with unique biodiversity – geography ranges from high mountain ranges, rainforests and coral reefs.
- Extremely diverse with more than 850 distinct languages.



PNG is highly vulnerable to several climate and natural hazards

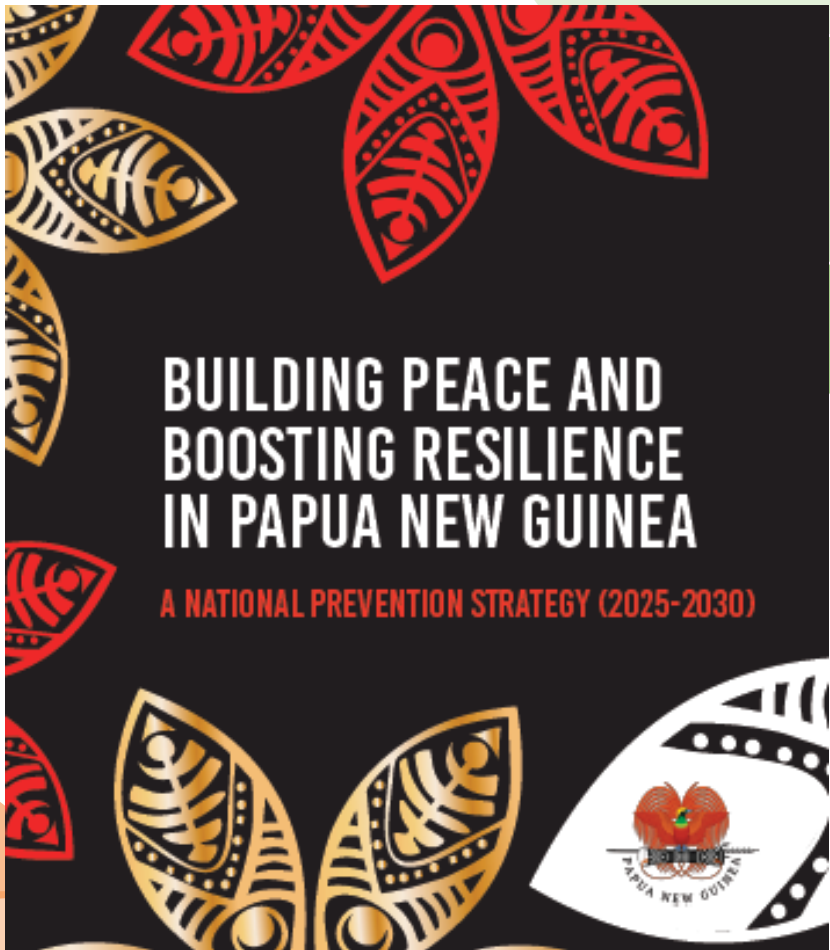
- Vulnerable to several hazards: floods, droughts, earthquakes, volcanic activity, tsunamis, and sea-level rise. Landslide risk associated with natural hazards is increasing.
- 85% of population live in rural areas. Remote and scattered communities (rugged terrain, small islands, with limited connectivity) makes it difficult to reach people with basic services, and economic development.
- PNG is ranked as a high-risk country from natural disaster according to the INFORM Risk Index it's exposure to natural hazard and its lack of coping capacity in institutions and infrastructure.



Major Natural Hazards in PNG by year

Year	Hazard Type	Description
2024	Land-slide	Mulitaka village in Enga Province. 12 bodies recovered. Unaccounted deaths and more than 1000 displaced. Violence occurred due to existing tensions making the response difficult.
2023	Flooding	Heavy rainfall caused floods in East Sepik and Morobe Province
2021	Volcanic activity	Manam Island volcanic eruption displacing thousands (since eruptions began in 2004). Ongoing tensions and violence between host community and displaced in care-centers.
2018	Earthquake	Magnitude 7.5 quake in Hela Province, over 1000 deaths, widespread damage. Insecurity and violence added to the complexity of the response.
2007	Cyclone	Cyclone Guba caused severe floods in Oro province

National Strategic Framework



National Constitution and directive principles- 1. Integral Human Development
2. Equality and Participation
3. National Sovereignty and Self Reliance
4. Natural Resources & Environment
5. Papua New Guinean Ways

VISION 2050

SDP 2030

MTDP

Sector plan

Human security risks include conflict and violence

- Environmental and climate risk interacts with PNG's complex historical, cultural, and political landscape which can manifest in forms of violence and instability.

In this context, the climate and environmental security assessment aimed to understand these dynamics.



Kindly scan the QR code
for a short assessment.



THANK YOU

