Projects and ActivitiesThu Mar 28 14:12:17 HST 2024

Name	Relating the Psychological Recovery from Recent Disasters to Climate Change Risk Perception and Preparedness in Hawaii and American Samoa
Capability Area: Impacts/Adaptations	- Understanding Climate Impacts and Informing Adaptation - Climate Adaptation - Training and Capacity Building, Education, Outreach - Assessment and Evaluation
Sectors	- Social and Cultural Resources
Status	- Planned
Focus Area	- Fresh Water Resources and Drought - Coastal Inundation/Sea Level Rise, Extreme Weather, and Community Resilience
Regions	- Central North Pacific - State Of Hawaii - South Pacific - American Samoa
Description	This research will address long-term psychological needs in the aftermath of disaster by exploring the interconnections of climate change risk perception and long-term psychological recovery from natural disasters. The proposed research will include two unique cultural communities in Hawaii and American Samoa who are recovering from different types of natural disasters. Each site is a context of increasing risk from climate change. Utilizing quantitative surveys, qualitative interviews, and culturally-responsive focus group methodologies, this research will explore psychological recovery from disaster in terms that “fit” within psychological science, climate change research/preparedness, and the unique cultural contexts of the focal communities. This research will position psychological recovery from disaster as a critical element of research on the human dimensions of climate change.
Objectives/Outcomes	(1) Explore the influence of context on psychological disaster recovery within contexts of increasing risk of future disasters due to climate change in Hawaii and American Samoa. (2) Explore the benefits to psychological disaster recovery of addressing agency and capacity within the person relationship to a context of increasing risk. (3) Pilot a model for culturally and community responsive climate service development in two unique settings, and evaluate the model for future use in large-scale implementation across the Pacific Islands region.
Lead Agencies	East-West Center (EWC), Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (Pacific RISA)
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Projected Timelines	2014-2015