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Climate Resilience Pathways:

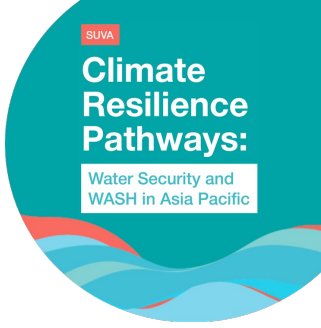
Water Security and WASH in Asia Pacific

WASH as a pillar of resilience



Water For Women





Agenda

Resilience – what is that?

Case studies exploring the impacts of WASH on lives & approaches to building resilience

- Impacts of inadequate WASH on individuals and families in urban informal settlements in Vanuatu and Fiji (IWC & USP)
- Climate resilience assessments in rural Solomon Islands communities and the role of WASH (Plan International, Live & Learn Environmental Education Solomon Islands)
- Participatory Approach to Community Climate Resilience and women’s plumbing training in Fiji and Samoa (Habitat for Humanity NZ, HfH Fiji, ADRA Samoa)
- Q&A

Group discussions

1. Water Security & WASH for Resilience
2. Participatory Approaches for resilience-building – Strengths & Challenges
3. GEDSI (Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion), Intersectionality and resilience

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Climate Resilience Pathways:

Water Security and WASH in Asia Pacific

Resilience

Social resilience

How individuals, families and communities respond to change

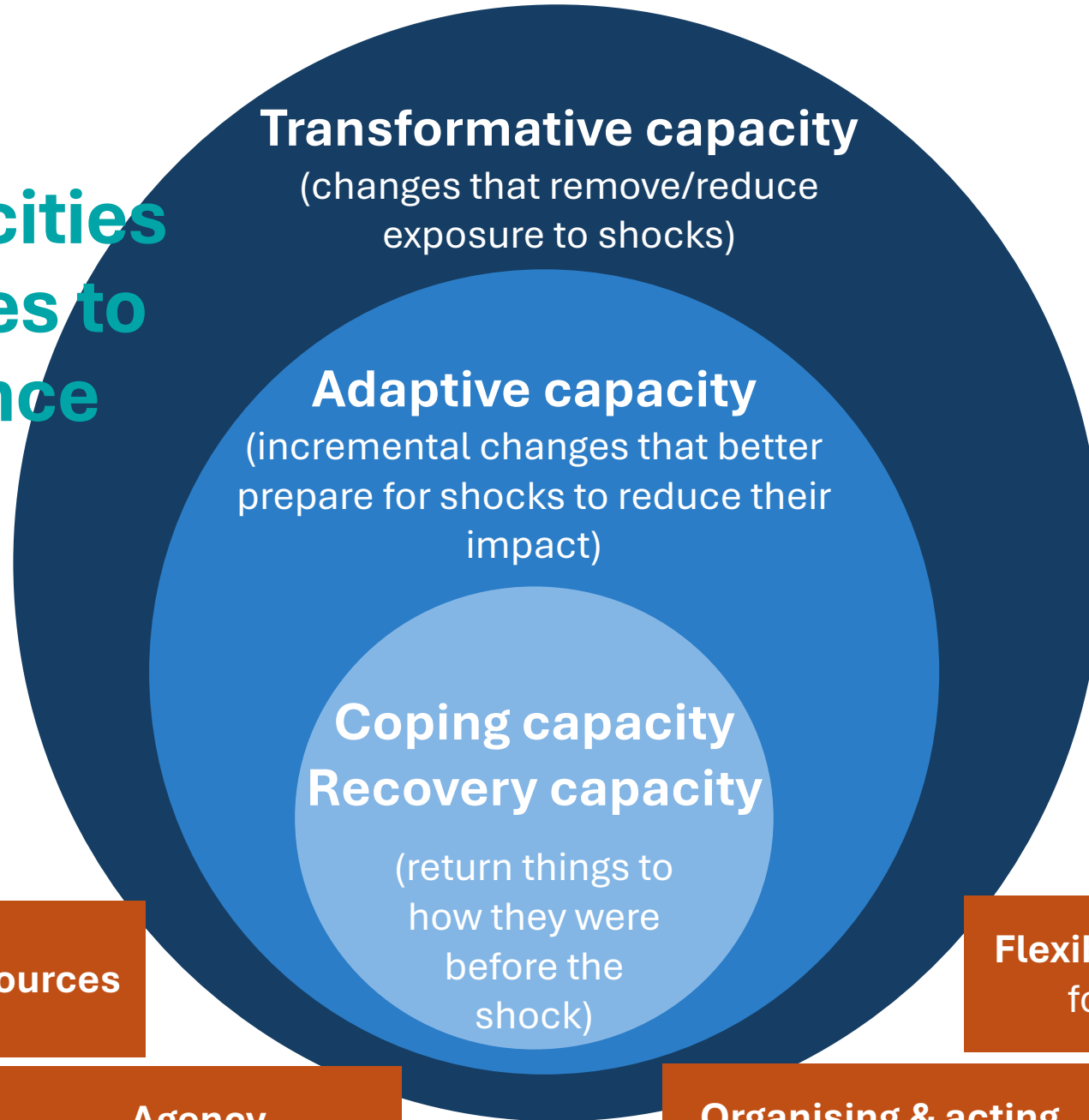


Change.....

- Caused by.....climate, disasters, population growth/ decline/ demographics, economic crises, pandemics, political/civil unrest
- Fast or slow
- Affecting....
 - Water supplies, sanitation, hygiene (WASH)
 - Health
 - Food security
 - Livelihood opportunities – access to resources for produce, crafting, etc; access to markets
 - Educational access
 - Communications
 - Social and customary practices
 -And more



Types of capacities that contributes to Social Resilience



Building blocks

Assets & resources

Flexibility (mindset for change)

Learning (strategies)

Agency (power to change)

Organising & acting collectively

Risk attitudes

WASH & social resilience

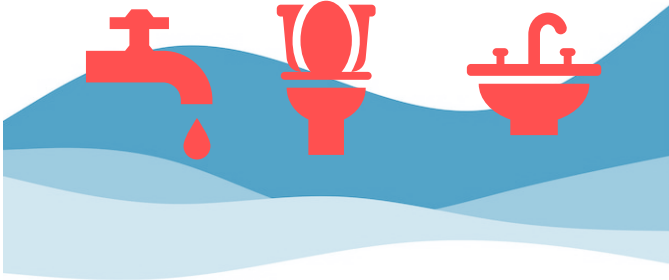
Social resilience: resilience of individuals, families and communities



In what ways does WASH support individuals, families, communities to be more resilient to ‘change’?

But first 2 key points....

Resilient WASH services



WASH itself needs resilient (resilient water services, resilient safe sanitation systems, and an ability for people to continue to practice safe hygiene through a disaster, shock, change)

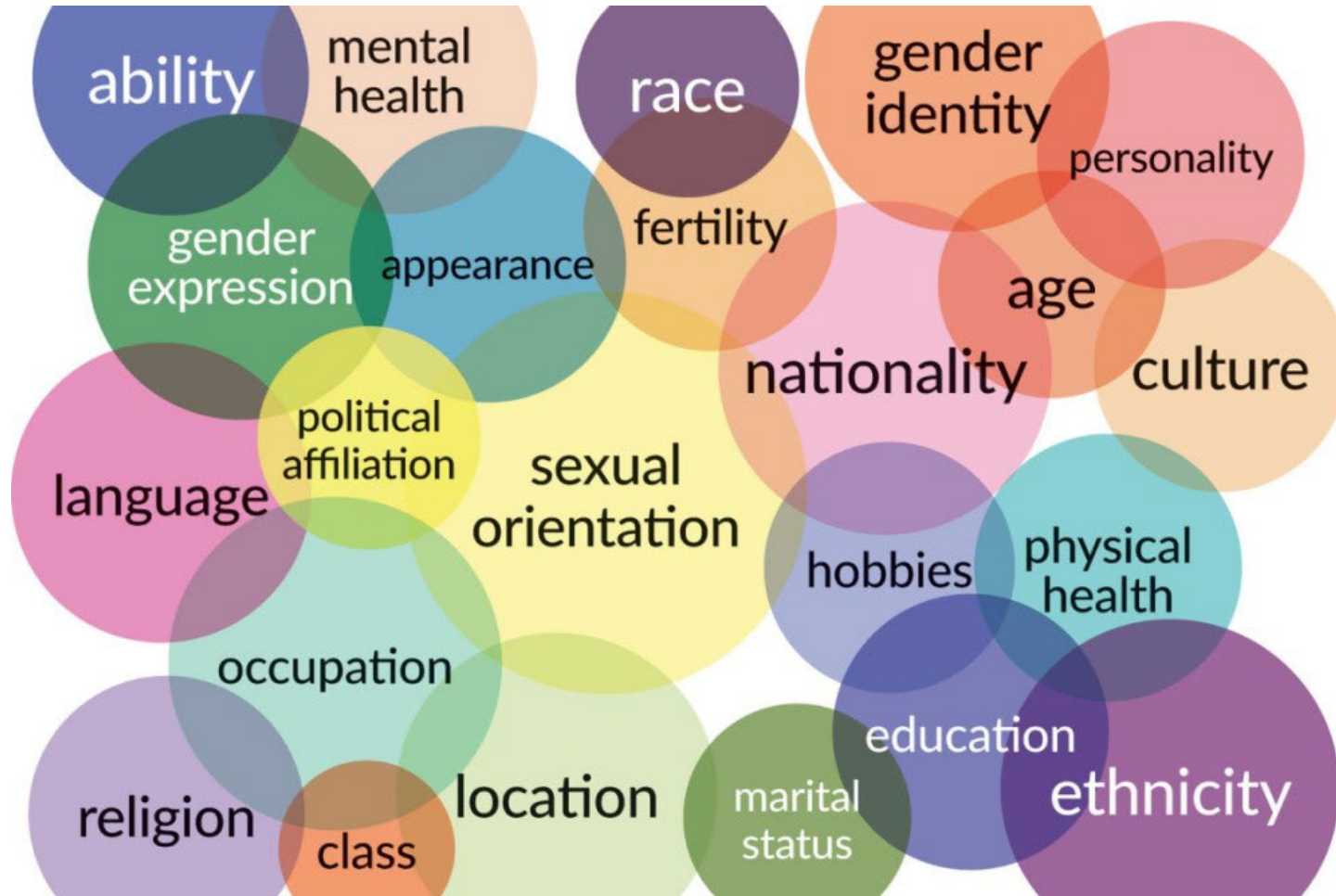
Inclusive WASH services



WASH needs to be socially inclusive. If any individuals don't have water security, safe sanitation and can't practice safe hygiene, they are unlikely to have much resilience

Social inclusion

- Inclusion = No-one is excluded (from access and use of WASH)
- Exclusion ← marginalization due to one or more characteristics of a person

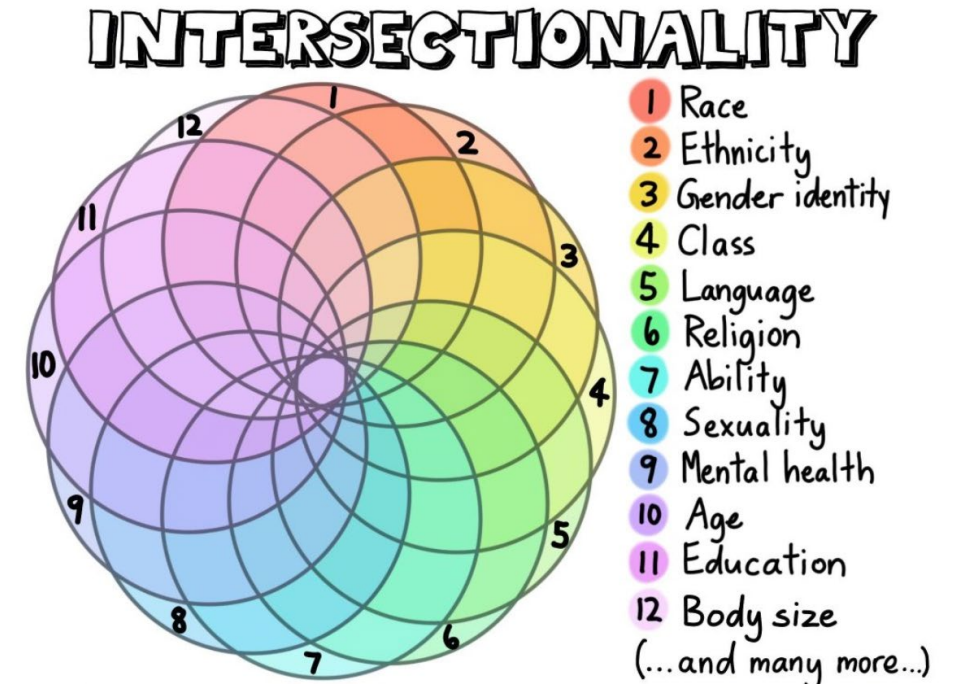


Everyone (everywhere) has a variety of characteristics that contribute to who we are

And these characteristics can influence both the level of privilege and level of oppression that people experience

Intersectionality

- In the real world..... the different characteristics of each person combine → a person’s “identity”, which is complex and unique
- Often, marginalised people have several characteristics that “compound” → people are disadvantaged by multiple sources of oppression
- Difficult to identify ‘marginalised groups’ based on a single characteristic e.g. women, youth, people with a disability
- **Intersectionality** recognises many marginalised people are marginalised because of several characteristics, and their experience with power and access can be unique – not well-represented by a ‘marginalised group’



Intersectionality is “a way of thinking about identity and its relationship to power.” - Kimberlé Crenshaw, 2015

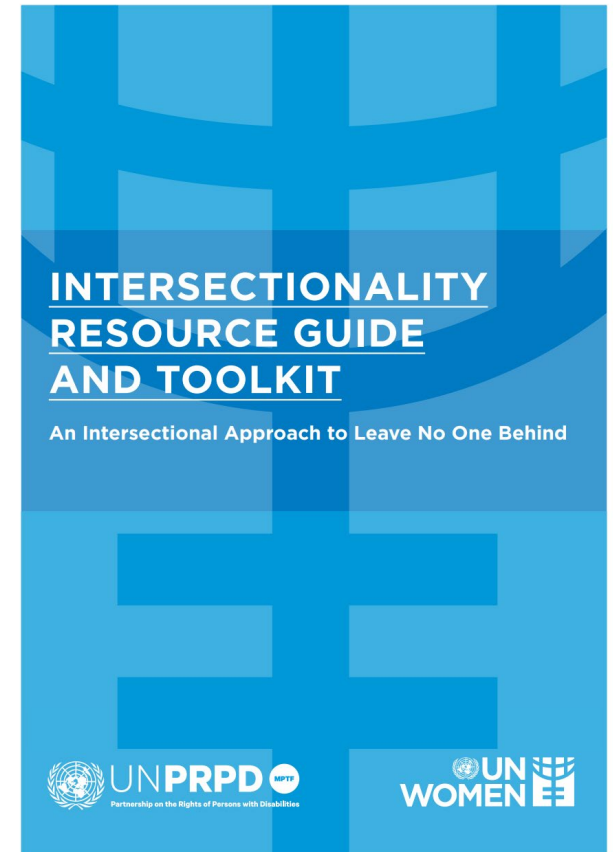
Intersectionality is a lens through which you can see where power comes and collides, where it locks and intersects. It is the acknowledgement that everyone has their own unique experiences of discrimination and privilege.

- Kimberlé Crenshaw -

@sylviaaduckworth

How do we consider intersectionality (→ inclusive WASH services)?

- Keep asking “**who is left behind, why and under what circumstances?**”
- Consider engagement approaches that build on existing social strengths in communities – where (in what situations) do marginalised people have agency and voice?
 - At community level (not usually!)
 - Within household?
 - Within extended families?
 - Clusters of households? (e.g. zones)



WASH & social resilience

Social resilience: resilience of individuals, families and communities



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Resilience – what is that?

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Case study slides on how WASH impacts people, and potential resilience

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Climate Resilience Pathways:

Water Security and WASH in Asia Pacific

WASH as a pillar for the resilience of Pacific people

Impacts of WASH for residents in informal settlements in Suva and Port Vila

WEDNESDAY 30TH APRIL – 11:00

ROOM 1 – ID20



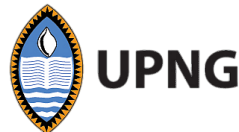
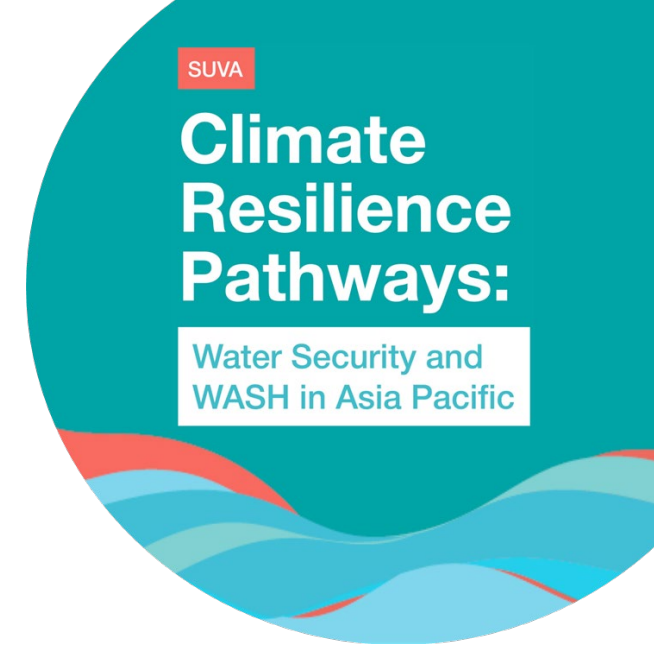
WASH as a pillar for the resilience of Pacific people

Impacts of WASH for residents in informal settlements in Suva and Port Vila

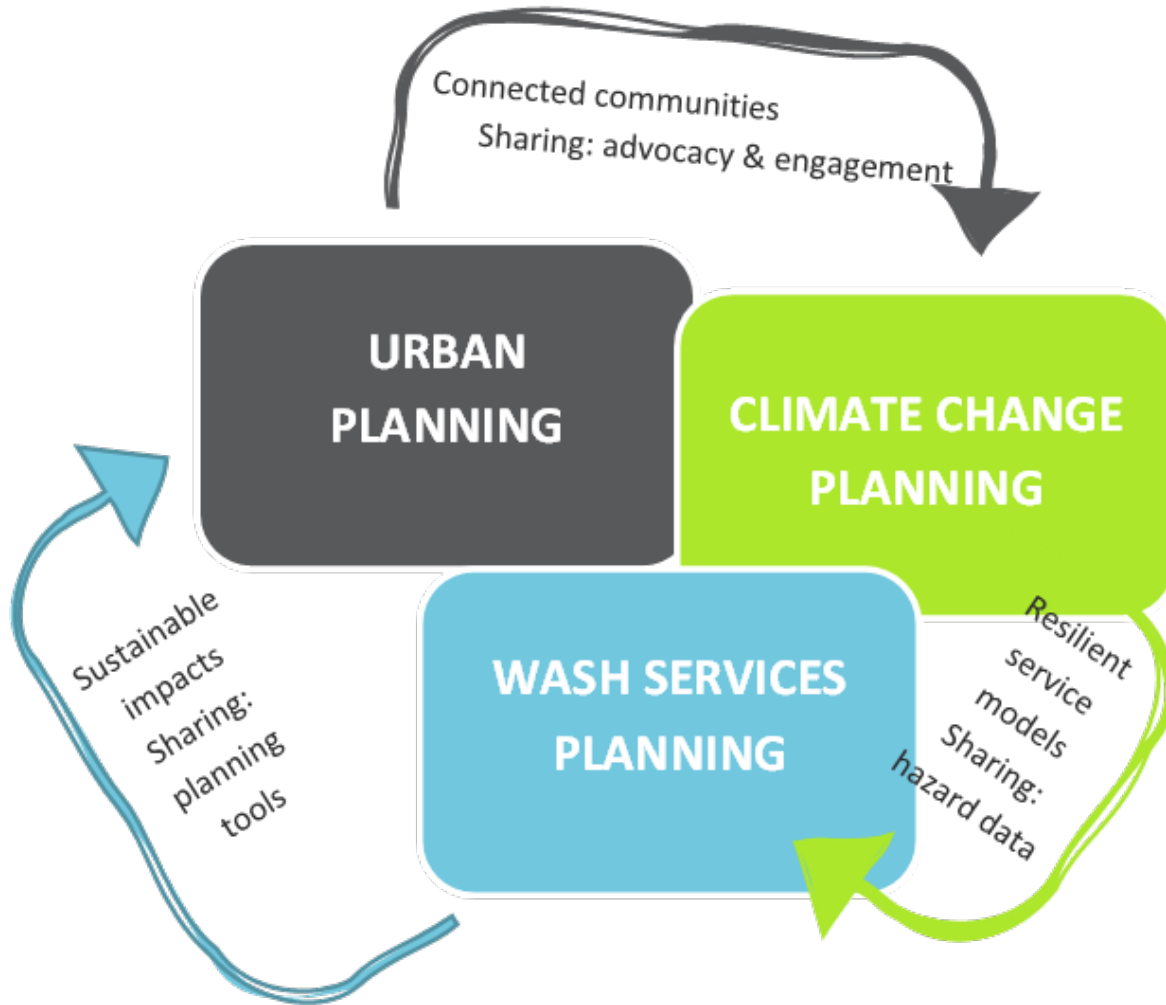
Camari Koto

Researcher and Lecturer

The University of the South Pacific, Fiji



Context to our research



What data, information, communication and tools can support **planning (decision-making)** for improved **(climate-resilient & inclusive) water and sanitation** in urban informal settlements?

Research methods – activities and data

Settlements (case study locations)

Household survey

Focus Groups – targeted issues

Water quality monitoring

Participatory GIS mapping of hazards

Mapping & risk assessments - piped water

Water & sanitation services

Impacts of water & sanitation services

local knowledge & experiences wrt service & resilience

Local & climate hazards

Spatial data (remote sensing, open sources)

- Settlement locations
- Local & climate hazards (flooding, sea level rise)

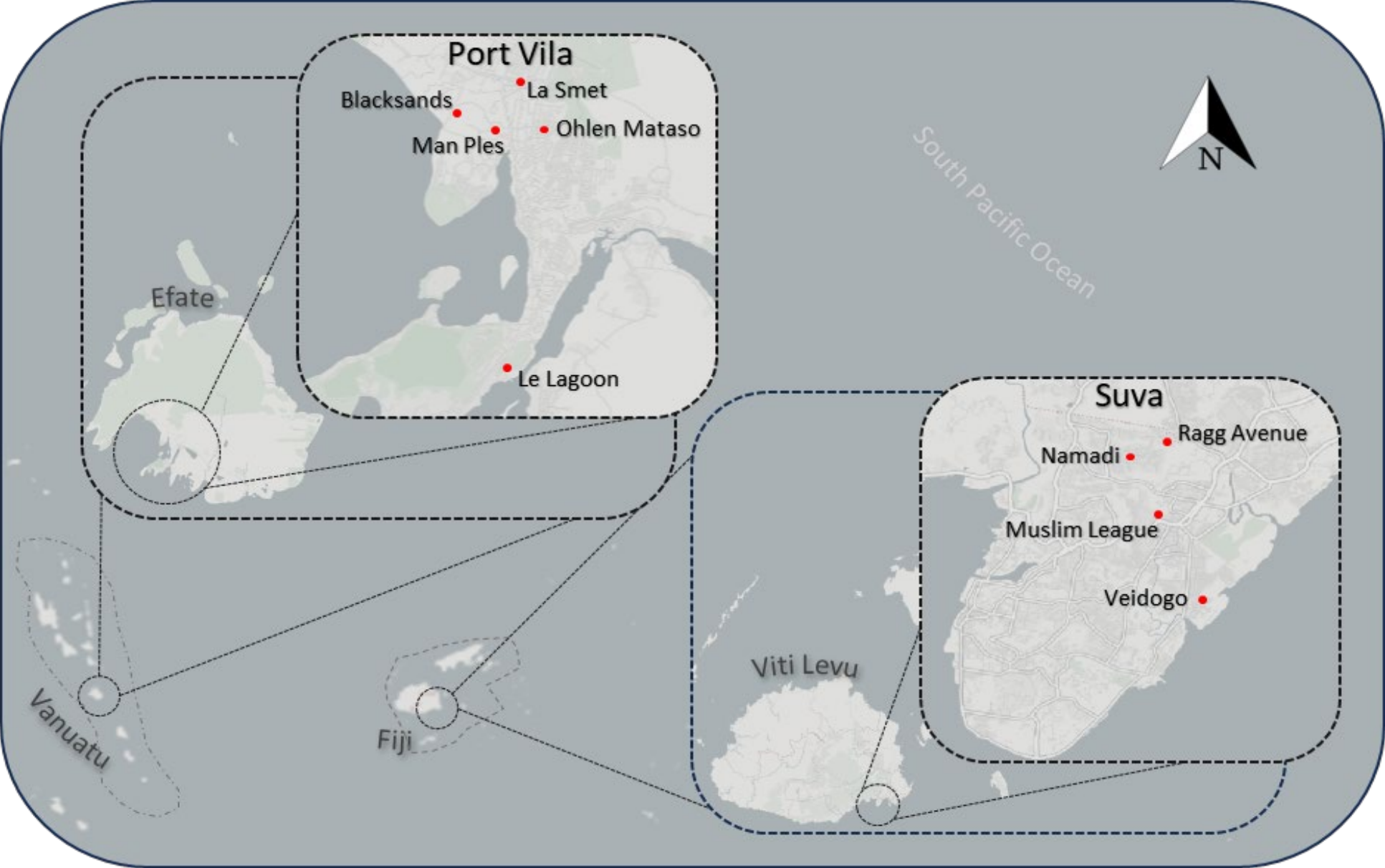
Planning tools

- GIS to integrate & understand w/s services and resilience
- Localised framework of resilience of different water & sanitation services
- Participatory / collaborative planning (Case study application - Fiji)

Political economy

- Political economy analysis (WASH in unplanned urban settlements – Vanuatu, Fiji)
- Public media content analysis – what are people in society saying, what are leaders saying?

Informal settlements of Port Vila & Suva



Current WASH services – meeting the needs of households?



- Do meet the needs (27%)
- Do not meet the needs (27%)
- ‘Sort of’ meet the needs (46%)

* Accessing enough water (close to home) is not always possible

* Sharing a water connection is common, but many would prefer their own meter

“In terms of drinking waterit is better for each household should have its own rainwater tanks to supply drinking water to the household.”
(male interviewee, Vanuatu)

“Our water meter connects to the taps in our house, and we also provide water to five other households.” *(female interviewee, Fiji)*

“The only change that needs to be made is for us to have our own meter, where we could reduce the payment of bills.” *(male interviewee, Fiji)*

* Shared water cost is high

“We don’t have a water meter but we use water from our neighbour and he is our councillor in our area here at Man Ples. He sells water to us and we buy 250vt for a drum filled with water...One drum last for 3 days because there are many people in the house. So, one drum water is not enough because everyday we have to spend money to buy water, **so it is really hard for us.**”
(female, Vanuatu)

“My daughter **made a loan to buy our water meter**, so we own a water meter and have access to water from the water utilities. We share water with our neighbours that do not have access to water.”
(male, Vanuatu)

For 2ML water (1 month)

“Private ‘water seller’

2ML = 10 drums; 250 vt / 200L drum, = 2500vt / month

UNELCO

2ML water = 240 vt / month

With no regulation, residents can be paying 10x (or twice that!) for their water

"Since every household in this yard (5 household) are using one toilet, maybe it would be better if there are 2 or 3 toilets **so that we will not have to wait in line.**" *(female, Vanuatu)*

"**We have our toilet in the house**, but towards the side and partitioned off – the bathroom is beside it. I have put the toilet in the house because I have daughters and it's for their security not to have the toilet outside the house. Also, it will be easy for everyone." *(male, Fiji)*

Achieving sanitation
privacy and convenience
is difficult

"Regarding the toilet, my uncle here is building a toilet system but it's not yet complete. We are using the other toilet but still if my younger daughter wants to use the toilet, I have to go with her because the **toilet is not clean.**" *(male, Vanuatu)*

“For hygiene it is a big topic and regarding this place we are crowded and we have no space to keep the place clean. When we have a sunny day, this place is fine but when it rains this place is very muddy. For my view like in terms of hygiene here is not really good.” *(male: Vanuatu)*

WASH – climate linked show challenge

“We try to use bush toilet but it’s not good so because my kids and grandkids are many so we have to use flush toilet but we have to make sure we have enough water, so it’s hard but we use a good toilet.” *(female, Vanuatu)*

Impacts of current WASH conditions on the daily lives of respondents and their family members

- After prompting, respondents reported poor WASH **negatively impacted education**, saying that **children did not attend school** when they did not have water to bathe and prepare for school (42%)
- Respondents noted **negative health impacts** including scabies & diarrhea (36%)
- They noted poorer **cleanliness** and **hygiene** (33%)
- They mentioned **finances** and the struggle to pay water bills (21%)
- Some reported **low water pressure** that was **time consuming** to address (12%)
- 2 respondents were **embarrassed** and 2 **inconvenienced** by poor WASH conditions (all female)
- 2 respondents reported a positive impact because their WASH conditions enabled them to do things they wanted to do (1 male, 1 female)

Current WASH conditions have significant impact on education, health and finances

Education / health

“Yes, sometimes we face issues with bus fare, sometimes kids get sick. So, when there is water the kids can be fast to get ready for school but when **there is no water they don't go to school.**”
(female interviewee, Vanuatu)

Education

“We store water at night to help meet our daily demands, but when our stored supply runs out, we often have to ask the neighbours if we can use their tap to refill our supply. The inconsistent water availability significantly impacts our family, particularly the children's education. There are days when they **cannot go to school due to a lack of water in the morning**, which also complicates meal preparation. **Finding water is a constant struggle.**”
(female interviewee, Fiji)

Finance / Education

“Finance is one of the things we struggle with in order to meet other needs at home. However, the only things we tried is to make sure they are met are the electricity bills and water bills. **We can pause on the school fees for a while just because we do not want our family to run out or not have water.**”
(male interviewee, Vanuatu)

Current WASH conditions also have hygiene, social and personal impacts

Hygiene

“Limited water supply poses significant challenges for us, especially regarding hygiene.

When the water level in the tank is low, we resort to washing dishes with a basin of water for cleaning and another for rinsing, avoiding running water entirely. We’ve adapted by minimizing water usage in all areas, including laundry, to ensure we don’t run out before the next rainfall.”

(female interviewee, Fiji)

Social and personal impacts

“Sometimes, when there is no water in taps, we bathe in the rain if it is raining or usually go and ask to use water from our neighbours. At times, we go without bathing because we are **too shy to go ask other people** to use their bathrooms.”

(female child, Fiji)

Social and personal impacts

“We are using bush toilets. But when important people visit, **we are embarrassed** to tell them that we are using these toilets. That is how we felt. Unfortunately, what can we do?” *(female interviewee, Vanuatu)*

All respondents replied that having access to reliable WASH services was very or extremely important to them and their HH

"Water is important to us human beings because we use water for everything. To bath, cook, do the laundry and so on. "So long ples ia nao yumi luk se wota hemi laef blong yumi man = **"At this point we realise that water is life to us human beings."** (female interviewee, Vanuatu)

"Water is everything. It is water that keeps us clean and water keeps us safe from sickness. Sometimes when there is no water, I feel bad about it. Its hard to go and ask water from another person to share water to my family." (female interviewee, Vanuatu)

"For me, having **access to water equates to cleanliness**. I would prioritize water over electricity because it is essential for our daily lives." (male interviewee, Fiji)

"Water is very important to use because we can keep ourselves clean through regular washing, we keep alive through drinking water, water keeps us cool during very hot weather." (female child, Fiji)

WASH is ESSENTIAL for people's RESILIENCE

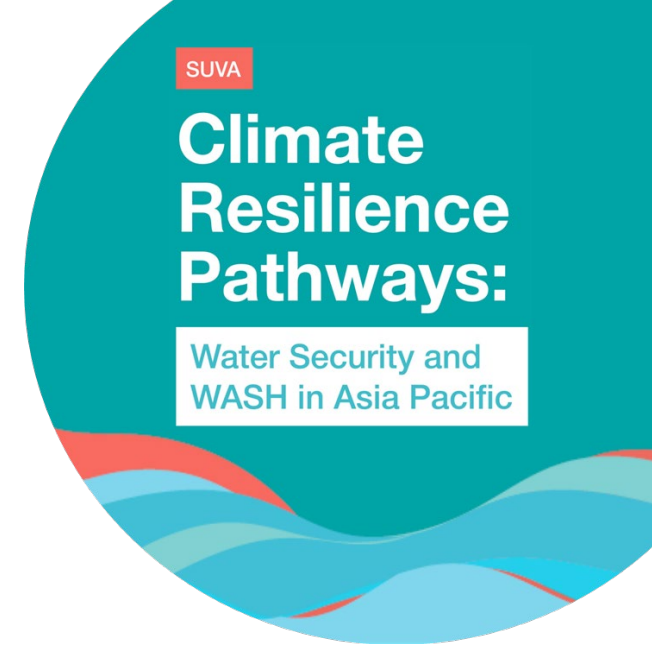
Vinaka Vakalevu!!

Water security, sanitation and hygiene builds resilience

Building resilience with groundwater in Solomon Islands

Tom Rankin

Plan International Australia



Solomon Islands: context

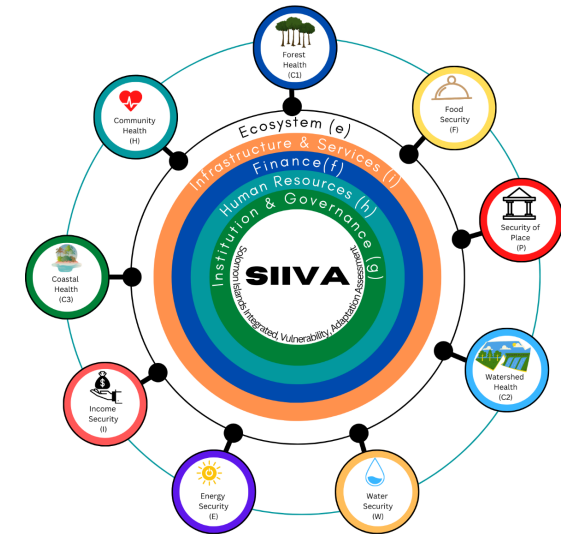
- Vulnerable to climate
- Poor WASH access / practice
- Dispersed population
- Preferences v resilience



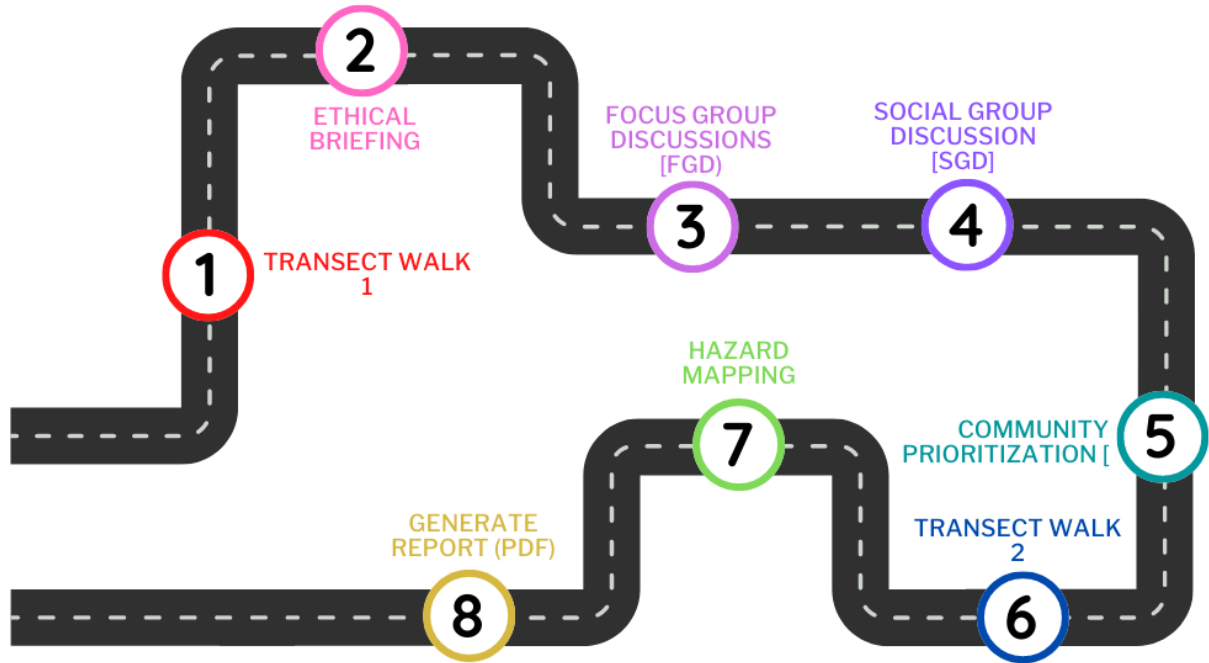
Solomon Islands Integrated Vulnerability Assessment

- Similar to other Vulnerability Assessments
- Scores against 9 ‘human security objectives’
- In depth facilitated process with community input
- Identifies priority issues for men, women, youth and community

SIIVA FRAMEWORK

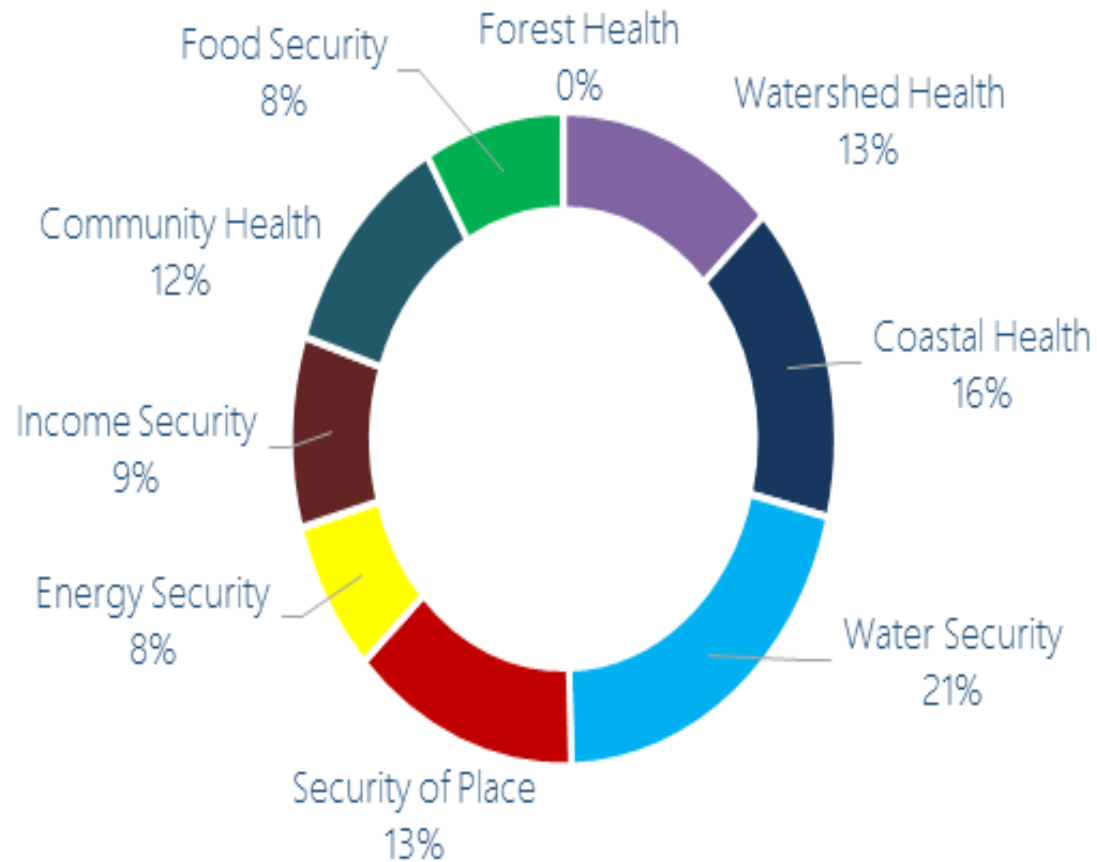


Solomon Islands Integrated Vulnerability Assessment



Solomon Islands Integrated Vulnerability Assessment

Identifying the most Exposed Human Security Objective [HSO]



Solomon Islands – water security for resilience

- Improved WASH
 - Health
 - Education
 - Livelihoods
 - Fulfilment
 - Time
- Resilient WASH in disaster
 - Faster recovery
 - Independence
 - Ability to help others
 - Maintain health

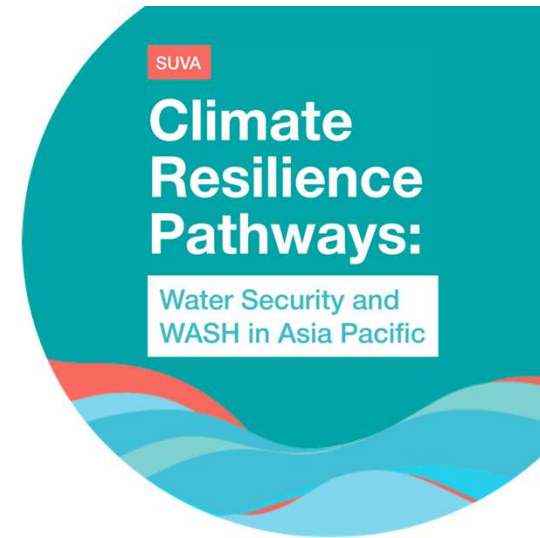


Participatory Approaches to Community Climate Resilience

Jen Johnstone, Habitat for Humanity New Zealand

Cassandra Te'o, ADRA Samoa

Pravneil Chand, Habitat for Humanity Fiji



What we'll cover

- Our approach to climate resilience for communities
- Successes
- Challenges
- Lessons Learnt



Where Habitat for Humanity works



And in the Pacific:

- Fiji (HFH Fiji)
- Samoa (ADRA Samoa)
- Tonga (Live and Learn Tonga and Telitha Project)



Community Programming Approach



Community Action Plans

Technical Skills Training

Improved Community Resilience



Community Engagement Approach



- Community Climate Resilience committees:
 - Participate in workshops
 - Develop and deliver a community action plan
- Strong focus on inclusion:
 - Participants in the committees
 - Inclusivity in community action plans
- Community developed and owned solutions



Community Engagement Workshops

- Identifying climate change and disaster risks
- Identifying and exploring inequalities
- Linking WASH behaviours to health risks
- Disaster preparedness
- Planning for community resilience
- Grant funding provided



Technical Skills Training

- Plumbing
- Carpentry
- Vocational training



Community Action Plans



Community Action Plans



Community Action Plans



Successes – Ownership and Skills

- Participatory approach enables community ownership
- Communities contribute labour, natural materials, and funds
- Women’s plumbing training has enabled women to carry out household maintenance and repairs, building self-reliance and saving on costs
- Skills training through carpentry and vocational training addresses local skills gaps



Successes - GEDSI

- “Power Walk” activity used to ‘break the ice’ on GEDSI issues and create space for open talanoa
- Workshops have allowed for safe conversation around menstrual hygiene
- Workshops have influenced a positive shift in attitudes and perceptions around traditional gender roles and PWDs
- More women in leadership roles



Key Challenges

- Women's voices are often excluded from key governance and decision-making processes despite their central role in WASH
- Low representation of women on village water committees, even lower for people with disabilities
- Gendered roles and norms make it challenging for women to fully participate in workshops
- Sustainability of Community Climate Resilience committees



Lessons learned

- Key decision makers need to be involved in workshops
- Importance of active participation over attendance
- Localize approach to individual community context
- Strengthening governance in communities supports long-term sustainability
- Ongoing monitoring and support is key to sustaining impact



Group discussions – sharing your observations and experiences



1. WASH for Social Resilience

- How is WASH linked to social resilience (individual, household, and community levels) to other shocks?
 - Examples of where inadequate WASH limited people's resilience to other shocks?
 - Examples of where improved WASH strengthened the resilience of people to other disasters / shocks?

2. Participatory Approaches for resilience-building

- What are the key benefits, challenges and ways to strengthen, participatory WASH approaches to strengthen social resilience (individuals, households, communities)?
- What are some of the challenges with participatory approaches for resilience-building, and how can these be addressed? Including challenges in ensuring meaningful participation from all community members, especially marginalised people?

3. GEDSI (Gender Equality, Disability, and Social Inclusion), Intersectionality and resilience

- At the level of individuals, households and communities, how have you seen GEDSI intersect with WASH, to affect the resilience of people?
- What GEDSI approaches have you seen effectively address intersectionality in WASH and resilience-building in the Pacific, and what are their strengths and challenges?

20 minutes for discussion – please use Flipcharts

10 minutes sharing – some groups to share some key points