Fiji Climate Change Division

Fiji Community Resilience to the Impact of Climate Change

Presentation Outline

- Linkages National Climate Change Policy & Green Growth Framework
- Way Forward for Fiji
- What is an IVA
- Brief Summary IVA Framework
- Purpose of IVA
- Project Outcomes
- Targeted Output
- Success
- Challenges
- Lesson Learnt

ASSESSMENT, MAPPING & DIGITIZATION OF VULNERABILITY



Climate Change Policy Relevance

Objective 2: Data Collection, Storage & Sharing **Objective 5: ADAPTATION Strategy 2: Calls for inclusion of Vulnerability assessments & climate** change impact projections into resource management planning. Strategy 5: Support the ecosystembased approach throughout Fiji, recognising that ecosystem services, such as food security, natural hazard mitigation and physical coastal buffer zones, increase resilience.



Fiji National Strategic Planning & Development

- **GREEN GROWTH FRAMEWORK.**
- **Thematic Area 1**.
- **Building Resilience to Climate Change & Disaster.**
- A Key Challenge
- A need to develop an integrated approach & policy & operational level to effectively address climate change & disaster management.



Way Forward For Fiji

- 1. Review V&A tool [Consultations] (August October)
- 2. Develop a framework (August- October)-Partners: USP & SPC.
- Inception workshop of sector experts to consolidate the proposed Integrated Vulnerability Assessment (IVA) framework and method of assessment. (October '15).
- 4. The IVA framework incorporate principles and elements of CCA (CCA), disaster risk reduction (DRR), loss & damage (L&D) and sustainable development
- 5. Piloted in the Province of Macuata 20th/10/15.

What is an IVA?

A vulnerability assessment is an approach that integrates:

- Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Management
- Addresses the underlying barriers to achieving sustainable development
- Multi-sectoral focus: <u>Human security</u>.
- **1.Forest & Marine Protection**
- 2. Security of place
- 3. Income security
- 4. Water Security
- **5. Food Security**
- 6. Energy security
- 7. Health security

Livelihood Assets

- 1. Infrastructure & technology
- 2. Natural Resources and Ecosystems
- 3. Human Resources
- 4. Institution and governance
- 5. Finance

The two key parts of the proposed IVA framework

1. The vulnerability context:

- Experienced and projected demographic and development (resource use) changes
- Overlayed with experienced and anticipated changes in climate
- Community location and general profile (overview)

2. The assessment of community adaptability or resilience

Defining community resilience

- The ability of local communities to utilise the resources available to them to meet their livelihood needs in changing environment.
- Community resilience is determined by a combination of inter-dependent factors that from which livelihood needs are met.
- Previous VAs often refer to community access to 'livelihoods assets' as the foundational factors determining community resilience.

Purpose of the IVA

- 1. Important to assess community resilience or adaptive capacity and combining assessment of basic human security.
- 2. Fijian men, women and children are more resilient to climate change impacts through better informed decision making and planning processes
- 3. It will support decision making on relocation & reduction of loss & damage.
- 4. Reports on the vulnerability of our communities to the international communities
- 5. Contributes to the national reports for the Sustainable Development Goal, UNFCCC & Sendai Framework

Project outcomes

- Increased understanding of the degree of vulnerability of Fijian communities;
- More inclusive process for community consultation and data gathering on climate change risk
- Improved efficiency in the identification of appropriate and cost effective adaptation interventions for vulnerable communities;
- Improved climate change adaptation baseline data and policy advise

- The project will directly benefit multiple sectors of government, non-government organizations and the local communities.
- The project will engage the community through a participatory approach that encourages women, youth, people with disabilities and marginalised group participation.

Targeted outputs

- IVA reports for each of the 4 Divisions, 14 provinces and all districts – 3years- 2015-2018
- Database storing vulnerability scores for all community assessments
- Digitised map of vulnerable communities

Project Sites

The IVA will be carried out in all communities in the 4 major Divisions with 15 Provinces across

Fiji.



Assessment Team in the Northern Division



Success

- Involvement and support of stakeholders, government ministries, non-governmental organisations, Civil Society Organisation, provincial council, communities and resource owner.
- Translation of the tool in iTaukei language, later to Hindi.
- Pilot the tool in Macuata Province assist the Training of the IVA at the divisional level. (Savusavu).
- Developing either a standalone unit of competency or skill set which in turn would incorporated into a qualification in climate change adaptation. (PacTVET)

Challenges

- 1. Accessibility: Geographical make up of the country
- 2. Expensive exercise: need more funding
- 3. Availability of key informants at the community level.
- 4. Management and storage of Data
- 5. Meeting timeline due to climatic conditions.

Lesson Learnt

- Field Assistance to be well trained with good understanding of climate change and natural disaster issues
- Focus Group discussions
- Use of Divisional and Extension Officers to assist in the Assessment
- Identify community resource people to assist in the Assessment
- Gender Balance
- Good community interactions



Thank You for Listening

