Cities in Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) Building resilient communities — The Pacific Experience



Engaging Pacific Cities in Climate Change

- To assess existing data and reports to indicate the urban sector's likely contribution to climate change
- To carry out effective estimates regarding the measurements of green house emissions in towns and cities; and
- To formulate mitigation and adaptation measures to be potentially mainstreamed in the planning and management of towns and cities



International & Regional Conventions

- Pacific countries have signed and ratified the United Nations Framework
 Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and others including:
 - International
 - Kyoto Protocol
 - Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA)
 - Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 - Wetland (Ramsar) Convention

Regional

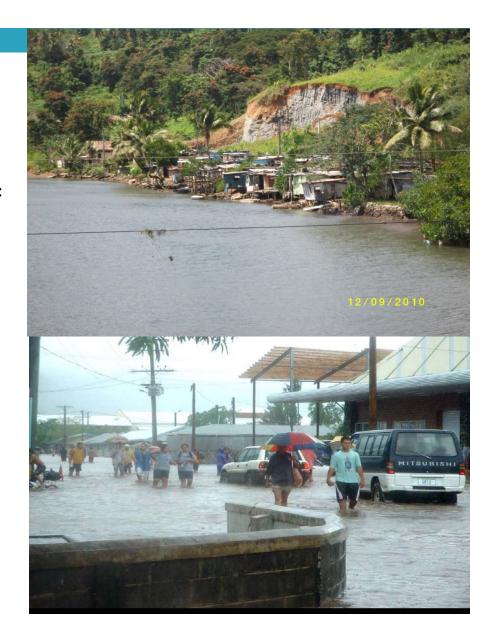
- Pacific Regional DRM Framework for Action (RFA)
- South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) Convention
- Convention on the Conservation of Nature in the South Pacific

National

- National Adaptation Programme for Action/NAP
- National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
- National Environmental Strategies
- National Climate Change Policy

The Reality of CC in Pacific Cities

- The Pacific is rapidly urbanising.
 Some urban growth rate is almost 4% per annum
- Coastal Cities
- Increased frequency and intensity of weather events
- Sea level change including king tides
- Coastal erosion
- Flooding (ie. Nadi 2010, Nadi 2009, Apia 2005, Honiara 2010, Port Vila 2010)
- Inundation
- Increase sedimentation
- Droughts (Lautoka & Ba 2010)



Initial findings of the National Scoping Studies

- National climate change country teams often located within the ministry of environment
- Numerous programs and projects addressing adaptation and mitigation to climate change.
- Targeting international and regional obligations ad-hoc community adaptation.
- Lack of cohesion between all climate change related programs
- Limited contribution by local government and urban communities
- Weak co-ordination of Financial resources distribution



Initial findings of the National Scoping Studies

- Improved awareness and understanding on climate change
- Paucity of data and technical capacity for analysis and monitoring
- National guidelines for V&AA and GHG
- Hazard and Vulnerability mapping
- Climate change policies
- National adaptation program of action
- Displacement induced by climate change



Key Stakeholders

- □ The key sectors:
 - Environment
 - Disaster Risk Management
 - Infrastructure/ Utilities
 - Energy
 - Health
 - Finance
 - Agriculture/Fisheries /Forestry
 - Tourism
 - Community



Challenges for LG involvement in climate change and building resilient communities

- Changing attitude at National level to recognise importance of Local Government
- Representation by Local Government in steering committees and country teams
- Strengthening partnership between National and Local Government level
- Resourcing local government (Financial/Technical)

Future focus

- Calls for increased regional action on climate change and disaster risk reduction
- Improved coordination
- Improved access to financial resources
- Mainstreaming of climate change and DRM into national planning and budgeting processes
- Technical advice and capacity building
- 2009 Pacific year of climate change

Links to Resilient Cities Campaign



- Shared goals to achieve safety and resiliency.
- □ Is your city getting ready?
- CCCl cities fulfilling the minimum requirements to sign up to global campaign.
- Key principle of engaging the entire hierarchy of interests from community through local government to national platforms and beyond into the regional and international community.



