



Pacific Community-Led Localisation Summit 12 - 13 February 2020: Summit Report

Disaster READY Plan International Australia Consortium

Citations:

1. Government of Fiji, *Fiji National Disaster Management Act*, 1998
2. Pacific island governments, *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific*, 2016
3. Humanitarian Advisory Group & Pacific Islands Association of Non-Government Organisations, *Measuring Localisation: Framework and Tools*, December 2019
4. International Council of Voluntary Agencies, www.icvanetwork.org

In Memory of Our Friend and Colleague David Hesaie.

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Acronyms

AHP: Australian Humanitarian Partnership

AHPSU: Australian Humanitarian Partnership Support Unit

ANGO: Australian Non-Governmental Organisation

AVI: Australian Volunteers International

CBDRM: Community-based Disaster Risk Management

CBM: CBM Australia

CDMC: Community Disaster Management Committee

CPiE: Child Protection in Emergencies

CSO: Civil Society Organisation

DCOSS: District Council of Social Services

DEOC: Divisional Emergency Operations Centre

DFAT: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

DO: District Office

DPO: Disabled Peoples Organisation

DRM: Disaster Risk Management

DRR: Disaster Risk Reduction

DSW: Department of Social Welfare

EC: Evacuation Centre

EOC: Emergency Operation Centre

EP: Empower Pacific

FBO: Faith Based Organisation

FCOSS: Fiji Council of Social Services

FDPF: Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation

GRACC: Gender Responsive Alternatives for Climate Change

HAG: Humanitarian Advisory Group

LGBTQI: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or questioning, and Intersex

MoEHA: Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts

MoWCPA: Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation

NDMA: (Fiji) National Disaster Management Act

NDMO: (Fiji) National Disaster Management Office

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation

PCDF: Partners in Community Development Fiji

PFA: Psychological First Aid (PFA)

PIA: Plan International Australia

PIANGO: Pacific Island Association of NGOs

PWD: People with Disability

RPF: Rainbow Pride Foundation

SDG: Sustainable Development Goal

SOGIESC: Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics

VCAN: Vanuatu Climate Action Network

VCO: Virgin Coconut Oil

WASH: Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

WITTT: Women I Tok Tok Tugeta

WWW: Women Wetem Weta

Executive Summary

The Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) Disaster READY Plan International Australia (PIA) consortium held the first Pacific Community led Localisation Summit (the Summit) for partners in Fiji from 12-13 February 2020. The purpose of the Summit was to create a platform from which local humanitarian response partners and local communities can express: how they conceptualise Localisation; their Localisation expectations, and if these are being met; their challenges and lessons learned; and what steps are needed to progress the Localisation agenda. The Summit also focused on: enhancing partner understanding of the AHP Disaster READY structure and the role of local partners and their communities; and identifying synergies and opportunities to enhance current Localisation efforts.

Over 40 participants attended from local Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Australian Non-Governmental Organisations (ANGOs), and local communities from Fiji and Vanuatu, including one participant from the Solomon Islands. The Summit was facilitated by a core team comprising representatives from Plan International Australia, ActionAid Australia, and ChildFund Australia, supported by Australian Volunteers International (AVI), via CoLAB¹. Local partner organisations, including the Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS), and Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF), and Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITTT) from Vanuatu, were also involved in co-facilitating sessions.

The Localisation Summit took place at the mid-point of the AHP Disaster READY program. The Summit is therefore a key program milestone, an opportunity for program partners to: reach broad understanding on what Localisation means to them; to reflect on progress to Localisation; and to assess the utility of introducing a Localisation Framework against which partners' lived realities and experiences of Localisation can be assessed.

The Summit was designed to support open and reflective discussion among partners. Facilitators promoted active participation of Summit participants through participatory, and interactive methods such as panel discussions, group work, and energisers. Overall, feedback from Summit participants was positive, with partners valuing the time to come together to dialogue, network, learn, and reflect on Localisation.

This report presents key discussions and reflections from the two-day Summit, and documents priorities and actions that PIA consortium partners have agreed to progress in relation to the Localisation agenda. In line with the spirit of the Summit, this report is written to highlight the voices of local partners and local communities who were represented at the Summit. The report captures the direct narratives of participants as they shared their personal stories, and reflections over the two days.

Headline messages

- **Understanding local context is critical to progress the Localisation agenda.** While there is consensus that no context is without disasters, and associated disaster risks, participants affirmed how disasters are context specific- shaped by local experiences and capacities, and varying risk profiles. Participants emphasised the importance of local actors (local government, communities, private sector, and representatives of vulnerable groups) participating in, and informing Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) processes and pathways. Fiji participants described a DRR process that includes CSO-government engagement, and for Vanuatu, a community based led process. Both processes demonstrate how different contexts are promoting a local response to DRR. It is at the local level where actors engage, and work best together. For external actors who want to support local DRR efforts, understanding local level processes is essential for effective DRR, and building a constituency of Pacific Islanders who can lead their own Localisation;

¹ Local Fiji based consulting company with whom the PIA Consortium has worked previously

- **Genuine, and equitable partnerships are built on trust, and occur over time.** This is key to sustainable Localisation as it shifts power toward local actors, who then become more prominent as decision makers and leaders, and are able to more effectively hold their local, and international partners, to account. Summit participants acknowledge the positive work that has been undertaken to improve coordination amongst the AHP partners, both Australian and national, and amongst national and community level actors including communities, through partnerships built on trust. This investment in partnership, and trust building has positive flow on effects. Local partners feel well supported by the AHP Disaster READY initiative to progress their Localisation efforts. For example, the FCOSS stated how the partnership with ChildFund Australia, through the AHP, has enabled the organisation engage more effectively in the humanitarian space (particularly in engaging with national government, and fulfilling their role as the national CSO mandated under Fiji’s National Disaster Management Act); and how WITTT’s partnership with ActionAid Australia is enabling more women to take up leadership roles in their community;
- **Documenting achievements, best practices and lessons learnt is a challenge that needs to be overcome.** Documentation is a critical means through which to capture and share valuable information, showcase the AHP Disaster READY initiative as a model for Pacific Localisation, and to use documentation to advocate for funding support. Over the two days, there was rich discussion, and sharing of stories, and experiences, amongst participants. Organisations are collecting data in various formats, and for various purposes (to get baseline information about affected populations, to show who is participating in their programs), including to inform decision making. Summit participants agreed that some of this information is not being captured in current reporting, or broader AHP program communication. Participants from WITTT also highlighted the need for more deliberate documentation in their intergenerational work with women so as to ensure younger women are equipped with relevant information/knowledge and tools;
- **Ensuring that social inclusion is embedded in AHP Disaster READY activities through best practice, and culturally appropriate methodologies is a key priority.** More efforts are needed to engage vulnerable and marginalised groups in a manner that leads to positive outcomes. The inclusion agenda featured prominently at the Summit, with representation from Disabled Peoples Organisations (DPO); people who identify; and those promoting women’s leadership roles in Disaster Risk Management (DRM). These representatives identified the positive progress made to ensure the AHP Disaster READY program is inclusive, such as through the engagement of organisations like Rainbow Pride Foundation Fiji (RPF); Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation (FDPF); and the Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association (VDPAA) who are building partner capacities in inclusive disaster response, and DRR. However, it was also acknowledged that women, girls, people with disabilities (PWD), and people who identify, continue to be neglected, and discriminated against in times of disasters; WITTT on the other hand shared their own narrative of working with women with disabilities and the launch of WITTT Sunshine, which is elevating their leadership and agency.
- **Local CSOs and communities request more direct funding that can be used on programmatic and operational priorities such as building the capacity of their staff, and supporting organisational sustainability.** For community-based organisations – institutional support is critical for a locally led women’s collective like WITTT, and having funding that supports costs such as communication, rent, transport, is critical for their organisational functions, and ongoing advocacy work;
- **Strengths** – in Vanuatu, the WITTT is local women’s organisation leading the work on women’s leadership and gender equality in emergencies. In Fiji, local NGO partners are particularly strong

at maintaining positive relationships with government at national, sub-national and local level; and

- **Vanuatu and Fiji participants are keen to explore ways they can help each other build capacity in areas where the other country is lacking.** For example, WITTT members help Fiji communities and local NGOs strengthen gender equality and gender equality in emergencies, and Fiji partners help WITTT strategize how to strengthen their government engagement.

Lessons learned

The facilitators debriefed on participant feedback, as well as their own observations over the two days to arrive at the following lessons learned and reflections:

- Some key local actor principles of Localisation have emerged which are not included in the current measuring Localisation Framework² presented at the Summit. These include trust, accountability, and authenticity;
- There has been positive progress in strengthening the capability, and capacity of communities and organisations in key areas such as **training communities on inclusive disaster risk management** and Women led Community based Protection assessment and preparedness (246 WITTT members in Vanuatu trained using ActionAid Australia manuals; 135 people in Fiji trained by Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF); **organisational strengthening**, such as support to FCOSS to map the organisational and programming capacities of their 12 District Council of Social Services (DCOSS); and **enhancing partner capacity on inclusion related issues**, particularly through the partners engaged under shared services (RPF who are focused on increasing awareness on LGBTQI issues in disasters; FDPF and VDPAA, who are focused on disability inclusion; and Save the Children Fiji on child protection). In addition, AVI is supporting key capacity strengthening activities, hosting the first annual reflection and planning workshop for Fiji based partners in 2019; and grants writing support planned for March 2020, to support local partner capacity to apply for grants;
- Messages from inclusion partners are very clear particularly from those representing the LGBTQI community, women and people with disability, however, messaging promoting the voices and agency of children and young people is not as strong;
- The facilitators' promotion of community voice and ownership ensured Summit participants could speak freely, learn, and forge relationships. Community voice, agency, and ownership are key principles that embody Localisation in the Pacific context;
- The Summit provided a space for partners to challenge each other. Facilitators were deliberate in how they designed the Summit to promote a safe space for Summit participants to have open dialogue about partnerships; share personal stories; and promote cross-country learning. For example, ANGOs were able to speak openly about the AHP Disaster READY program financial management process, in particular around the program's current underspend; for inclusion focused organisations, the Summit was a time to challenge their fellow local organisations to be more genuine in how they engage vulnerable groups in their programming; and for partners to understand, and appreciate each other's programming approaches (for example, the rationale for WITTT being a women only, women led initiative; and in turn, how WITTT inspired other partners to reflect on how women's rights can be better integrated in their current disaster response and DRR efforts);

² This framework provides a method for actors to measure progress on Localisation in a holistic way. It is divided into seven areas: partnerships; leadership; coordination and complementarity; participation; policy influence and advocacy; capacity; and funding. In 2018-2019, PIANGO and the Humanitarian Advisory Group used the Framework to undertake baseline research to measure Localisation progress in: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

- Power dynamics between international and local actors are fundamental to the Localisation agenda. Localisation is about power. This was affirmed by Summit participants who acknowledge that power dynamics exist amongst, and between humanitarian actors. Participants described the shifting of power that is central to build partnerships amongst international and local actors that is based on, trust, and equality. This requires international actors to ‘give up’ or transfer their power to local actors, and local actors in turn claiming this power, and ‘putting it into the hands of their local communities’. This approach informed the workshop style where local partners played a critical role in leading sessions;
- There was a key demonstration of the power of information to build confidence, seen through the women of WITTT – women are making changes within their families and in their community. Their participation at the Localisation Summit in Fiji is important recognition of their leadership roles within their respective families and communities; and
- Reflecting on the Core Humanitarian Standard and its nine commitments, there was limited discussion during the Summit on: resource management (effective and ethical use); safeguarding (child safeguarding and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse); and compliance measures that relate to finance, codes of conduct, etc. This is particularly relevant to Commitments 4, and 5, in ensuring humanitarian response is accountable to communities, where affected communities know their rights, have access to information, and participate in decision making processes. For the Summit organisers, this is a key learning for ongoing programming discussions with local partners at a country level; and to inform the agenda of the next Localisation Summit.



Summit Participants

Program Context: About the Australian Humanitarian Partnership and Disaster READY

The AHP program is an initiative of the Australian Government working in partnership with Australian Non-Governmental Organisations (ANGOs), formerly known as the Humanitarian Partnership Agreement (HPA). The AHP is a four and a half year (2018 – 2022) program and has two components:

- **Disaster READY:** focuses on the Pacific and Timor Leste in the areas of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and preparedness worth AUD 42.5 million; and
- **Disaster Activation:** accessible globally, including rapid onset and protracted events. In the past three years, there has been six activations in the Pacific, Asia and Africa. This includes:
 - 2017 (Pacific) - Vanuatu Ambae volcano;
 - 2018 (Pacific) – Vanuatu Ambae volcano; Tonga Tropical Cyclone (TC) Gita; Papua New Guinea (PNG) highlands earthquake;
 - 2018 (Asia) – Nepal floods and earthquake; Laos floods; Philippines (iCOPE); Sulawesi tsunami (Indo);
 - 2019 (Africa) – Mozambique Cyclone Idai
 - 2019 (Asia) – Bangladesh Cox’s Bazar
 - 2020 (Asia) – Myanmar; Bangladesh Cox’s Bazar

The overall purpose of Disaster READY is to strengthen local humanitarian capability in the Pacific (Fiji, PNG, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu) and Timor-Leste so communities are better prepared for and able to manage and respond to disasters.

The Disaster READY Objectives include:

1. Communities are better prepared for rapid and slow onset disasters;
2. Women, people with disabilities, youth and children’s rights and needs are being met in disaster preparedness and response at all levels;
3. Government, NGOs, the private sector and communities coordinate more effectively for inclusive disaster preparedness and response;
4. National NGOs and Faith-Based Organisations (FBOs) have more influence in the country humanitarian system; and
5. AHP NGOs are well coordinated with both development and humanitarian programs implemented by their own and other Organisations (e.g. Red Cross, other NGOs, donors and Government).

AHP is managed by the Australian Humanitarian Program Support Unit (The Whitelum Group). PIA works with the following ANGOs: ChildFund, CBM, Australian Volunteers International (AVI) and ActionAid to support local partners in Fiji: Empower Pacific; Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation (FDPF); Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS); Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF); Rainbow Pride Foundation (RPF); and the Fiji Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation’s (MOWCPA), Department of Social Welfare. In Vanuatu, ActionAid works with local community partners: WITTT. Under Disaster READY, AVI’s role is to support PIA’s local partners to identify and support capacity strengthening activities that will enhance partner ability to achieve their goals and objectives in regard to disaster preparedness and response activities.



Tu Tangi of PIA explains the AHP Disaster READY program to participants

Localisation Summit Background, Design, and Process

Localisation is a key priority for the AHP, and Disaster READY reflects the commitment of partners to supporting local solutions to building resilience and preparedness for disasters. ANGO and local partners alike acknowledge that sustaining Localisation efforts requires ongoing dialogue amongst partners, and at all levels, from ANGO, to local partners, and communities. The inaugural Pacific Community Led Localisation Summit for PIA local consortium partners under the AHP Disaster READY was held in Fiji on 12-13 February 2020. The purpose of the Summit was to create a platform from which local humanitarian response partners and particularly local communities can express how they conceptualise Localisation; how their Localisation expectations are being met; challenges and lessons learned; and what steps need to be put in place, in order to progress the Localisation agenda.

The Summit also provided an opportunity to do some self-assessment on how the consortium is progressing the Localisation agenda across the program. A key intention of the Summit was to create a space for local partners to speak honestly, to articulate their narrative on what Localisation means to them, and whether it is meeting their needs and supporting their capability to be self-reliant in disaster preparedness and response. To foster participation, and a safe space for participants, facilitators used a mix of interactive and participatory activities including panel discussions; market, gallery walk; group work; energisers; and a breakfast show format. Women Community Mobilisers representatives from Vanuatu’s Women I Tok Tugeta (WITTT) introduced participants to an activity called ‘Power claps’ which

uses clapping motions to show ‘power to’ and ‘power with’. This exercise was used throughout the workshop to acknowledge when someone had presented/shared their story, and also as a way to quickly energise the group.

The Summit was held over two days. The first part of Day One focused on: creating a safe space for open reflection and learning where participants expressed their expected outcomes and agreed to commit to key principles to guide the group over the two days; understanding the AHP Disaster READY within the broader AHP program context with a presentation by PIA, and highlights on Disaster READY in Fiji and Vanuatu focusing on key activities and achievements, challenges and opportunities. The second part of Day One focused on Localisation. This included a community market place where partners from Fiji and Vanuatu presented their work on Localisation; a plenary on identifying partner synergies, and opportunities to collaborate and share resources to enhance Localisation efforts amongst AHP Disaster READY partners; and a session focused on understanding the Localisation journey.

Day Two of the workshop began with a plenary to reflect on key issues, messages, highlights, and challenges from the previous day. This was followed by two panel discussions: the first was focused on partners describing their narrative on Localisation and its impact on the work they do; and the second panel, included Government and donor representatives. The second day also included a session on partners identifying new, or continued priority areas, including actions that partners need to discontinue as these hindered achievement of Localisation goals. The final sessions of Day Two focused on partner strategising on ways to sustain opportunities for sharing learning and peer support; and presentation of the Summit communique.

Each day ended with a participant evaluation process. On day one, participants evaluated the day by looking at what went well, and what required improvement. The evaluation process for the second, and final day of the Summit was an open plenary with participants to revisit the Summit goal; and to reflect on participant expectations and whether these had been achieved over the two days. A presentation of the draft Summit communique for participant endorsement, concluded the workshop.

What participants Said

“When we talk about accessibility, it may seem like a big word, but it only means getting in safely, and getting out safely. Don’t be afraid of the word accessibility”

“Our discussions over the past two days, on Localisation, has made us think, what more needs to be done, and to really think about putting power into the hands of the people, and local communities”

“On inclusion....we are talking about issues of safety, protection, and above all, human dignity. And this is what we advocate for, the crux of our work- how do you ensure that partners in their responses, integrate inclusion in a holistic way, that includes gender, child protection, disability, and LGBTQI issues”

“We (CSOs) are training people in communities as first responders. We acknowledge that during disasters, it takes time to get to people in need, so we have people who are pre-positioned, and ready to help”

Summit Proceedings – Day 1

This Summit is the first of its kind for the Consortium and was aimed at creating a platform from which local humanitarian response actors and local community representatives can conceptualise Localisation in their own context through their own experiences. This platform is also the opportunity for sharing lessons, challenges, and the steps needed to progress the Localisation agenda.

While the Consortium partners had goals and objectives for the Summit, participants came with their own expectations. These included: learning from each other; sharing experiences; understanding the global Localisation agenda and defining Localisation in the Pacific context; understanding the role of local actors; ensuring inclusion in programming; understanding the PIA Consortium activities under Disaster READY; to share experiences on women led programs and responses; discuss a Pacific definition of response; and to build up links for better service provision especially in disasters.

The Keynote Address was delivered by the Executive Director of the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (PIANGO), Siale Ilolahia, who not only challenged the participants about the Localisation agenda, but presented a framework that can be used to measure Localisation in the Pacific.

Keynote Address: Siale Ilolahia, Executive Director of the Pacific Islands Association of Non- Governmental Organisations

To begin, Ms. Ilolahia acknowledged, in the Tongan language, the people of Fiji, the land and welcomed Summit participants from the region. The Summit heard that the humanitarian context has prompted civil society to define what Localisation means in the context of a changing climate and frequent natural disasters, and that development partners are increasingly looking to support local actors in disaster response programming. This has led civil society to start looking at the different roles they play in the context of increasing response actors, including Government, civil society, donors, and global priorities that have to be met.

The Summit was reminded that civil society in the Pacific are development actors in their own right and how PIANGO has been part of the Localisation conversation at the global level (UNDP Sustainable Development Goals and UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) status, CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness forums); regional level (through the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, CROP Heads Dialogue with leaders, Pacific Islands Development Forum and the Forum Economic Ministers Meeting); and national level. She informed the Summit of the Framework for Resilience Development in the Pacific (2017-2030) of which a Technical Working Group has been formed with a focus on Localisation. Participants were challenged to increase collaboration, and discussing how civil society can take advantage of this space to progress Localisation. Ms. Ilolahia reiterated how important it is that these types of conversations were taken back to the country, and back to the community so that communities are part of the conversation.

The Summit heard of PIANGO's experience in trying to navigate its way through the Localisation and humanitarian context, and the realisation of the need to do research. She described "Pressure Points", as points in time in the Pacific where disasters have had great impact on the people, and pushed PIANGO to think about Localisation. This included events such as Cyclone Ian in 2014 in Tonga which led to the displacement of women due to land ownership; the evacuation of hundreds of people following the Ambae Volcano eruption in Vanuatu in 2017, and 2018; and Cyclone Gita in Fiji in 2018 that brought to light how traditional architectural designs are resilient, but not being used. Having a Localisation framework ensures that there are no gaps in the response that leave people displaced, and are a guide for international agencies who often are in country for a short period of time for the response, leaving the rest of the response, and recovery efforts, to national agencies. The framework also provides a

standard to ensure response programmes are relevant, and based on needs identified by the community.

Ms. Ilolahia reminded national civil society organisations present that the humanitarian sector and its people, is a dynamic space, a complex one, and that everyone has a role to play to progress mutual goals. International organisations bring complementary skills to national actors, as the local experts with strong knowledge of their communities. Ms. Ilolahia also described how humanitarian work is prompting civil society to reflect, and question their practices, and the need to build evidence base, rather than debating the methodology, which can distract the core value of generating the evidence needed to inform improved practices.

The Summit then heard about the vision and mission of PIANGO and linkages to the Summit objectives. The Localisation Framework and research conducted in Fiji, Vanuatu, Tonga, and Solomon Islands was also presented. The research is a partnership between PIANGO and the Humanitarian Advisory Group (HAG) from Australia, and is a model of Localisation partnerships in that the HAG provided international support, and supported the capacity development of PIANGO to conduct the research. The research process included workshops in selected Pacific countries to identify Pacific priorities. Countries identified the following priorities: **Partnership; Leadership; Capacity; Coordination and complementarity; Funding; Participation and Policy influence and advocacy.**

The research provides a baseline from which Pacific stakeholders, international actors can track progress to Localisation, and assess how Localisation has worked. Some examples presented include:

- The people of the region are able to define how they respond to their own needs, and humanitarian action needs, and that this is respected by actors;
- Defining humanitarian action in the country context;
 - International NGOs and donors are not dictating the type of response needed;
 - Humanitarian action or response is aligned to the indicators of wellbeing; and
 - Communities being able to define what resilience means to them, and lead their own resilience building.

The Framework includes signposts for change, which show the journey of Localisation, and key points in the journey that demonstrate success in Localisation, and is intended as a resource and evidence base for tracking implementation of Localisation commitments. For national and local organisations, it provides evidence on what Localisation means to them and outlines how progress can be monitored. It is also a key resource to advocate for accountability and change.

Defining Localisation is an ongoing process, however, in the research, the following definition (built on the Red Cross and START network definition) was used:

“Localisation is a process of recognising, respecting and strengthening the independence of leadership and decision-making by national actors in humanitarian action, in order to better address the needs of affected populations”

Ms. Ilolahia further explained that the research used an accompaniment approach (partnership between HAG and PIANGO) and that research ethics differed, depending on the country context. Limitations included: sample size (27 organisations), interpretation bias of key terms used, representation (majority from national NGOs and INGOs) and quality of evidence (limited evidence).

In regard to leadership, Ms. Ilolahia examined local CSOs ability to contribute to decision making processes following a disaster and the ability to influence and define the Localisation agenda in the humanitarian context. Despite being provided a space to engage, there is a lack of participation, and engagement of local CSOs in conversations.

The Summit heard how PIANGO is incorporating the Localisation framework into the organisation’s work: the framework has informed PIANGO’s new strategic plan, the organisation is leading on work under the Technical Working Group for the resilience framework in the Pacific; engaging with the START network on the mobilisation of a Pacific Hub to allow quicker access to resources following a disaster; strengthening financial systems of its members to support organisations to better meet donor grant management requirements; and developing a CSO Code of Accountability based on the Istanbul Principles of CSO Development Effectiveness.

Ms. Ilolahia closed by reiterating how research should be used to support the work of CSOs, and now that the research and definition of Localisation is done, the focus is now about taking relevant action.



Executive Director of PIANGO, Ms. Siale Ilolahia delivering the Keynote Address

“This Localisation agenda..... is making us as civil society reflect on our work, our credibility, our practices – we are demanding a lot of work and have been telling international agencies – to give us back our role, if we are to demand that a lot more of those roles, responsibilities be given to us, we should be ready to take on those responsibilities, leadership, roles as local actors and how then we have to support ourselves to absorb these things and take this work back to our country”

Siale Ilolahia, Executive Director, PIANGO

Disaster READY Progress

The session featured presentations from Disaster READY partners in Vanuatu and Fiji.

Disaster READY in Vanuatu



Flora Vano (left), Country Manager of ActionAid Vanuatu with WITTT members. Photo: ActionAid
The presentation was made by Flora Vano, Country Program Manager of ActionAid Vanuatu.

Overview of Activities

- ActionAid Vanuatu’s work on Disaster Ready is done through the WITTT Forums in the three islands of Erromango, Eton, and Tanna
- The focus is to strengthen diverse women’s leadership in DRM and comprehensive protection programming in Tanna, Erromango and Eton, through the WITTT network

“Prouds” (Achievements)

- Capacity Building of WITTT members on Women led Community Based Protection
 - Training 58 women, 38 WITTT Task Force Leaders, and 20 STPC leaders on Women led Community protection using ActionAid’s Manual
 - Supported the roll out of this training in the three Islands: 52 women in Eton, 115 women in Tanna, and 38 women in Erromango
- Promoting Women’s leadership in humanitarian action
 - Brought 70 woman leaders together to engage policy actors on issues on humanitarian action
 - Participation of women with disability, giving them the opportunity to speak and advocate their agenda for inclusive humanitarian action. This led to the launch of the WITTT Sunshine group
- Providing Thought leadership on Global Climate Strike
 - Representation at global events: a member of WITTT represented Vanuatu at the Gender Responsive Alternatives for Climate Change (GRACC) Evaluation in Bangkok, the UN

conference on Human Rights as well as Gender in Climate Change meeting in Indonesia through the Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN)

- Through VCAN, a local climate strike was held, and reached 129 people through advocacy messages
- Child Protection Compliance
 - Training of 12 WITTT leaders on Child Protection Compliance in the three target locations. This was a collaboration between AVI and ActionAid
 - The training resulted in the establishment of *Lukoutem Pikinini* as well as house to house training of parents on how to manage children at home, and on child protection
 - Annie Obed, the Disabled People's Organisation Representative from Vanuatu shared that participants at the Child Protection Training of Trainers included some women with disabilities, and they were also part of the national convening and were able to share their stories and experiences. As the DPO representative, Annie was happy that WITTT has now formed a group called WITTT Sunshine Group which is a group specifically for PWD
- Women led livelihoods to build community resilience
 - Grants were provided to each target location and Sister Saving and Loan Schemes were established as well as small businesses of Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO) in Tanna, Sandalwood in Erromango, and set up of a market place in Eton
 - Partnerships established with the Ministry of Trade for training on VCO and with the community youth by supporting the building of the market structures for women

"Sorries" (Challenges)

- Inadequate resources (funds and staff) to implement the program as demanded by the community. The community has ideas, but the resources required to support these are not there
- Staff transition in the last two years
- No proper documentation of the beautiful things that are happening on the ground due to limited resources. Proper communication support for the Country Program is needed to be able to document the transformation taking place and the narrative on Localisation.



WITTT members with ActionAid staff and DFAT

“This is the story of Localisation as it first starts at home within the organisation then spread like wild fire, it took DFAT to come to the ground to understand what we are doing but now they do. We need to all tell the story together in one voice, ActionAid Australia, and ActionAid Vanuatu. This way we will make a difference” **Flora Vano, Country Manager, ActionAid Vanuatu.**

Dorah Avok’s Story: Localisation in our Communities

‘After the Training of Trainers in November 2018, the WITTT Taskforce leaders came together and trained all the local leaders and circle leaders. From the training, we captured major projection issues and from there I picked up three major issues relating to what we are facing in our local communities and remote areas.

First is that, we (trained women and leaders) emphasised the need to do protection assessments. In terms of cyclones – women, girls, those with special needs, we are always neglected so we train them and we know ourselves and believe that in terms of another cyclone coming, we are to take the lead and not to be neglected, we know of our rights, of our safety. This has changed a lot especially with this network –so if another cyclone comes, we believe we will have a balanced assessment team.

Secondly, the identifying of protection problems and mapping protection actors.

Lastly, we have trained and developed a woman led protection plan and we need your support so we can implement the plan and take the plan to remote areas in our country”

Janet Latiknu’s Story: Our Resilience Project

‘We have a few resilience focused projects in our islands but the first resilience project is called the Sister Savings and Loans Scheme and this was launched on May 8 2017, a year after TC Pam. The reason we started it was because during TC Pam, our houses were destroyed, crops damaged and children couldn’t go to school and we couldn’t afford most of our family needs so we women set up the scheme. Now, more than 300 women have registered in the scheme and have taken loans (proforma and micro loans) and that’s how we have started serving some of our needs. So now, most of our children start going to school because of the support the scheme has given to us, and we build back houses and meeting family needs. We have also shared our skills to other islands and they have started theirs and we are all building up.’

Disaster READY in Fiji

The table below provides a snapshot of activities implemented in Fiji by local partners.

| Partner | Progress |
|---|---|
| Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF) | The main focus is rolling out the Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) training to local communities. As a result of this training, 135 people have benefitted from the training and the more general population reached through raising awareness on disaster preparedness and simulation exercises. Indirectly, the project has benefitted 922 people. Diverse groups make up the community-based disaster committees. PCDF has seen increased participation of women in CBDRM trainings, increased interest to take part, to have a role and to have a say in Community Disaster Management Committees. |
| Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS) | Completed mapping of 12 District Council of Social Services (DCOSS) across Viti Levu and Vanua Levu. FCOSS is the umbrella organisation for Fijian CSOs, and have their various DCOSS at the divisional level. Through support from AHP Disaster READY, ChildFund Australia has supported FCOSS to re-activate the DCOSSs', hold elections, review its constitution, improve its leadership, and meet organisational needs. This support is important as in the event of disasters, these DCOSSs' can be activated to assist in the flow of information to and from Government and humanitarian actors and to respond. The DCOSS and WITTT circles models are opportunities for cross learning on community mobilisation and how that flows to the national level. FCOSS has a mandate under the Fiji National Disaster Management Act to coordinate CSOs during disasters, and in 2020, FCOSS stepped up this role to coordinate, conduct assessments, and assist Government in identifying needs. |
| Rainbow Pride Foundation (RPF) | Focused on increasing awareness amongst partners on LGBTQI and Sexual Orientation Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC), under AHP Disaster READY. RPF in collaboration with ChildFund Australia has worked on promoting SOGIESC in disasters. In addition, under the Partnership and Preparedness Fund, RPF is one of the inclusion partners that delivers SOGIESC training at Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) level, and SOGIESC awareness amongst AHP partners. RPF believes that the Fijian Government is now more receptive to including local partners in post disaster assessment processes and, in particular, is supportive of integrating inclusion into the disaster response process. For example, in 2020, after TC Tino, RPF joined the Fijian Government to carry-out post disaster assessments in affected communities. |
| Empower Pacific (EP) | Focused on Psychological First Aid (PFA) trainings. Conducted refresher training with staff, and volunteers. In addition, one of the key outcomes is linking up with ADRA, who are one of the partners |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>under AHP, and are implementing similar activities to EP in terms of PFA. EP and ADRA Fiji are exploring synergies as they both work to deliver PFA: this is an example of synergies amongst partners and working together to deliver services.</p> |
| <p>Fiji Disabled People’s Federation (FDPF)</p> | <p>As part of shared services, FDPF is in high demand in providing a disability inclusion lens to the work of the AHP partners. FDPF is currently undertaking a partner needs assessment with organisations to determine their work plan for delivering training and support to partners in 2020. A key highlight was the setup of an EOC at the FDPF complex during TC Tino. Based on the request by Government, FDPF established an EOC to coordinate and reach out to its members to assess their safety, and needs, and to keep Government updated. FDPF developed its own Situation Report (SITREPs), sent regular text messages, used Viber and Facebook to share information and kept partners updated.</p> |
| <p>Australian Volunteers International (AVI)</p> | <p>Capacity strengthening activities for partners based on capacity needs. A priority in 2020 is grants writing: the need for organisations to have the capacity to take control and have the ability to write proposals and submit to donors. There are a number of other capacity strengthening activities AVI is helping partners with. Cross learning across partners is encouraged, for example, the 2019 Annual Reflection Workshop that brought partners together for the first time to reflect, share and plan, and to understand each other as one consortium. AVI is continuously working with partners to address gaps, identify their strengths, needs, areas for collaboration and what other partners can assist with. This has provided much valued add to the work AVI does, and gives a voice to local partners and confidence to engage with PIA on issues they want to raise.</p> |
| <p>Partnerships</p> | <p>Each of the partners are working with different partners and there has been emerging requests from Government on how to improve collaboration, particularly from the NDMO, for example, wgi requested PCDF deliver CBDRM training to communities. The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation (MOWCPA)’s Department of Social Welfare (DSW) conducted refresher training on Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) trainings with District Officers. This is in partnership with ChildFund, and is an example of how partnerships are furthering the scope and capacity of Government.</p> <p><i>“Usually there is a perception that CSOs are competitive, but really under AHP, it has brought us together, we have come together, and are working together, and with others, this is a key success, for example EP and Medical Services Pacific (MSP) worked together, combined resources to deliver services to TC Sarai affected communities.” Josefa Lalabalavu, PIA Pacific AHP Coordinator</i></p> |

The session concluded with a key message: that partnerships forged are a real demonstration of the value add and support needed to local partners, and how the local consortium partners have been able to meet emerging needs of other partners within, and outside the AHP.

“PIA’s support is to enable local partners to lead, and help shape programming as this is the part that really stands out, as ANGO partners, to take that step, be bold, and trust local partners to do the work.” Josefa Lalabalavu, PIA Pacific AHP Coordinator

The Community Market Place: Community Voices on Localisation

ActionAid Australia facilitated the Community Market Place session. The session aimed to create a space in the Summit for local partners to showcase their work innovatively through visual illustration, and to tell their own narrative on Localisation so that consortium partners are able to learn about each other’s programs, and to start making linkages and connections.

The Community Market Place approach is used to not only allow learning but is a process of empowerment and owning the work, and feeling proud and being able to talk about it. The Summit was reminded that the local narratives of programs are important to build institutional memory and continuity of the programs.



Carol Angir, Program Manager, Women's Rights and Emergencies, ActionAid Australia

“As consortium partners, we want to learn about each other’s work, we agreed to work together because we believe in the same values and principles and so we want to learn more about each other, sharing and hearing from our partners so I can be able to talk about you confidently and share your

*work – this is the spirit of partnership which is critical to be able to influence Humanitarian response”
Carol Angir, Program Manager, Women’s Rights and Emergencies, ActionAid Australia*

The Market Place

The following presents a summary of individual partner’s journey towards Localisation.

Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF)

PCDF was founded in Lautoka, Fiji Islands in 1978 and is one of the oldest NGOs in Fiji. Its current programs include Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), and Livelihoods. Through AHP, PCDF has been working on the following:

- Community Development Training: strengthening existing community groups including in proposal writing training;
- Targeting coastal areas of Ra and Tailevu (Wainibuka) and in partnership with Government (NDMO), targeting eight communities in the outer islands. The communities are selected through the Village Council Meetings and PCDF liaises with Government line Ministry to work in that particular community;
- Establishing Community Disaster Management Committees (CDMC) in villages and ensuring that the committees are inclusive;
- In a community, there are normally between 10 to 12 committees and members of the CDMC are selected from each of the existing committees;
- Localising national level workshops and trainings and tailor to community structures.

In 2019, through funding support from UNICEF, the Ministry of Education, Heritage and Arts (MoEHA) reviewed the School Disaster Risk Reduction manual for schools and PCDF staff were trained as national trainers for DRR in schools. PCDF will now start working in 30 Primary and Secondary Schools, and this work is linked to the CDMCs as the requirement of the School Disaster Management Committee (SDMC) is to have a member of the CDMC on the SDMC. This is seen as a key opportunity to link community and schools, a model that is working well in Ra as training has already been conducted in coastal Ra, and so can now link with schools in the respective districts.



Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (WITTT)

WITTT’s market place presentation featured banners and pictures depicting a timeline of the group’s major achievements. ActionAid’s Program in Vanuatu is focused on strengthening womens’ leadership in particular womens’ rights in the face of climate change and disasters. Following TC Pam, ActionAid Vanuatu started working in three Provinces in Vanuatu affected by TC Pam. In 2019, ActionAid started working with community mobilisers – WITTT. Other ActionAid programs in Vanuatu include disaster response and gender in climate change.

“I want to say that we local women were there and we can do it.” **Leiwia Poki, WITTT Member**



Janet Latiknu of WITTT making a point at the Summit with the WITTT marketplace at the back
Key milestones towards Localisation:

- The WITTT Livelihoods initiative is self-led and this has been cross teaching across sites
- In 2018, a training of trainers on Women led Community Based Protection was conducted with 52 women leaders – 38 from WITTT and 14 from Shifting the Power Coalition
- In 2018, the women weather watch was launched. This is a FemLink Pacific model which has been adapted to the Vanuatu context through sharing with FemLink Pacific – a model of sharing, learning and contextualising and in Vanuatu it is referred to as *Women Wetem Weta (WWW)*
- To illustrate the use of WWW, at the moment Vanuatu is going through a drought season and early warning systems messages have been sent out, for early warning and preparedness
- Rolling out the Training of Trainers on Women Led Community based Protection
- In 2019, the first national convening of women leadership in humanitarian action: the Australian High Commissioner opened the convening with 70 women leaders from different provinces in Vanuatu in attendance. This national event eventuated after conversations by ActionAid and WITTT with the Climate department, DFAT, UNDP, and MFAT, Director General, and Director of Women Affairs, advocating what women want at the community level, and the need to be more accountable and include women in Community Disaster Climate Change Committee. This then becomes the link from Community to Provincial level
- Mapping of WITTT on three islands
- Through AVI, development of WITTT catalogue of protection services
- Child Protection training with leaders and ActionAid Vanuatu staff, through AVI, which then led to the establishment of “Lukoutem Pikinini” program

- Establishment of WITTT Sunshine, to support Women with Disability
- WITTT members exploring political participation
- WITTT participation at the Global DRR platform in Geneva in 2019. This was attended by Leiwia Poki and she presented on panels to talk about local women working on DRR in Vanuatu
- Nationally, WITTT members have been interviewed about their experience following TC Pam
- Esther Mete was on a talk show about women in politics in Vanuatu and is standing in the 2020 elections
- High level meeting with the Vanuatu Ambassador in Geneva, and briefing him on the work of WITTT. Also, in Geneva, WITTT representatives met with the Directors for NDMO and the Vanuatu Ministerial Group who were shocked to see local women representing women at the global DRR platform

Esther Mete's Story: Influencing Support from Men in our Community

I am from Erramango Province and my husband is a paramount Chief. I am a taskforce committee member of WITTT. I use to travel from Erramango to Vila to attend training and my husband started to see changes in my house and he questioned my leadership role from home to community. So, I shared with him how women in WITTT help me and exactly what we are doing in trainings. My husband then got interested in what the women are doing. So, my husband gave me a hectare of land with sandalwood for women, there are 400 seedlings and in the harvest period you can either export or make perfume. It is an income generation of a small livelihood. From now going forward, the women will be clearing bushes to plant seedlings from the nursery – they are doing it themselves when land was given. We have set a goal. My husband now includes women in community meetings – we have won over some husbands now with patriarchy, for examples in the *nakamal* – only chiefs use to be allowed to go inside but now chiefs include women in activities. Our Strategy: influence husbands at home.

Catherine Kalamut's Story: Women led Market Resilience

In 2018, I was the WITTT member that attended an Indonesia Peer Learning Exchange Program organised by ActionAid. When I returned, I got women together and mobilised and empowered women to learn, and started training women in my community. At the Exchange Program, I learnt how to plant crops, about going to markets, organic farming and organic fertilizers. Eton is located near water and you plant with sand, so I learnt how to fertilise sand to produce product, but there is no market place so we planned a *Chief's Day* to meet the chief and demand a market house. And they built the market house with their own hand, men transferred the materials, youths helped us to dig holes and now we have a market house on the land given by the Chief.

On the participation of men in WITTT, the focus of WITTT is only women – young, elderly and women with disability, but indirectly, the women are influencing their husbands and sons. The network (WITTT) is a safe space for the women only, and with any issue, there is a solution by another women. The approach is not to exclude men, but to advocate and influence at home and in public spaces.

The Summit participants were also informed that in Vanuatu, ActionAid is working on a standalone program for women as following TC Pam, ActionAid realised that women were not at the decision making table – Women's rights were not included. The challenge was that people were saying that women in Vanuatu cannot work together, and always quarrel with each other. ActionAid felt that just like men, this was normal, and so there was a deliberate approach to work with women. Male engagement is not the core objective but naturally in community, men are there as Chiefs, provincial administrators and husbands.

Women’s rights are about peaceful community, and peaceful household, and not about demeaning man. The transformation is that now, men are taking the women to the *Tok Tok* (Provincial headquarter) and after every six months, WITTT come together, and call Male leaders, and tell them what they have been doing, and the men tell them what they want them to consider. This dialogue approach is also demonstrating public accountability. This is done through a process known as Participatory Reviews and Reflection.

Dorah Avock, WITTT member explained how their new market was established. She stated that when the produce was ready, the women did not know where to sell. Then a man came into our discussions and asked – “What is problem?” The women explained that there was no place to sell their produce and asked if the men would allow them to use the Chiefs compound to sell, and this was approved, so they then built the market. The women wanted a place to sit as a safe space and *Tok Tok* together but the men still listened in, and then discriminated the women. So the safe space became Catherine’s home or under trees and secondly, the women needed to convince chiefs and therefore organised on “Chief’s Day” (Public Holiday) a big celebration for him and he allowed WITTT the land to build their own market place. Now all the men come and work very hard for us because they need the money for the kava but we need the support. Our approach is to use soft language, using our inner voice so our men will say, yes!

WITTT members were asked about how Government in Vanuatu is supporting Localisation and WITTT’s plan for sustainability. The Summit heard that Vanuatu has a plan for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Provincial Plans which encompass the SDGs. ActionAid Vanuatu and WITTT programs also align to the National Gender Policy. ActionAid Vanuatu is in a strategic partnership with the Department of Women’s Affairs. They have contributed to the gender policy review, and CEDAW reporting for the country.

“ActionAid’s primary purpose in Vanuatu is to support the establishment of WITTT as a federated entity, representing Ni-Vanuatu women around the country leading the work on Climate Change and humanitarian action.” Carol Angir, Program Manager, Women’s Rights and Emergencies, ActionAid Australia



WITTT members and ActionAid staff at the Summit in solidarity

Fiji Council of Social Services (Josaia Tokoni, FCOSS Suva DCOSS)

“What motivates me to take up this work? FCOSS is mandated by law under the National Disaster Management Act and I was not aware of this until the Executive Director explained this to me as well as about the District Council of Social Services (DCOSS).

The major challenges I see are: not knowing where to go, work is being done at the ground level but who do we talk to about community needs; the lack of resources, funding and technical assistance; lack of coordination – who is leading and how can I work together; lack of inclusion – are we realising this in our community. How are we including our vulnerable in society? Lack of accountability - to people, donor, Government – at community we think Government has to do things for us without knowing how we are also accountable to them.

The work is being done but we don’t know where to go, the community has needs and donors have funds, we need support. The questions I also have is how are we including our friends, family, people with disabilities, women, are we really including them? How do we bridge the accountability gap?

I was volunteering with the National Youth Council and it made me realise and acknowledge that there is no need for duplication at community level as structures already exist; you cannot use the “Free for all” concept because what works in Suva will not work in other areas and we are not tapping into local traditional knowledge – often lying dormant. With \$2000 funding through FCOSS, I convened a meeting with mothers, who are the strong pillars in the work of DCOSS.

A key milestone for civil society is the ‘Localisation in Fiji: Demonstrating Change’ research and ‘CSO Directory and Protocol’. I was proud working with NDMO during TC Sarai and TC Tino and the Prime Minister of Fiji trying to get updates from the community and it was FCOSS that provided the update from DCOSS and all Government then had to do was verify the information. There was also the CSO representatives that were part of the Assessment Team that went to Kadavu and Lau, including the Rainbow Pride Foundation (RPF), the LGBTIQ organisation in Fiji and the Lami DCOSS – the assessment teams are usually male, but managed to include females. Having the LGBTIQ community needs represented through RPF was the first of its kind for Fiji.

My next point is the power of partnerships, FCOSS did not have funds to reach Vanua Levu and set up the Savusavu DCOSS however through partnership with ADRA, we were able to establish the Savusavu DCOSS and the Labasa DCOSS so as to create a CSO consortium. DCOSS is a platform to work together. The Lami DCOSS has worked with the Police Force and have done community profiling in Lami to identify who are vulnerable and where they can go for help. At the DRM workshop held in February 2020, we saw equal space for Government and CSOs to have real conversations on how we will work together. The amazing thing is that Government said “I thought you (CSOs) have money” and this allowed CSOs to clarify its resources but how best to harmonise and serve communities better”



During an emergency, as per the National Disaster Management Act (NDMA), response is done at the divisional level and is led by the Commissioners and that is why FCOSS is beginning to work with Commissioners. A recent breakthrough for FCOSS is having a space with the Divisional EOC. At the National level, FCOSS attends the National Disaster Management Council meetings as this is stipulated in the NDMA. CSOs have identified engagement as a gap within Government systems – there are community volunteers who will respond, with or without support but a pathway needs to be created to allow access to information and partnership to support information sharing.

Reflections and Common Themes from the presentation:

- Consortium partners are each at different levels, and are operating in different spaces. In Fiji, partners are directly engaging the humanitarian system and trying to influence the system to recognise local leadership, agency, knowledge and responsive to humanitarian action and DRR. In Vanuatu, women are at the frontline and are taking leadership and organising leadership so that community is visible to the humanitarian architecture;
- All the work that is being done as part of the consortium is community focused. There is recognition of community leadership, and of the need to organise communities as a constituency to engage Government, the humanitarian system, and humanitarian actors;
- Government has been working with communities but it has not been effective because of various reasons, and now populations affected by disasters in both contexts are trying to get Government to be more responsive. But there is acknowledgment that Government capacity is still limited;
- There is still a gap in information on DRM, and communities need to be given more information but the system also needs to collect information from the communities back to the humanitarian architecture;

- Acknowledged that data is very important, that all partners are collecting data in whatever form: populations affected by disasters, baseline information and, participation, but data is critical for decision making because data is needed for community leadership and agency;
- There is a gap in resources (human, technical, and funding) and the question posed is - where does the money go? Why is there a funding gap?
- Acknowledge traditional knowledge- partners that presented all mentioned that communities have their way of analysing things, they know their history and the way the system works for them. That traditional knowledge needs to be tapped; and
- The big issue is actioning the inclusion gaps when the different marginalised groups are still being left out, in DRR for example.

Facilitators left the following two key questions for Summit participants to reflect on:

1. How can we cohesively generate our own narrative on DRR in the Pacific?
2. As consortium partners, how can we better and collectively showcase our work?



WITTT members sharing their Localisation journey

Community Voices on Localisation

Linking from the market place activity, participants had an interactive discussion to identify areas of synergies through group work with the guiding question of: **How can we work together under AHP Disaster READY to strengthen our own activities and Localisation.**

The following is a summary of the group presentations:

Collaboration:

- Referral pathways are open and used by partners
- Everyone is working together and has brought different skills and knowledge, e.g. TC Sarai whereby organisations had people in the field identifying community needs and then making links with others
- Have a common understanding about what to do in times of disaster response;
- Sharing of information
- FDPF and EP for counselling – make referrals, counselling
- Child Protection with Save the Children Fiji and AVI
- Make use of the AHP Consortium partners
- Keeping the partnership mutual
- Working with the Vanua and existing community structures as Governments change but the Vanua is the same forever

Acknowledgement of Skills and Knowledge of Partners:

- Each organisation brings different skills that provide holistic service and support
- Technical advice and training other organisations: e.g. FDPF on disability inclusion and RPF on SOGIESC
- The Community awareness sessions are skills and knowledge based
- Understanding local capacity and taking that to the national level
- Each partner is giving their time to reach individuals at different levels

Models of working:

- Developed and implementing a standard way of working in Child protection, Resilience practices, GBV, DRR, inclusiveness
- Community of practice e.g. Localisation Summit (annually)
- National level of engagement with partners continuing prior to regional meeting
- Development of Service delivery protocol therefore communities to be well versed with pathways to connect with partners under AHP or other services – that we can reach and see the needs at the community level and link to AHP particularly PWD
- FDPF set up of operation centre after TC Tino

“This was the first time to see FDPF have an operation centre. Myself, I sat 24 hours calling my members and other DPOs and then send information to the operation centre. I start from 8am till 2am. This is a way people can know where to interact and follow the pathway, exchange and see what is happening down there during disaster, most of us, we stay in comfort zone and don’t know where to go to with what we are facing, we should know services available to connect to partners.”

Sainimere Ranubu, FDPF

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- WITTT model: from community level, sharing information and lessons learned amongst community networks, and the ripple effect is at provincial, CSO National actors, and state
- Three important factors taken into account for programming: site selection, community needs and using a human rights-based approach
- Replicating best practice – Women Wetem Weta (WWW)

What we need to improve:

- Documentation of gender inclusion – usually due to lack of funding
- The program can be assisted for WITTT – with documentation to share with local partners in Fiji
- Tap into organisation that works at the grassroots level e.g. PCDF



Summit Participants sharing their own experiences during group discussions

The Localisation Journey: History, Now and Future

The history of Localisation

FCOSS provided the Summit with an overview of the history of Localisation. The Summit heard that the Localisation timeline began in 2007 and is tied to movement of independence and appreciating what Pacific people have leveraged and trying to appreciate some of the things the Pacific people have done when confronted with globalisation. Pacific Leaders came together through the South Pacific Commission and even CSO leaders forming the Anti-Nuclear Movement. In mid-2014/15, NGOs started to get engaged in Pacific wide consultations and over 1500 people participated and this allowed Pacific people to input into some action points for the Pacific Leaders Meeting in the Federated States of

Micronesia (FSM) on strengthening Pacific Resilience and Climate Change and Disasters and this input was taken to the World Humanitarian Summit in 2016.

PIANGO has been working over the years on partnerships for the Localisation agenda. While trying to change systems is difficult and can be an uncomfortable conversation, PIANGO used the partnership approach through the Australian Red Cross, Humanitarian partners, CS Forum of Tonga and through its affiliates like the Vanuatu Association of NGOs (VANGO).

FCOSS began to look at partnerships through AHP in 2018 and to do this more at local or subnational level. When organisations are trying to advocate, and change systems, it is important to take everyone along in the journey, for example FDPF and set up of its EOC is an indication of how far partners have progressed in regard to engagement with government systems.

Session 1 - The Localisation Framework

The session on Localisation frameworks, facilitated by ChildFund Australia, began with a presentation of the HAG Localisation Framework which has been used both in Vanuatu and Fiji to carry-out research on Localisation. The Summit heard that there is no single definition of ‘Localisation’, however, from the Grand Bargain, Localisation is described as: *“making principled humanitarian action as local as possible and as international as necessary”*. The following was provided as an example of an alternative definition of Localisation:

“Localisation is the process through which a diverse range of humanitarian actors are attempting, each in their own way, to ensure local and national actors are better engaged in the planning, delivery and accountability of humanitarian action, while still ensuring humanitarian needs can be met swiftly, effectively and in a principled manner”³

The Summit was reminded of the key components of Localisation from the HAG Framework, as well as the indicators relating to each:

Partnerships

- Indicator 1: Partnerships based on equitable and ethical practices
- Indicator 2: Longer term strategic partnerships that build systems and processes which mirror the ambitions and goals of local and national partners
- Indicator 3: Increased power and decision-making of local and national actors within partnerships

Leadership:

- Indicator 1: International actors support and strengthen national leadership
- Indicator 2: Local and national actors lead response and dominate decision-making
- Indicator 3: International actors work with and respect in- country leadership structures and mechanisms

Capacity:

- Indicator 1: National and regional surge capacity and use of local over international expertise
- Indicator 2: International actors do not undermine capacity of local and national actors in emergency response
- Indicator 3: Contextualised humanitarian standards, tools, legislation and policies are available

Coordination and complementarity:

³ <https://www.icvanetwork.org/Localisation>

- Indicator 1: National engagement in coordination forums
- Indicator 2: Clearly defined parameters for international actors complementing local and national actors in humanitarian response
- Indicator 3: National CSO coordination mechanisms are funded and have technical capacity to operate in humanitarian response
- Indicator 4: Humanitarian response is delivered in a way that is collaborative and complementary i.e. based on analysis of the strengths/weaknesses of different humanitarian actors

Funding:

- Indicator 1: Local and national actors have access to direct funding with limited or no barriers
- Indicator 2: Increase in the amount of humanitarian funding to local and national actors
- Indicator 3: Local and national actors have increased decision- making over financial matters

Policy influence and advocacy:

- Indicator 1: Policies are informed by local and national voices including communities
- Indicator 2: National actors are recognised as key stakeholders in national debates about policies and standards that affect them
- Indicator 3: Local and national actors influence donor priorities in-country, including program design and implementation

Participation:

- Indicator 1: Development of community/contextualised standards for all actors working in that context
- Indicator 2: Communities have increased opportunities to shape programming, including evaluating INGO work

Group Work: participants were asked to list words/phrases that best express their understanding of Localisation, given the contexts in which they work. Following are participant responses:

| Words/phrases that express Localisation | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Locally led/indigenous – we are already local ▪ Adaptation – need to adapt to local context ▪ Ownership ▪ Contextualisation ▪ Equal Partnership ▪ Grassroots empowered ▪ Local context ▪ Partnership ▪ Good leadership ▪ Goodwill ▪ Confidence ▪ Access to services at all levels ▪ Local women leading in humanitarian actions and also the funding to directly go to the local women organisation in the community | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accessible to everyone and anyone ▪ Individual empowerment ▪ Acceptance ▪ Locally led and managed ▪ Government and CSOs working together ▪ Women ▪ Empowerment ▪ Inclusivity ▪ Conflict ▪ Local partners taking the lead in response Partnership with relevant partners that can assist you e.g. funding ▪ Resource allocation |

Session 2 - Thinking about Change

The session focused on answering the following two questions:

- What are the three key ingredients that enable change in your community?
- Are partners fatigued with Localisation as they have been working on this for long?

Esther's story was described as very moving and her approach as highly strategic given she had to engage effectively with different allies so as to achieve her goal. DCOSS's experience showed that despite FCOSS having a clear humanitarian response mandate through it being named in the National Disaster Management Act, the organisation was not seen during times of disaster. That has changed in recent times due to factors such as sound leadership, relationship building, and the development of **trust** between FCOSS and its counterparts, and effective communication. This has resulted in FCOSS being able to fulfil its mandate toward the end of 2019 in responding to TC Sarai with its many partners. A change is happening in the context of power.

An analogy of four circles was used to describe the change process and the transfer of power from one group to another. For example, the group discussed the means through which a transfer of power has happened between the NDMO (big circle) and FCOSS such that FCOSS is now relied on to coordinate CSO responses to natural disasters in Fiji.

Group Work: Reflection on the experiences of FCOSS/DCOSS, RPF and WITTT

Trust enables change and is the reason partners can make decisions together but that is only one ingredient for change. Participants reflected on the question: How does change happen and what are critical ingredients for change to happen?

Feedback from group presentations:

Change Ingredients:

- Acceptance – accept what has happened and you make the change – Be open to change
- Benefit – what is in it for me (bigger partner)
- Collaboration – *Solesolevaki* (Fijian term for planned community work)
- Effective Communication
- Good leadership
- Relationship management
- Strategic Approach
- Resources
- Access to information to make informed choices and decisions

Michael McDonald's reflections on Localisation

'I am from Kangaroo Island in South Australia. It has a population of approximately 3,000 people and after the recent fires, a third of the island is now destroyed. It's a farming community and there are about 10 houses around my family home - nine are gone. About a week after the bush fires, I received emails from Fijian colleagues saying that Fijians hoped all Australians were ok and asking if they could raise money for the relief effort. I was surprised as I had never been on the receiving end of aid before; it's always me, as an employee in an organisation like ChildFund Australia who has been assisting others from outside Australia. I started to think about what Localisation meant to me: resources, first responders, good systems, key ingredients Australians have access to so as we can adequately respond as a community and a society without having to rely on or ask for aid from neighbouring countries such as Fiji.'

Group work: participants answered the following critical questions using the seven areas of Localisation as a reference point:

- What is going well
- What needs improvement?
- What else do we need to consider?
- Are the seven components of the HAG Localisation Framework enough, or do we need more?

Feedback from participants:

| What is going well | What needs improvement |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women’s leadership - Improved CSO coordination - Complementarity - Participation – actively and voices are being heard - Leadership and Coordination that understands the need of PWD and not them working alone, but with affiliates and branches and other CSOs - Standardisation of CBDRM Manual – PCDF - Partnership – RPF and ChildFund supporting sensitization training - Consortium formation in Fiji - Community leaders improving services to the people through partnerships with AHP local partners e.g. PCDF - Leadership – WITT – local women taking trainings and negotiate with Government - Community voices are being heard – shifting the power - Mutual respect of our identity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Communication – top down and bottom up - Funding for more capacity building and more resources to the community - Operational Capacity - Policy Understanding – with experience with WITT, there is a need to advocate more on policy because most women in communities do not understand policies so first time ActionAid has given us policy to understand and responsible for sharing that with other women - Equal participation in development of CBDRM manual – final not yet but all stakeholder participation is not equal - Policy influence and advocacy – community voices need to be heard at the community level - Research – on tradition and history of Localisation - Participation – more inclusion of marginalized groups - Building relationship with key actors - Organise structure to respond to Localisation - Robust Monitoring and Evaluation |
| Anything else to consider | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inclusion – Gender, Disability, Youth, - Relationship with Key Actors - Traditional knowledge - Accountability, transparency and authenticity – Government should have a common understanding of issues - Resource building on site - Transportation - Sustainability of funding - Mutual understanding and participation - Time | |



Group work allowed for sharing of experiences

Day 1 Evaluation

For Day 1 evaluation, participants provided the following responses on what went well, and areas for improvement:

| What went well? | What do we need to improve on? |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The presentation by WITTT and how they have really influenced and come out strong is unbelievable. - We as Pacific Islands know that our people don't usually speak like that, very humble, quiet and to see people from very remote areas speaking with a lot of confidence, that is something to behold - Active participation from everyone, very interesting sessions and no one was bored - Group discussions were very effective - Topic is interesting and relates to us and we are in it so that is why we can contribute to it | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Time management - Assign a timekeeper - Make font size for presentations bigger - Facilitator to move around the room so everyone can hear |

Summit Proceedings – Day 2

The second day of the Summit began with a brief check on participant energy levels, with participants reporting feeling positive, and happy, about the day ahead. The day also started with a motivational talk by Annie Obed (pictured below), from the Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association, the national DPO in Vanuatu, who shared her experience as a first-time responder during the evacuation of Ambae island in 2019. Annie was a member of the Gender and Protection Cluster, and helped support PWD and the elderly during the compulsory evacuation. Annie also conducted a disability inclusion workshop in Tanna with CARE International staff, and the Vanuatu Department of local Authorities providing technical advice around collection of disaggregated data for PWD. As a result, Annie has been able to influence collection of more meaningful data about the status and situation of PWD in Tanna.



Annie Obed from the Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association shared her experience as a first-time responder during the evacuation of Ambae island in 2019

Participants reported the following as key learnings from Day 1:

- Localisation: what it means for partners; the seven pillars of the measuring Localisation framework and the research conducted by HAG and PIANGO; history of Localisation in Fiji and the Pacific;
- WITTT Vanuatu is a women-led disaster preparedness and response model that is building the leadership roles of women in communities, and helping to change the mindset of men, and male leaders in their community;
- Local partners in Fiji and Vanuatu are working in distinct ways- WITTT in Vanuatu is engaging at a community level, with local women and their communities. In comparison, PCDF, and FCOSS are organisations with strong ownership, agency, are well facilitated, and are already engaging in the (national Government, regional, global) humanitarian system in a strategic way, an

approach that will help fast track the Localisation agenda. This is a lesson for ActionAid Australia's, to ensure institutional development support for WITTT supports their engagement in the humanitarian architecture, and that this approach is naturalised within their way of working; and

- The importance of livelihoods as a means to reduce hazard vulnerability. This is often not talked about in the DRR space, and that is the link between the development context and DRR. While there is strong Government-CSO/local partner engagement, if this does not translate to funding to communities, how do communities themselves prepare and respond to, and recover from disasters if they do not have livelihood strategies that result in positive financial outcomes. This is an important link, as practical needs such as food, and children's education are often of higher priority for communities.

Day 1 Recap

The first session of day two was a panel discussion with representatives from local partners: FCOSS, RPF, FDPF, and WITTT. The format of the session was a breakfast show interview, with a participant, as a breakfast show host, interviewing fellow participants from the local partner organisations. Below are key responses from participants about discussions from day one of the Summit.



Disability inclusion was a key point advocated by the representatives from FDPF

- It means the personal empowerment and capability of doing something personally, or collectively as a group.
- You are able to Speak; to Do; to Analyse; to Lead and to Do something by yourself!
- Agency is an indicator of empowerment.

As described by a Summit participant: '....for example, we say people have been affected by disaster, let's give them tinned food, noodles, etc. but when you have agency, you are going to say, we have been affected by disaster, and what we need in our community is not tinned food, noodles, but blankets, sanitary towels, housing.....so you are empowered to speak for yourself, and to do it yourself....and when you want to recover....it's not give us a tarpaulin, but rather, give us a grant to help us rebuild our home'

| Question | Participant response |
|--|---|
| <p>What were the key issues covered during Day 1 of the Summit?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overview from PIANGO on global and Pacific efforts on the Localisation agenda. ▪ Presentations from local partners demonstrate the different levels of engagement that is occurring- and that if change is to happen, it must happen at all different levels- community, sub-national, and national. ▪ Participants articulating what Localisation means to them; creating a space to talk about issues such as the power dynamics, and what diversity means in the Localisation agenda. |
| <p>What were some of the main challenges identified?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Localisation agenda is not new for Pacific communities- the challenge is the lack of spaces/forums for Pacific communities to articulate and share their Localisation narrative. ▪ Varying levels of community engagement at policy and advocacy levels- for example, in Vanuatu, most men and women from local communities are not aware of, or understand Government policy. As a way to address this, WITTT, in 2019 printed handouts on the national gender policy and distributed to women involved in their network as a way to increase understanding on how the policy relates to them. ▪ Lack of access to timely, accurate information, and lack of appropriate communication related infrastructure. For example, participants from Erromango island in Vanuatu shared about how the national newspapers do not reach their island. ▪ Lack of direct funding to local organisations- local organisations want to access funding directly from donor agencies. ▪ As demonstrated by the WITTT initiative, women are leading their livelihoods and resilience building, and this is having positive outcomes for their leadership. The challenge is the lack of capacity and resources to document women’s stories of change, challenges, and lived realities of Localisation. |
| <p>What is working well in Fiji?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FCOSS and Red Cross are part of the Fiji National Disaster Management Act, and Disaster Council, so there is acknowledgment by Government that CSOs have a role. This is an important entry point, and imperative that CSOs claim this space. The support under AHP, specifically ChildFund support to FCOSS, is helping the organisation to engage more effectively with Government, and with other CSOs, to establish relevant linkages. ▪ There is more opportunity, and good faith to partner at a sub-national level. FCOSS highlighted how this positive engagement was demonstrated in their recent CSO mapping activity, where established connections between Government and DCOSS facilitated information sharing. The next step is to strengthen CSO engagement in DRM, for more direct impact at village/community levels. |

The session also included reflections from disability and LGBTQI rights representatives on progress to integrate disability and SOGIESC related issues in the Localisation process.

Progressing disability inclusion

“There is still a lot to be done in integrating disability in the Localisation agenda especially when PWD are taken for granted. When we talk about community, PWD are part of a community, they need to be involved, and counted as part of community activities, and know they are worth something.

Getting PWD to participate in activities helps, and also ease the burden, PWD they may be limited by their physical ability, but they can still do the work, as PWD we might have illnesses, like I do, but if we are given the opportunity, the support, we can contribute.

Involve PWD in your activities, this will help you understand, that you as a human being, you are totally fit, you will grow old one day, and may need a wheelchair like I do, when you get sick you will need support. PWD need accessibility of services, and infrastructure- we need to enter safely, and get out safely....getting in safe, and getting out safe that is all we want” *PWD representative.*

Promoting inclusion of LGBTQI

‘Promoting social inclusion is still a hard space to navigate- religious, and cultural beliefs, continue to be barriers to integrating social inclusion and LGBTQI issues in DRR. Stigma and discrimination against members of the LGBTQI community is exacerbated during disasters, with some unable to access evacuation centres because of safety concerns and being discriminated against.

We are thankful to our partners- the CSOs who are part of the AHP consortium for the opportunity to participate and engage effectively in this space. Having this partnership, and resources is important for us as we are constrained by our capacity- we don’t have the capacity to reach grassroots- so one thing that has been working well is conducting SOGIESC training to other CSO partners- for example training PCDF as they have a wider reach to communities. We train them with the aim they will integrate SOGIESC in their work- so when they are in the field, and identify a LGBT member, there are referral pathways in place.

Next steps for us is that we are currently working on translating concepts to local vernacular so that communities understand. We have progressive laws where you can’t discriminate based on identity, including sexual orientation, but we need to mainstream this into other work. So we are thankful for example the work that PCDF is doing on the CBDRM manual for communities and establishing inclusive committees, we can help ensure there are SOGIESC considerations in their work with communities’ *LGBTQI representative.*

From the Ground Up: Narratives on Localisation

The first panel session, facilitated by PIA, focused on local partners sharing their perspectives on how they were mainstreaming Localisation, from a disaster preparedness and response perspective, in their organisations, and programs. The panel comprised representatives from all local consortium partners, including representatives from district and community levels. The objective of the session was to hear local voices describe their narrative on Localisation.

RPF: ‘Disasters do not discriminate; it is people who discriminate’. For RPF, before the organisation became a partner under AHP and Disaster READY, their members were already active in disaster preparedness and response, their volunteers were part of Fiji Red Cross Society, trained as first

responders. The organisation has built its capacity around community mobilisation specifically in identifying, and responding to the needs of the LGBTQI community, and has well established networks and knowledge at community level. The organisation is now focused on strengthening, and building the capacity of its partners, and stakeholders- *'until you sit at the table and discuss issues openly, there will still be misconceptions and myths, such as we are promoting same sex marriage, for us the work we do is focused on how we ensure the safety, protection, and dignity of LGBTQI in disaster response, in line with humanitarian laws and Fiji's constitution.'* Other ways the organisation is also influencing more inclusive Localisation is through: policy influence and advocacy; SOGIESC sensitisation training to CSO partners, Government stakeholders, and communities. For RPF, Localisation is about mainstreaming SOGIESC terminology and concepts so people are able to understand issues and experiences of LGBTQI better.

Miliakere (Mili) Delaiwaqa, PCDF Community representative: *'I am living proof of empowerment through Localisation'* Mili highlighted the value of engaging community members in the Localisation agenda, asserting that communities are made up individuals with a wealth of knowledge and experience, who if given the opportunity, can make a positive contribution. Mili also emphasised the importance of creating space for communities to grow, and become empowered to lead their own Localisation. PCDF staff representative described how the organisation works with communities to take ownership of their development. PCDF highlighted the gap in linking local communities they work with, to funding and resourcing to support their community Localisation activities. PCDF also described the positive partnership they have with Government, and how NDMO requested PCDF to conduct DRR training for Government partners.

FCOSS- *'Localise first and be friends, before bringing in those from overseas'*. This reflection from FCOSS representative illustrates the strategic engagement FCOSS has with Government, facilitated by FCOSS mandate under the NDMA, and platform to engage as a result of this role. There have been positive steps toward Localisation including development and launch of a CSO directory and humanitarian action protocol, and increased engagement with Government at the divisional level. However, Localisation efforts are not without challenges, and FCOSS highlighted power struggles exist when engaging with Government and donors, leaving local communities feeling disempowered.

WITTT- *'Address structural barriers to promote women led Localisation.'* For WITTT, the organisation is focused on addressing the failure of the humanitarian system to recognise women's leadership and agency; and the need to shift power and decision making roles to local experts, who are on the ground, and know the realities of their communities when it comes to disasters. Two other barriers the organisation identified include the lack of value and investment in documenting local knowledge, and the lack of funding going directly to local organisations.

Empower Pacific- *'Localisation is about training people as first responders in communities.'* In the aftermath of disasters, communities are often traumatised, scared to move around. If left untreated, trauma can contribute to poor mental, physical health, and lead people to express this stress in harmful ways, such as through violence. For Empower Pacific, training people in local communities so that they are readily available and able to provide psychosocial support is a key strategy to progress Localisation. Under AHP, the organisation is training communities, volunteers who are then able to go back to their communities equipped with the relevant knowledge and skills to provide immediate response.

FDPF- *'True Localisation is inclusive and accessible'*. The participant from the FDPF emphasised the need to ensure Localisation efforts take into account the different abilities, and their associated needs- those PWD who have physical impairments, compared to those with intellectual impairments will have different needs during disasters. The participant also questioned whether information such as weather reports were accessible for PWD to help them prepare for, and respond to disasters.



The CSO panelists share how their Organisations are integrating Localisation in their programming

Policy Actors Commitments to Localisation

Government, and donors play a key role in the Localisation process, as policy and decision makers, and providers of resources (human, technical, and financial). This second panel session was with representatives from two key agencies- NDMO and DFAT. The purpose of the panel discussion was to hear from panelists about how their organisation defines Localisation; challenges; and opportunities for engagement.

In defining Localisation, the NDMO described their role as an agency tasked to implement the laws and policies. Localisation is linked to this role in that the NDMO must ensure the formulation of laws and policies that are relevant and meet the needs of people. The NDMO is collaborating in several ways with CSOs as part of Localisation- supporting FCOSS to establish DCOSS, conducting consultations with CSOs when developing policy such as in the review of the NDMA, and working with PCDF to develop the CBDRM manual.

For DFAT, Localisation is about ensuring humanitarian support to CSOs is relevant, and timely, by having proactive policies in place, and creating opportunities to hear from local communities.

Two challenges highlighted by the panelists: clarity in roles- NDMO is focused on strengthening coordination between CSOs and NDMO, developing sub-national coordination guidelines to ensure guidelines in the NDMA are properly implemented. The second challenge, identified by DFAT, related to time, and funding CSOs response activities. In particular, in determining the amount of time CSOs

require to respond, and how to ensure funding remains flexible over the financial year to respond to CSO funding requests.

Opportunities for engagement: NDMO offered several entry points for CSO and community engagement. These include utilising the local DCOSS given FCOSS mandate under the NDMA; inviting Government officials to community or village meetings; the cluster systems; and divisional and district disaster councils, which are led by Commissioners, and CSOs are members. In regard to engagement with DFAT, the DFAT representative highlighted two key opportunities: a forthcoming one in Fiji, development of DFAT's civil society engagement strategy in July 2020, which will include community consultations on how Australia can assist CSOs; and the Fiji Program Support Facility who can receive proposals from CSOs in the vernacular language.

The panel session ended with notes of appreciation from the Summit participants, in particular those from Fiji, on the support and commitment from NDMO and DFAT to engage with CSOs. Participants noted that in a closing civic space, there is a need to acknowledge where policy actors continue to engage with CSOs.

Key reflections from the panel discussions:

The following is a summary of key issues that emerged from the two panel discussions:

- Local partners have different experiences with Localisation, and are at different stages, but a common feature is that their Localisation narrative is grounded in lived, community realities, strong knowledge of local context; focused on shifting power to local communities; and a strong commitment to integrating social inclusion;
- PWD, LGBTQI continue to experience discrimination and barriers during disasters. These include lack of access to relevant information and services to prepare for disasters; and physical and attitudinal barriers that prevent safe access to ECs;
- Coordination, and partnerships between NGOs and Government in Fiji is improving;
- Local women in Vanuatu are leading the Localisation agenda, and are changing mindsets;
- There is need to value, and document traditional knowledge, and local practices- policy actors also encourage organisations/communities to use their local language to communicate priorities and funding requests; and
- Organisations were encouraged to use information strategically- to collect information, turn it into advice and recommendations for donors, Government agencies. If CSOs are the ones to provide this timely information to agencies, it can help influence funding decisions to CSOs, including helping to ensure funding reaches those in most need.



Tu Tangi from PIA facilitates the panel discussion with DFAT (left) and NDMO (Centre) representatives

Sustaining Momentum of the Localisation Agenda

Participants affirmed the strong sense of family and community that has resulted amongst program partners, and the importance of building a constituency of Pacific Islanders who are able to lead their own Localisation agenda. Participants agreed to the following as key actions to remaining connected as partners, and as a community led platform:

- Share the participant list and keep in touch
- Meet regularly- annual regional, and national convening
- Vanuatu to commence annual reflection meetings, and include external stakeholders
- Keep community representatives’ part of the discussion

The second part of the session, called START, STOKE, STOP, was a participatory group exercise designed to promote consortium partners to have a deep reflection of reality, of Summit discussions held over the two days, and agreeing on future priorities and next steps. The objective of the session included:

- To jointly reflect on what we need to start doing differently to achieve our Localisation goal;
- To jointly agree on what we need to continue doing to make a difference and achieve our Localisation goal; and
- To build consensus on what we need to stop doing or do differently to achieve our Localisation goal

Key actions emerging from the session:

| START | |
|---|--|
| <p>Fiji</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Negotiation skills training ▪ Succession planning to ensure sustainability of outcomes. Be intentional in succession planning- ensure annual plans are contributing to long term sustainability. Include future generation in planning discussions- intergenerational organising is important for Localisation ▪ Meaningful inclusion of PWD ▪ Negotiate with Government on more disability inclusion e.g Initial Damage Assessments ▪ More exchange learning – take session to community – for example, the next Localisation Summit to be held in Tanna, Vanuatu ▪ Clusters to advocate for inclusiveness and communication agenda with FCOSS ▪ Find out where CSOs fit in cluster mapping ▪ Conduct child protection in emergencies session before field deployment for response ▪ Stop asking for more funding (program currently has underspends- so it may not be an issue of more money, but having the time to implement activities efficiently and effectively). | <p>Vanuatu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Start Networking ▪ Direct engagement with national actors ▪ WITTT representation in the Community Disaster Climate Change Committee, and advocate for communities that are no active ▪ Link WITTT Sunshine group with DPO ▪ Conduct a mapping of women with disabilities ▪ WITTT Sunshine group link with FDPF ▪ Document WITT stories ▪ Develop a WITTT constitution |
| STOKE | |
| <p>Fiji</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Institutional strengthening costs, not just program costs but for priorities such as policy development, resource positions such as finance, administration. Organisations fail to invest in institutional support appropriately- as organisations working with communities this is sometimes undervalued, and important to organisational functioning. ▪ Consolidate and share data from different partners. Different | <p>Vanuatu</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue networking and partnership building ▪ Collect disaggregated data ▪ Inclusion of minority groups – e.g. WITTT Sunshine ▪ Using technology to communicate ▪ Continue working with Digicel and WWW ▪ Continue resource mobilisation efforts for WITTT program activities |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>organisations are working in different areas, and there is a need to develop profile information of organisations, and share this report Government. This requires capacity development of partners to collect, and analyse data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AHP workplan process to be clear so that partners work is clear and there is no duplication particularly where organisations are working in the same communities, and being strategic to address program gaps ▪ Standard inclusion package ▪ Plan for continuity | |
| STOP | |
| <p>All partners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Competitiveness- we are all in one sector, have a common goal, and need to support each other ▪ Selfishness/being territorial with information- share information ▪ Working in silos- it is about collaboration and partnership ▪ Using acronyms that are long, and therefore risk becoming meaningless to partners, such as SOGIESC – what is the easiest way to say or describe this concept. This is critical to help ensure the work of RPF on recognition of rights to sexual orientation and identity, is well understood. RPF is currently translating SOGIESC terminology into Fijian language, and will share this information with partners when available. | |

Wrap up

The final evaluation process, led by facilitators, included a facilitated discussion with participants, to assess the overall effectiveness of the Summit against the following areas:

1. Have we been able to achieve the Summit goal against the objectives of Disaster READY?

| <i>Summit/Disaster READY goal</i> | <i>Reflections from participants</i> |
|--|--|
| <p>Local Disaster READY partners and communities share their experience and analysis of how Disaster READY in Fiji and Vanuatu acts on the seven areas of measurement identified in the HAG Measuring Localisation Framework</p> | <p>We have talked about Localisation. We have identified challenges, issues, and importantly identified concrete ideas for what we will do and what is feasible.</p> <p>We have a program committee, and we will discuss to see what is feasible, what can we achieve over the next two years, what we need to do, what we need to change. While we have a design and work-plan, this can be adjusted slightly, and this Summit was the space to have that conversation.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>ANGO and local PIA Consortium Disaster READY partners discuss the development of contextualised Localisation frameworks for Fiji and Vanuatu</p> | <p>We looked at the framework, but we will also not confine ourselves to this, as it is about appreciating context. We have had the opportunity to discuss the Fiji context in-depth (FCOSS Localisation research).</p> |
| <p>Create a Pacific-based forum involving PIA Consortium local humanitarian partners through which the Localisation agenda can be progressed</p> | <p>We have created a safe space, promoting agency of each organisation- working together, to feel empowered.</p> |
| <p>Define an accountability mechanism towards Localisation within the consortium</p> | <p>To some extent we have talked about accountability- asking ourselves, can we lean on each other, support each other, it is not just about monitoring and reporting, it is much deeper than that, it is about respecting each other.</p> |
| <p>Create a locally led learning space for the PIA Consortium partners</p> | <p>Definitely achieved this: to have something that is locally led is an achievement, we say what is relevant for our context, and we are telling our story about what Localisation means to us.</p> |

2. Participant feedback and responses

The overall feedback from participants who attended the two-day Summit was positive. Participants expressed appreciation for the opportunity to dialogue, and share experiences, and lessons amongst fellow Pacific Islanders. Facilitators were commended for creating a safe, interactive, and participatory Summit environment. Below are some key responses from participants:

- *A privilege to be amongst you all, to learn- this was a critical space, coming together face-to-face across generations, ethnicity, countries, it requires a lot of trust*
- *Very happy and exhausted, when we started thinking about this process...I'm glad we agreed to work on it as a consortium, great learning moment, process of accountability....we have also put women's rights agenda at the heart of the discussion*
- *You welcomed us kindly, our culture has no difference, we are one, and working towards a common goal*
- *Sharing experience, especially talking about disability inclusion, this is not something we are confident to talk about in our community back home and it has been so empowering to hear directly from PWD, their confidence to speak about their issues, and we want to encourage PWD in Vanuatu to speak up about their issues as well- through our WITTT Sunshine group, including children with disability*

Presentation of Communique

The concluding session of the Summit was a presentation of the Summit communique. The communique is an information product that will be used by the consortium as an advocacy tool to inform donors, Government, and to influence other stakeholders. Using the Localisation framework, and informed by research conducted by PIANGO, and FCOSS, participants affirmed that Localisation is not a new concept, it is a process that has always existed. The Localisation framework is just one tool

to measure Localisation, there are many different ways to measure and document Localisation. The communique includes a strong commitment to inclusion, in particular, acknowledging: the leadership role women in Vanuatu are playing in resilience building, and the importance of integrating gender equality and the empowerment of women in DRR/DRM; progressing disability inclusion is recognising people have different abilities, including specific needs during disasters; and that for the LGBTQI community, who experience discrimination on a daily basis, this discriminated is often exacerbated during disasters.

In addition, the communique acknowledges the positive work done to progress Localisation, such as: promoting women's leadership; and the voices of vulnerable groups, to influence inclusive disaster preparedness and response decision making in communities; improvements in coordination amongst the AHP partners, both Australian and national, and amongst national and community level actors including communities through partnerships built on trust; more opportunity to dialogue with Government, particularly at sub-national level in Fiji; and building the capacity of community based humanitarian actors, and equipping them with tools to provide pre-positioned disaster relief for affected populations.

Through the communique, Summit participants have also called on AHP partners, including donors, to: allow more resourcing flows to vulnerable communities; continue engagement with communities; continue capacity building and organisational strengthening of partners; and to continue the Localisation Summit initiative as a means to promote regular exchange of experiences and lessons amongst partners, and key stakeholders.

Lessons Learned

The day after the Summit, the ANGO partners reflected on some lessons from the two-day Summit including issues that were not covered, and can be included in next year's Summit, and other meetings of the consortium going forward. The reflections are based on their own observations of the two days, as well as reflections from participants. In summary, the lessons learned are:

- Some key local actor principles of Localisation have emerged which are not included in the current measuring Localisation Framework⁴ presented at the Summit. These include trust, accountability, and authenticity;
- There has been positive progress in strengthening the capability, and capacity of communities and organisations in key areas such as **training communities on inclusive disaster risk management** and Women led Community based Protection assessment and preparedness (246 WITTT members in Vanuatu trained using ActionAid Australia manuals; 135 people in Fiji trained by Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF); **organisational strengthening**, such as support to FCOSS to map the organisational and programming capacities of their 12 District Council of Social Services (DCOSS); and **enhancing partner capacity on inclusion related issues**, particularly through the partners engaged under shared services (RPF who are focused on increasing awareness on LGBTQI issues in disasters; FDPF and VDPA, who are focused on disability inclusion; and Save the Children Fiji on child protection). In addition, AVI is supporting key capacity strengthening activities, hosting the first annual reflection and planning workshop for Fiji based partners in 2019; and grants writing support planned for March 2020, to support local partner capacity to apply for grants;

⁴ This framework provides a method for actors to measure progress on Localisation in a holistic way. It is divided into seven areas: partnerships; leadership; coordination and complementarity; participation; policy influence and advocacy; capacity; and funding. In 2018-2019, PIANGO and the Humanitarian Advisory Group used the Framework to undertake baseline research to measure Localisation progress in: Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Vanuatu.

- Messages from inclusion partners are very clear particularly from those representing the LGBTQI community, women and people with disability, however, messaging promoting the voices and agency of children and young people is not as strong;
- The facilitators' promotion of community voice and ownership ensured Summit participants could speak freely, learn, and forge relationships. Community voice, agency, and ownership are key principles that embody Localisation in the Pacific context;
- The Summit provided a space for partners to challenge each other. Facilitators were deliberate in how they designed the Summit to promote a safe space for Summit participants to have open dialogue about partnerships; share personal stories; and promote cross-country learning. For example, ANGOs were able to speak openly about the AHP Disaster READY program financial management process, in particular around the program's current underspend; for inclusion focused organisations, the Summit was a time to challenge their fellow local organisations to be more genuine in how they engage vulnerable groups in their programming; and for partners to understand, and appreciate each other's programming approaches (for example, the rationale for WITTT being a women only, women led initiative; and in turn, how WITTT inspired other partners to reflect on how women's rights can be better integrated in their current disaster response and DRR efforts);
- Power dynamics between international and local actors are fundamental to the Localisation agenda. Localisation is about power. This was affirmed by Summit participants who acknowledge that power dynamics exist amongst, and between humanitarian actors. Participants described the shifting of power that is central to build partnerships amongst international and local actors that is based on, trust, and equality. This requires international actors to 'give up' or transfer their power to local actors, and local actors in turn claiming this power, and 'putting it into the hands of their local communities'. This approach informed the workshop style where local partners played a critical role in leading sessions;
- There was a key demonstration of the power of information to build confidence, seen through the women of WITTT – women are making changes within their families and in their community. Their participation at the Localisation Summit in Fiji is important recognition of their leadership roles within their respective families and communities; and
- Reflecting on the Core Humanitarian Standard and its nine commitments, there was limited discussion during the Summit on: resource management (effective and ethical use); safeguarding (child safeguarding and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse); and compliance measures that relate to finance, codes of conduct, etc. This is particularly relevant to Commitments 4, and 5, in ensuring humanitarian response is accountable to communities, where affected communities know their rights, have access to information, and participate in decision making processes. For the Summit organisers, this is a key learning for ongoing programming discussions with local partners at a country level; and to inform the agenda of the next Localisation Summit.

Conclusion

The first Pacific Community Led Localisation Summit for PIA local consortium partners under the AHP Disaster READY was a key milestone for the program, and consortium partners. As expressed by participants, there is value in bringing partners together to share successes, lessons learned, and discuss strategies to progress the Localisation agenda, and broader programming efforts. The Summit has also affirmed that Localisation is a key priority in all AHP Disaster READY efforts, but it is not without challenges.

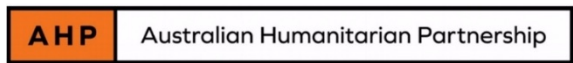
In addition, the Summit provided a space for partners to increase understanding and awareness of the overarching AHP Disaster READY program context, and the role of consortium partners, and key stakeholders; articulate their Localisation narrative; and discuss issues critical to progress Localisation such as trust building and partnership; inclusion and promoting community voices; and engagement with Government and the humanitarian architecture system. The session on sustaining the consortium's Localisation efforts helped partners prioritise actions they need to continue, and what they need to start doing differently to achieve Localisation goals; and build consensus on areas hindering the Localisation agenda.

A key outcome seen amongst partners over the two days was the networking, information sharing, and commitment to ongoing engagement. This is foundation setting is important to sustaining Localisation efforts of local partners, and for the AHP Disaster READY program to achieve its intended goals. As expressed by a Summit participant:

“Thank you to the ANGOs who have journeyed with us- as local partners this (Localisation) is a conversation about power, so holding this first Localisation Summit is a demonstration of the faith and goodwill we have in our relationship....and we have created a space where we can have these conversations. We should acknowledge that coming together as partners, to plan and decide on this Summit, is something that might not have happened 5-10 years ago”

Annexes

Annex 1: Workshop Agenda



Agenda
Pacific Community Led Localisation Summit
AHP Disaster Ready Plan International Australia Consortium
Venue: MAST Conference Facility, Devroux Rd, Suva
12-13 February 2020, Suva, Fiji

| Day 1 - Wednesday 12 February | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|---|---|---------------------|
| From | To | Session | Content | Resp. Person/s |
| 8.30am | 10.00am | Welcome/ Introductions/Objectives/Overview of Workshop | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration & consent form Workshop welcome Security and safety briefing Participant introductions and expectations Introduction to team of facilitators Ground Rules and Housekeeping Overview of workshop – purpose & objectives [incl summary of project's aims and objectives] <p><i>Include session on key note address</i></p> | Joe/Tu |
| 10.00am | 10.30am | AHP and Disaster READY Overview | Over goal of Disaster Ready and Strategic Focus for PIA Consortium | Tu |
| 10.30am | 11.00am | CHAI & COFFEE BREAK | | |
| 11.00am | 11.15am | Disaster Ready in Vanuatu | Highlights of project and what has been accomplished so far and Challenges | Flora & Steph |
| 11.15am | 11.30am | Disaster Ready in Fiji | Highlights of project and what has been accomplished so far and Challenges | Jo/Kathleen/Michael |

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|------------------------------------|-----------|--|---|---|
| 11.30am | 1.00pm | The Community Market Place :Community Voices on localization | Partners illustrating their work innovatively through posters demonstrating localization ; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WITTT • PCDF • FCOS rep | Carol |
| 1.00pm | 2.00pm | LUNCH BREAK | | |
| 2.00pm | 2.30pm | Community Voices on localization | Plenary on lessons learnt from partner projects | Joe |
| 2.30pm | 3.30pm | Conducting SWOT Analysis of the program | The SWOT Analysis should try to address the Core Humanitarian Standards in particular answer questions like: are we doing the right thing? is local capacity being strengthened? do we have enough resources? what about children, youth, women, people with disabilities and LGBTQI? | Tu/Carol/Michael/Vani |
| 3.30pm | 4.00pm | CHAI & COFFEE BREAK | | |
| 4.00pm | 4.30pm | Synthesizing findings from SWOT Analysis | What are the emerging issues and commonalities that we need to take into account | Tu/Carol/Michael/Vani |
| 4.30pm | 5.00pm | Preparation for policy dialogue | Constitution of panel and key messages to engage policy actors in DAY 2 | Carol /Tu |
| | | Close Day 1 | Day Evaluation & Wrap up – Getting feedback from participants using interactive techniques Facilitators have day evaluation meeting Communique development starts | Jo |
| Day 2 –Thursday 13 February | | | | |
| From | To | Session | Content | Resp. Person/s |
| 8.30am | 9.00am | Welcome | Temperature Check and logistics announcements Motivational Speaker | Tu Tbc on Day 1 (WITTT rep / disability rep) |
| 9.00am | 9.30am | PIA Consortium Breakfast News Show | Special guest appearance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WITTT • PCDF • FCOS rep | Flora |
| 9.30am | 10.00am | Panel 1: Discussions the ground up- Our Narrative on localization | Panel of local partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WITTT | Jo |

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|---------|---------|---|---|----------|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiji Communities • PCDF • FCOSS/DCOSS reps • FDPF • Empower Pacific • Rainbow Pride Foundation | |
| 10.00am | 10.30am | Panel 2: Policy Actors commitments to localization | Panel of Policy Actors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NDMO • DFAT • Dept Social Welfare | Tu |
| 10.30am | 11.00am | CHAI & COFFEE BREAK | | |
| 11.00am | 11.30am | Question and Answers Session | Interactive dialogue between policy actors and local partners | Tu |
| 11.30am | 12.30pm | Panel Wrap | What are we hearing? Challenges and Opportunities | Tu |
| 12.30pm | 1.30pm | LUNCH BREAK | | |
| 1.30pm | 2.30pm | Reinforcing the consortium's localization agenda | Start, Stoke, Stop | Carol |
| 2.30pm | 3.00pm | Sustaining the community led platform & next steps | How do we stay connected for shared learning and peer support | Jo |
| 3.00pm | 3.30pm | Final workshop evaluation and presentation of communique | | Carol/Tu |
| 3.30pm | 4.30pm | CHAI /COFFEE & DEPARTURE | | |

Annex 2: Progressing Localisation: Examples from the Consortium Partners against the Seven Areas of Localisation

Partnerships: Equitable and Complementary partnerships between local, national and international actors

- Through sharing and learning from Femlink Pacific, WITTT has adopted the Femlink Women Wetem Weta model and contextualised it for Vanuatu. At the moment Vanuatu is going through a drought season and early warning systems messages have been sent out, practical early messages as a result of the learning exchange with FemLink and Shifting the Power Coalition
- The AHP has brought all partners together for the first time, and there are notable successes
- Empower Pacific (EP) worked with Medical Services Pacific (MSP) to deliver counselling to affected communities for TC Sarai and TC Tino
- SOGIESC sensitisation training for CSO staff in the efforts to integrate learning into work they are doing in community e.g. Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF) and EP - synergies for referral pathways established with RPF
- PCDF Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM) manual for target communities and the set-up of Community Disaster Management Committee – RPF has reviewed the manual to ensure SOGIESC inclusion
- The National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) support to the Fiji Council of Social Services (FCOSS) at the divisional level including establishing coordination guidelines at subnational level
- Through FCOSS, the NDMO held consultations with civil society on the National Disaster Risk Reduction policy
- NDMO involvement in the development of the CBDRM manual through PCDF
- Standard Inclusion package developed
- The Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation (MOWCPA)'s Department of Social Welfare (DSW) conducted refresher training on Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) trainings with District Officers. This is in partnership with ChildFund, and is an example of how partnerships are furthering the scope and capacity of Government
- 2019 Annual Reflection Workshop brought partners together for the first time to reflect, share and plan and to understand each other as one consortium
- EP linking up with ADRA, who are one of the partners under AHP, and are implementing similar activities to EP in terms of Psychological First Aid (PFA). EP and ADRA Fiji are exploring synergies as they both work to deliver PFA: this is an example of synergies amongst partners and working together to deliver services
- Development of Service delivery protocol therefore communities to be well versed with pathways to connect with partners under AHP or other services – so that we can reach and see the needs at the community level and link to AHP particularly PWD

Leadership: National Actors define and lead on humanitarian action

- FCOSS role with TC Sarai and TC Tino
- The Fiji Disabled People's Federation established its own Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) to keep its members and partners informed as well as to assess needs of persons with disability

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ChildFund has supported FCOSS to re-activate the DCOSS', its members, hold re-elections, to review their constitution, leadership, organisational needs etc. This support is important as in the event of disasters, these DCOSS' can be activated to provide response, and also assist in the flow of information to and from Government and humanitarian actors |
| <p>Coordination and Complementarity: Application of and respect for commonly agreed approaches to 'as local as possible and as international as necessary'</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FCOSS coordination role with TC Sarai and TC Tino. A breakthrough for FCOSS is being told this year that FCOSS has a space with the Divisional EOC. ▪ DCOSS role at the subnational level collecting data and being present at the subnational meetings ▪ FDPF working with other CSOs and not alone ▪ Australian Volunteers International (AVI) capacity strengthening activities for partners based on capacity needs. A priority in 2020 is grants writing: the need to take control and have the ability to write proposals and submit to donors |
| <p>Participation: Communities lead and participate in humanitarian response</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PCDF establishing Community Disaster Management Committees using membership from existing structures in community – Communities are the first responders |
| <p>Policy Influence and Advocacy: Humanitarian action reflects the priorities of affected communities and national actors</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ RPF and FDPF participation in TC Sarai and TC Tino assessment teams led by Government ▪ WITTT advocacy and policy influence from the Community right up to the international platform through participation at Global DRR platform in Geneva in 2019 and the Indonesia Peer Learning Exchange Program organised by ActionAid. ▪ In 2019, the first national convening of women leadership in humanitarian action. This national event eventuated after conversations by ActionAid and WITTT with Climate department, DFAT, UNDP and MFAT, Director General and Director of Women Affairs, telling them exactly what the women want at the community level and the need to be more accountable and include women in Community Disaster Climate Change Committee |
| <p>Capacity: Local and national organisations are able to respond effectively and efficiently, and have targeted and relevant support from international actors</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PIANGO and HAG Research and development of Localisation Framework ▪ ActionAid support to WITTT and then the establishment of WITTT Sunshine, Women Wetem Weta and "Lukoutem Pikinini" program ▪ Child Protection training with leaders and ActionAid Vanuatu staff through AVI which then led to the establishment of "Lukoutem Pikinini" program ▪ WITTT programs also align to the National Gender Policy and ActionAid has provided support with Shifting the Power to familiarise WITTT on the National plans and policies so they are not left behind. A catalogue on Gender related policies was developed to use as a point of reference for dialogue |
| <p>Funding: Increased number of national and local organisations describing financial independence that allows them to respond more efficiently</p> |
| <p>-</p> |

Annex 3: List of participants

| Name | Organisation |
|---------------------|---|
| Josefa Lalabalavu | Plan International Australia |
| Berhe Tewoldeberhan | Plan International Australia |
| Tukatara Tangi | Plan International Australia |
| Vani Catanasiga | Fiji Council of Social Services |
| Tevita Naikasowalu | Fiji Council of Social Services |
| Siale Ilolahia | Pacific Island Association of NGOs |
| Josaia Jirauni | Pacific Island Association of NGOs |
| Carol Angir | ActionAid Australia |
| Liz Pick | ActionAid Australia |
| Flora Vano | ActionAid Vanuatu |
| Esther Ruben | Women I Tok Tok Tugeta |
| Leiwia Poki | Women I Tok Tok Tugeta |
| Esther Mete | Women I Tok Tok Tugeta |
| Dorah Avock | Women I Tok Tok Tugeta |
| Janet Latiknu | Women I Tok Tok Tugeta |
| Catherine Kalamut | Women I Tok Tok Tugeta |
| Annie Obed | Vanuatu Disability Promotion and Advocacy Association |
| Polly Henry | Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation- Department of Social Welfare |
| Lavetanalagi Seru | Rainbow Pride Foundation |
| Ilisapeci Raileqe | Rainbow Pride Foundation |
| Rupeni Naudi | Rainbow Pride Foundation |
| Vasiti Cakau | Rainbow Pride Foundation |
| Aminio Sau | Rainbow Pride Foundation |
| Luisa Mana | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |
| Laisiasa Corerega | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |

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|---------------------|--|
| Jiuta Ranubu | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |
| Sainimere Ranubu | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |
| Litia Naitanui | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |
| Torika Naimoso | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |
| Kelera Taveta | Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation |
| Simione Bula | Pacific Disability Forum |
| Patrick Morgam | Empower Pacific |
| Meranda Emose | Empower Pacific |
| Sokoveti Biyau | Empower Pacific |
| Keli Koro | Empower Pacific |
| Sakiusa Nagalu | Partners in Community Development Fiji community beneficiary- <i>Turaga Ni Koro- Ra</i> |
| Peni Seru | Partners in Community Development Fiji |
| Miliakere Delaiwaqa | Partners in Community Development Fiji |
| Grace Fox | Partners in Community Development Fiji |
| Nemani Susu | Partners in Community Development Fiji |
| Michael McDonald | ChildFund Australia |
| Kathleen Tora | Australian Volunteers International |
| Washington Gatu | Australian Volunteers International |

The AHP Plan International Australia Consortium Partners

The AHP Plan International Australia Consortium is comprised of the following local partners in Vanuatu and Fiji:

Women I Tok Tok Tugeta (Vanuatu); Communities from Tailevu Province and Ra Province (Fiji); Fiji Council of Social Services; Partners in Community Development Fiji; Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation; Empower Pacific; Rainbow Pride Foundation; and Ministry of Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation- Department of Social Welfare (Fiji).

The AHP Plan International Australia Consortium is comprised of the following Australian NGOs:

