Beyond Barriers: Integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the Pacific

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### ABBREVIATIONS

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<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>AHP</td>
<td>Australian Humanitarian Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td>CBA</td>
<td>Community-based adaptation</td>
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<td>CBDRM</td>
<td>Community-based disaster risk management</td>
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<td>CCA</td>
<td>Climate change adaptation</td>
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<td>CSDRM</td>
<td>Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management</td>
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<td>DRM</td>
<td>Disaster risk management</td>
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<td>DRR</td>
<td>Disaster risk reduction</td>
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<td>EbA</td>
<td>Ecosystem-based approaches</td>
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<td>FRDP</td>
<td>Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific</td>
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<td>HFA</td>
<td>Hyogo Framework for Action</td>
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<td>IPCC</td>
<td>Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change</td>
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<td>JNAP</td>
<td>Joint National Action Plan</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental organisation</td>
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<td>PIC</td>
<td>Pacific island country</td>
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<td>PNG</td>
<td>Papua New Guinea</td>
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<td>PRP</td>
<td>Pacific Resilience Partnership</td>
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<td>UN</td>
<td>United Nations</td>
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<td>UNFCCC</td>
<td>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</td>
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INTRODUCTION

The case for integrating disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation (CCA) to minimise loss and damage, reduce vulnerability and enhance resilience continues to grow. This is against a backdrop of increasing frequency and severity of disasters worldwide and the recognition that, at the community level, the distinction between DRR and CCA is artificial. Linkages between the two policy fields, coming belatedly to communities’ holistic understandings of what is driving their exposure to risk and how to manage it, have driven researchers, policymakers and practitioners to consider how to more closely align approaches to produce better outcomes for crisis-affected populations. The case has been made in academic and practitioner literature, agency reports and emerging policies, yet what it means from a community perspective to integrate DRR and CCA has received little research attention.

This paper is the first step in a research initiative that seeks to identify the barriers to and opportunities for enhanced DRR and CCA implementation. It responds to recent calls for more evidence to explore opportunities for enhancing integration, particularly with specific geographical areas of focus (Islam et al., 2020). This paper examines why efforts to integrate CCA and DRR should start from perspectives and implications at the community level, and explores the challenges and opportunities in doing so articulated in the literature.

This research initiative focuses on the Pacific region, recognising not only its unique disaster and climate vulnerability profile, but also the seminal Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) and the complementary multi-stakeholder Pacific Resilience Partnership (PRP). Pacific island countries (PICs) are among those most vulnerable to natural hazards and other effects of climate change, and are experiencing diverse, interlinking and intensifying impacts (IPCC 2014, 2019).

This paper finds that the main challenges facing further integration of DRR and CCA stem from a history of siloed approaches that have filtered down from the international level over many years to perpetuate siloes at the community level. Therefore, approaches that build resilience rather than perpetuating siloed programs must be developed. This is particularly important in the Pacific context to align with the regional priorities identified in the FRDP.

Various challenges are preventing or hampering the DRR and CCA integration, but there are also opportunities to strengthen integrated approaches in communities in ways that could improve outcomes for at-risk populations. This paper identifies some of these challenges and opportunities for exploration in subsequent stages of this research.

REPORT STRUCTURE

This report has five sections. Section 1 provides the background to this paper, including clarifying scope and definitions. Section 2 provides an overview of DRR and CCA across theory, policy and practice. Section 3 discusses the discourse around integration and how it approached at the community level. Section 4 summarises the challenges and opportunities in progressing integration at the community level. Section 5 provides concluding observations and summarises the questions that will be focus of subsequent phases of this research.
SECTION 1: BACKGROUND

This literature review is the first output of a larger research initiative being undertaken by World Vision Australia and Humanitarian Advisory Group. It aims to explore challenges to and opportunities for the integration of DRR and CCA in community-based programming in the Pacific. The research is funded by the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP). Box 1 provides more information about the broader research collaboration.

Box 1: About the research

This research project is exploring opportunities for integration of CCA and DRR, focusing primarily on local practice and implications at the community level, while recognising that these are shaped by national and regional policy frameworks. It seeks to capture local evidence of best practice and identify opportunities to strengthen and build on these models. This data is being collected through desk review (this paper, supported by country-specific desk reviews), key informant interviews at the global, regional and national levels, and community focus group discussions. Recommendations from this work will inform future AHP programming, with the intention that they will be applicable to a wider audience in the Pacific.

The research is being undertaken by Humanitarian Advisory Group and supported by World Vision Australia through the AHP Disaster READY and Partnership and Performance Funds 2. These funding streams are managed by the Whitelum Group on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

SCOPE

Geographic focus

The geographic focus of the broader research initiative within which this review sits is the Pacific, with a particular focus on five case-study countries in which the AHP mechanism operates – Timor-Leste, PNG, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands. However, this literature review considers a broader spectrum of countries to take advantage of the opportunity for learning. This review acknowledges the differences between Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia, although Pacific territories are not the focus of this review.

The regional focus of this review is particularly significant given the Pacific is a global leader in progressing DRR and CCA integration. Box 2 provides an overview of the FRDP, the seminal regional framework framing integration discussions in the Pacific, and a critical backdrop to this research.
Box 2: The Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific

The FRDP1 is the world’s first integrated regional framework for building and strengthening resilience to disasters and climate change. It has been hailed as an extensive and far-reaching framework for its strategic guidance and inclusiveness (Natoli, 2020).

The FRDP was created in response to regional recognition that climate change and disaster risks are cross-cutting and interrelated (SPC et al. 2016). The drafting process of the framework was commended for its inclusivity and incorporation of representatives from governments, the private sector and civil society, and development partners and academia (Natoli, 2020). It provides strategic guidance to stakeholders on how best to respond to climate change and disaster risk, and does this through specifying three interrelated goals:

GOAL 1: Strengthened Integrated Adaptation and Risk Reduction to Enhance Resilience to Climate Change and Disasters

GOAL 2: Low-carbon development

GOAL 3: Strengthened disaster preparedness and response.

The FRDP is a voluntary, non-political framework, and provides holistic guidance for the development of communities to build resilience. It represents a shift towards improving resilience in the Pacific in a way that encourages collaboration between communities and regions, and recognises that all genders, as well as vulnerable members of society are significant and powerful agents of change (SPC et al. 2016). The FRDP remains the most significant regional framework in the Pacific, and continues to provide holistic and progressive guidance and assistance to Pacific island countries and territories. Annex II provides a chronological overview of what preceded the FRDP.

Community focus

Much scholarship exists on the case for DRR and CCA integration in frameworks and policies (Begum et al. 2014; Birkmann et al. 2009; Birkmann and von Teichman 2010; de Leon and Pittcock 2016; Forino, von Meding and Brewer 2015; Gero et al. 2011; Mall et al. 2019; Turnbull, Sterrett and Hilleboe 2013). However, the literature includes calls for greater emphasis on and evidence about bottom-up community-based approaches (Islam et al. 2020; Nalau et al. 2016; Natoli 2020; SPC 2016; UNISDR and UNDP 2012). This research seeks to answer those calls and contribute to filling the evidence gap in the current discourse by focusing on practical implementation at the community level. This research also acknowledges that communities are not homogenous and that different community members are impacted differently, particularly vulnerable groups including women, sexually and gender diverse groups and persons living with disabilities.

Timeframe

This research initiative began in November 2019 and will run until April 2022. The timeframe for this literature review was March–June 2021. Case study data collection in five countries will follow the desk review, and be completed between July and September 2021. Through the subsequent phases of this initiative, efforts will be made to test and, where necessary, contextualise and refine definitions and concepts (see Box 3).

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1 See http://gsd.spc.int/frdp/, http://www.resilientpacific.org/documents/
BOX 3: DEFINITIONS

This paper employs the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the United Nations (UN) definitions of key terms outlined below. A working definition of integration is proposed in Section 2 below, because no useful definition was identified in the literature.

Disaster risk reduction
Disaster risk reduction is aimed at preventing new and reducing existing disaster risk and managing residual risk, all of which contribute to strengthening resilience and therefore to the achievement of sustainable development.3

Disaster risk management
Processes for designing, implementing, and evaluating strategies, policies and measures to improve the understanding of disaster risk, foster disaster risk reduction and transfer, and promote continuous improvement in disaster preparedness, response, and recovery practices, with the explicit purpose of increasing human security, well-being, quality of life, and sustainable development.4

Community-based disaster risk management
Inclusive, active and community-driven and owned processes aimed at addressing the drivers of disaster risk creation, DRR, and societal resilience building, within the context of local and indigenous knowledge and wisdom (Van Niekerk et al. 2017).

Climate change adaptation
The process of adjustment to actual or expected climate change and its effects. In human systems, adaptation seeks to moderate or avoid harm or exploit beneficial opportunities. In some natural systems, human intervention may facilitate adjustment to expected climate and its effects.5

Vulnerability
The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes which increase the susceptibility of an individual, a community, assets or systems to the impacts of hazards.6

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2 Definitions sourced from the UNDRR Online Glossary, available at https://www.undrr.org/terminology. This research recognises that there are other working definitions of these terms (i.e. IPCC definitions) but has chosen to draw on UNDRR definitions where appropriate.
4 Ibid.
5 Ibid.
Resilience
The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management.7

Risk
The potential for consequences where something of value is at stake and where the outcome is uncertain, recognising the diversity of values. Risk is often represented as probability or likelihood of occurrence of hazardous events or trends multiplied by the impacts if these events or trends occur.8

Mainstreaming
Mainstreaming generally means ensuring that a particular issue is constantly taken into account, reflected in and integrated into broader decision-making processes and activities, with the result that this issue becomes broadly accepted and is viewed as a normal aspect of processes and activities.9

Mitigation
The lessening or minimising of the adverse impacts of a hazardous event. The adverse impacts of hazards, in particular natural hazards, often cannot be prevented fully, but their scale or severity can be reduced by various strategies and actions. Mitigation measures include engineering techniques and hazard-resistant construction, as well as improved environmental and social policies and public awareness. (It should be noted that, in climate change policy, “mitigation” is the term used for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions that are the source of climate change.10)

SECTION 2: FRAMING DRR AND CCA

This section unpacks the relationship between DRR and CCA across theory, policy and practice. This section focuses on areas of overlap rather than differences, because overlaps are the basis of calls for greater integration.

The literature includes debate about the differences and similarities of DRR and CCA but recent scholarship increasingly focuses on the areas of convergence between the two fields (Begum et al. 2014; Birkmann et al. 2009; Birkmann and von Teichman 2010; de Leon and Pittock 2016; Forino, von Meding and Brewer 2015; Gero et al. 2011; Mall et al. 2019; Turnbull et al. 2013; Islam et al. 2020; Nalau et al. 2016; Natoli 2020; SPC 2016; UNISDR and UNDP 2012). As demonstrated in Figure 1, the commonalities shared by DRR and CCA are based on the increased frequency and/or intensity of climate-related hazards (Turnbull et al. 2013). Further, they include a common conceptual understanding of risk as the product of exposure, vulnerability and hazards, and the need to address these factors to strengthen outcomes for at-risk communities. In order to reduce disaster and climate risk, exposure must be minimised, vulnerability reduced, and capacities strengthened for recovery and resilience across economic, social, cultural, environmental, institutional and political sectors (Turnbull et al. 2013). Dialogue is progressing, moving towards risk-informed development – a decision-making approach that endeavours to make development more sustainable and resilient through acknowledgement of the relationships between various risks (Opitz-Stapleton et al. 2019).

Figure 1: Overlap of common concerns of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
Source: Turnbull et al. (2013) in FRDP 2016

Despite progress, insistent calls for integrated approaches across all levels highlight that DRR and CCA are not yet sufficiently harmonised. While focusing on the largest differences runs the risk of oversimplifying, it important to be aware of these differences because they structure policy and practice at various scales.
Broadly speaking, DRR aims to reduce the exposure to, and damage and loss caused by, sudden and slow-onset disasters through improving preparedness and prevention. It responds to a broad spectrum of risks, including climate change and damaging weather. It also encompasses geophysical, technological, economic and biological hazards, and any other threats to life and livelihoods. DRR policies and strategies are built on the practical concept of disaster risk management (DRM) alongside preparedness and risk assessment, they originate in humanitarian assistance and have direct links to sustainable development (Turnbull et al. 2013). In order for development gains to be sustainable, they must also reduce disaster risk, which involves cross-sectoral planning and action across a range of actors (Natoli 2020; UNDRR 2021) and significant consideration of climate-related factors. Factors such as health impacts, property damage and social and economic disruption are also considered (UN-SPIDER, 2021).

Climate change adaptation is a process of adapting to not only climate extremes and extreme weather, but the evolving threat posed by long-term trends such as sea level rise and increasing average temperatures (Natoli 2020). As a field of policy and practice, CCA is newer than DRR (climate change science having emerged more recently) and typically relies on long-range climate forecasts (Turnbull et al. 2013; Ireland 2010). Historically, communities have always adapted to climate variability; however, current impacts and projections are far beyond any natural climate variability and change experienced in the past, and are pushing at-risk populations beyond their capability to cope and adapt. It is becoming apparent that sustainable development will largely depend on the mainstreaming of CCA strategies across all sectors, from governance to community-level awareness and implementation (Turnbull et al. 2013).

The two fields seek to address distinct issues. CCA deals with risks associated with changes in climate rather than the broader risk focus of DRR (which includes, for example, industrial accidents and non-climate-related natural hazards). While climate change is global in impact, specific hazards affect a limited and precise geography and their impacts have traditionally been studied at the national and local level, emphasising responses relating to short-term and sudden-onset risks (Birkmann and von Teichman 2010). The temporal scales of each are also a point of divergence, with DRR generally relating to shorter timeframes than CCA activities, which are designed in response to long-range forecasts (ibid; Lei & Wang 2014).

DRR and CCA are often planned and implemented by different government agencies, institutions and sectors and receive funding from different sources (Birkmann et al. 2009; Mitchell et al. 2010; Schipper, 2009; Venton and La Trobe 2008, in Islam et al. 2020). DRR is founded in development and increasingly present in humanitarian work in response and recovery, which is often characterised by short-term funding and planning processes, reinforcing separate funding structures and temporal gaps between DRR and CCA (Lei and Wang 2014; Natoli 2020).

Nonetheless, the overlap between the two fields and growing evidence around the benefits of integration have led to some critical advances, despite the concept of integration being defined inconsistently in the literature (see Box 4). The 2005–2015 Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) promoted integration of CCA and DRR strategies. The successor to the HFA, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, recognises that:

"Addressing climate change as one of the drivers of disaster risk, while respecting the mandate of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) presents an opportunity to reduce disaster risk in a meaningful and coherent manner throughout the interrelated governmental processes."
The Sendai Framework demonstrates the need for coherent approaches, but has received some criticism for not going far enough in its focus on climate risks. In contrast, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognises the growing link between DRR, CCA and sustainable development. Elements of the Sustainable Development Goals have been incorporated throughout CCA and DRR activities in efforts to build resilience, promote justice and equity and ensure links to development. Integration across UN agreements has bolstered efforts to strengthen livelihoods, improve food and water security, and build resilience (Hallwright and Handmer 2021).

Box 4. Defining integration

This literature review did not find a widely used definition of integration specific to CCA and DRR. Therefore, this paper provides a working definition that will be refined through this research, specific to the Pacific context.

**Integration:** The combination of interventions that address climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction with the intention of improving humanitarian and development outcomes for at-risk and crisis-affected populations.11

This paper also recognises that the term “coherence” is often used in place of integration. **Coherence** has been defined as a means to integrate the pursuit of DRR and CCA in sustainable development (Daze, Terton and Maas 2018, in OECD 2020). However, this term is not mentioned in many important Pacific frameworks and policies, and therefore is not used in this research.

Alongside moves towards more integration at the international policy level, there has been significant progress at the national level. In the Pacific, countries have been progressive in their approaches to Joint National Action Plans (JNAPs), which take an integrated view on CCA and DRM. The first JNAP in the Pacific was adopted by Tonga in 2010, with 13 of 14 PICs pledging to integrate DRM and CCA in some form in forthcoming plans (UNISDR 2013). However, in many countries progress has been slow, and whilst there have been explicit moves within global and national policy frameworks to bring the two areas together, what this means when translated into community-level action remains opaque (Natoli, 2019).

Evidence has shown that at the community level, there is very little distinction between DRR and CCA (Hay 2010, in Hay and Mimura 2013; UNCC Secretariat 2017, in GIDRM 2019; UNISDR and UNDP 2012). For example, in a study of community-based DRR and CCA activities in the Pacific, Gero et al. (2010) found that many activities are claimed by both DRR and CCA practitioners, including programs for food and water security, shoreline erosion, agricultural innovation, infrastructure improvement, education, and sharing information on sustainable livelihoods. Further, there are examples of both communities of practice using similar tools and approaches, such as vulnerability capacity assessments, and the fields draw upon similar sources of traditional knowledge for coping and adaptation (Gero et al. 2010). Areas of alignment have thus led to overlapping goals, objectives and activities at the community level, despite some of the physical and political distinctions between the two fields (Gero et al. 2011; Schipper and Pelling 2006; Venton and La Trobe 2008).

The discourse around the relationship between CCA and DRR has evolved significantly. Evidence increasingly acknowledges that whilst they have points of difference, their areas of overlap and common objectives to reduce community vulnerability and increasing resilience are drawing policies, frameworks and approaches from the two areas together. The following section outlines the arguments for integration and what integration looks like in practice at the community level.

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11 This is a working definition adapted from the Global Nutrition Cluster and will be further refined and explored through this research. Available at https://fscluster.org/sites/default/files/documents/icnwg_developing_an_integrated_response_approach_gfsc_20191128.pdf
Arguments for integration significantly outweigh those that seek to retain siloed structures (Banwell et al. 2018; Coninx et al. 2016, in OECD 2020; Glantz et al. 2014; Kelman, Gaillard and Mercer 2015; Shaw, Pulhin and Pereira 2010; Tanner, Wilkinson and Mitchell 2006; Thomalla et al. 2006). However, there is still little understanding of how integration of different policy and practice frameworks can be led by the views of affected communities, what this form of integration can offer from the perspective of different groups within communities, and whether competing interests among these groups may influence their appetite for greater alignment of CCA and DRR activities within their communities.

WHY INTEGRATE?

Calls for integration echo through academic and grey literature, policy and guidance manuals, funding mechanisms and practitioner toolkits. For example, the IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX; IPCC 2012) found that:

- Reducing vulnerability of communities, boosting resilience and reducing climate-related losses (Gero et al. 2011)
- Decreasing overlap of programs and duplication of efforts (Nalau et al. 2016)
- Maximising available resources (Birkmann & Pardoe 2014; Ghozali et al. 2016, in Islam et al. 2020)
- Maximising the knowledge base across both sectors (Solecki et al. 2011, in Islam et al. 2020)
- Accelerating the implementation of prevention and risk reduction strategies (Begum et al. 2014)
- Enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of CCA and DRR approaches (Venton and La Trobe 2008)
- Concurrently addressing both extreme events and long-term changes (Nalau et al. 2016).
- Increasing coordination, minimising duplication of effort and redundancies (NAP Global Network 2018; UNCC Secretariat 2017 in GIDRM 2019)
- Promoting systemic engagement and change (Turnbull 2012)
- Instilling flexibility and responsiveness (Turnbull et al. 2013).

In the absence of greater integration, there is increased risk of duplication, wasted resources and inefficient programming. Practitioners are missing opportunities to learn from and enhance both fields in unison rather than isolation (Islam et al. 2020). It is also argued that international and national progress towards integrated policies and frameworks helps to ensure the removal of artificial distinctions at the community level (UNISDR and UNDP 2012; Islam et al. 2020).

Although the literature is much more vocal on why integration should be progressed, one of
the arguments for caution is that too much policy integration may undermine policy-making processes for each framework (UNCC Secretariat 2017, in GIDRM 2019). However, this is limited to the level of international frameworks and posed as a consideration for integration, rather than suggesting progress towards integration should not continue. The long-term costs of fragmentation are considered to be far greater than the risks posed to separate policy agendas (OECD 2020).

In the Pacific, in addition to the aforementioned reasons, a greater emphasis DRR and CCA activities would support regional priorities as articulated through the FRDP, which outlines the regional prioritisation of approaches that build resilience. The importance of pursuing integration is articulated through the FRDPs first strategic outcome, which states that: “stronger and more resilient communities where efficiencies are achieved by pursuing a more integrated approach to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction” (FRDP 2016, p. 14). Specific priority actions are identified for stakeholders, including national and subnational governments and administrations, civil society and communities, and the private sector to work towards the desired outcome. Therefore, supporting integrated approaches in the Pacific is critical for stakeholders to align with regionally identified priorities, particularly as external funding support contributes significantly to the economies of many countries in the region (Gero et al. 2011).

INTEGRATED COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES

The concept of community-level integration relates directly to the overlap between CCA and DRR in reducing vulnerability and enhancing resilience and capacity (Turnbull et al. 2013) and the acknowledgement that isolated conceptualisation of risk is at odds with how Pacific communities understand and address hazards. The translation of this concept into practice can take different forms. One such example is provided in Box 5 below.

Box 5. Case study: Adapting to sudden sea level rise

The Assessing Vulnerability and Adaptation to Sea-Level Rise; Lifuka Island, Ha’apai, Tonga – Pacific Adaptation Strategy Assistance Program directly responded to a request from the Government of Tonga. The community of Lifuka was being disproportionately affected by both the impacts of climate change through sudden sea level rise, and subsidence caused by seismic events. The project aimed to provide evidence for communities to make informed decisions about adapting to sea level rise and coastal erosion. The project used participatory approaches with the community to understand their experience of inundation and water use and their views of potential adaptation options. The project used a range of scientific information and disaster scenario modelling.

The project team identified a range of possible options, and recommended that a managed retreat be undertaken. This recommendation was rejected by the community as being costly and requiring complex land negotiations. The final outcome of the project was the development of hazard zones identifying their degree of risk with respect to coastal erosion, sea level rise and flooding.

The project concluded that evidence based adaptation strategies are a useful input to disaster planning, recovery and long term risk reduction. The use of multi-disciplinary teams was also found to deliver benefits including pragmatic and people-centred approaches and improved understanding of the cross-sectoral impacts of climate change (FRDP Compendium of Case Studies on Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific, pp 62-63).
It is argued that the greatest potential for harmonising DRR and CCA efforts in the Pacific lies at the community level (UNISDR and UNDP 2012). When it comes to addressing the scope of vulnerability of Pacific communities, “no one approach will address all needs and accommodate all capacities” (Hay and Mimura, 2013). As such, there are a wide range of approaches to programming that identify commonalities across activities and show good practice in optimising outcomes for communities. Annex I summarises some of the existing approaches, though is not exhaustive.

Resilience has been widely used as a unifying term in international discourse around integration, being cited as a “useful umbrella under which to address the range of hazards and risks that a community might face” (Peters et al. 2016). Resilience approaches do not distinguish between DRR and CCA. Building resilience requires not only effectively managing disaster shocks and climate impacts, but safeguarding and improving well-being in the face of ongoing risk. The framing of resilience resonates in the region, aligning with how the regional architecture has been structured in the FRDP and how some national governments, such as Vanuatu’s, are allocating funding tagged as “resilience” (Hallwright and Handmer, 2021). The FRDP highlights that to build resilience effectively, responses to climate change and disasters must consider a range of factors, as articulated in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Factors influencing resilience

13 Turnbull et al. in FRDP
Some community-level programs in the Pacific have explicitly sought to build resilience, while seeking to manage risks associated with both DRR and CCA approaches. Box 6 below provides one such example.

**Box 6: Case Study: Network approach to community-based adaptation**

The Vanuatu NGO Climate Change Adaptation Program works with over 5000 men, women and children across four provinces in Vanuatu. The program sought to strengthen existing governance structures for reducing disaster risk and managing uncertainty. The program was developed using a consortium model and found success through the collaboration it fostered between government, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and communities. It also created the Vanuatu Community Resilience Framework, which succeeded in providing overall coherence and ensuring agencies were working towards a common understanding of resilience and concept of impact. Partners supported communities to use traditional and external knowledge to plan and implement CCA actions. The program was also instrumental in establishing the Vanuatu Climate Action Network, which facilitates the sharing of lessons and good practices among over 20 community service organisations and the Government of Vanuatu and brings community priorities into critical decision-making forums. The Vanuatu Community Resilience Framework has the potential to promote greater integration of CCA, DRR and development.

Vanuatu’s CCA Program highlights the value of a network model in maximising collaboration across a range of stakeholders. The Program also found that supporting communities to increase their own resilience leads to more sustainable outcomes than solutions that are technologically focused or externally driven (FRDP Compendium of Case Studies on Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific, pp. 44-45).

Figure 3 depicts the Vanuatu Community Resilience Framework.
An alternative conceptualisation of how to put integration into practice with the outcome of increased resilience was put forward by Turnbull et al. (2013), and involved a principles-based framework to enable integration. Applying principles to different contexts enables a flexible approach to integration that recognises the unique context of each community. The 10 principles are:

1. Increase understanding of the hazard and climate context
2. Increase understanding of exposure, vulnerability and capacity
3. Recognise rights and responsibilities
4. Strengthen participation of, and action by, the population at risk
5. Promote systemic engagement and change
6. Foster synergy between multiple levels
7. Draw on and build diverse sources of knowledge
8. Instil flexibility and responsiveness
9. Address different timescales
10. Do No Harm.

This literature review shows that the case for integration is strong and there are examples of good practice available in the Pacific and beyond. There is also an important opportunity to ensure that in identifying good practice approaches there is alignment with regional priorities. However, further research is needed to fully understand the practice and potential of more integrated CCA and DRR activities from the perspective of communities and in response to their priorities.
SECTION 4: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

This section explores some of the challenges and opportunities in progressing community-level integration of DRR and CCA in the Pacific.

CHALLENGES

A common theme in the literature is that, despite what appears to be an artificial divide between CCA and DRR from the perspective of local concerns and responses, a lack of consistent approaches, policies and frameworks across siloed policy frameworks can hinder support for community-level efforts related to both. The literature shows that global frameworks influence regional and national developments.

- **Siloed funding mechanisms**: Funding mechanisms that perpetuate the historical siloes directly limit the capacities of implementing agencies to progress integration in Pacific communities (Birkmann & von Teichman 2010; Gero et al. 2010; Islam 2020; Mawdsley et al. 2014 in Nalau et al. 2015). Funding criteria and compliance requirements of international financing mechanisms, such as the Green Climate Fund, contribute towards these challenges.

- **Integrated frameworks do not translate between scales**: Whilst communities do not make distinctions between DRR and CCA, agencies implementing programs in communities often align with existing frameworks and structures, therefore perpetuating siloed approaches when no integrated frameworks are in place (Gero et al. 2011). Initiatives to promote integration in higher-level frameworks may not be carried through into strategy and implementation at national or sub-national levels (Islam et al. 2020; Sperling and Szekely 2005; Thomalla et al. 2006). In the Pacific, there has been significant progress regionally and at national levels, but this is not replicated at the local level. Community interventions often align with these structures, preventing integration and duplicating efforts. Within a siloed framework and government structures, programs struggle to respond in a way that bridges the divide (Bhatt et al. 2015).

- **Multiple methodologies**: The number of different approaches that address disaster and climate-related vulnerabilities has caused considerable methodological confusion for both practitioners and communities (Hay and Mimura 2013; Nalau et al. 2015). Diverse implementers, such as communities, local government, and NGOs, follow different plans and processes, which leads to problems in coherence, coordination and monitoring (de Leon and Pittock 2016; Djalante and Thomalla 2012; Islam et al. 2020). The review found no agreed approach to implementing integrated programming at the community level. Given the diversity of settings and needs in different locations, trying to identify a single approach may not be desirable, but there are opportunities to identify shared elements of good practice.
Inconsistent approaches to inclusion:
Historical differences in DRR and CCA have led to inconsistent approaches to participation and inclusion in programs, hindering integration (Natoli 2019; SPC 2017). Vulnerabilities may be identified through different lenses, notably time frames, or participation may be conceived differently (Birkmann and von Teichman 2010; Mall et al. 2019; Natoli 2020). Inclusion efforts in both areas are still lacking. For example, evidence shows that people living with disabilities are often overlooked and marginalised in disaster preparedness planning (Elisala et al. 2020). These gaps are also evident during responses. During Tropical Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu, 74% of women reported that they could not get to or access evacuation centres (Power et al., 2019).

Coordination:
Coordination and collaboration across sectors, stakeholders and institutions is regarded as essential for successful integration (Begum et al. 2014; Schipper et al. 2016), but coordination of CCA and DRR actors is a prevailing challenge (Natoli 2019; SPC 2017; Turnbull et al. 2013). The increasing number of stakeholders operating across DRR and/or CCA exacerbates this challenge, particularly where exists an absence of a common language between the two as “effective communication is a prerequisite to coordination and harmonisation” (Hay 2009). A review of community approaches to integration in the Pacific in 2011 found that in two country contexts over 60 actors were involved in CCA and DRR work (Gero et al. 2011). The increasing number of actors in the Pacific has been matched by an increasing number of programs that align with donor priorities rather than community-identified priorities or integrated approaches (Natoli 2019; SPC 2017). If no integrated framework and implementation arrangements exist, formal coordination across the two fields is more difficult, but the Pacific provides strong examples of integrated frameworks that can support in surmounting this challenge, such as Vanuatu’s NGO CCA Program (Hallwright and Handmer 2021). The ongoing question for this research is how the presence of integrated frameworks supports coordination at the operational level in a way that enhances community outcomes.

Information availability and accessibility:
Availability of and access to the right information in the right way has been a challenge for integration in the Pacific. Whilst there have been investments in generation and communication of relevant information over time, such as long-range climate projections, they are not being used to the best effect in integrated approaches, particularly at the community level (Birkmann et al. 2009; Mall et al. 2019; Natoli, 2019; SPC 2017). Further, data related to vulnerability and resilience indicators is often collected and reported in a way such that datasets are siloed. Greater exchanges of information between datasets and models could yield progress towards integration (Leiter 2017, in Natoli 2019). Critical information is often communicated in a way that is difficult for community members to interpret or act upon, hindering their understanding of disaster and climate risk and their participation in forums that shape policy and practice (Natoli, 2019).
The literature review revealed ways to support community-level integration and overcome or circumvent some of the impediments to progress.

**Align funding:** When integrated frameworks and structures exist, consistently combining funding sources and aligning with government priorities can enhance community-level integration, as can increased coordination and awareness-raising about fundraising opportunities (Natoli 2019). For example, in Vanuatu, the National Advisory Board on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (NAB) maintains a ‘financing roadmap’ for the country, which aims to finance resilience initiatives rather than separate streams from DRR and CCA (Hallwright and Handmer, 2021).

**Foster synergy between multiple levels:** Clearer delineation of responsibilities between stakeholders, especially at the institutional level, has been identified as a driver of improvement in CCA and DRR integration (Leitner et al. 2018; Amaratunga, D. et al. 2017; UNISDR EUR 2011; Natoli, 2019). Well-defined national legislation sets the stage for successful integration, but defining institutional arrangements remains a challenge (UNDRR, 2019). In the Pacific, there are strong examples of how linkages can be made between communities and sub-national and national forums (see the case study in Box 5 above for an example). There are opportunities to leverage and scale up such practices. There is also an need to continue to leverage the progress that has been made through the FRDP and ongoing support to implementation of policy into structure (Leon & Pittock, 2016).

**Support inclusion and participation:** Regional analysis has previously identified that processes for resilience building that directly involve vulnerable groups and are gender sensitive should be prioritised to support climate and disaster resilience (SPC 2017). Vulnerability is a key factor of disaster, so when vulnerable populations are prioritised in DRR preparedness and CCA programming, the overall human impact and associated economic costs can decrease dramatically. Integration provides an opportunity for participatory approaches that meaningfully involve representatives across the community, including vulnerable groups and recognising power dynamics (Griffin NRM 2016; Natoli 2020).

**Explore new partnerships that support locally led action:** At the local and community level, new partnerships can be leveraged to facilitate an integrated approach and diminish vulnerabilities at the community level, for example, through insurance, risk transfer and credit schemes (Griffin NRM 2016; Natoli 2019; Prabhakar et al. 2015). Private sector partnerships might enhance efficiency, innovation, access and quality improvement in integration (IPCC 2012, in Forino et al. 2015; Lemos and Argrawal 2006). Multi-stakeholder participation and collaboration could also ensure gender-sensitive and inclusive integrated responses (UNISDR and UNDP 2012). These partnerships should maintain a focus on supporting good practice integrated approaches in a way that also supports local leadership, in line with global localisation commitments.
Ensure accessibility and relevance of climate and risk information: Provision of relevant climate and disaster risk information to vulnerable people is central to risk-informed decision-making in integrated approaches (Turnbull et al. 2013). Information about risks and prevention measures should be updated regularly and provided efficiently to affected populations, including vulnerable groups and people with disabilities (Turnbull et al. 2013). Integration of CCA and DRR not only provides an opportunity to better align information channels, but to build upon – rather than displace or duplicate – traditional knowledge, and supplement it with knowledge provided by researchers and technological innovations (Hay and Mimura 2013; Nalau et al. 2015; Turnbull et al. 2013).

Share what works: Monitoring, evaluating and – importantly – sharing integrated approaches that work will be vital to improving practices and avoiding negative impacts (Hay and Mimura 2013; Griffin NRM 2016). The development of accessible community-focused guidance and tools will encourage stronger engagement and help data and impact to be communicated in a way that is understood and owned by communities (Mercer et al. 2014; Moser and Ekstrom 2010; Natoli 2019). The importance of regular monitoring and reporting is emphasised in the FRDP; finding ways to ensure this process is streamlined and accessible to a wide range of stakeholders will be key to improving the accountability and effectiveness of integrated programming (SPC et al. 2020). There is also a significant opportunity to harmonize data collection and reporting efforts to ensure consistency and availability of data across the fields (Hay and Mimura 2013; Natoli 2019).
SECTION 5: CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

A range of different approaches can demonstrate integration, but there is a need for more evidence about the common components of good practice approaches that reduce vulnerability strengthen resilience in Pacific communities. The Pacific region has made significant progress at the regional and national levels, though evidence that connects this progress to enhanced community outcomes is not yet clear. Subsequent stages of this research will seek to fill these evidence gaps.

Multiple challenges hamper integrated practical approaches. Many of these challenges stem from a legacy of siloes and a lack of consistent approaches to integration at the institutional and policy levels that then filter down and influence practice at the community level. However, importantly it has also been argued that when it comes to implementation in Pacific communities, the distinction between DRR and CCA is irrelevant. The challenges therefore also reflect the difficulties that communities have faced in influencing the policy settings that govern risk management in their local areas. There are opportunities to bridge the divide between international theoretical discussions and local knowledge to ensure good practice approaches are consistently applied in Pacific communities to increase resilience.

The challenges and opportunities outlined in this review, in addition to questions around what constitutes best practice, will be explored further during the next phase of this research.
Beyond Barriers: Integrating disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in the Pacific

Possible research questions to explore

- What framing and language do stakeholders prefer in progressing integration?
- How do non-climate-related disaster risks fit with integrated approaches?
- How do communities understand and prioritise risks?
- What are the potential risks or downsides of integration at the community level?
- How can stakeholders progress integrated approaches at the community level when there is an absence of an integrated framework at the national level, or gaps between national integration and sub-national rollout?
- Is there an approach to integration that is optimal for community outcomes, and for groups within communities including women, diverse and vulnerable groups?
- What coordination forums at the national and sub-national level can be used to promote integrated approaches? Who attends these forums? Who doesn’t? What opportunities are there to strengthen partnerships around shared/integrated objectives? How do these link with the FRDP and PRP at the regional level?
- How can actors ensure that community participation is central to integrated approaches, and that women, diverse groups and people living with disabilities are involved throughout all stages? What elements of an integrated approach would best support women, diverse and vulnerable groups?
- How can implementing partners foster better coordination between all stakeholders to optimise sharing of accessible information and aligned approaches?
- How is disaster risk and climate information being generated and communicated, and to whom? How is traditional knowledge being used as part of risk and climate information? What opportunities are there to align information production and communication pathways to ensure information reaches those that need it and meets the needs of different parts of the community?
- What opportunities are there to generate and communicate evidence to promote good practice on integration?
- What are the enablers for integrated resilience building practices?
### ANNEX I: EXAMPLES OF INTEGRATED APPROACHES

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<tr>
<th>Approach to Integration</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Resilience</td>
<td>Resilience is about anticipating, planning and managing disaster risk to effectively protect persons, communities and countries, their livelihoods, health, cultural heritage and ecosystems (UN 2015). Resilience approaches do not distinguish between DRR and CCA. Building resilience requires not only effectively managing disaster shocks and climate impacts, but safeguarding and improving wellbeing in the face of ongoing risk. For example, in Vanuatu, a consortium of national and international NGOs was established to support communities to adapt to ongoing climate and disaster risk. It worked across 12 islands and remote outer-island communities for reducing risk and managing uncertainty. The program takes a broad view of resilience as the ability of women, men and children to realise their rights and improve their wellbeing despite shocks, stresses and uncertainty (SPC 2015).</td>
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<td>Climate Smart Disaster Risk Management (CSDRM)</td>
<td>CSDRM is defined as “an integrated social development and disaster risk management approach that aims simultaneously to tackle changing climate risks, enhance adaptive capacity, reduce poverty and vulnerability and their structural causes and promote environmentally sustainable development in a changing climate” (Mitchell et al., 2010). It provides a guide to strategic planning, program development and policymaking. For example, in Orissa, India, the Orissa State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) has successfully implemented a CSDRM approach to development planning and disaster management. It has conducted a hazard risk assessment and vulnerability analysis and produced a state-wide composite risk atlas to map forecasted disaster frequency by area and prepared institutional coordination with NGOs, government departments and district administrations to ensure quick and efficient responses. It has also strengthened community preparedness through mock drills, training and contingency planning (Mitchell and Ibrahim 2010).</td>
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<td>Community-based Adaptation (CBA)</td>
<td>CBA involves an integrated response which combines livelihoods and DRR strategies with building capacity and addressing the underlying causes of vulnerability. This is informed by climate knowledge and understanding of risk and uncertainty and climate resilient development (CARE, 2014). CBA provides information and concrete examples on potential impacts and mitigation measures which are location specific. It provides information in a way that is accessible and accepted by communities (UNDP 2021). For example, in Tonga, impacts of sea level rise are impacting the community of Lifuka Island. A CBA project was developed based on local community concerns of accelerated coastal erosion and flooding. The goal was to provide evidence to communities on accelerated coastal erosion and flooding. A key output of the project was increased flooding and sea level rise, A key output of the project was the development of hazard zones defined by the degree of risk, these zones have been used by the Government of Tonga to build back better after cyclones and protect the Lifuka community from future coastal risks (SPC 2015).</td>
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### Approach to integration

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<td><strong>Community-Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)</strong></td>
<td>For example, in Solomon Islands, CBDRM strategies have included the establishment of Village Disaster Climate Risk Committees (VDCRCs) to work with communities in building resilience and mitigation of climate-related risks. The VDCRCs are made up of leaders from various local structures and are engaged in planning and preparedness exercises with community members. The VDCRCs have a strong history of working closely with communities with well-established tools and practices (Li and Wang 2014; Mercer 2010; Van Niekerk et al. 2017). In practice, the core approach is one of CBDRM, with CCA activities then mainstreamed throughout the program. For example, in Solomon Islands, CBDRM strategies have included the establishment of Village Disaster Climate Risk Committees (VDCRCs) to work with communities in building resilience and mitigation of climate-related risks. The VDCRCs are made up of leaders from various local structures and are engaged in planning and preparedness exercises with community members. The VDCRCs have a strong history of working closely with communities with well-established tools and practices (Li and Wang 2014; Mercer 2010; Van Niekerk et al. 2017). In practice, the core approach is one of CBDRM, with CCA activities then mainstreamed throughout the program. The CBDRM aims to enhance skills and capacities to build resilience. It has been argued as an excellent entry point for the integration of CCA at the community level. CBDRM practitioners have a long history of working closely with communities with well-established tools and practices (Li and Wang 2014; Mercer 2010; UNISDR and UNDP 2012; Van Niekerk et al. 2017). In practice, the core approach is one of CBDRM, with CCA activities then mainstreamed throughout the program. The CBDRM aims to enhance skills and capacities to build resilience. It has been argued as an excellent entry point for the integration of CCA at the community level. CBDRM practitioners have a long history of working closely with communities with well-established tools and practices (Li and Wang 2014; Mercer 2010; UNISDR and UNDP 2012; Van Niekerk et al. 2017). In practice, the core approach is one of CBDRM, with CCA activities then mainstreamed throughout the program. For example, in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, PNG, CBDRR programming actively sought the inclusion of CCA as an integral part of the CBDRR program. The program used participatory approaches to provide training and ongoing mentoring to DRR groups in the villages. They were trained in agricultural practices, soil conservation, climate resilient crop varieties and nutrition in times of food insecurity and disaster. Nine gender-sensitive community DRR Action Plans were developed that represent 21 Nissan District villages. Trained DRR groups continued to work with district administration authorities on island-wide hazard reduction activities (SPC 2015). For example, the Mekong Delta Integrated Climate Resilience and Sustainable Livelihoods Project in Vietnam embedded ecosystem-based approaches to shift design away from traditional “hard” infrastructure towards solutions adapted to natural conditions. The project has restored mangroves and rehardened sea dikes and offers new economic opportunities better aligned with the regions’ natural soil and water conditions (UNDRR 2020; Bowder et al. 2019).</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR)</strong></td>
<td>CBDRR differs from CBDRM as it focuses more on reducing underlying risk and encouraging preventative action before a disaster (Shaw 2016). The approach to integration through CBDRR is very similar to CBDRM. Many existing tools and approaches for CBDRR can also be linked to improving CCA outcomes, including upgrading local infrastructure, community risk assessment and planning, food security programs and advocacy initiatives (Shaw 2016).</td>
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<td><strong>Ecosystem-based approaches (EbA)</strong></td>
<td>Ecosystem-based approaches work to preserve or restore the natural environment to reduce vulnerability to climate-related and other extreme events and make ecosystems more adaptable to climate change (Wyn et al. 2015). Examples of community-based approaches include efforts to preserve bushlands, which are crucial for protecting communities from flooding and coastal erosion and offer new economic opportunities better aligned with the regions’ natural soil and water conditions (UNDRR 2020; Bowder et al. 2019).</td>
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CBDRM and CBDRR are participatory process-oriented methods used to actively engage communities in the risk management process. They focus on broader aspects of disaster issues, including prevention, mitigation, relief, recovery and planning. CBDRR differs from CBDRM as it focuses more on reducing underlying risk and encouraging preventative action before a disaster (Shaw 2016). The approach to integration through CBDRR is very similar to CBDRM. Many existing tools and approaches for CBDRR can also be linked to improving CCA outcomes, including upgrading local infrastructure, community risk assessment and planning, food security programs and advocacy initiatives (Shaw 2016). Ecosystem-based approaches work to preserve or restore the natural environment to reduce vulnerability to climate-related and other extreme events and make ecosystems more adaptable to climate change (Wyn et al. 2015). Examples of community-based approaches include efforts to preserve bushlands, which are crucial for protecting communities from flooding and coastal erosion and offer new economic opportunities better aligned with the regions’ natural soil and water conditions (UNDRR 2020; Bowder et al. 2019).
## Building Local Adaptive Capacities

Adaptive capacities are the social and technical skills and strategies of individuals and groups that are directed towards responding to environmental and socioeconomic changes.

Building local adaptive capacities increases the effective management of natural resources and the development of skills and resilience in communities to better prepare for and recover from natural hazards and disasters. By enhancing adapting capacities, vulnerability is reduced and is therefore a key component of both DRR and CCA at the community level.

For example, in Bangladesh, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is leading a 6-year project (2018-2024) focused on strengthening adaptive capacities of coastal communities to cope with impacts of climate-induced salinity on their livelihoods and water security. Communities have been empowered as “change agents” to plan, implement and manage resilient livelihoods and drinking water solutions. The project has promoted a shift away from a focus on short-term responses and technology-led interventions towards community-centric solutions that build ownership and capacities across multiple stakeholders (UNDP 2021).

## Climate-smart Agriculture (CSA)

CSA is an approach that helps to guide actions needed to transform and reorient agricultural systems to effectively support development and ensure food security in a changing climate (FAO 2021).

CSA aims to boost resilience of communities by improving livelihoods, adapting to changing conditions and reducing greenhouse gas emissions where possible. Many DRR strategies can produce an enabling environment for CSA, as proven DRR technologies and practice provide a rich resource-base for promoting and scaling up CSA. For farmers, there is no distinction between risk reduction and adaptation (FAO 2015).

For example, in Jamaica, communities that are affected each year by hurricanes, floods and landslides use a variety of trees and crops as a risk reduction strategy to reduce impact of landslides and runoff. Water tolerant crops are planted in waterlogged areas to prevent the spread of floodwater, stabilise banks and prevent damage to more valuable crops (FAO 2015).
## ANNEX II: CHRONOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES RELATED TO DRR AND CCA IN THE PACIFIC

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<th>Policy/Declaration</th>
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| Pacific Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Management Framework for Action 2005-2015 (PDDFA) | This framework adapted the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) to the Pacific region and was endorsed by Pacific leaders in October 2015. It responds to the increased national and regional commitments to disaster risk reduction and disaster management on an ‘all hazards’ basis in support of sustainable development.  
  [14](https://www.preventionweb.net/files/34617_mr06131.pdf) |
| Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change 2006 – 2015 (PIFACC) | This framework outlines the climate change adaptation results to be achieved by implementing tangible adaptation measures, supporting governance and decision-making, improving understanding of climate change, education, training and awareness, mitigating global greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening partnerships and cooperation. It was intended to mainstream climate change into regional and national policies and plans.  
  [15](https://www.sprep.org/attachments/Publications/PIFACC-ref.pdf) |
| Majuro Declaration for Climate Leadership (2013) | This Declaration kicked off the political momentum and commitment from PIF for the region to become “climate leaders”. PICs committed to spur climate action and work towards the adoption of a universal and legally-binding treaty to strengthen commitments made to UNFCC under the Kyoto Protocol.  
| SAMOA Pathway (2014) | The Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway articulates the sustainable development goals for SIDS (including PICs) from 2014-2024. This also highlights climate change and DRR as key themes for sustainable development.  
  [17](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/samoapathway.html) |
| Framework for Pacific Regionalism (2014) | Endorsed by the Pacific Island Forum (PIF) in 2014, this framework also identifies climate change as one of the most significant challenges for the region.  
| Suva Declaration on Climate Change (2015) | Leaders of the Pacific Islands Development Forum emphasised their “grave distress” over climate change and global inaction to use as an advocacy tool in advance of UNFCC COP21 and the adoption of the Paris Climate Agreement.  
  [19](https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/suva-declaration-climate-change) |

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19 Suva Declaration on Climate Change, 2015, [https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/suva-declaration-climate-change](https://environmentalmigration.iom.int/suva-declaration-climate-change)
This is an annual conference jointly hosted by UNDRR and the Pacific Community (SPC), first established in 2009. In 2011, Pacific leaders endorsed the Roadmap towards an Integrated Strategy for Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change in the Pacific by 2015 (resulting in the development of the FRDP). At the most recent meeting in Suva in 2016, states reaffirmed their commitment to implementing the Sendai Framework for DRR and agreed on the priority to bridge the gap between CCA and DRR and fully integrate them into development planning and programming (Natoli, 2020).

The Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Address Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (FRDP) provides high-level strategic guidance to different stakeholder groups on how to enhance resilience to climate change and disasters. It advocates for the adoption of integrated approaches, wherever possible, in order to make more efficient use of resources, to rationalise multiple sources of funding which address similar needs, and for more effective mainstreaming of risks into development planning and budgets.20

The Boe Declaration identifies climate change as the largest threat to PICs and calls for stronger regional cooperation in line with identified targets. It recognises climate change capacities as a key regional security priority and presents a rigorous framework for addressing climate change and disasters in the region.21

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ANNEX III: OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH APPROACH

FINDING ALIGNMENT BETWEEN DRR AND CCA IN THE PACIFIC:
COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS, PRACTICE AND POLICY

World Vision, Humanitarian Advisory Group and the Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) are collaborating on a new research initiative exploring synergies for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) integration in policy and practice. The research aims to (i) promote local evidence and best practice in Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste and (ii) provide a platform for policy makers, donor agencies and practitioners to discuss opportunities for DRR and CCA integration at community level.

Our questions: What do we want to know?

The research hypothesises that there are complimentary sets of expertise and policy goals between CCA and DRR, and that better integration in policy and practice would enhance efforts towards adaptation, risk reduction and sustainable development for communities in AHP countries. This will be explored through two key questions:

1. What are the existing challenges and opportunities in the implementation of integrated DRR and CCA programming?
2. How can AHP programs strengthen the integration of DRR and CCA at the community level in case study countries?

Our approach: How will we do this?

Localised research:
We will work with national researchers in each country and create opportunities for them to share their experiences and lessons. Research methods will be contextualised for each country by our national researchers.

Iterative:
We are taking a phased approach that allows us to reflect on findings and adapt our research approaches accordingly. Emerging findings will be shared regularly in a way that is accessible and timely.

Participatory:
Our research processes will be participatory – engaging a variety of stakeholders to be active participants across the various phases of the research process.

In partnership:
We are looking to work across the Australian Humanitarian Partnership and beyond, including with Pacific partners, to ensure the ongoing relevance and appropriateness of our findings for a wide audience.

Our timeframe: When will it be taking place?

|--------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|

Our request: What does this mean for you?


Shaw, R. (2016). Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction, Natural Hazard Science. Available at: https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199389407.013.47.


SPC. (2015). Compendium of Case Studies on Climate and Disaster Resilient Development in the Pacific, SPC.


UNISDR. (2013). The Pacific Experience in Developing Policy and Legislation on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation. UNISDR.


