Going Local

Achieving a more appropriate and fit-for-purpose humanitarian ecosystem in the Pacific
• Global Summit – addressing the challenges of international humanitarian system
• Increasing needs – resourcing not keeping up
• Humanitarian system not fit for purpose
• Red Cross active participation in WHS – global and regional (6 regional summits)
• Localisation emerged as major theme
The Grand Bargain

**Donors:**
- Reduce earmarking
- More multi-year funding
- Simplify and harmonise reporting requirements

**Agencies:**
- Increased
- Transparency
- Reduction duplication & management costs
- Multi-year planning
- Joint impartial needs assessment

**Jointly:**
- Increase the use and coordination of cash-based programming
- Enhance engagement between humanitarian and development actors
- More support and funding for local and national responders
- Participation revolution: include people receiving aid in making the decisions which affect their lives
Why localization research in the Pacific?

- CSOs
- RCRC reps
- Local NGOs
- National NGOs
- INGOs
- State actors

Fiji

PNG

Vanuatu

Australia

Cook Is.

NZ

Tonga

RCRC signatory to the Grand Bargain (WHS)

Australian Red Cross programmatic focus on Pacific

Binary arguments – lacking context-specific, nuanced evidence base

Pacific has particular architecture – focus on development and resilience – role of human actors?

redcross.org.au
A note on methodology

- Key research question “what would a successfully localised disaster management ecosystem in the Pacific look like, and what changes do Red Cross and the broader humanitarian system need to make to get there?”

- Localised approach to research
- Pacific Island national researchers comprised over 50% of the research team
- Methodology designed with national researchers
- Research in country led by national researchers
- Microcosm of the strengths and weaknesses of localisation more broadly