



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



Australian Red Cross

THE POWER OF HUMANITY

Going Local

Achieving a more appropriate and fit-for-purpose humanitarian ecosystem in the Pacific



Key findings: What needs to change?

Lo.cal.is.a.tion (n.)

“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.”



Key findings: Pacific perspectives

Capacity Development

"In good times they train us to be managers & then when disaster happens they turn up & take over the show – when can we learn?"

Relationships

"People can't just fly in & make decisions, but if you have a relationship with a partner built on trust you can make decisions together, using that shared knowledge"

Policies & Standards

"You are bringing in a battleship when you need a canoe, it is just crazy"

Finance

"So many INGOs were getting the money that local actors felt should be coming to them"

Human Resources

"It makes such a huge difference when responders are from the region rather than outside the region... [Communities] were much more comfortable with other Pacific Islanders"