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

CENTRE FOR HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP

FNU FIJI NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

HUMANITARIAN ADVISORY GROUP

WORLD HUMANITARIAN SUMMIT

- **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

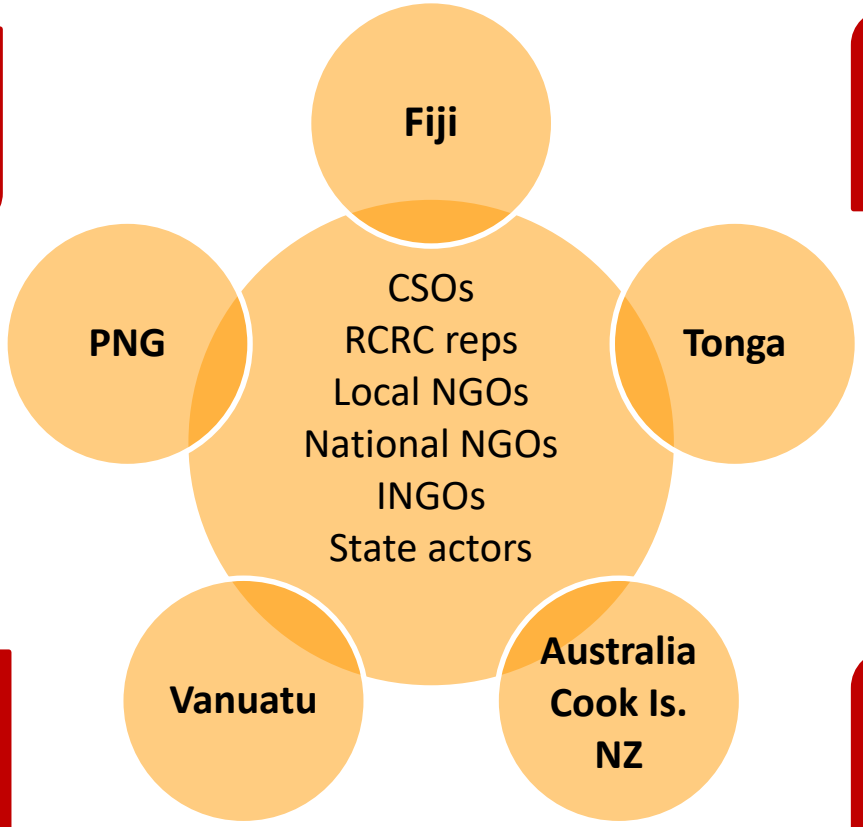
Jointly:

- 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?

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?

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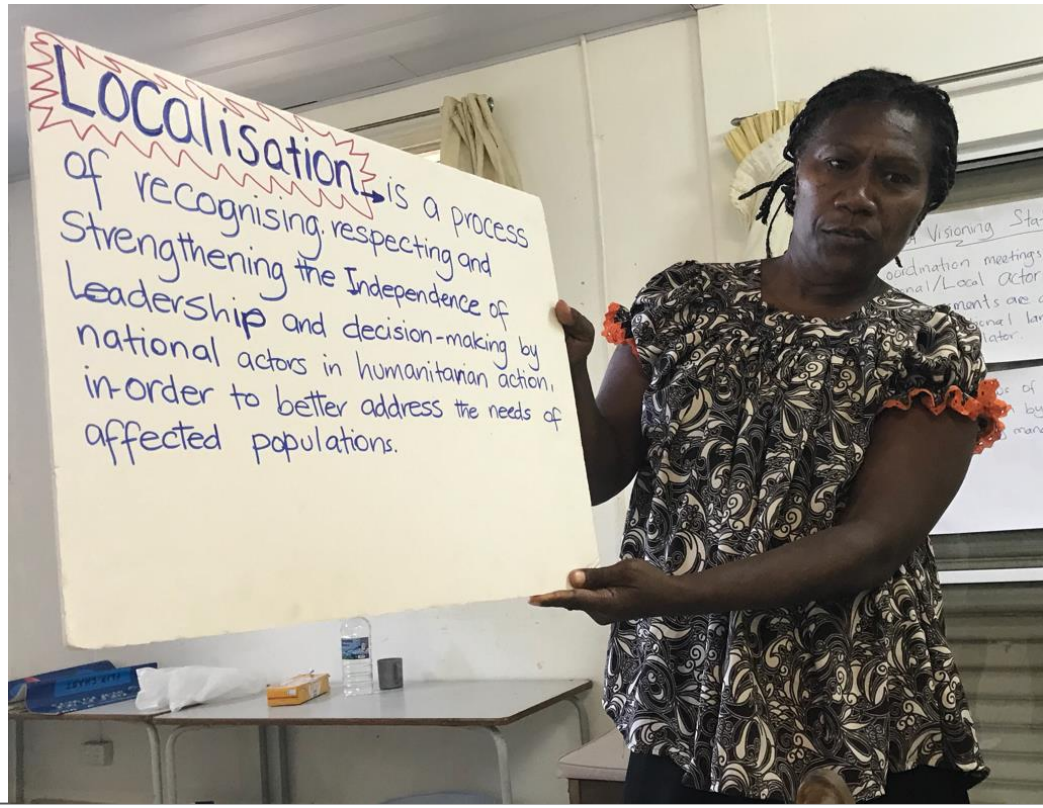
the power of humanity

AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS

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