Beyond Barriers:
Integrating Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation in the Pacific

Founded in 2012, HAG brings
fresh thinking to challenge
the status quo
of humanitarian aid.

As an ethically
driven business, we combine
humanitarian passion with
entrepreneurial agility to think
and do things differently.

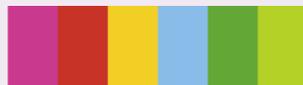Driven by social purpose

Brave   **Ridiculously**   **Continuously**   **Unfailingly**   **Ethical**
            flexible   **Enabling**   **Curious**

Overview

- Background to research
- Relevance: connecting domestic to international
- Overview of methodology and approach
- Research findings
- Required behavioural shifts: Implications for agencies
- Next steps

Bridging the divide
– strengthening resilience knowledge sharing between international and domestic contexts

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National Recovery and Resilience Agency

Australian Institute for
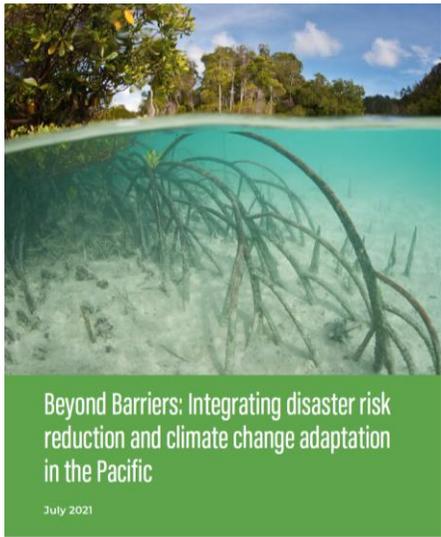Disaster Resilience

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Research Methodology

1. What are the existing challenges and opportunities in the implementation of integrated DRR and CCA programming?

2. How can programs strengthen the integration of DRR and CCA at the community level in case study countries?

Methodology

1 literature review of 70+ documents

6 case studies

59 key informant interviews

450 community members participating in focus group discussions

4 conference presentations

12 global and regional interviews

6 Vanuatu spotlight interviews

1 reflection and learning workshop

1 expert steering committee

1 technical reference group

Application of behavioural science principles

Ethical research practices and localised research approach

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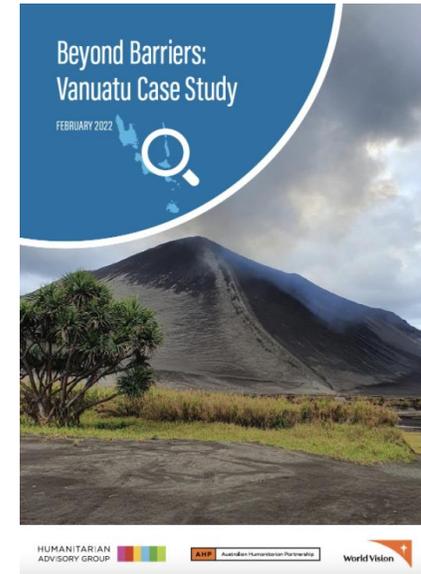
July 2021

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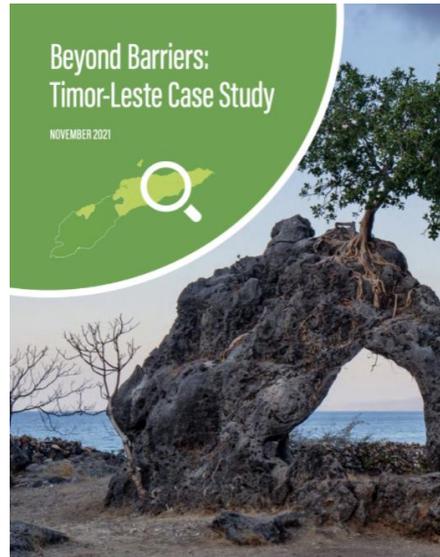
Beyond Barriers: Timor-Leste Case Study

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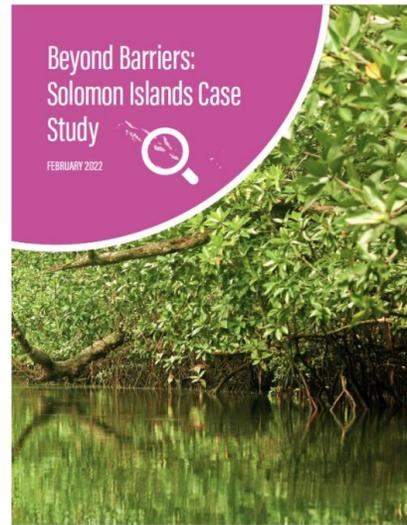
Beyond Barriers: Solomon Islands Case Study

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Beyond Barriers: Vanuatu Case Study

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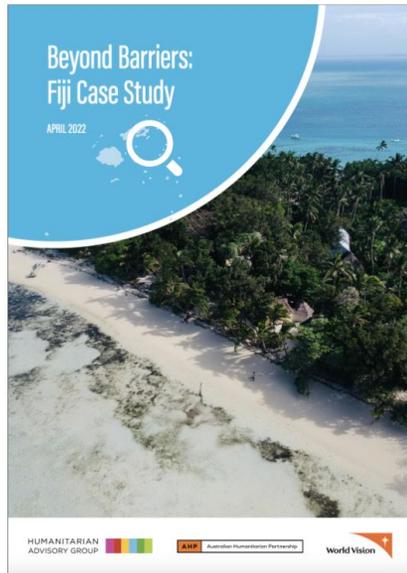
Beyond Barriers: Fiji Case Study

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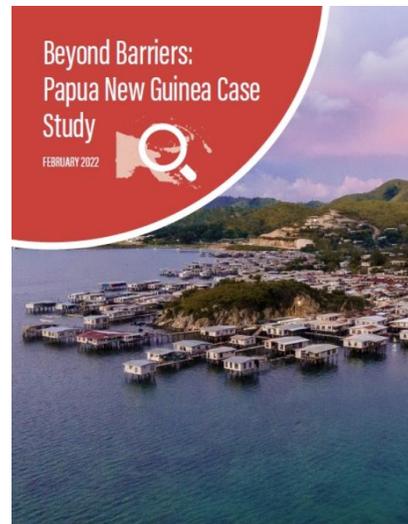
Beyond Barriers: Papua New Guinea Case Study

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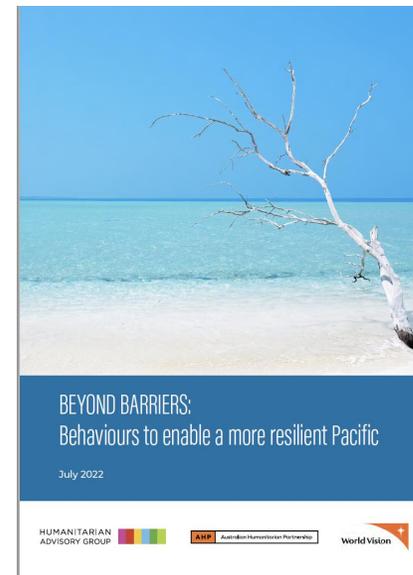
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BEYOND BARRIERS: Behaviours to enable a more resilient Pacific

July 2022

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Behavioural Barriers Preventing Progress

'Implementing agencies who are at the front line of bringing out behaviour change know what kind of change needs to take place, but ultimately, they can't change this because of the built-in structural way that [they] operate.' (Regional actor)[41]

'There is accountability of local communities up to international donors, but no accountability down. The heads of [national disaster management offices] all raise the idea, "localisation for who?"' (International actor)[49]

A vision for more resilient communities

Centre community members as decision-makers

Create new resilience defaults

Make processes simple and consistent

Strengthen authority and accountability for resilience outcomes

Vision
At risk communities in the Pacific use a strong understanding of their level of disaster risk to prioritise and implement inclusive community-led preparedness activities that reduce risk and build resilience to future disasters. By actively engaging in well-informed decision-making, community members shape the support they receive from others.

Centre community members as decision makers

'When talking about the Pacific, having trusted relationships between people, for example between an expert and community leader, is critical. Behaviour change Is not just about handing over information, it's about building trust and helping people to change their own behaviour to become more resilient.' (International actor)[13]

Create new resilience defaults

'It's beyond actions, more about institutional behaviour change.' (Regional actor)[19]

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Make processes simple and consistent

'There needs to be a common vision. Strategies need to be better written and include [all stakeholders] in the strategy writing process. If they are all engaged from the beginning, you can streamline these processes and visions rather than creating competition." (International actor)[23]
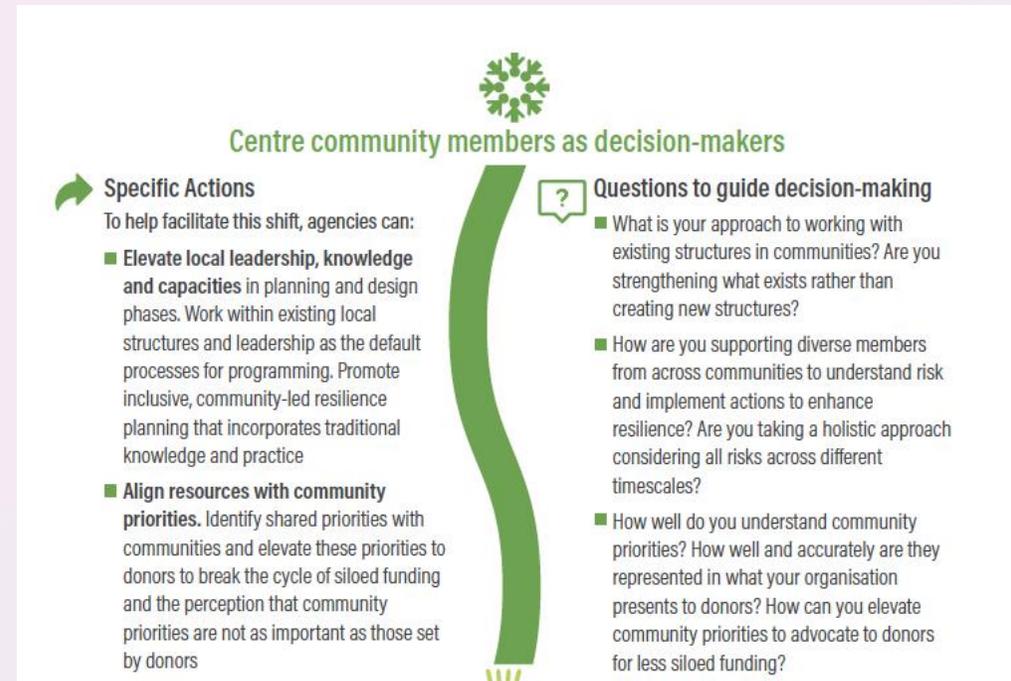
Strengthen authority and accountability for resilience outcomes

'[Implementing actors] understand the concept of resilience, it's not that they don't, but they try to meet requirements set by [donors]. They need to set up proper indicators.' (Regional actor)[29]
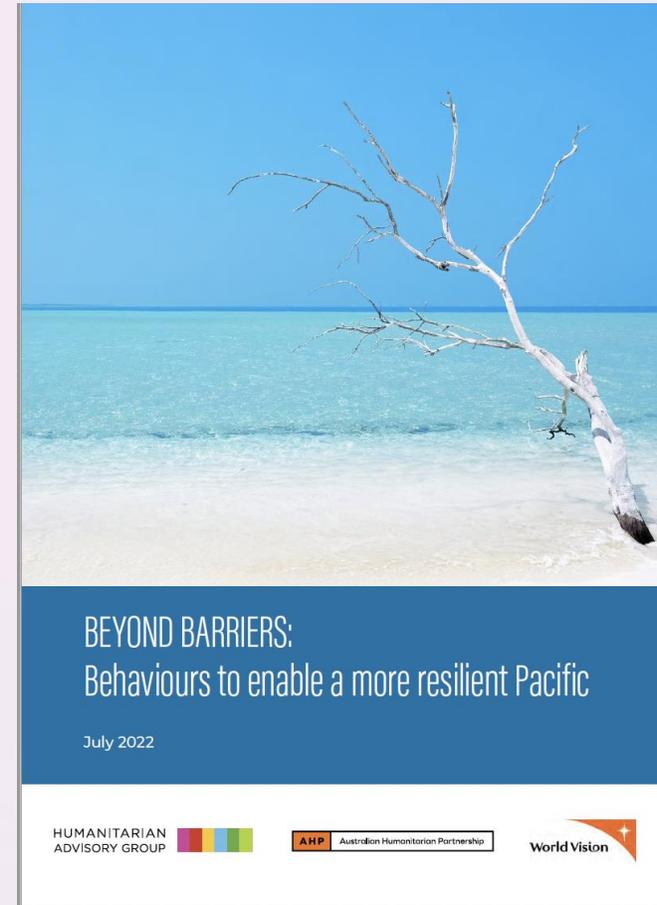
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Taking it forward: Behavioural shifts

Framework to guide agency progress towards supporting resilience

Centre community members as decision-makers

Specific Actions
To help facilitate this shift, agencies can:

- **Elevate local leadership, knowledge and capacities** in planning and design phases. Work within existing local structures and leadership as the default processes for programming. Promote inclusive, community-led resilience planning that incorporates traditional knowledge and practice

- **Align resources with community priorities.** Identify shared priorities with communities and elevate these priorities to donors to break the cycle of siloed funding and the perception that community priorities are not as important as those set by donors

Questions to guide decision-making

- What is your approach to working with existing structures in communities? Are you strengthening what exists rather than creating new structures?

- How are you supporting diverse members from across communities to understand risk and implement actions to enhance resilience? Are you taking a holistic approach considering all risks across different timescales?

- How well do you understand community priorities? How well and accurately are they represented in what your organisation presents to donors? How can you elevate community priorities to advocate to donors for less siloed funding?

Example – actions and guiding questions

Phase 2 –
Integration in Action

BEYOND BARRIERS:
Behaviours to enable a more resilient Pacific

July 2022

Thank you

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