

## COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

Nguna and Pele Islands are located in the central part of SHEFA province off the northern coast of Efate. The combined population of Nguna and Pele is just over eleven hundred people, spread unevenly among sixteen communities and villages, ten of which are located directly on the coast. Villages range in population size from under 100 to over 500 people. All villages have strong customary autonomies, presided over by a hereditary paramount chief.

Nguna and Pele are surrounded by fringing reefs, which are fished by the local people. However, the basis of islanders' diet and livelihood comes from subsistence farming. Income on Nguna and Pele is largely generated by supplying root crops, fish and handicrafts to the national market in the capital of Port Vila.

### MEETING WITH COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS



FOR THE RAPID ASSESSMENT

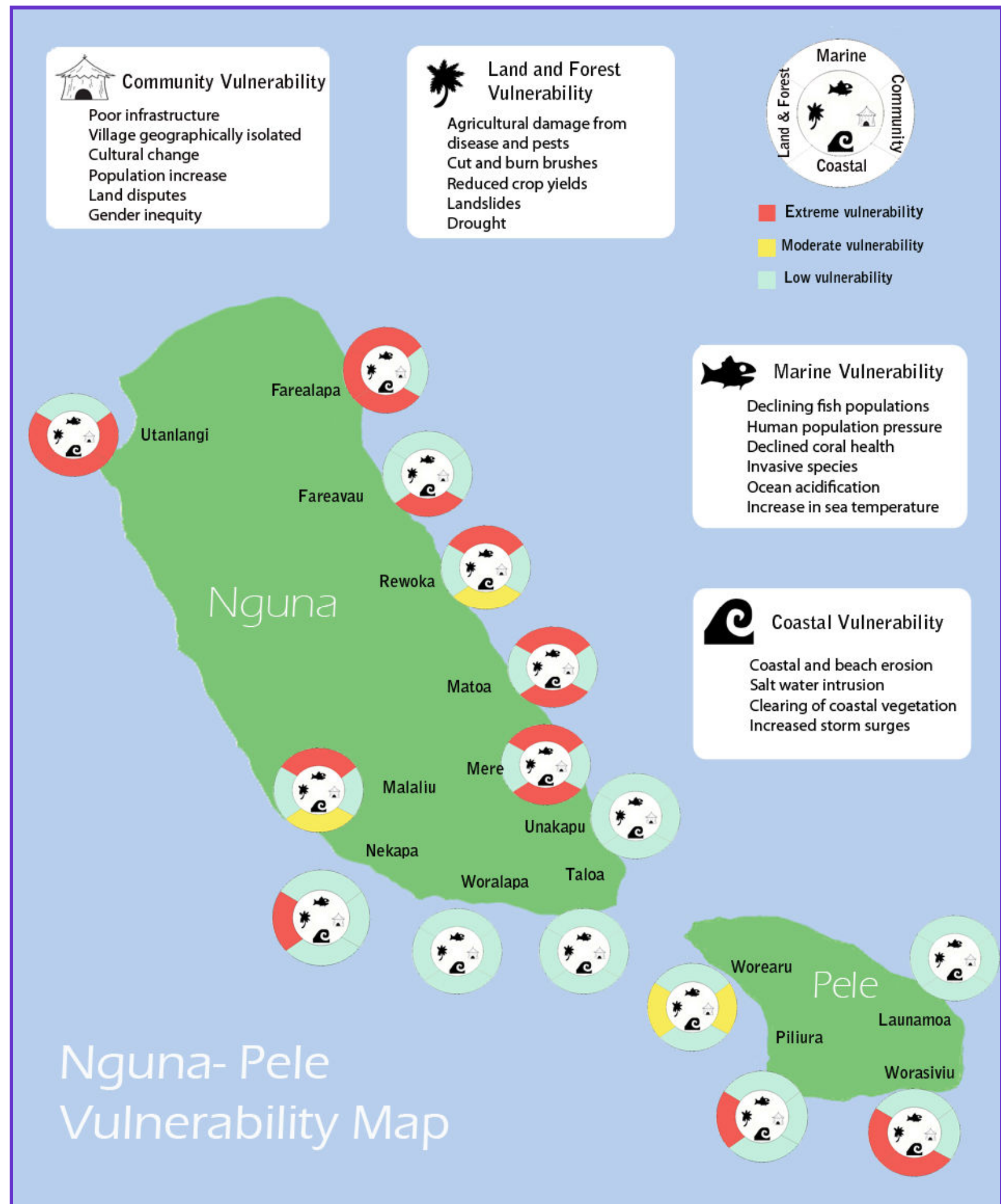
### COLLECTING AND INTERPRETING CLIMATE VULNERABILITY DATA



## RAPID VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT METHODS

To assess the climate change vulnerability of Nguna and Pele islands, a quantitative survey was developed to appraise marine, coastal, forest, land, and community vulnerabilities. A three person team including SHEFA Province and SPC-GIZ climate experts and the local Area Secretary rapidly assessed key vulnerabilities from 4 villages on Pele and 11 villages on Nguna within two days.

In each village the team met with 3-4 community leaders such as chiefs, elders and religious representatives. The group was asked to rank a list of key vulnerabilities according to the severity or occurrence in their own community. Each potential vulnerability was ranked on a scale of 1-3: 1 being extremely high losses of livelihood or ecosystem function, 2 moderate, and 3 low. The participants' scores were averaged to determine the overall level of vulnerability within each category for each community.





# KEY VULNERABILITIES

## Nguna Island

Communities on Nguna identified the coastal region as their most vulnerable area, with the most prevalent issues being coastal erosion, increased storm surge and sea pollution. Nguna villagers identified marine vulnerabilities in their community as their second highest concern. Declined coral health, increased human population pressure, declining fish and shellfish, invasive species and increase in sea temperature were commonly cited issues.



## Pele Island

On Pele community leaders identified land and forest as their most vulnerable area. Villagers named reduced crop yields, slash and burn agriculture, and increased agricultural damage due to pests and disease as their top concerns. Additionally, Pele islanders cited coastal vulnerabilities including coastal and beach erosion and salt water intrusion as the most pressing coastal weaknesses to address.



## SHEFA: Provincial Cooperation

The Nguna-Pele vulnerability assessment was led by SHEFA Province and their climate change officer. SHEFA is taking the initiative to understand climate vulnerabilities in its communities by rapidly mapping risks. SHEFA will use the vulnerability assessments to prioritize action and support for its communities. Communities in turn can adapt to the changing environment—before extreme loss of livelihood or ecosystem occurs. Data gleaned from this rapid vulnerability assessment will be used to find resources and coordinate support for more comprehensive assessments and action.

## ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

ALREADY BEING UNDERTAKEN ON  
NGUNA & PELE IN COLLABORATION  
WITH SPC-GIZ

### NGUNA- PELE MARINE AND LAND PROTECTED AREA NETWORK



Protecting fragile species and habitats

### CLIMATE RESILIENT FOREST NURSERY



Cultivating  
native  
coastal  
species to  
combat  
coastal  
erosion

### SOLAR FOOD DRYER



Enhanced food security in the face of  
decreasing agricultural yields, preserved  
fruit, nuts, fish, meat and vegetables

### HONEY BEE HUSBANDRY



Increasing  
agricultural  
productivity  
with bee  
pollination  
and training  
farmers in  
bee culture  
and honey  
production

### FISH AGGREGATING DEVICE



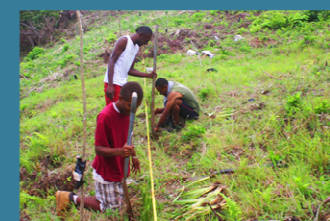
Attracts deep water fish to  
coastal villages and reduces  
pressure on vulnerable  
coral reefs

### LIVESTOCK HUSBANDRY



Breeding climate resilient pigs,  
climate-proof housing and  
feeding practices

### SLOPE STABILIZATION



Rehabilitating plots on degraded hillsides using  
resilient tree and grass species

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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# CLIMATE CHANGE RAPID VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

SHEFA PROVINCE  
NGUNA & PELE ISLANDS

