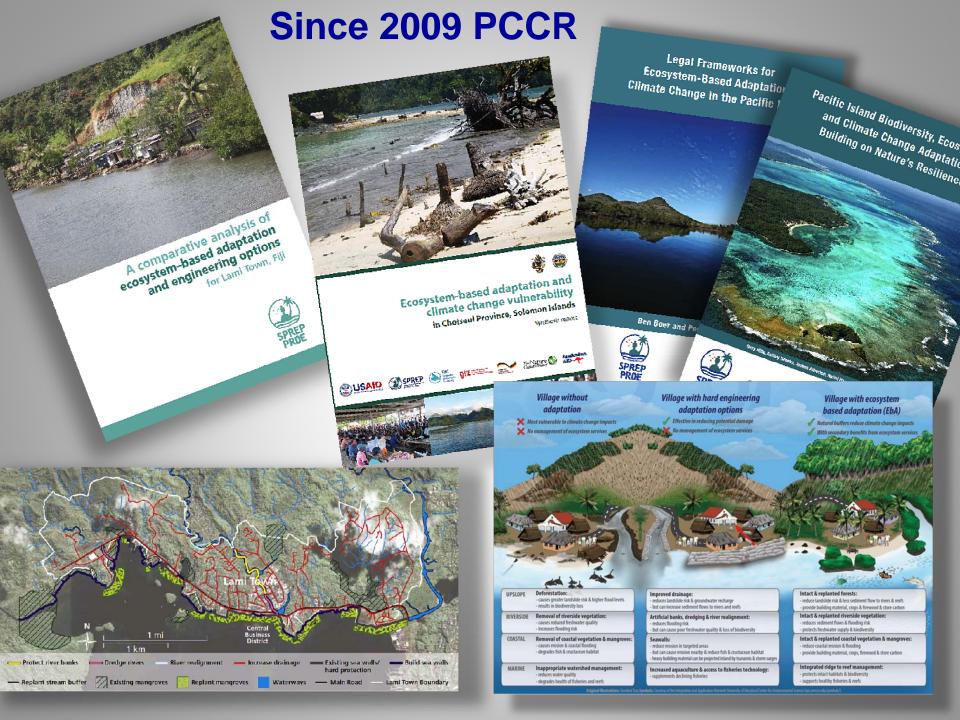


Social and ecological imperatives for Ecosystem-based Adaptation to climate change in the Pacific Islands





EbA in the Solomon Islands: Ridge to Reef Approach



Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands

Climate change vulnerability assessment and ecosystem-based adaptation

Synthesis report













- Choiseul Province, Solomon Islands
- USAID
- Partnership: SPC, GIZ, UNDP, PACSAP, etc

26,372

Population recorded in 2009 census

2.8%

Annual population growth rate

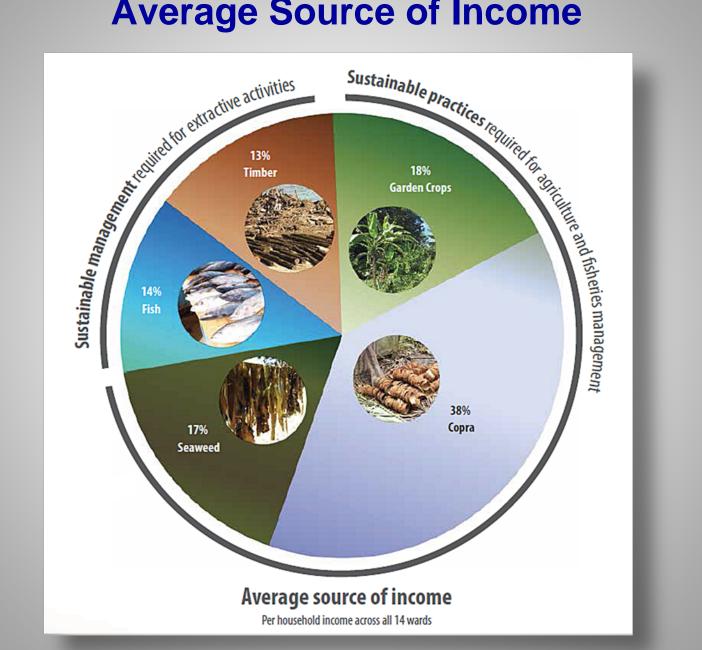
503

Number of communities 3,292km²

Total land area



Average Source of Income

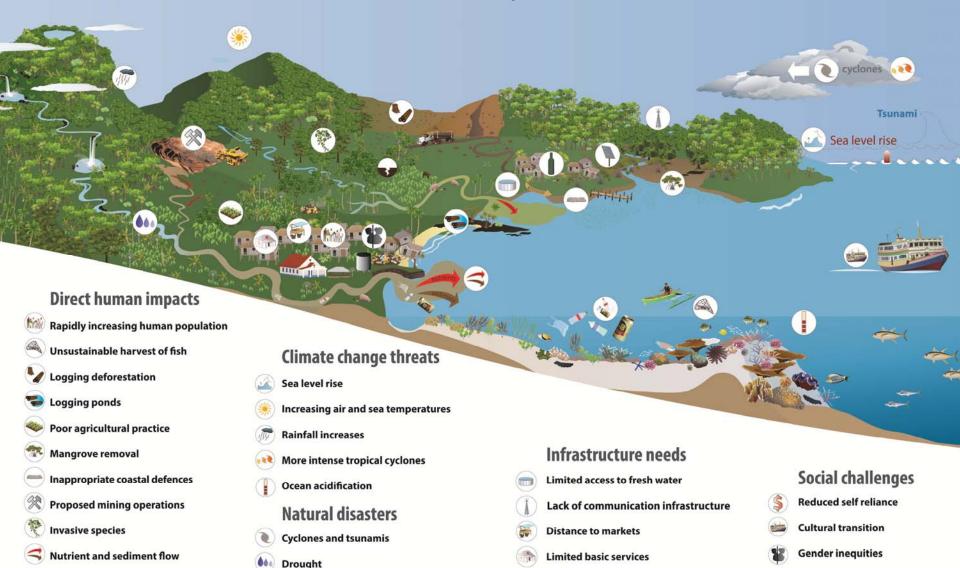




Threats identified by communities and known issues

Limited energy generation

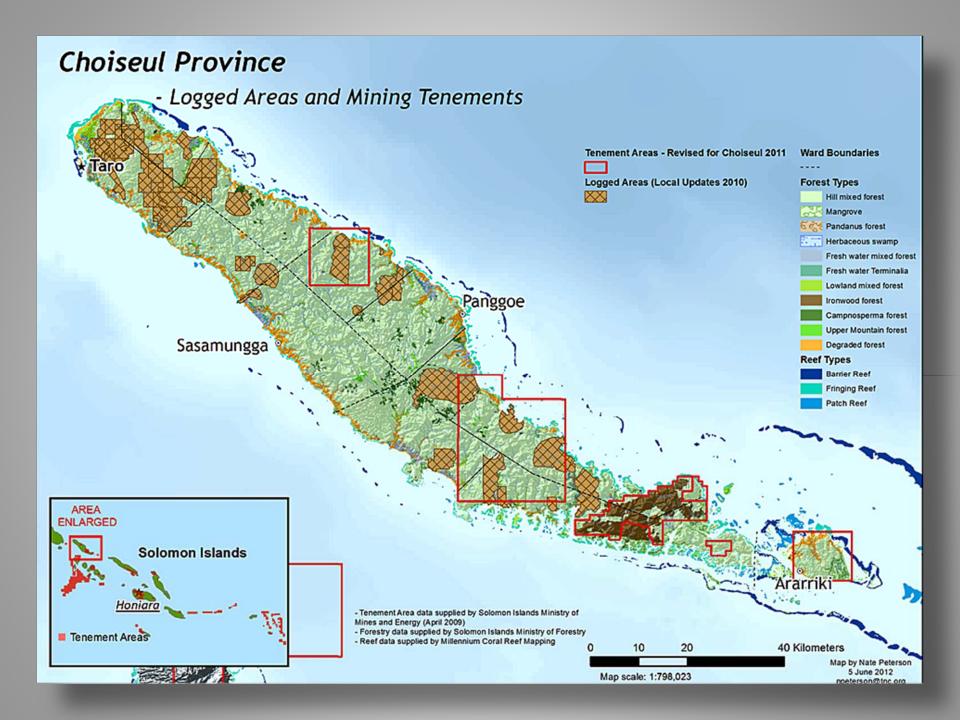
Foreign logging workers



Inappropriate rubbish disposal

Earthquake



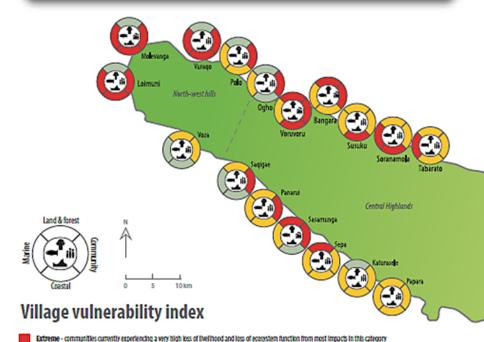


Key vulnerabilities identified

Land and forest vulnerability

Vulnerability is heightened by a range of land-use decisions that are decreasing resilience to the added pressure from the current and predicted impacts of climate change. Terrestrial impacts are increased by non-climate change factors such as logging and its indirect impacts including the displacement of pigs to gardens coupled with the reduction in hunting pressure, inappropriate farming practices, opening up of forest canopy, soil erosion and lack of land use planning. Reported changes include:

- Increase In agricultural damage due to pests and diseases
- Increased flooding events of food gardens and cash crops (coconuts and cocoa)
- Increased incidence of landslides
- Reduced crop yields
- Increased top soll erosion and sedimentation into streams and rivers



Marine vulnerability

Choiseul communities rely on fish and marine products as their main source of protein and also as an important source of income at the household level. Many villages reported declines in nearshore fishery resources and coral health. Reported changes include:

- Mangrove dleback (due to changes in coastline structure) and removal by humans
- Declining coral health as a result of increased sedimentation (from deforestation)
- Declining fish and invertebrates
- Weakened traditional marine resource management systems
- Increasing population putting more pressure on marine resources

Coastal vulnerability

Most communities in Choiseul are located in narrow low-lying coastal areas which are often bordered on the landward side by creeks, swamps and hills, and bisected or adjacent to rivers and streams. Reported changes include:

- Coastal erosion exacerbated by removal of mangroves and coastal vegetation
- Net shoreline recession over the past 2-5 decades (landward migration of the shoreline from net loss of sediment) averaging at about 0.4 – 0.8 metres per year (estimate from community based vulnerability assessment)
- Increase storm surge into villages during spring tides and local storms
- Saltwater Intrusion into wells (Arariki and Kukitin)

Community vulnerability

Communities in Choiseul are moving between a subsistence and cash economy and experiencing rapid cultural change and population increase. There are a number of factors making communities vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Reported changes include:

• Isolation from transportation and communications and access to markets for locally produced goods
• Land tenure disputes • Reduced Income from sale of crops and fish

House and Infrastructure damage from sea level rise and increased storm damage
 Food Insecurity and reliance on expensive and less healthy imported food

Cultural change (desire to move to cash economy) and loss of traditional knowledge
 Lack of resource management structures - disconnect between community and agencies

-Population Increases - Potential Increase In diseases, insect and water borne

Taqbangara
Nuatabu

Central Highlands

Varuga

Loloko

Loloko

Loloko

Posarae

Boeboe

Bastem Islands

Bastem Islands



These vulnerability assessment results are based on information gathered through visits to 27 communities where facilitated workshops, agricultural, coastal and hinterland assessments were conducted. This information was then further assessed through a literature review of relevant scientific research, recorded data and government legislation related to issues raised in the communities ("see full V&A Report for full description of indicators used to measure vulnerability).

High - communities currently and trending towards a high loss of livelihood and ecosystem function from many impacts in this category Moderate - communities currently or likely to experience some loss of livelihood and ecosystem function from some impacts in this category

Low - communities currently and not likely to experience impacts in the short term from most impacts in this category



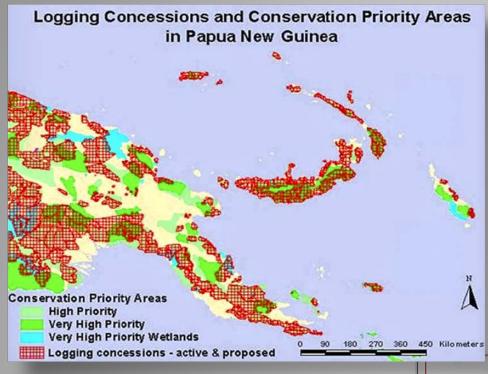
Adaptation Options Identified by Communities

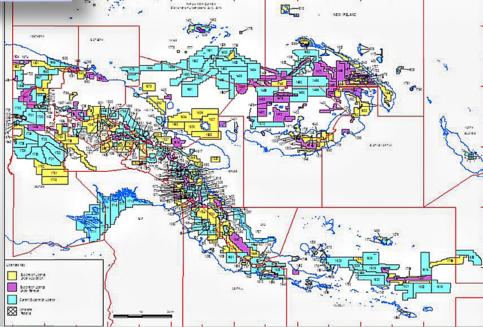
- Minimizing damage to village infrastructure
- Management and protection of inter-tidal and coastal areas
- Increasing food security and livelihoods
- Protection of water resources
- Marine and fisheries management
- Increase disaster preparedness

Examples of Project Activities

- Catchment resource management planning
- Integrated fisheries and coastal zone management
- Revegetation: key riparian zones and coastal vegetation
- Provincial invasive species management plan and other natural resource management planning
- Supporting protected areas establishment and management
- Education and awareness on unsustainable logging practices and other resource management issues

Relevance to Wider Pacific

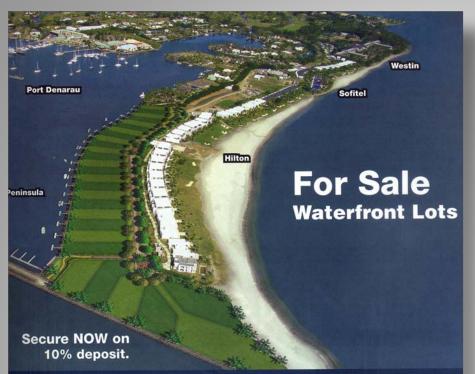






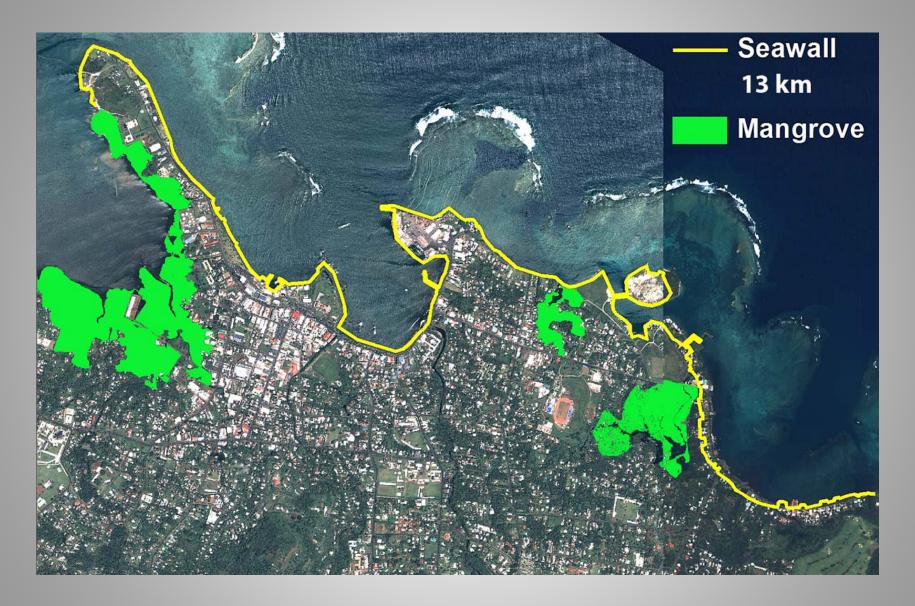


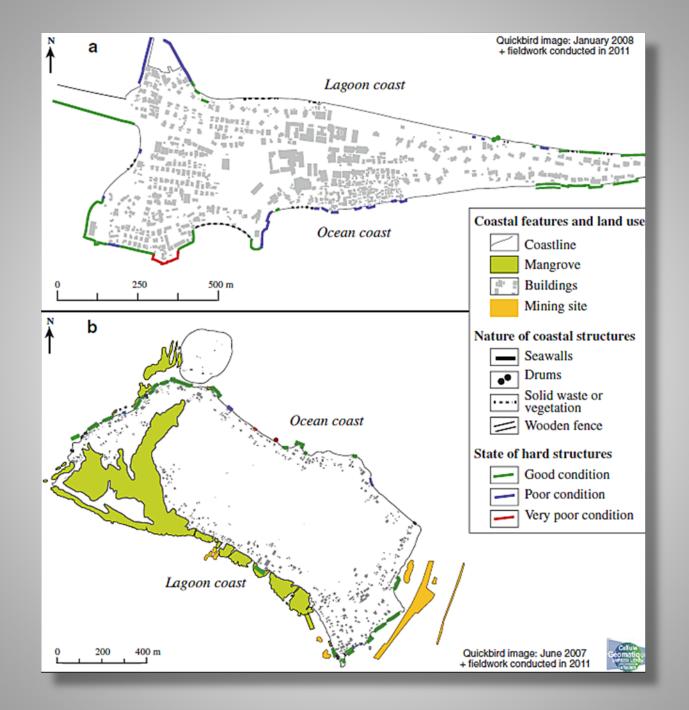




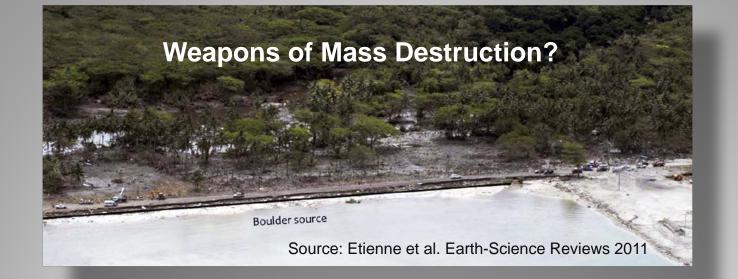
What climate change?

Denarau's best ... saved till last.















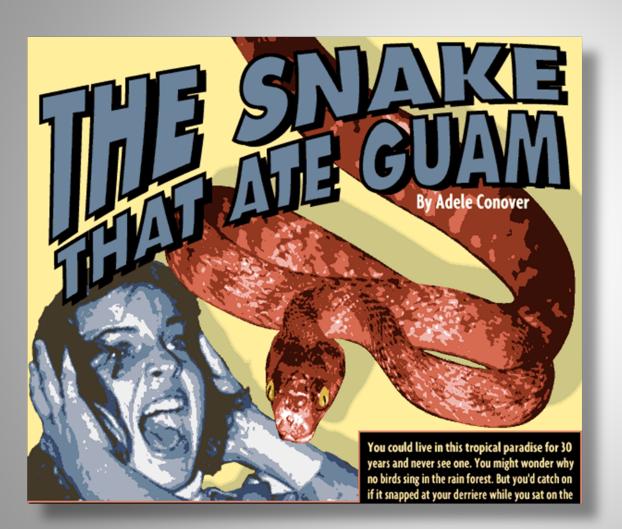




Global cost of damages: US\$1.4 trillion annually almost 5% of the global GDP in 2001



Taro Leaf Blight:
Drop in export value from US\$3.2 million in 1993 to <US\$60,000 in 1994



Brown Tree
Snake:
Research and
control costs total
over US\$7 million
p.a.



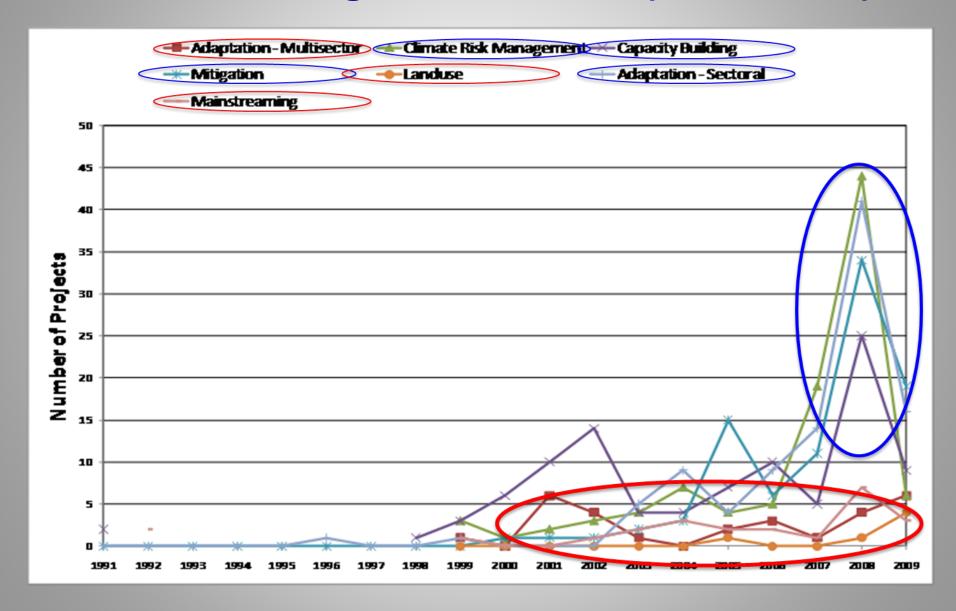






What Needs to Change

Number of Projects by Thematic Categories and Year (2009 PCCR)



Landscape Scale: Community and Ecosystem Focus



National policy implementation



Sub-national policy implementation



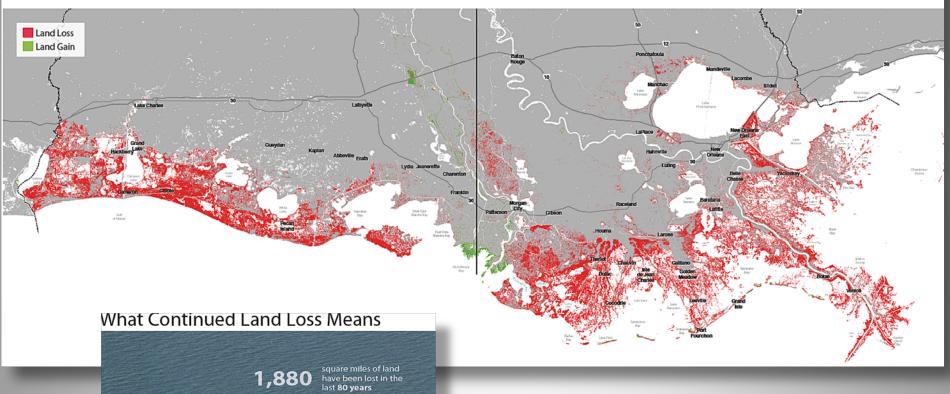
Community engagement

Country-wide integrated planning

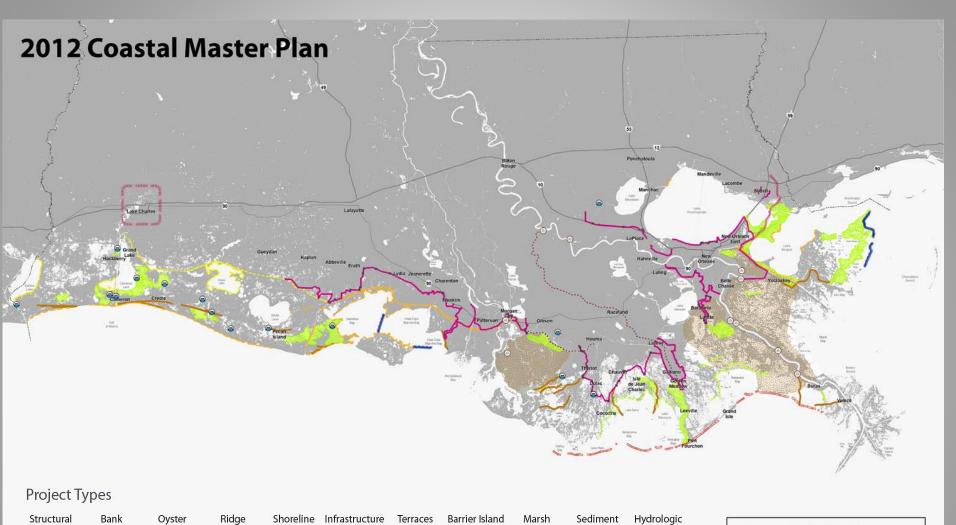
Whole-of-island integrated planning, ridge to reef approach, watershed management, etc

Louisiana is Experiencing a Coastal Crisis

Predicted Land Change over the Next 50 Years



square miles of additional land are at risk of being lost in the next **50 years**







Bank













Protection









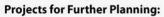
Creation





Hydrologic Restoration



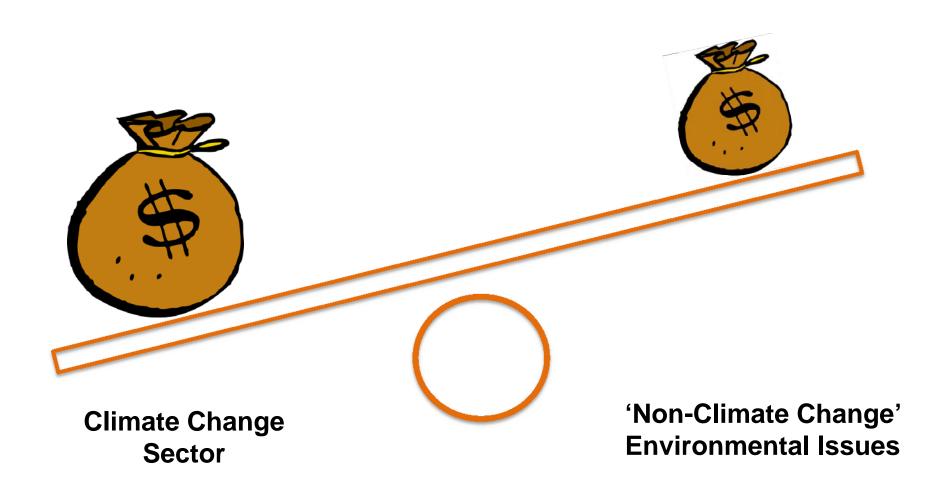


Lake Pontchartrain Barrier Lake Charles Protection Terrebonne Bay Rim Marsh Creation



Channel Realignment (Not Shown)

Balanced Approach to Funding



Balanced Approach to Funding





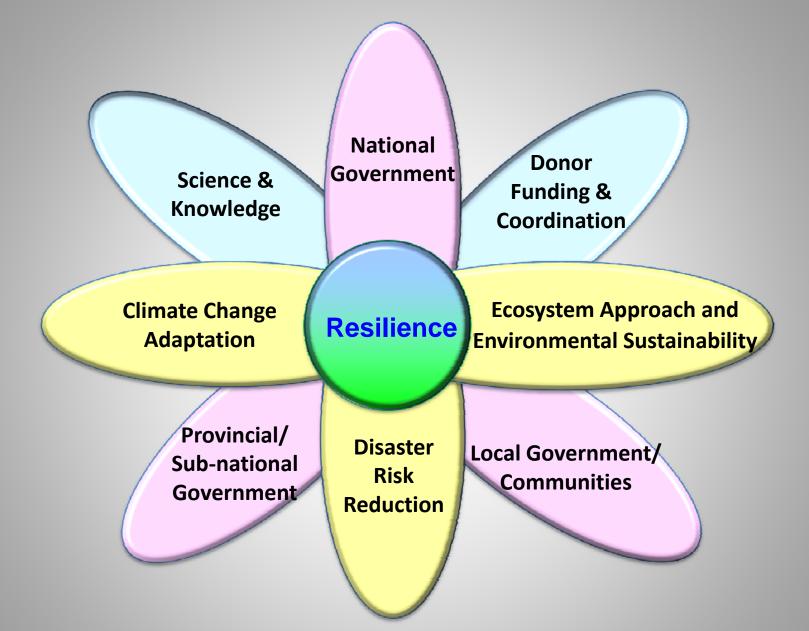
Integrated Approach:
Climate Change Adaptation + DRR +
Environmental Sustainability

ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

Climate Change
Adaptation
Core Focus

Disaster Risk Reduction

Environmental and Social Sustainability



Thank You!



Solomon Islands: 57% < 24 yrs age 37% 0-14 yrs