

# Translating DRM Info Management Technologies into Community Actions

A photograph showing three individuals in a lush green field. On the left, a man in a green t-shirt looks towards the center. In the middle, a woman in a light green shirt looks down at the plants. On the right, a man in a light-colored polo shirt with a World Vision logo on the chest points towards the plants. They appear to be engaged in a field activity or discussion.

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*Linking space-based information to front-line preparedness needs in Solomon Islands*

# 2017 UNSPIDER: What Response Managers need in disasters?

Info for can be used for resources planning, setting area targets, etc

Info with timeliness, when the assessment team has not arrived or start

Info to monitor the development of disaster, like tendency for drought and floods

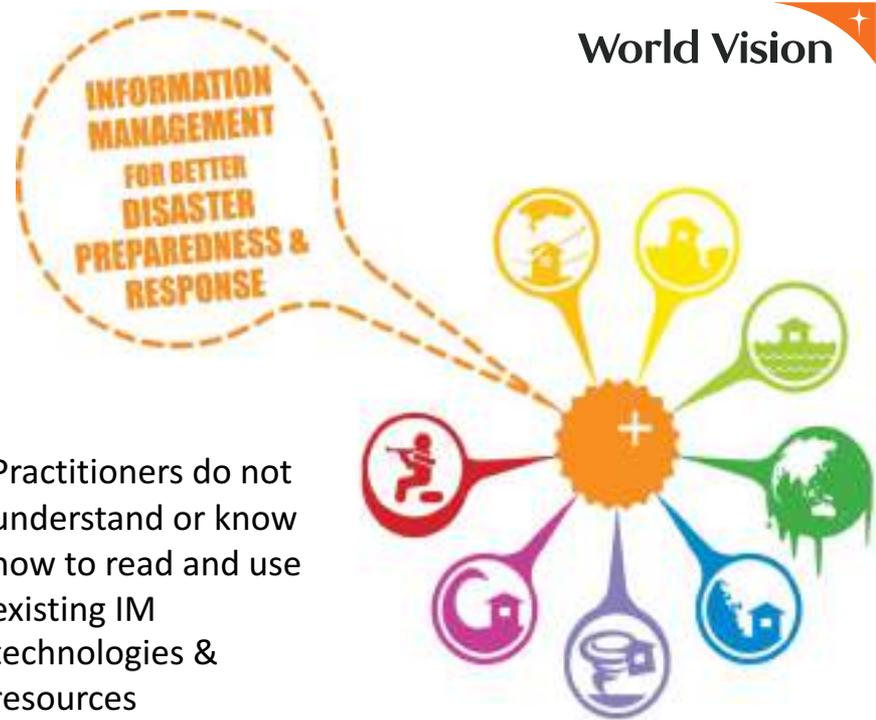
Info of broader picture: severity, distribution of impacts

Response managers must have the right information at the right time.

To do this, they need to extract and make use of data from available sources successfully. In other words, they need information management (IM).



# 2016-2017 WV DRM Info Management Initiative



## Rational

- Practitioners do not aware of existing IM technologies & resources
- Practitioners do not know where to access existing IM technologies & resources
- Practitioners do not understand or know how to read and use existing IM technologies & resources

**Technical:** To find a mechanism that ensures data interact with each other and form an overall picture. Moreover, existing systems need to be inter-operable.

## Gaps

**Human capacity:** Response Managers have yet to integrate effectively IM tools into their response processes and preparedness planning.

# 2016-2017 WV DRM Info Management Initiative

## Achievement:

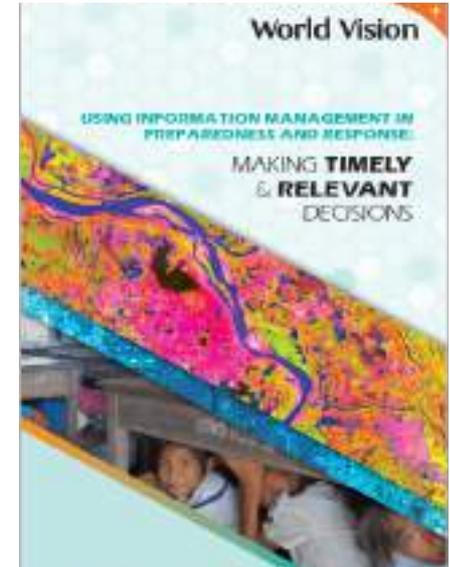
A series of information management workshops

### Learning environment

Workshops provide a learning environment for national disaster management offices, CSOs, NGOs, the private sector, local government units and vulnerable communities..

### Networking

Participants can network to learn from experts about available platforms/ databases/technologies/ initiatives to improve their information management in disasters.



Guidebook “Information Management in Preparedness & Response”

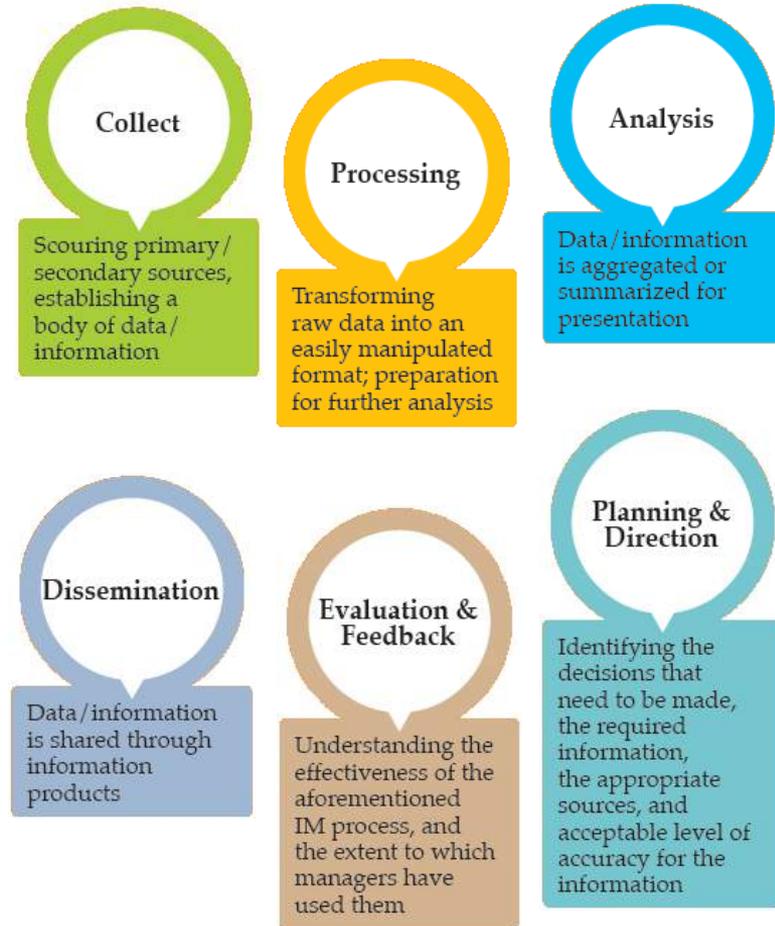


# 218

Total participants in 4 workshops.

What do humanitarian practitioners know about information management now?

# But what's next?

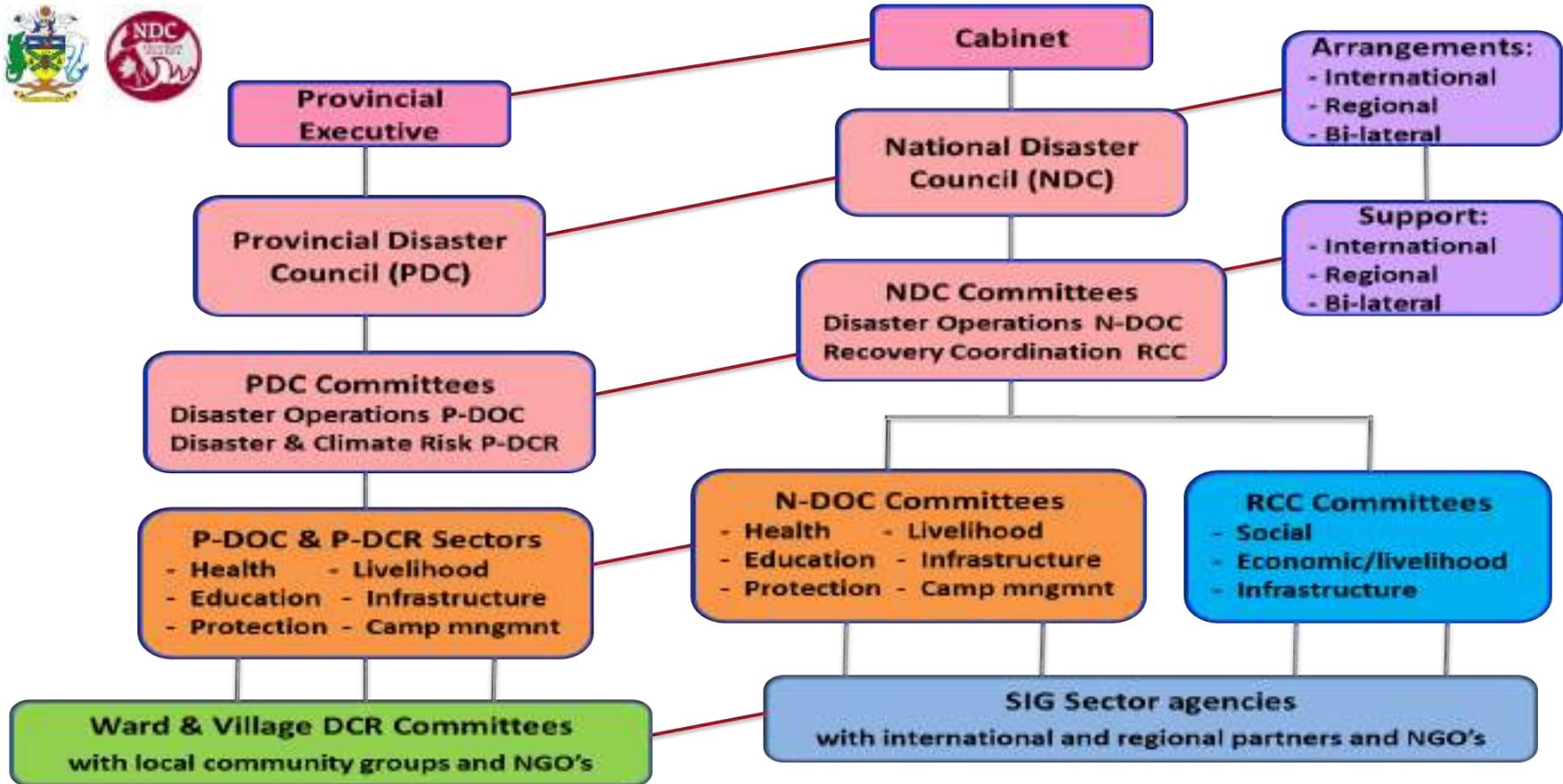


# Solomon Islands Experience

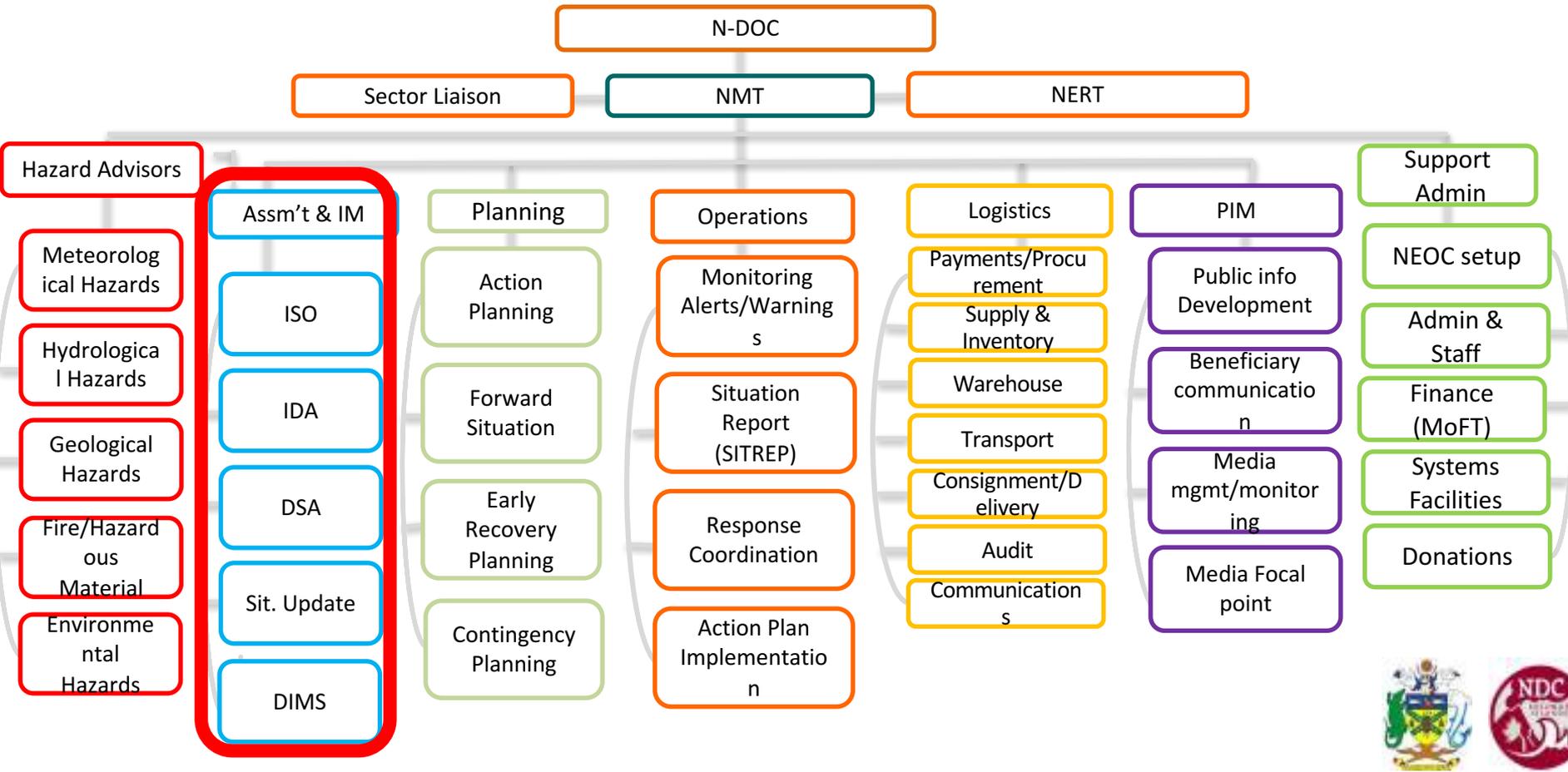
*Linking space-based information to front-line  
preparedness needs in communities*



# Outline of the DM institutional framework



# The National Emergency Operations Centre Arrangement





## Challenges and Gaps



### Technical resources

Limited IM skills and tools to capacitate the NEOC AIMFT and the Committees of the N-DOC.

### System & process

Weak IM systems and process.

### Standards

No standards.

### Capacity

Limited/No capacity around Assessment and IM systems at the Provincial Level



## Challenges and Gaps

### Collaboration & sharing

Not much collaboration and info sharing in normal time

### Infrastructure

Limited of IM infrastructure (central data center)

### Decentralized data

Data are decentralized and owned by different agencies



# Information Management in DRM Decision Making Workshop, Solomon Islands

## Aim

To bring together different DRM actors from various levels and sectors to discuss the uses of data, information, tools application, platforms, networks relevant to disaster risk management

## Time & Venue

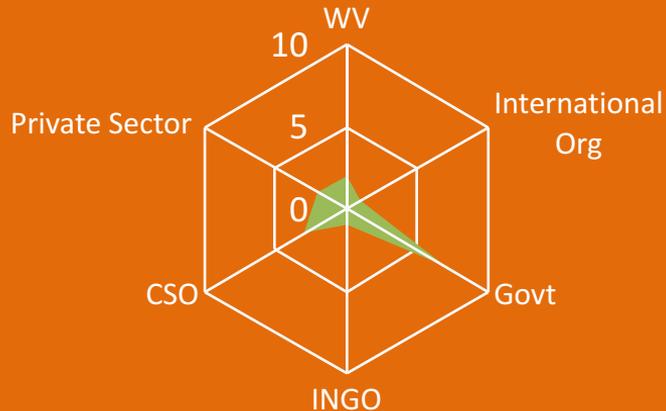
27th Feb to 2nd March 2017  
Honiara, Solomon Islands



# 65

## WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

### Attendant composition



## Best representations of all stakeholders, including community.

Solomon Islands workshop had the best representations of all stakeholders and was the only workshop with CSO participants representing community.



Technical experts & facilitators

# Workshop design

## Strength

Solomon Islands is comparatively good in CRVS.

## Focus

The workshop had strong focus on **humanitarian coordination** and **application of IM to Climate Change**

## Highlight

Value of **networking** and building relationships and **partnerships** in strengthening information sharing for DRM was highlighted in the workshop.

### Implementation Status

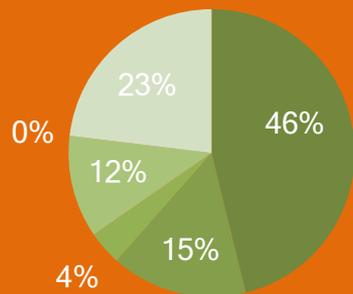
 National CRVS Coordination Mechanism <input type="checkbox"/>	 Inequality Assessment <input type="checkbox"/>
 Comprehensive Assessment <input type="checkbox"/>	 National CRVS strategy <input type="checkbox"/>
 National Targets <input type="checkbox"/>	 National CRVS Focal Point <input type="checkbox"/>
 Monitoring and reporting plan <input type="checkbox"/>	 Reporting to ESCAP <input type="checkbox"/>

 Complete     In Progress     Not Started     No Information

*...with information flowing from and to national level"*

...sett, Deputy High Commissioner, DFAT

## Workshop sessions

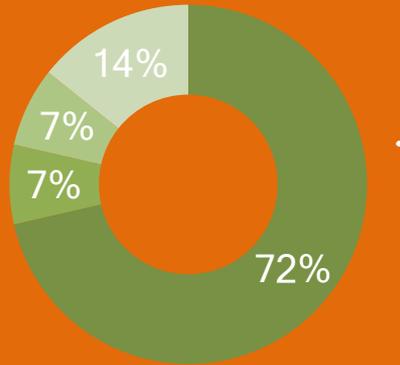


- IM & Humanitarian Coordination
- Platform, Tools & Approach
- Use of Data - Early Warning
- Use of Data - Response
- Use of Data - Post-Disaster
- Discussion/ Brainstorm

## Workshop agenda

- Day 1: Disaster Risk and Information Management-Pre Disaster
- Day 2: Strengthening Integration of CCA and DRR for better decision making
- Day 3: Post Event
- Day 4: Looking Forward

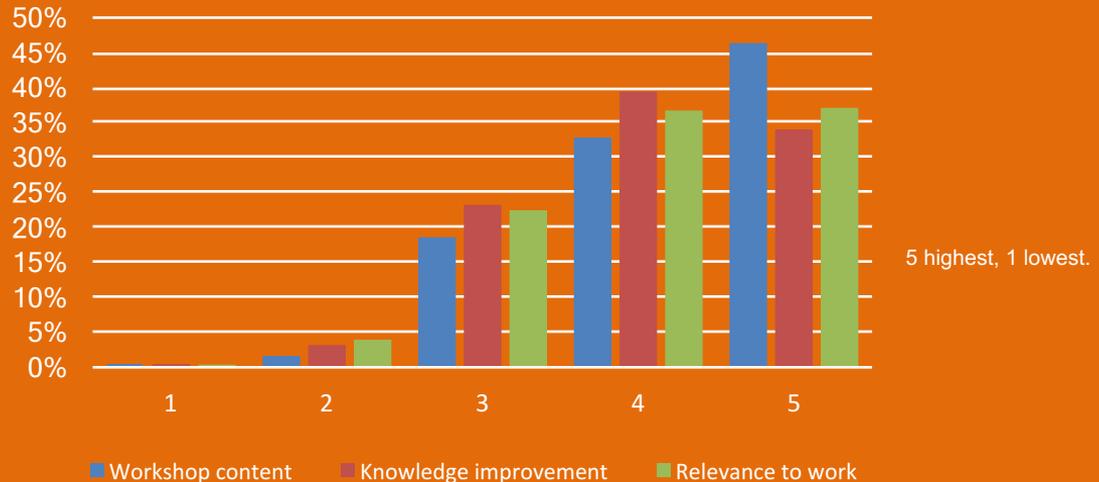
## Attendant expectations



- Learning - General DM & IM
- Learning - others
- Networking
- Knowledge sharing

*"I met a lot of stakeholders, like World Vision, National Disaster Management Offices, Meteorological Services, and Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology through this workshop." - A community leader*

## Workshop feedback



# Recommendation

## More workshops

“Build my capacity in further relevant training, and substantially advocate me on carrying out knowledge facilitation and sharing with stakeholders (intra and inter agencies), provincial government level and local communities on IM in disaster management in the light of impacts of climate change.”

## Community engagement

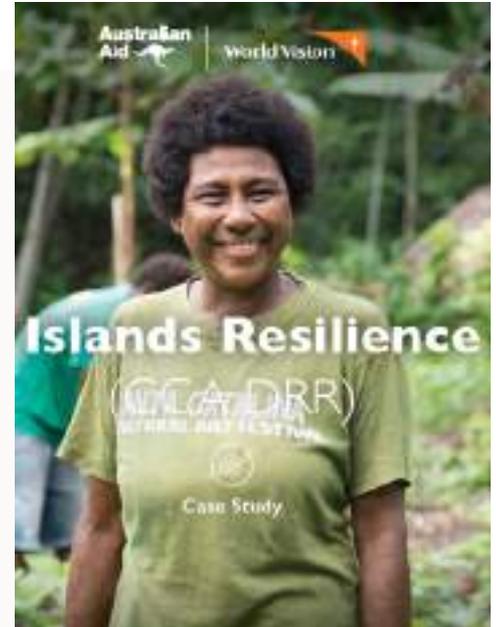
“I want the community based disaster risk management (CBDRM) or the early warning system to be implemented in the major rivers in the provinces in the Solomon Islands”.

- **James Viriala, Komukama Community DPC Vice Chairperson, Komukama Community**

“I learnt a lot of new things that I never learnt before through this modern and international workshop. We usually only get small workshops. This increases our capacity to deal with risks.”

- **Lazarus Mato'Ogani, Papaga Community DPC Chairperson, Papaga Community**

“The training helped to expand our horizon – broadening the knowledge of how to do things according to different levels.”



# Translating into community action

## Take-away

Community representatives **learned** where to start and how to plan information management for EWS.

They also got to **meet various stakeholders** which prompted immediate follow-up actions at village level.

## Gap

Most villagers are **aware** of the implications of disasters, but **lack skills and support** to coordinate for info management for EWS to better manage risks.

Many villages **lack communication tools** to dissipate information related to risks, such as rain, landslides and floods.

## Need

To these community leaders, **practical applications** are far more important than mere theoretical discussion.

- ✓ The workshop was 1<sup>st</sup> of its kind for involving community representatives in such high-level workshop.
- ✓ During the event, the community representatives were able to **reflect their concerns** to World Vision and **seek collaboration** with stakeholders, like NDMO and Solomon Islands Meteorological Services.



# 2

## COMMUNITIES for immediate action.

- Soon after the workshop, WV and other stakeholders met with communities to plan and implement EWS in villages.
- As an effort for community-based disaster risk management, rain gauge monitor and flood monitor for EWS were installed in **Komukama** and **Papaga** communities (end of April to first week of May).
- The communities were excited as this was their 1<sup>st</sup> time having such equipment to collect data and forecast disasters at village level.
- This allows better preparedness and timely evacuation of communities, which would be lifesaving in times of emergencies.





# Community level EWS

Strengthening CCA, Early Warning Systems, Networking, Partnerships and Coordination at villages.



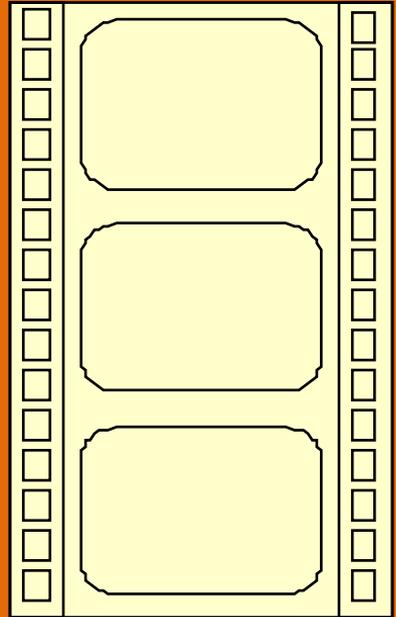
## Disaster Preparedness Capacity Building Trainings for DPCs

### Community Saving Groups



# Communities are first responder, hence DRR tech has to be understood and used by communities

WVSolomonIslands\_EarlyWarning



# Solomon Islands summary



## **MORE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

The community leaders welcome more likewise workshops to further build their capacity in IM and provide platforms to facilitate partnership.

## **BOTTOM UP APPROACH**

To communities, external assistance is needed, but building local awareness and capacity is even more important and effective.

## **TWO WAY LEARNING**

Thanks to the workshop WV staffs and community representatives now have better understanding of the relevant actors and what they are doing in each locale.

## **PARTNERSHIP**

This directly led to WVSI's identification of potential partners who can support projects such as those related to the EWS.

# Post-workshop series follow up: theory to action



## Stakeholder coordination with common tools

- Coordination via Working Group using Standardised Format
- Common disaster information management system for preparedness, response and recovery
- Intra & inter- organization communication



## Policy level change

- Social media & media management
- Policy implication for gov't (LGU)
- Advocate for broader information management, not just weather but all hazards
- Institutionalising DRRM



## Community level application for CCA

- **Community awareness raising & capacity building**
- **Community early warning system installation and preparedness**
- **Local level stakeholders coordination & collaboration**

# Looking forward

At the organizational level, where is change most needed to enable effective utilization of IM tools in DRM?

Inclusive capacity building, policy support & partnering

Enhance policy to accommodate coordination & capacity building

Inter-agency coordination, sharing and training at all levels.

Create space for utilization of IM with integrated & comprehensive approach.

What change is needed to strengthen IM in DRM? (top 3)

More emphasis on strengthening IM system, process, and tools at the national and sub-national levels

National and global Inter-agency coordination

response manager needs to understand how to utilize and leverage IM

