



CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND EDUCATION

INITIATIVES IN THE PACIFIC THROUGH SPREP

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Approach to this presentation.....!

☞ I represent SPREP in this meeting and would be presenting on how SPREP and PICTs incorporate education as part of their approach to climate change adaptation in the region.





What is SPREP?



- **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme**
- **Intergovernmental organisation (IGO);**
- **Responsible for environmental matters in Pacific Islands region ;**
- **Consist of the SPREP Meeting (Governing Body) and the Secretariat;**
- **Members are the Governments and Administration of 21 Pacific Island countries and territories and four developed countries with direct interests in the Pacific Islands region.**



Priority issues identified under the Pacific CC Framework [2006-2015]

- 1. Implementing Adaptation Measures**
- 2. Governance and decision making**
- 3. Improving our understanding of climate change**
- 4. Education, training and awareness**
- 5. Contributing to global greenhouse gas reduction**
- 6. Partnerships and cooperation**



Adaptation and Education - what is it?

☞ Adaptation is the ability to respond and adjust to actual or potential impacts of changing climate conditions in ways that moderates harm or takes advantage of positive opportunities.

☞ The process of adjustment also includes changing one's attitude and behaviour.





Adaptation and Education - what is it?

☞ A means to that end is formal and/or non-formal education.

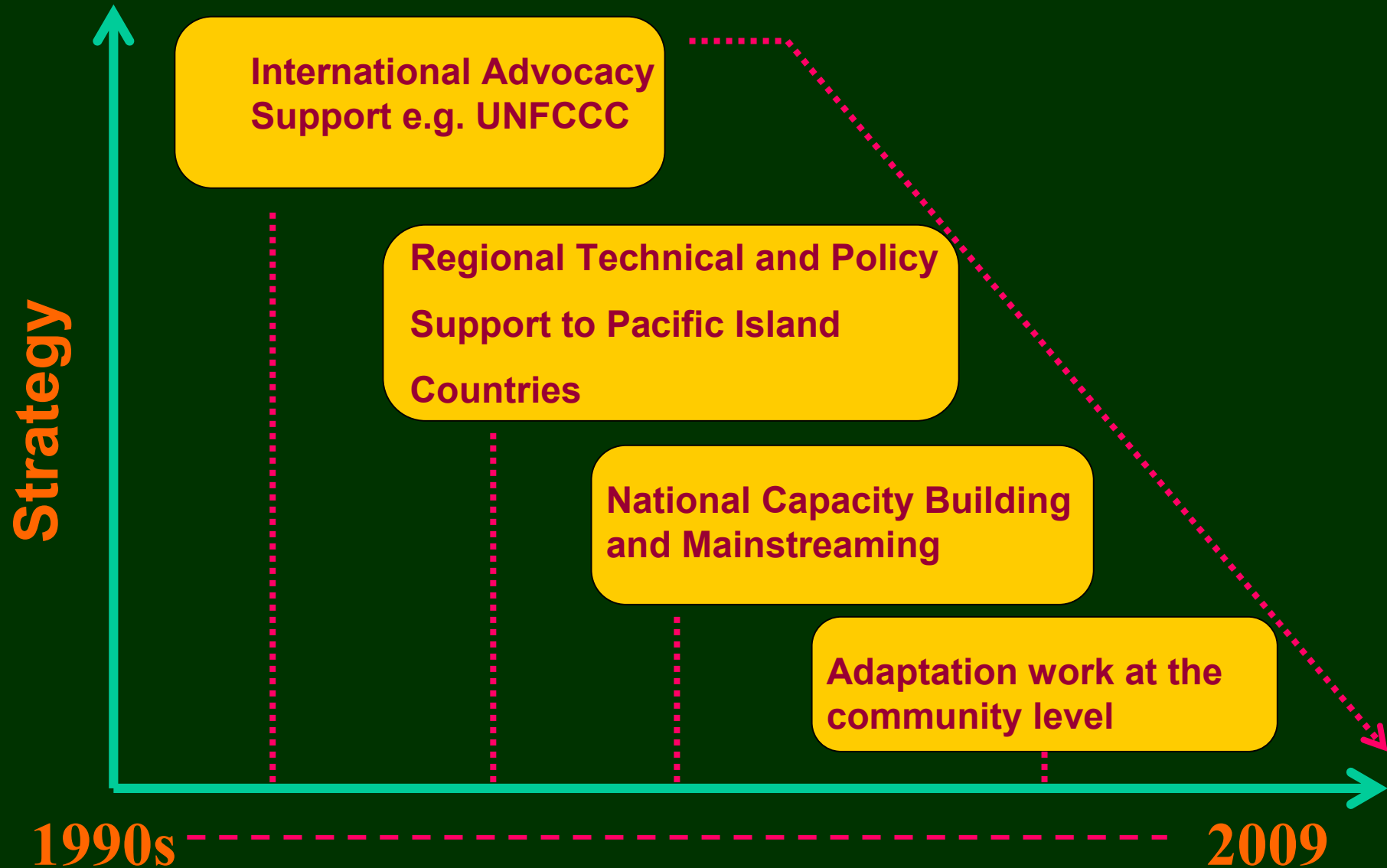
- Highly skilled population and flexible human capital that can adapt to changing environments;
- Builds institutional and systemic capacity;
- Capacity to continually assess, adapt, and apply new information, technologies etc.



☞ SPREP is of the view that education is central to development, a powerful instrument to bring about change particularly in the face of climate change



Climate Change Initiatives..





International Advocacy

☞ **PICs have been engaged in the UNFCCC processes for nearly two decades now.**

☞ **Very important to influence decisions from source rather than downstream....!**

☞ **Therefore educating the PIC delegates to better negotiate is critical.**





International Advocacy

☞ **SPREP and PICs have held side-events in COP articulating the Pacific's position.**

☞ **Impacts:**

- **COP is more sensitive to SIDs issues;**
- **More funds on adaptation established; Least Developed Country Fund, Adaptation Fund, Special Climate Change Fund.**
- **Other Funds: World Bank Climate Initiative, Japan Cool Earth etc.**

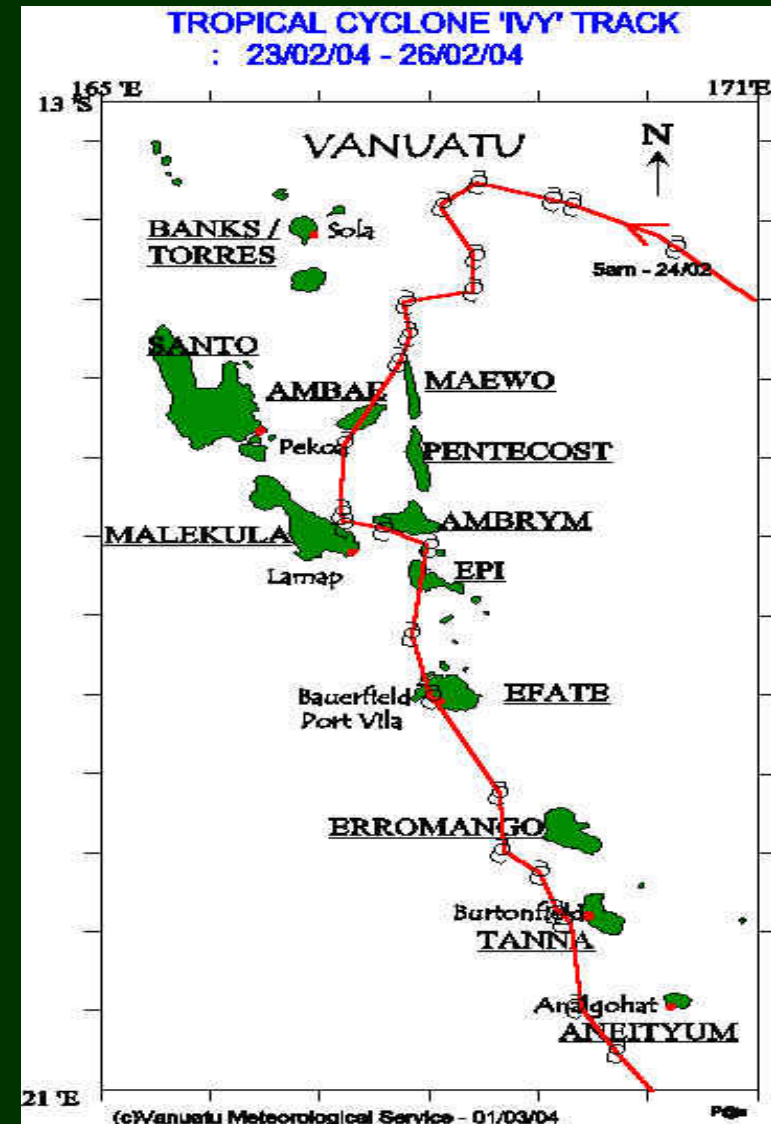




Regional Support.....

☞ **Capacity building - a major programme..... Work with:**

- **University of the South Pacific (USP) – assisted in the development of a Postgraduate V&A course.**
- **Pacific Media – to train journalists to better understand and communicate climate change issues within and outside the region.**





Regional Support.....

☞ **Capacity building - a major programme..... Work with:**

- **Pacific Youths – to better appreciate the role that youths play in advocating climate change at national, regional and global.**
- **Pacific World Council of Churches – carry out awareness raising, incorporating CC into church programmes and curriculum.**





Adaptation Implementation

☞ **Work with PICTs communities to identify, analyse, and develop ways and means of increasing their adaptive capacity to current and future challenges and opportunities related to climate change.**

☞ **CIDA funded & SPREP executed CBDAMPIC Project [2002 - 2005]**



CBDAMPIC

👉 **The Capacity Building for the Development of Adaptation in PICs is a Canadian funded project implemented in the Pacific by SPREP to increase the capacity of four PICs to improve their resilience to climate related risks at the national and community Level.**

👉 **The Project has two main outcomes:**

👉 **Climate change adaptation is mainstreamed into national, sectoral planning and budgeting processes.**

👉 **Communities' adaptive capacity to climate change related risks and vulnerabilities increased.**

👉 **Participating countries: Cook Islands, Fiji, Vanuatu and Samoa**



Community Vulnerability & Adaptation Assessment and Action Guideline

- A guideline was developed by SPREP in 2002 to guide this work at the 4 pilot sites called CV&A.





Bottom-Up Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessments:

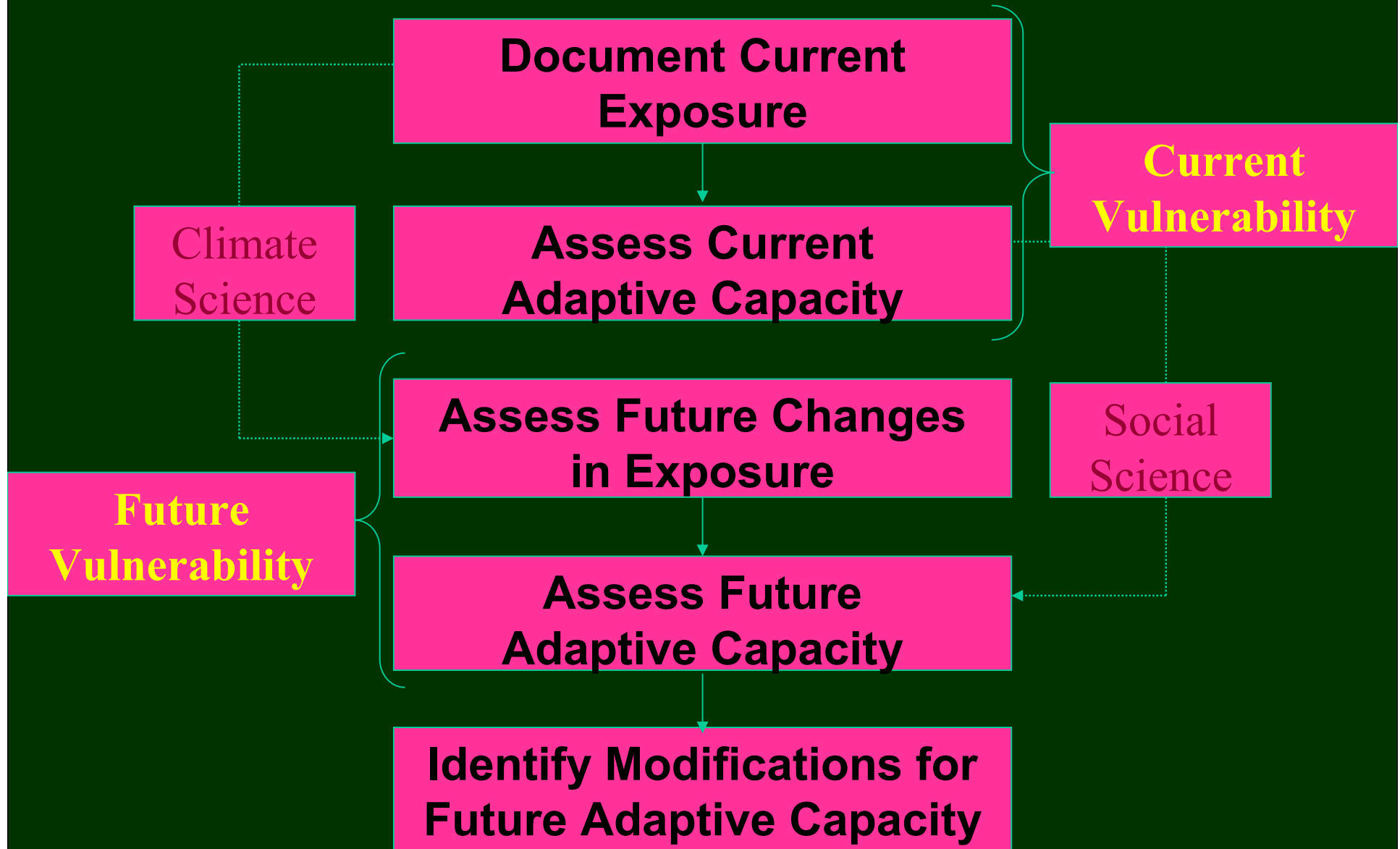
- **The starting point is not GCMs and RCMs.**
- **Primary source of data is the different social groups in the community.**
 - **Chiefs**
 - **Men and women**
 - **Women and youth groups**
 - **Church etc**

CV&A Guide

The CV&A guideline consists of an anthology of activities that provides a learning process to empower local communities to identify, analyse, and develop ways and means of increasing their local adaptive capacity to current and future challenges and opportunities related to climate change.

- Experience and local knowledge (very important);
- Information exchange is encouraged (extraction only);
- Not a one-off visit.....a start of an engagement;
- Information is returned to villagers (clarifications, further assessments undertaken

Climate change vulnerability approach





INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

SPREP AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

**National Climate Change
Country Teams**

CV&A Reports
and proposals
for
implementation

- Core CV&A Team:
 - Agriculture
 - Fisheries
 - National Planning
 - NGOs etc.

SPREP facilitate
CV&A training
of the Core
Team

CARRY OUT CV&A @ COMMUNITY LEVEL

**CV&A process in action,
Tegua, Vanuatu
Awareness and
education, planning,
and mobilisation.**



Awareness and Education

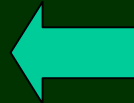


Community Planning

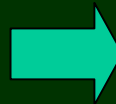


Community Mobilisation

FROM PLANNING



TO



IMPLEMENTATION



Thoughts for the future

- ✎ **Incorporating climate change into the curriculum of schools and higher educational institutions.**
- ✎ **Public awareness and education of climate change and its likely impacts on PICTs livelihoods need to be enhanced. Such awareness and understanding is crucial to forstering effective partnerships with local communities on efforts to adapt to climate change.**
- ✎ **An education system that imparts higher-level skills to foster lifelong learning for citizens (train and retrain). This is important for climate change adaptation.**



**THANK YOU FOR
THE
OPPORTUNITY
!!!**