



# Renforcement de la Résilience

---

## Perspectives from Red Cross / Red Crescent and recent research

COP21 Paris  
5 Decembre 2015

Janot MENDLER de Suarez, Conseiller Technique  
[MendlerDeSuarez@ClimateCentre.org](mailto:MendlerDeSuarez@ClimateCentre.org)



## Capacity Building for the Development of Adaptation Measures in Pacific Island Countries

2012 AusAid Assessment :

USP Consultant, IUCN Chief Technical Adviser,

Oceania Area Council Secretary for the Torres Islands, Torba Provincial Council

Farmers Support Association, Vanuatu

- Pacific island communities have been dealing with variable and extreme climates for generations.
- Much capacity exists within communities to deal with increases and changes in climatic variability and extremes with climate change.
- However, measures of adaptive capacity common in the international literature and policy community do not often reflect the social, cultural, economic and environmental resources possessed by many Pacific communities that shape resilience.

# Factors shaping adaptive capacity

- strong traditional knowledge and belief systems that enable robust food production systems, buffered against environmental contingencies
- strong local social networks, collective action and clear leadership
- abundant land and marine resources, equitable access and a low population
- A self sufficient and innovative cultural outlook and strong local identity.

# Impediments to collective action

- Differences between individuals creating fragmentation, perpetuated by small community size
- Leadership differences and lack of organisation
- Low incentives to contribute for younger people

# The Vanuatu NGO Climate Change Adaptation Program Resilience Framework

A resilient community in Vanuatu:

- 1. has their basic needs met, so they are healthy and safe;**
- 2. can build their livelihoods on a diverse range of material assets and know how to best utilise and improve their value and sustainability;**  
in way that provides equitable access and control across the community,  
including shelter, land, water, natural resources, financial assets  
has strong social structures that support its members in times of need
- 3. has leadership and decision-making processes that are fair, inclusive and responsive to the needs of the whole community;**  
including women, young people and vulnerable groups  
that can plan for current and future needs  
that fosters belonging and connection

- 4. has access to relevant information, both traditional and external, and can use this to their advantage;** This means the mechanisms for all community members to access and share information they need are in place
- 5. is supportive and open to innovation and new ideas,** and has the leadership that is flexible and forward looking;
- 6. has belief system and culture that can help understand and act on shocks and changes,** and foster relationships between the natural environment, social and cultural systems;
- 7. has social networks that extend beyond the immediate community,** so that it can draw on knowledge, resources and new ideas;
- 8. has governments at different levels that are connected, listen to and are responsive to community needs,** is innovative, has strong leadership and is transparent and accountable;