

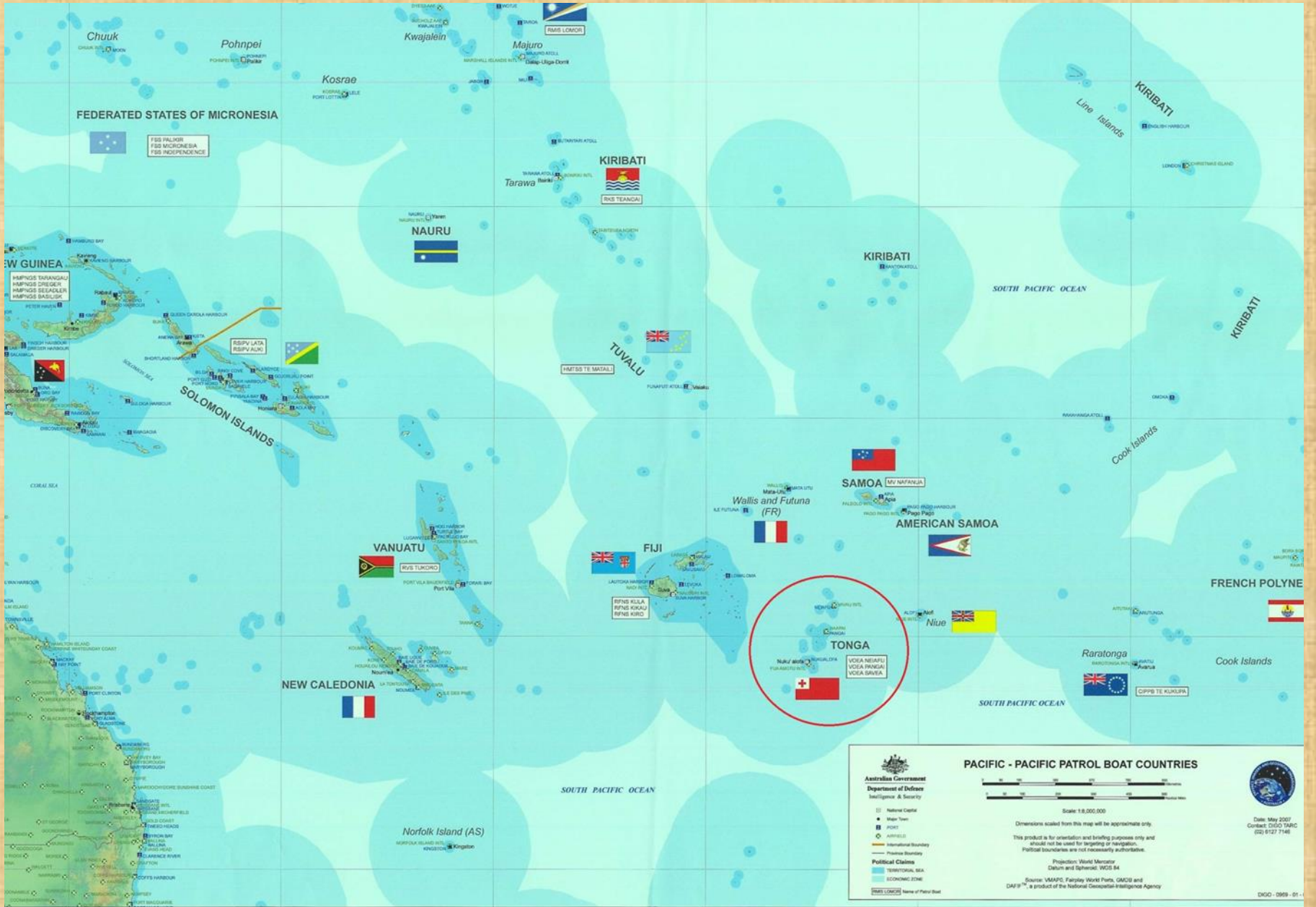
Climate Change in Tonga

Role of Land Governance

SIDS Workshop
30th April-1st May
FIG Working Week 2016

Content

- Background
- Land in Tonga
- The impacts climate change
- Land Governance and climate change
- Urbanisation-informal settlement
- Constrains in improving land governance
- Possible solutions
- International support



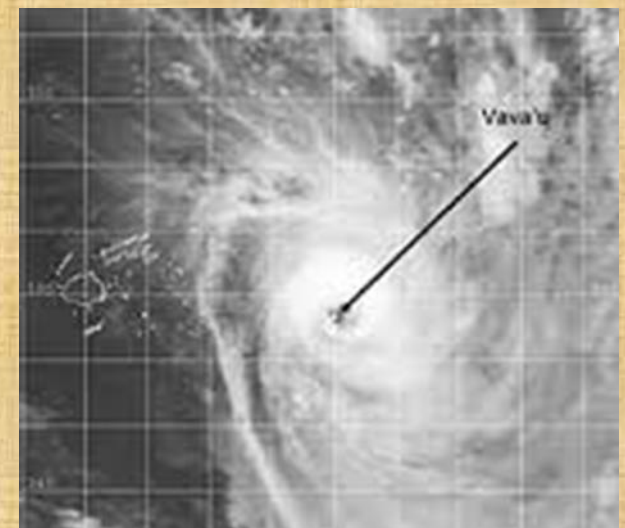
Land in Tonga

- Constitution of Tonga 1875
 - Part I: Declaration of Rights
 - Part II: Form of Government
 - Part III: Land
- All Land belongs to the King
- Land Act 1927
 - The interest of a holder in any hereditary estate, tax allotment or town allotment is a life interest subject to the prescribed conditions.
 - Every estate (tofia) and allotment (api) is hereditary according to the prescribed rules of succession.
 - All male by age 16 entitle to a not more than 3.387 ha not more than 1618m² town allotment for residence both as hereditary titles and life interest

Results of Climate Change

Cyclone Waka

- CREMP was developed after Cyclone Waka visited Tonga in 2001 leaving US\$48 million cost of damages
- One of the project components, **Land Hazards and Information Management** was established to **improve the land information resources** for preparedness and emergency response capability for the Government of Tonga.
- In order to produce a modern land information system, **a new geodetic datum and map projection** had to designed adopting international standards and specifications.

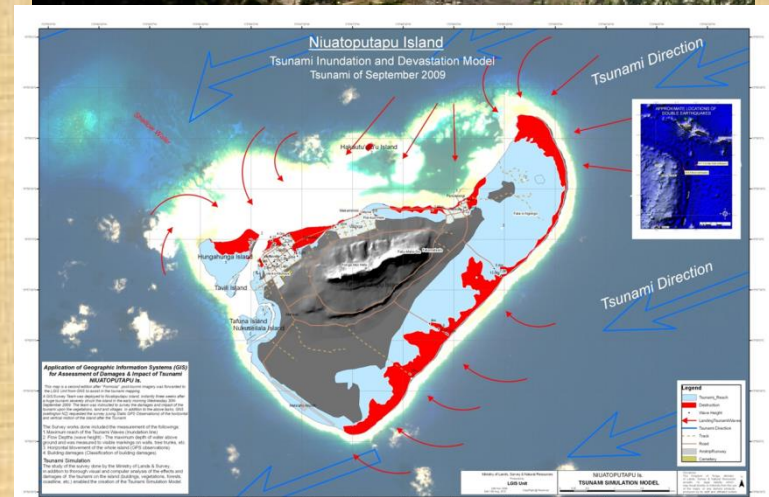


Tsunami 2009

Before

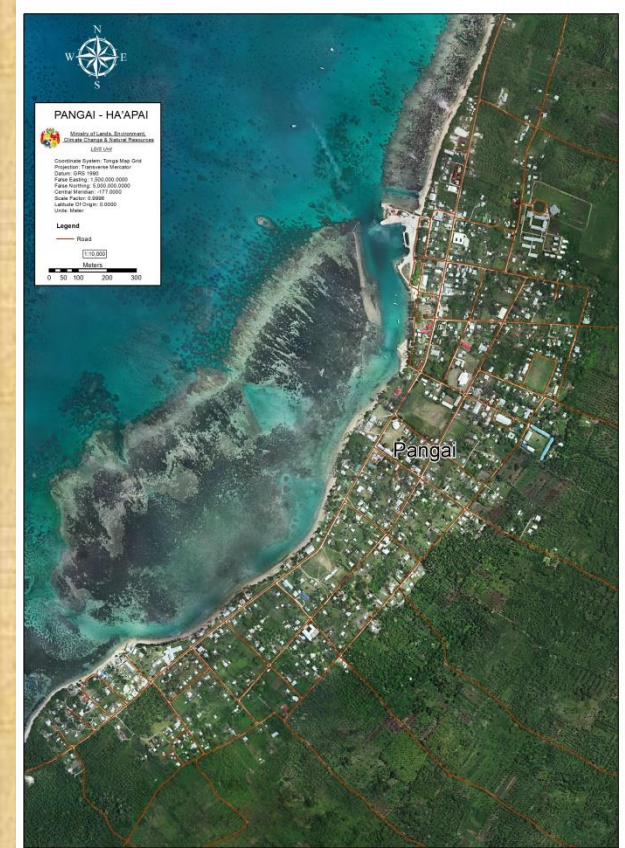


After



Cyclone Ian

- Nearly all of these homes were destroyed
- These areas already affected by sea level rise
- New houses are build on the same area



Land governance and climate change

- Current policies, processes, and legal framework does not includes the issues relate to climate change
- Land professional only engage post-disaster
- National disaster agencies and related stakeholders do not fully under the significant roles we should play
- Relocation vs availability of land

Urbanisation

Challenges faced

- Limited land resources
- Informal settlement
- More vehicles on the roads
- Schools in the capital in crowded
- Crimes
- Current water supply cannot cater for the increase population

How can it be addressed

- Reduce the statutory areas for an allotments or built upwards
- Formalise informal settlement
- Enforce Spatial Planning Act
- Urban design and transport strategies
- Upgrade other centres to slow down urbanisation

Patangata-Informal settlement to formal





Constraints in improving land governance

- Traditional significance of land vs challenges of 21st century
- Most villages are at vulnerable locations
- Limited knowledge and resources
- Limited funds to send land professionals for university education
- Reluctant to change
- Limited funds available and staff

Possible Solutions

- Create the link between land governance and climate change
- Capacity building in land administration
- Train and update knowledge and expertise of land professionals
- Encourage people to gain easy access to land in a less vulnerable location
- Policies and processes that ensure people access safer land
- 3D cadastre

International support

- Network of SIDS around the world and share ideas
- Pacific network in improving land governance
- Trainings, workshops and technical assistance
- Educational opportunities for our young land professionals

The End

MALO 'AUPITO