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MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS & TRADE

**Aid Programme**

# **New Zealand Pacific Maritime Safety Programme**

## **NZ Aid Presentation to ESCAP**

### **Inter-Island Shipping Conference**

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## Outline

- NZ Aid Programme Strategic Goals and Objectives
- Pacific Maritime Safety Programme initiatives
  - Kiribati
  - Tonga
  - Cook Islands
  - Hydrography
- Other Pacific maritime safety initiatives



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## The NZ Aid Programme - Transport

- Transport infrastructure as a key enabler of growth
- Aims to improve economic well-being through improved transport and infrastructure management services



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## NZ Aid Programme maritime transport priorities

- Improving domestic shipping safety
  - developing a safety culture
  - Improving the safety standards of ships
  - safety training
  - improving regulatory capacity
- Constructing shore facilities in outer islands (jetties, entrance channels, boat ramps)
- Constructing facilities for cruise ships
- Hydrographical and associated work to allow cruise, cargo and passenger ships to visit more locations



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## Pacific Maritime Safety Programme

- Sustainable Economic Division is responsible for a NZ\$6m Pacific Maritime Safety Programme
- Activities in Kiribati, Tonga, and the Cook Islands
- Hydrographic Risk Assessments in Vanuatu, Tonga and Cook Islands

## Pacific Maritime Safety Programme: Kiribati

Kiribati initiatives include

- development of Search and Rescue infrastructure and training
- navigational aids (beacon at Te Maken Point)
- provision of at sea cell phone coverage
- in country project coordination
- on-board boating safety kit
- boating safety education



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## Pacific Maritime Safety Programme: Tonga

Tonga initiatives include

- support for the Marine and Ports Division including
  - training and technical support for surveyors
  - Search and Rescue (SAR) training
  - oil spill response training
  - safe ship management
  - provision of safety equipment
  - maritime legislation and regulatory assistance
- support for the Tonga Maritime Polytechnic Institute



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## Pacific Maritime Safety Programme: Cook Islands

Scoping of Cook Island initiatives is at an early stage of development, but may include

- capacity development for maritime regulatory agencies
- Navigation safety
- Training
- water safety initiatives for the tourism industry

NZ contributed to the recent completion of an alternative jetty at Aorangi



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## Hydrography 1

- Good maritime charts are an essential building block for maritime safety and economic development
- Many of the existing nautical charts rely on very old data, some going back over 100 years or more
- Even charts from WW2 may be inaccurate as reef systems change over time and GPS coordinates need to be more exact

## Hydrography 2

- Under SOLAS 'contracting governments' are required to maintain hydrographic services under the requirement of Safety of Navigation
- Contracting government may have agreements and may delegate part or all of these responsibilities
- New Zealand (Land Information NZ or LINZ) is the Primary Charting Authority for Cook Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Niue, Tokelau
- LINZ has nearly completed of a project to convert charts for these PICTs to Electronic Navigation Chart (ENC) format



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## Hydrography 3

### Risks and consequences of poor charts

- Risk to life from shipping accidents
- Possible financial liability to Government if accident or pollution event
- Failure to meet IMO requirements may lead to
  - Higher insurance premiums for visiting ships
  - Cruise ships may choose not to visit certain areas



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## Hydrography 4

- NZ has funded development of a 'risk assessment' methodology for hydrographic survey in the Pacific
- Risk assessments completed in Vanuatu and soon to commence in Tonga and Cook Islands
- Supported by International Hydrographic Organisation
- Risk assessments a base of knowledge to support hydrographic survey programmes in the Pacific



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## Hydrography 5

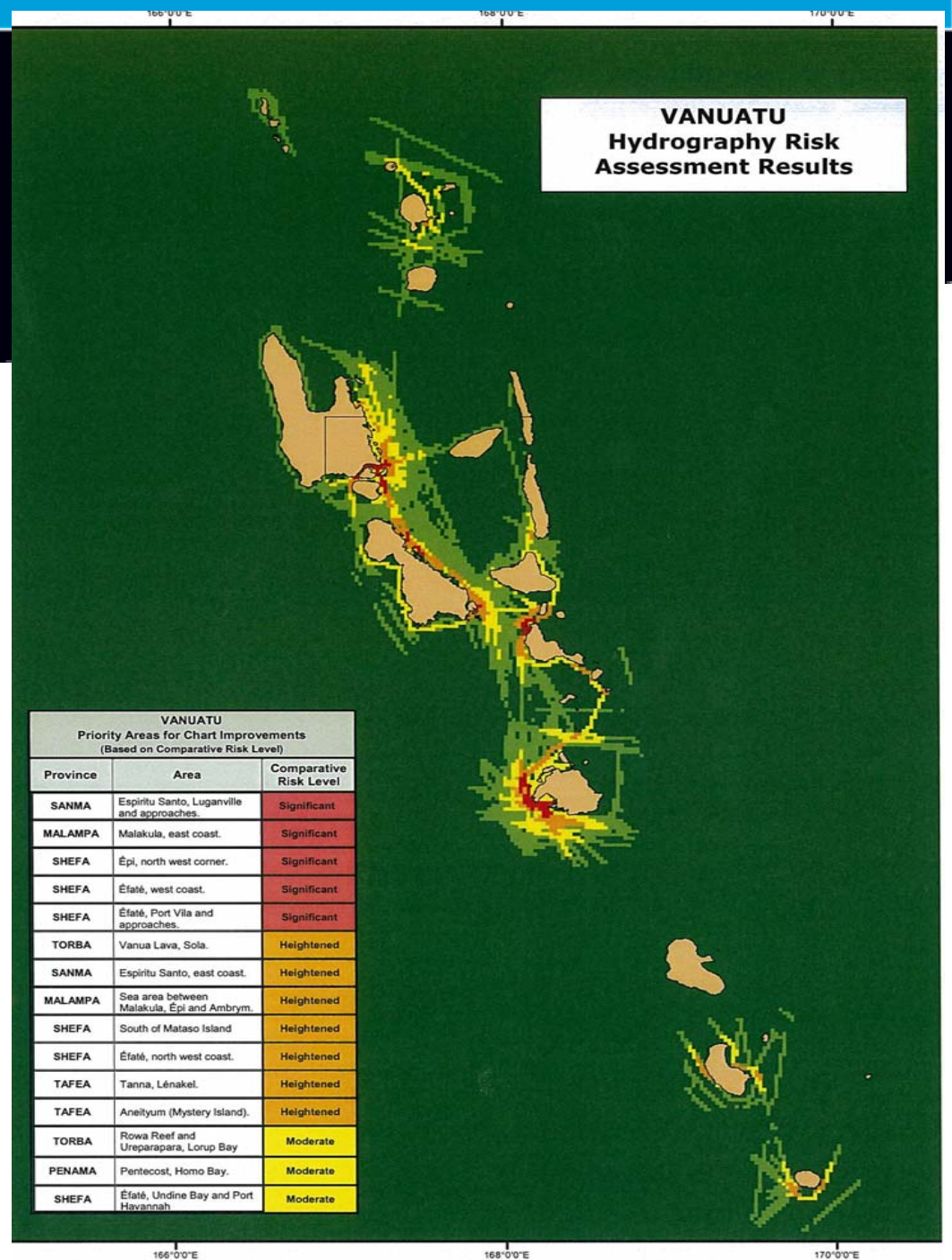
- The risk assessment methodology identifies areas of *Significant, Heightened* and *Moderate* risk within a Pacific Island Country
- based on variables including
  - AIS traffic
  - local inter-island passenger and freight information
  - environmental and cultural factors
  - risk to life
  - maritime economic assessments



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## Hydrography 6

### Risk Assessment methodology piloted in Vanuatu





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## Hydrography 7

- Risk assessment work is *preliminary hydrographic work*
- Provides Government independent data on where navigation charts are most in need of improvement
- Information allows the PICT Government to
  - identify priority areas for future maritime survey work
  - take risk mitigation measures



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## Hydrography 8

Next steps after risk assessments

- PICT Governments to review results of risk assessment
- Consider potential mitigations, such as
  - Chart improvement surveys
  - Navigational aids
  - Shipping lanes / traffic separation
  - Drafting depth of ships
  - Minimum distances from shore
  - Data discovery



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## Hydrography 9

- Pacific Island Countries are encouraged to attend the South West Pacific Hydrographic Commission is meeting in Vanuatu in November 2013
- All Primary Charting Authorities and International Hydrographic Board will be present

## Vanuatu Inter Island Shipping Support Programme - 1

- partnership with the Government of Vanuatu and the Asian Development Bank worth US\$26.82
- New Zealand's US\$13.6m grant contribution to this project is our single largest infrastructure project investment in Vanuatu to date



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## Vanuatu Inter Island Shipping Support Programme - 2

Programme has 3 components

- infrastructure (upgrading or rehabilitation of wharves and jetties)
- Outer island shipping subsidy pilot
- Regulatory reform, legislation to establish Maritime Safety Authority

Other NZ Aid initiatives in Vanuatu include

- Training and mentoring of Marine and Ports Division surveyors
- Technical assistance in preparing for compliance with International Maritime Organisation audit



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## Other NZ Aid Maritime Safety Initiatives

- Solomon Islands - Construction of wharves and landing ramp (co-funded by ADB, AusAID and NZ Aid)
- Tokelau - Design and build of a new ship for passengers and freight and ship to shore services including lighters and wharf upgrades

### Regional maritime funding - SPC

- NZ Aid contributes substantial funding to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community
- Recent NZ Aid funding of Applied Geoscience and Technology Division (SOPAC) includes the recruitment of a full time hydrographer