Climate Change Resilient Agriculture

Through Agriculture Policies and ICT led Knowledge Management

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1] What do current Pacific National Agriculture Sector Policies say about CC?

2] Regional ICT/Knowledge sharing tools – information exchange, risk management - some 
   eg.

3] Summary
What we know. Includes:

- Low Contribution to Growth
- MAFS work with limited financial resources (2-% of total budget expenditure)
- Low uptake by Youths
- Low visibility of the sector and information about policies, plans, pathways, incentives, opportunities
Reviewed 15 Agriculture Policies (2015)

- PNG -> Niue, Timor-Leste

“National-Level”

- Not subsector
- Reference framework/plan for Ag Policy Officials
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Title of Document</th>
<th>Type of Doc</th>
<th>Status</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cook Islands</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture Business Plan 2014/15 Matairangi Purea</td>
<td>Agency business plan</td>
<td>Will be updated</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Fiji 2020 Agriculture Sector Policy Agenda &quot;Modernizing Agriculture&quot;</td>
<td>NAS policy</td>
<td>Current</td>
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<td>FSM</td>
<td>Federated States of Micronesia Agriculture Policy 2012-16</td>
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<td>Kiribati</td>
<td>Agriculture and livestock Division Strategic Plan 2013 - 2016</td>
<td>Agency strategic plan</td>
<td>Current</td>
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<td>Niue</td>
<td>Niue National Strategic Plan 2009 - 2013 Niue ke monuina, A prosperous Niue</td>
<td>Nat. Sustainable Development Plan</td>
<td>Current</td>
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<td>Palau</td>
<td>Bureau of Agriculture Strategic Plan FY 2014-2019</td>
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<td>Solomon Is</td>
<td>Agriculture Sector Plan 2016-20</td>
<td>NAS Plan/Policy</td>
<td>New Plan awaiting Cabinet Endorsement</td>
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<td>Samoa</td>
<td>Agriculture Sector Plan 2011 - 2015</td>
<td>NAS Plan/Policy</td>
<td>New Plan to be launched</td>
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<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Ministry of Agriculture &amp; food, forests and fisheries Corporate plan 2014/15 - 2016/17</td>
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<td>Vanuatu</td>
<td>Vanuatu Agriculture Sector Policy 2014 – 2024</td>
<td>NAS Plan/Policy</td>
<td>Launched</td>
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1] Content

• 4 major themes
  – Food Security
  – Economic Development
  – Sustainability
  – Effective Institutions
Countries were clear that locally produced food, particularly traditional staples, could offer a healthy substitute for certain imported foods.
• **Local markets** were identified as a development area. Support was even spread between markets (the physical locality, access etc) and the concept of marketing (9 countries and 8 countries respectively).

• Supporting market linkages was recognised as a ‘public good’ and therefore an appropriate area for government involvement.
On Climate Change ..... 
- importance of **adaptation measures** in the form of impacts of CC on crops production and develop mitigating strategies”,
- promoting “**diversification** into new crops that were resistant to CC impacts on soil and water conditions”
Soil loss and water management
iv) Effective Institutions

Figure 6: Effective Institutions: Major Sub-Categories*

- **Extension Services (12)**
- **Sector Policy/ Framework (10)**
- **Government Capacity/ Resources (10)**
- **R & D (8)**
- **Training (8)**
- **Agriculture Statistics (8)**
What Crops/Livestock are mentioned?

• Over 50 different plant and livestock varieties were cited
  - dominated by **food crops**
  - some countries have separate livestock or forestry plans), these sub-sectors are less represented.
  - Wide Range of commodities (*tree crops, roots and tubers, horticulture, coconuts, etc*) consistent with the emphasis of food security and increasing agricultural production;
  - Wide range of exotic/ ‘niche’ products eg vanilla, kava, off-season crops - message that countries are also seeking high value products for markets
“Go Forward” issues

- value-adding,
- agritourism,
- organic production,
- extension,
- A2 finance and private sector development.
- Approaches - mechanisation, capital investment, value chains, extension, better use of statistics and evidence & innovative models for working with farmers, business and other actors
(1) Technical Exchange Portal
South/South learnings

• “PAFPnet” (*SATNet*)
• Technical exchange portal
• Launched Oct 2014
• 965 members (PICs, Australia, NZ etc)
• Quarterly discussions
• Recent discussion - Post Disaster recovery agriculture sector

http://pafpnet.spc.int/about-papp/pafpnet/discussion-summaries
• 6 themes explored:

• **Post disaster recovery Plan/Strategies**

• Post cyclone recovery plans to be included in our Agriculture Strategies

• Information sharing/learning with other regions/globally

• Have a good assessment templates/seed distribution pack guidelines
Involvement of business, commercial buyers, agribusiness and youths

- Businesses, commercial buyers and markets including agribusiness should be involved in rebuilding food production and helping rebuild value chains.
- Interest free grace periods for 2 years until business is fully recovered, adding mentoring and market development plan requirements to the loan criteria.
- Markets are part of the process by relaxing trading and rental fees, increasing space for farmers and fishermen on wholesale opportunities dedicated to increase food supply and nutrition under controlled pricing structure that is best for the buyers and customers.
- NGOs, Youth groups farming association the unemployed is highly necessary as part of a disaster response action framework plan.
• Use of ICT
• Seeds, plant material and livestock recovery
  • pre-arranged agreements between seed suppliers for types and quantity (local or abroad) specifically designed for disaster response purpose
• Soil Management
• Traditional knowledge
1] **Online Agriculture Policy Information**

New Agriculture Policy database (policy Banks)
14 PICs and Timor Leste
Launched in Q3, 2015 – Vanuatu, SI and Tonga
Quick Survey of in SI and Van – 70%+ did not know where/how to access national Ag Sector Policies

2] **SPC Databases** – pest list, plant breeders network, biosecurity, animal health

http://pafpnet.spc.int/policy-bank/countries/tonga
1) Repositories/Databases

- **Policy Information – Agriculture Policy Banks**

- **New. Established Q3, 2015**

- **E-libraries of Ag sector information for 15 countries**

- **Launched in Vanuatu, SI and Tonga**
(3) SMS/MIS systems

- Example FCLC
- 10 000 members on mobile SMS network
- Pricing, information, trade
Summary

1] **Policy** – Scope for a sharper focus, mechanisms and tools for wider partnership approach.

2] **Information** – ICT tools are already available. Room to strengthen knowledge & learnings; connect and increase reach with farmers

3] **Business** – clear role/linkage - use their expertise, resources and talents
THANK YOU