Responding to Climate Change and Security of Tenure Challenges in Vanuatu: The Role of Land Professionals

Williams P GANILEO
ICT/GIS section, Vanuatu
Vanuatu consists of 83 mountainous islands that spreads over an archipelago 'between New Caledonia and Fiji in the South Pacific

Known to be within the ring of fire with Tanna and Ambrym active volcanoes – tremors

Natural disasters is common each year

Migration often results to permanent residency

Land follows a matrilineal and patrilineal tenure system
### KEY VULNERABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO RESILIENCE AND DRR

**Vulnerabilities**

- Lack of good policies to direct specific issues that discusses resettlement plans
- Mixed constructions styles
- Materials used such as corals and sand from the sea is not good - Corrodes quickly.
- Lack of proper planning as our islands are sparsely spread
- Lacks no historical data on stream flow channels
- Low lying islands
- Very high concentration of population density along the coastal areas
Challenges

- Small land masses
- Issues of land tenure and ownership patterns
- Lack of funding for better homes to withstand disasters,
- Need good policies that could assist in lessening DRR,
- The issues of traditional knowledge on reading weather systems are missing in educational materials which are the real signs to show what will happen.
- The predictions under the traditional systems. These are reactions of animals, birds and Key species
- Good predictions of La Nino and El Nino have been very minimal but is coming in slowly
Roles of Land sector and Professionals

- Enhance awareness on the effects of climate change and sea level rise
- Develop plans for relocation for those homes are less than 10 meters near the coastlines
- Assist in providing good and sound home designs
- Reviewing of national legislations to meet standards for disaster and sea level rise
- Provide advice on best locations if sea level is faster in terms of rate of increase
- Provide crust information on sea level changes each year
- Proposing through mapping out locations of new homes that could sustain DRR and climate change
- Providing team leadership in planning
- Providing the best GIS software that could be used for mapping
- Providing simulation predictions
- Providing 3D modeling productions for better planning that is free of climate changes
KEY VULNERABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO URBANISATION

- **Vulnerabilities**
  - Non-communicable diseases (NCD), including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer and chronic respiratory diseases are a major health problem in Vanuatu, and are the leading causes of death and disability (responsible for 70% of deaths).

- **- challenges**
  - The challenges to urbanization results in loss of cultural values that often leaves a country and its citizens not knowing who they are
How these key vulnerabilities can be addressed by the land sector and land professionals

- Better policies to design spaces for multiples homes within a locality
- New government legislations on all socio-economic and political structures
- Better zoning plans
- Better land use plans
- Subdivision plans and policy establishments
- Land Acquisition policy to acquire land for DRR
- New policies designed for improvements by land developments
- New land laws introduced for land redistributions
- Market distributions systems policies
- Creations of areas to host cultural villages
 CONSTRAINTS IN IMPROVING LAND GOVERNANCE AND LAND ADMINISTRATION

- weak land laws
- Borrowed laws that are not relevant in our context
- Unable to execute laws
- Inconsistent land laws
- Technological flaws and knowledge to use technology to change old things to new systems
- Need to continue to create new policies to make land work
- Policies versus actions in reality
HOW LAND GOVERNANCE CONSTRAINTS CAN BE ADDRESSED BY THE LAND SECTOR

- GIS systems
- Digital Cadastral Surveys
- E systems for Planning, E-Valuation, E-Survey, E-Registrations (TIS), E-
- FAO SOLA system
- New Legislations and reviews
CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE LAND SECTOR

• advance studies in land administration surveying, and geodetic trainings

• attachments with professionals within the regions and worldwide would be an advantage for collaborations

• creation of exchanges programs that links our people with CROP agencies, FIG and both international and regional organizations to upskill our people

• not many land professionals are sent on scholarships each year for land managers
THE ROLE OF COLLABORATION

• Collaborations for funding opportunities
• Up skill programs to be provided for trainings in areas of spatial information management, land use planning, community awareness on land rights and development
• secretariat for sourcing of funds for SIDs and if possible recommend also for us for education levels.
Conclusion

- We collaborations for advancement
- Secretariat for SIDs for Land Issues
- We need your advice and assistance to help us grow more stronger in our planning
Tankiu tumas