



Australian Government

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



# Localisation

**MAKING IT REAL**

**STEVE SCOTT, HUMANITARIAN &  
REFUGEE POLICY BRANCH**

Meeting Grand Bargain Commitment

Local Leadership & Decision-making



# 1. Pacific Definition

*“A process of recognising, respecting and strengthening the independence of leadership and decision-making by national actors in humanitarian action, in order to better address the needs of affected populations”*



## 2. Australia's approach

- Prioritise by crisis- and country-context
- Keep a line of sight to the problems voiced by people and partners in crisis-affected countries themselves – and respond accordingly
- Recognise the national leadership in disasters played by governments, and the importance of support and funding tools for government as well as civil society actors
- Continuum – not binary



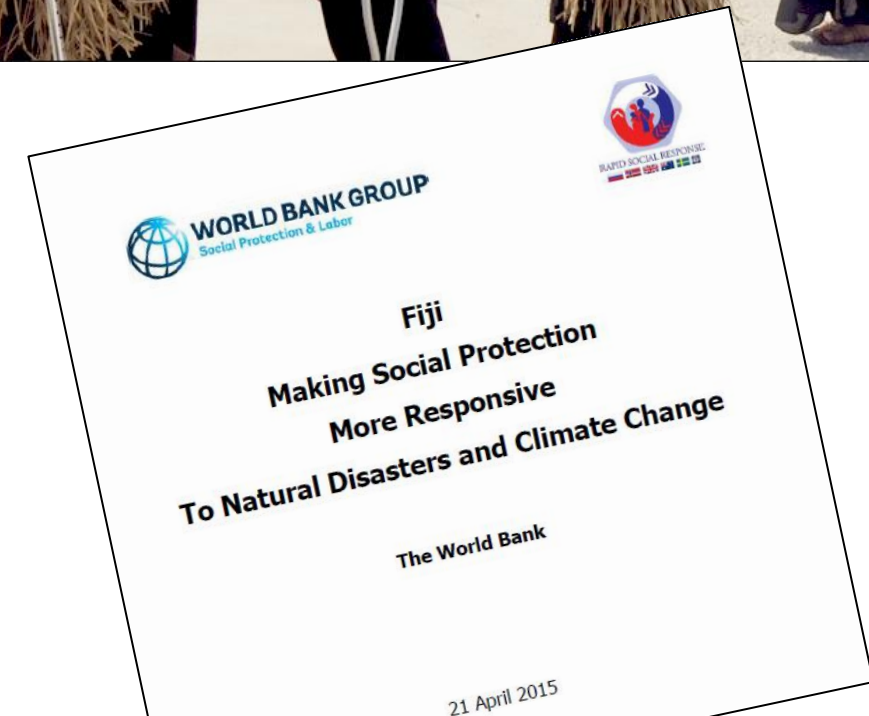
### 3. What Australia is doing

- Direct support to NDMOs
- Building capacity of local organisations
  - **Philippines:** building disaster preparedness, response capacity and resilience
- **Vanuatu Ambae Volcano response 2017**
  - Responses more tailored to national capabilities
- Australian Humanitarian Partnerships
  - In-country participatory design, multiple local and national partners



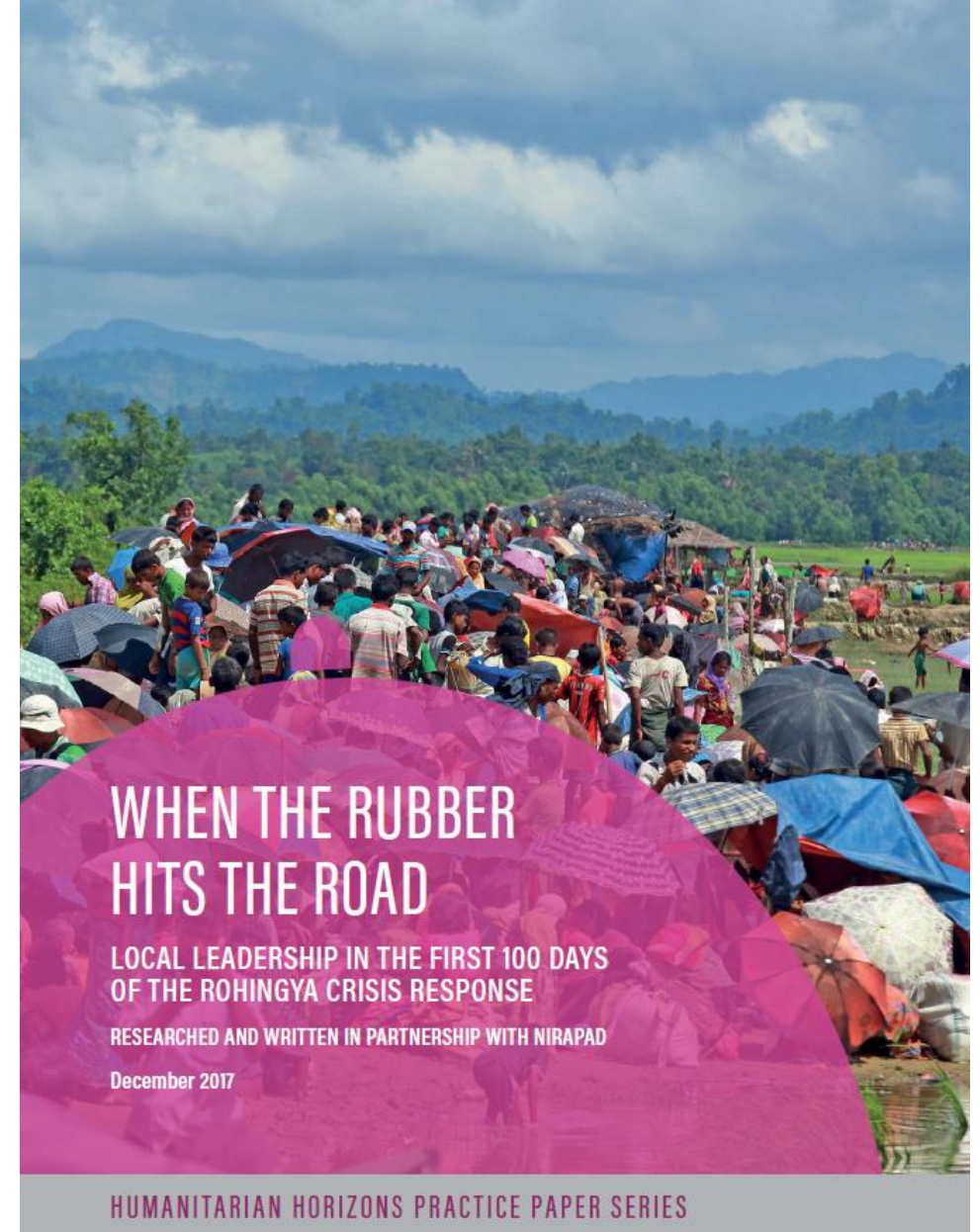
## 4. What Australia is doing

- Shift to cash-based programming
- Shock-responsive social protection systems
  - **Tropical Cyclone Gita, Tonga, 2018**
  - Empowering local people
  - Low administrative cost
- Rigorous evidence from Fiji post- cyclone Winston 2015
  - Three months afterward, beneficiaries more likely to have recovered



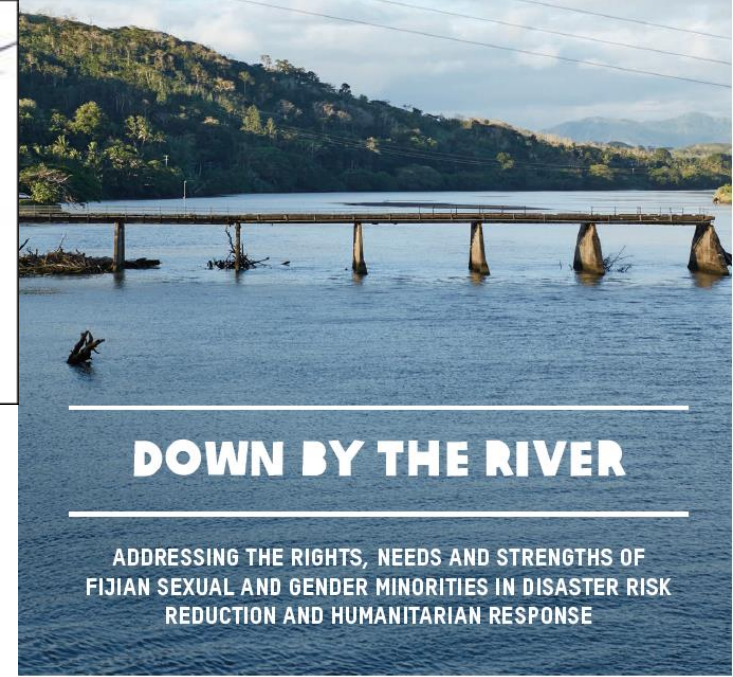
# 5. Evidence: Bangladesh

- Partnership with with LNAs eg BRAC
  - still need international technical staff
- Humanitarian Advisory Group & Nirapad research:
  - Government of Bangladesh policy: national NGO partnership
  - Partnership quality as well as quantity:
    - Not just contracting burden but supporting leadership and decision-making



# 6. Localisation with Inclusion & Protection

- Trade-off – or better outcomes?
- Need to do more on gender
- Research and dialogue in **Fiji**
  - Evidence base on LGBTIQ peoples experience before and after Tropical Cyclone Winston 2015
  - ‘Talanoa’ style story-sharing session at Pacific Humanitarian Partnership Meeting: *“We are Humanitarians”*
    - With Pacific NMDOs



*LGBTIQ+ Groups Share Humanitarian Insight at Pacific Meeting*



Isikeli Tumulakaya Wavou, Founder and Executive Director of Rainbow Pride Foundation speaking at the Pacific Humanitarian Partnership Meeting in Suva.

Credit: UN Women