Localisation

MAKING IT REAL

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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 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