







## Participatory action research: How can it contribute to WaSH marketing exchanges in peri-urban informal settlements?

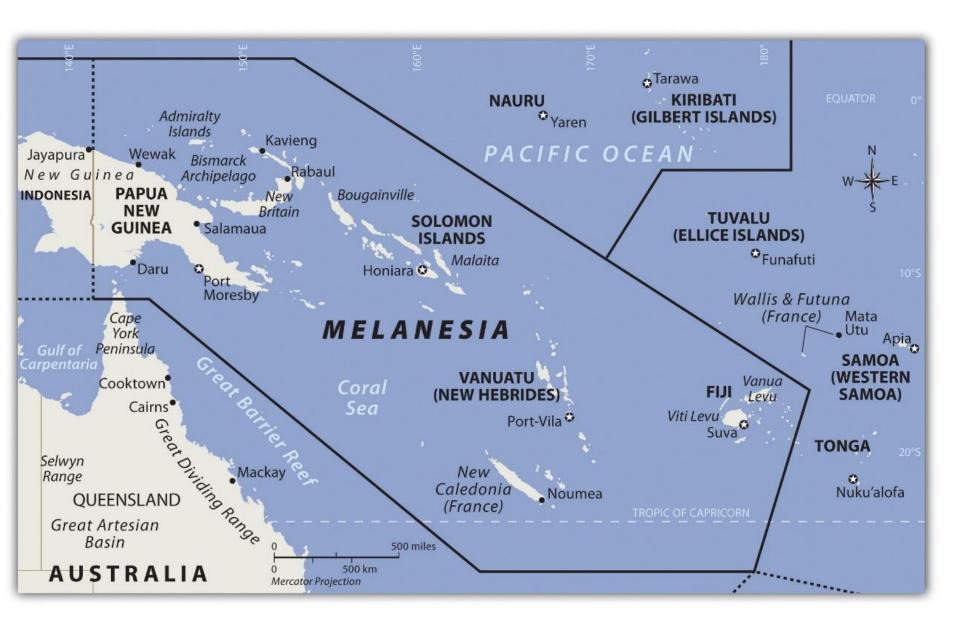


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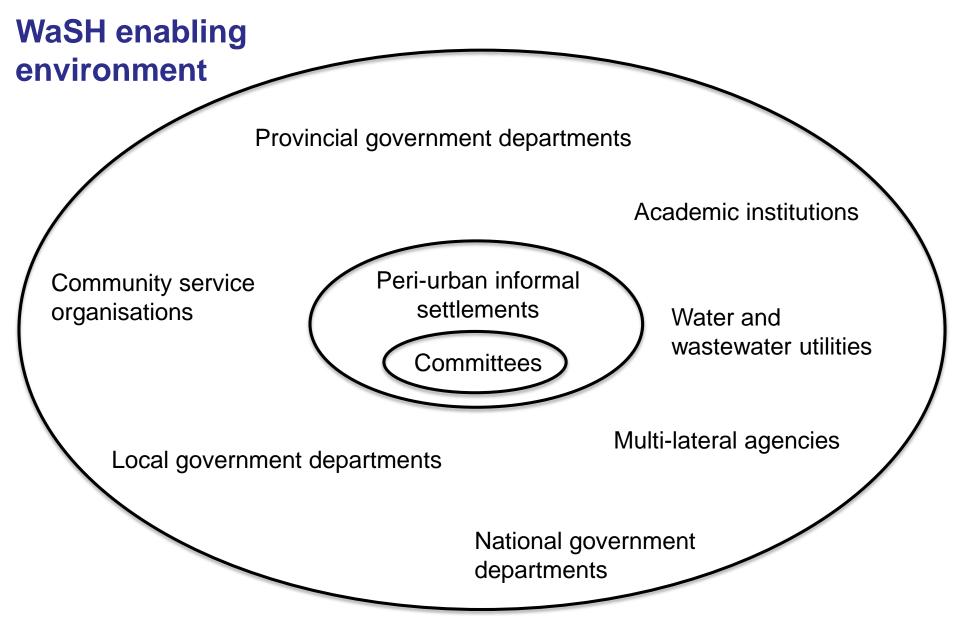














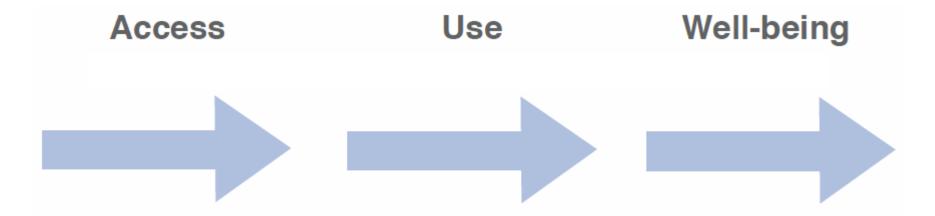
Work in partnership with impoverished peri-urban communities and local enabling actors to understand and help to foster the conditions under which sustained, selfdetermined water, sanitation and hygiene (WaSH) exchange systems can operate among Pacific island communities



### **Project Philosophy**

"The goal of human development should be an increase in human well-being, not a reduction in poverty per se."

- Amartya Sen





#### **Participatory Action Research**



"The researcher and those being researched work together to define a problem, design a solution, and implement change"









### Marketing Exchange in WaSH

**NON-MARKET-BASED** 







**MARKET-BASED** 





COMMAND-BASED



# SO WHAT EXCHANGES HAVE BEEN FOSTERED?



## Burns Creek and their toilets...

- Formed WASH Target
   Development Committee
- Honiara City Council
   Environmental Health Division to provide free training in pour-flush toilets
- Required funding for training materials (pilot toilets)
- WaSH TDC prepared proposal; difficulty securing funding due to interpretation of RWASH policy / peri-urban status
- World Vision to provide materials to build pilot toilets





- Participant-developed Forum
- Enabling actor and community representatives
- Other peri-urban informal communities welcome
- Bi-monthly meetings







## Total sanitation across the settlements

- Opened the doors for discussions across the settlements
- Individual households improving liquid and solid waste management, and hygiene practices
- Children no longer allowed to play in "puddles"
- Regular community clean-ups
- Awareness raising around the impacts of littering
- Increased drain depths
- Reduced flooding



#### Other examples have shown...

- Conversations and self-organisation around WaSH can lead to important non-WaSH conversations and actions
  - e.g. Fiji Roads Authority
  - e.g. Electricity connections in Vanuatu
  - e.g. other committees formed
- Unexpected opportunities can arise from linking people together
  - e.g. HART letter writing course
  - e.g. Women engaging in USP market days



## Guidebook to Fostering WaSH Marketing Exchanges in the South Pacific

- We must understand and leverage existing marketing exchanges
- Settlements are often mixed cultures and religions, and they need the opportunity to come together and develop relationships before meaningful WaSH actions happen
- We need WaSH policies that aren't overly prescriptive should be based on how we engage, not what we "do"
- We need to shift the way we work with communities and enabling actors to be more collaborative and in line with everyone's strengths and aspirations



## Exchanges are often mixed, and motivations differ for each exchange...

