



# Building WASH resilience in Vanuatu

Experiences from cyclone Pam

Simione Tavoia | Rob Hughes | 17/11/15



The CS WASH Fund is supported by the Australian Government and managed by Palladium International Pty Ltd.

Pacific Regional Learning  
Event 17-20 November

# Western Pacific Sanitation Marketing and Innovation Program

- Developing sustainable community-based sanitation markets
- Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and Fiji
- Urban and peri-urban informal settlements
- Influencing policy & the enabling environment
- Capacity building of change agents, enterprises, schools, and communities
- Supported by innovative behaviour change materials



# Building Community WASH resilience



- Building community understanding of environment and vulnerability to disasters
- Identifying & developing appropriate technical solutions
- Mobilising community & enterprise-based actions to address risks
- Engaging with other stakeholders to support communities

# Cyclone Pam



- Informal settlements hit hard, not well prepared
- Immediate priorities – water and toilet superstructures
- Influx of emergency aid - water, food, shelter & goods.
- Subsidised WASH interventions posed risk to sustainable development

# Responding Sustainably

- Turning risk in to opportunity – avoiding short term solutions
- Coordination with WASH Cluster, Oxfam etc
- Establishment of Sanitation & IEC Technical Working Group with longer term focus
- Increased interest in hygiene promotion, non-shared toilets





# Preparing for the future

- El Nino – assessments underway for sector coordination.
- ‘WASH Response Planning’
- Engaging WASH committees with DRR committees
- Strengthening our relationship with technical working groups, clusters, and stakeholders
- Establishing responsive, sustainable WASH cooperative enterprises



# The End

Questions?



CIVIL SOCIETY  
WATER, SANITATION  
AND HYGIENE FUND

Pacific Regional Learning  
Event 17-20 November