EXPLORING GOVERNANCE MODELS TO BETTER PREPARE FOR AND SHAPE **THE FUTURE IN THE PACIFIC**





UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji



May 2022

Seeding future-fit governance in the Pacific





Climate

at the core

different futures

Intimately familiar with

complex risk, but lack

of shared space/structure

to envision and plan for

Complexity

Sense of urgency, yet time needed to go beyond surface analyses



Risk management

Short political timelines

Long-term risks on the back burner



Prioritization challenges

Stretched fiscal space +Competing priorities

Constraints to meaningful & contextually-specific risk analysis in policy design

The Context

Governance today is often ill-equipped to deal with complexity and long-term risks.



Our Response

It is against this landscape that the UNDP Pacific Office in Fiji, with the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific (RBAP) Strategy, Partnerships and Policy (SPP) unit and Accelerator Lab, is working with governments, civil society and regional organizations in the Pacific to explore alternative modes of decision-making that enable more anticipatory and future-fit governance for development.



Short-sighted Reactive Siloed responses

Means of responding to complex, interconnected development challenges



Response capabilities

Perpetually in crisis response mode (more reactive than proactive)

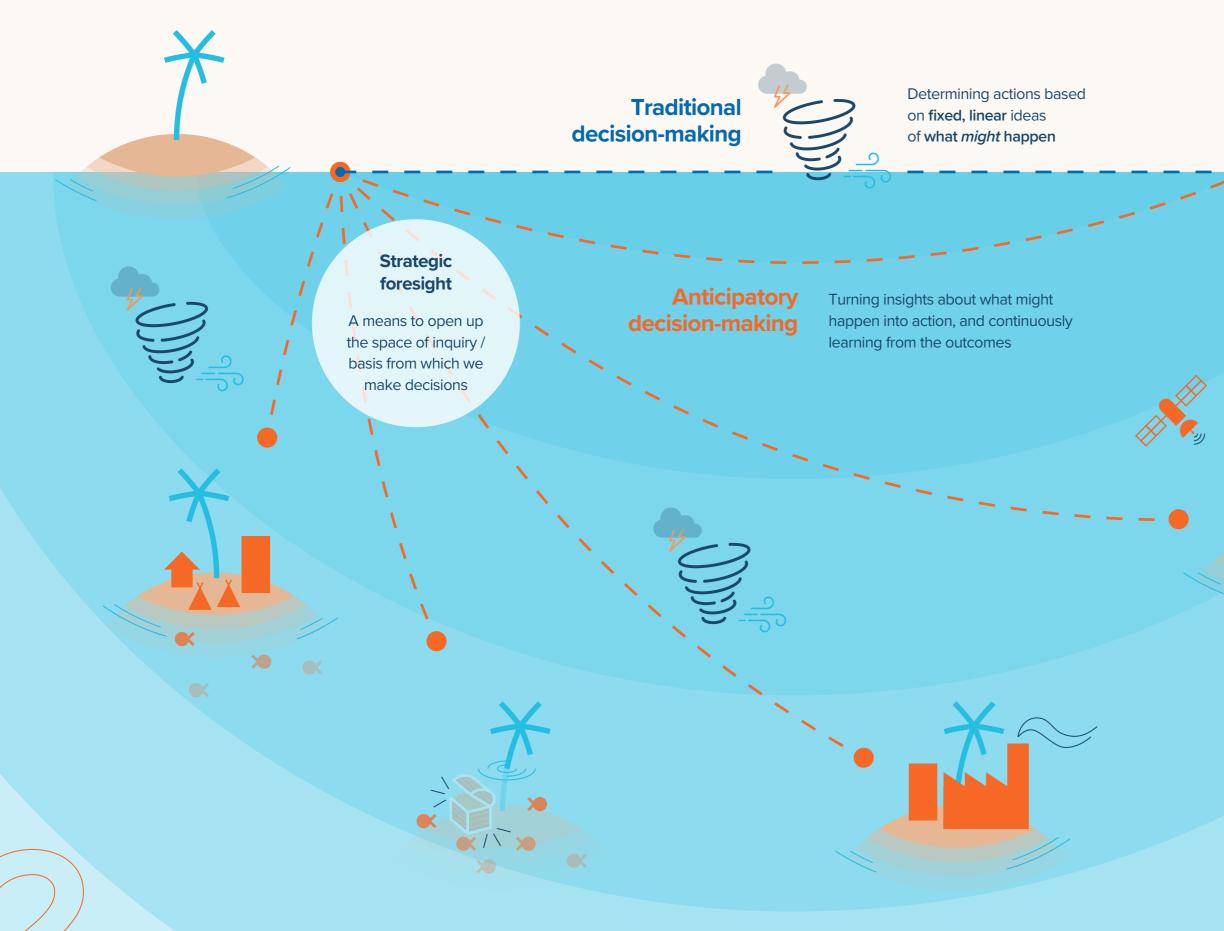
Untapped traditional wisdom

Opportunity for institutions to become more anticipatory by marrying traditional governance with foresight



Anticipatory Longer-term Systems-oriented

What do we mean by future-fit governance?



Anticipatory governance

Building the institutions and structures that allow/ enable us to act on the basis of many possible futures





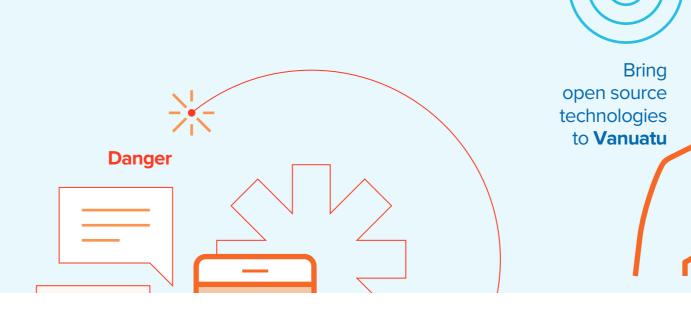
Following pathways: Example foresight experiments

Why we must talk about the future in the Pacific: Rising sea levels will cause hundreds of thousands of islanders to be displaced in the next decades. Non-communicable diseases are already **reducing life expectancy** in most Pacific countries.

Future-fit **Vanuatu**: Foresight briefs with the Ministry of Internal Affairs

The Ministry of Internal Affairs in Vanuatu is producing foresight briefs attached to its five-year strategic plan. The so-called foresight briefs are policy briefs that include the description of several future scenarios and an analysis of different trends and risks that could impact the implementation of their strategy.

Working on the foresight briefs has helped decision makers in charge of youth programmes to shift their



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https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_31389



And, most importantly, very few positive scenarios have been articulated for the future.

