

Climate-related displacement and its impacts on Pacific urban contexts

Cities Institute Agenda Setting

February 2024



Background

The World Bank estimates that close to fifty million people in East Asia and the Pacific will be forced to migrate as a result of sea level rise, coastal erosion and saline intrusion. The results are both economic and non-economic in nature, with significant loss of traditional ways of living, cultural heritage, and biodiversity. There are knowledge gaps reported around the extent of the loss and damage as well as interdisciplinary research and action.

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to identify the research priorities of Pacific-based stakeholders in climate-related displacement and its impacts on urban contexts in the Pacific.

The objectives are to:

- > Understand the question/s that Pacific-based stakeholders need answered about the impact of climate-related displacement on the cities/urban contexts in their region.
- > Position the Institute in climate-related displacement and its impacts on cities/urban contexts in the Pacific and differentiate ourselves by uniting world class research with a real-world approach.
- > Develop long-lasting and meaningful partnerships within UNSW and across the region.

Acknowledgement of Stakeholders

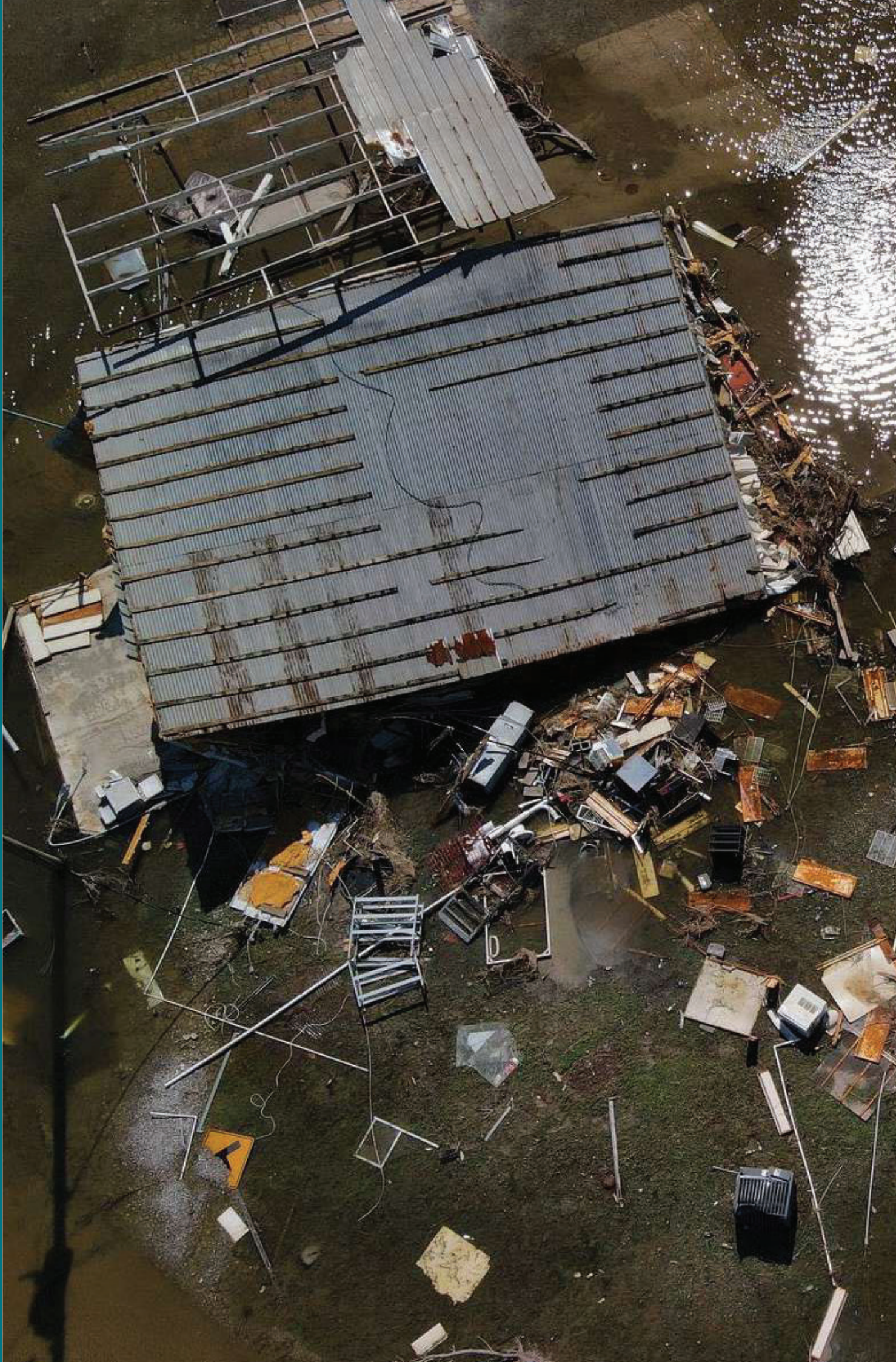
The Institute would like to thank those who contributed their time and insights to this project in particular Kirsten McDonald, Dr George Varughese, Director of the Institute for Global Development, UNSW, and Professor David Sanderson, Inaugural Judith Neilson Chair in Architecture, School of the Built Environment, UNSW.

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Bidjigal, the Traditional Custodians of the land on which the Cities Institute is located, and pay our respects to Elders, past and present.



Methodology

Approach

The approach for this research paper was underpinned by the following principles:

- > Engage with stakeholders by asking questions rather than by offering solutions.
- > Find out where work needs to be done and allow the partnerships to drive the research.
- > Leverage the partnerships to “elicit local ways of doing things”.

Our approach sought to identify a short-list of opportunities that connect those that shape and deliver city outcomes in the Pacific with those with insights suitable for funding. Our approach sought to identify opportunities to pursue now to address the impacts of climate on the people and cities of the Pacific.

Who we spoke with

We interviewed a range of stakeholders all who are known for their focus on the Pacific. Three interviewees were based in the Pacific and working with local and/or regional organisations. Another two interviewees were from the Pacific but based in Australia. All but one interviewee was an academic or researcher.

Name	Role	Organisation	Referred by
Professor Daniel Robinson	Co-Lead Pacific	Institute For Global Development, UNSW	Dr George Varughese / Professor David Sanderson
Scientia Professor Jane McAdam AO	Director	Kaldor Centre for International Refugee Law, UNSW	Dr George Varughese / Professor David Sanderson
Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick	Law Academic	Monash University	Professor Jane McAdam
Dr Eberhard Weber	Associate Professor	University of the South Pacific (Fiji)	Professor Daniel Robinson
Professor Heather Worth	Director	Te Puna Vai Marama (Cook Islands Centre for Research)	Professor Daniel Robinson
	Research Coordinator	University of the South Pacific (Cook Islands)	
Amit Singh	Project Development Specialist	Pacific Community (SPC)	Professor Daniel Robinson
Merewalesi Yee	PhD Candidate	University of Queensland	Professor Jane McAdam
Dr Betty Barkha	Research Fellow	Australian National University	Professor Jane McAdam

Table 1.

What we read

We reviewed a range of documents¹ including many recommended by stakeholders. Those authored by Pacific-based stakeholders were prioritised as were documents published during the project period. These documents included, but were not limited to, the following:

- > The *Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility*² and the *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*³
- > A *Research Brief on Land Tenure and Climate Mobility in the Pacific*⁴.
- > As series of case studies – *Living in the shadow of loss and damage: uncovering non-economic impacts*⁵ – illustrating the impact of non-economic loss and damage on traditional ways of living, cultural heritage, and biodiversity of Pacific Island communities as well as communities in Africa and Asia.
- > The *Suva Statement for a Sustainable Urban Pacific* from the Sixth Session of the Pacific Urban Forum (PUF6) setting out the ongoing commitment of participants to The Pacific New Urban Agenda.
- > *Putting People First*⁶, setting out learnings from the application of different features of area-based approaches in the Pacific.

Our limitations

Our project was limited in scope and duration, and these limitations are evident in the outcomes. Our scope was limited to six interviews⁷ and the review of six documents⁸. Our project duration was three months. While we were able to undertake more interviews and review more documents than planned, we are conscious that our work reflects the particular focus and/or interests of very small sample of Pacific-based stakeholders working in only a few Pacific countries and should be read as such. We are also conscious that not every stakeholder framed their priorities in terms of a question and our attempts to frame priorities as questions may not be representative of stakeholder intent.

Key findings of document review

The documents recommended for review included several documents (frameworks, guidelines, tools, statements of commitment) published during November 2023. These recently published documents, which include a number authored by Pacific-based stakeholders and/or actors from the global south, not only reinforce the stakeholders' priorities but by virtue of their currency highlight immediate opportunities for consideration by the Institute.

1 Documents included statements of commitment, communiqués, statements, guidelines, frameworks, research, news articles online, and blog posts.

2 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat 2023, *Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility*, Pacific Islands Forum, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annex-C-Pacific-Regional-Framework-on-Climate-Mobility-1.pdf>.

3 McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

4 Fitzpatrick, D 2022, *Research Brief on Land Tenure and Climate Mobility in the Pacific*, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat.

5 Bharadwaj, R and Mitchell, T 2023, *Living in the shadow of loss and damage: uncovering non-economic impacts*, case studies, IIED, London, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2023-11/21891iied.pdf>.

6 Keen M, Sanderson D, Osborne K, Deo R, Faith J, and Ride A 2021, *Putting People First: Area Based Approaches to Disaster Response in The Pacific, Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands Regional Synthesis*, Australia Pacific Security College, Australian National University, Canberra.

7 We undertook eight.

8 We reviewed long-list list of documents, prioritising those authored by people based in the Pacific.

Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility (November 2023)

The Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility, a ‘world-first’⁹, was endorsed by Pacific Leaders at the 52nd Pacific Islands Leaders Forum held between 6-10 November 2023.

Key points of note:

- > The Framework delivers on commitments set out in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent.
- > The purpose is to guide governments, communities, non-state actors and partners ‘in ensuring rights based and people-centred movement in the context of climate change’.
- > The Framework is underpinned by principles of:
 - > Leadership and collaboration
 - > Human rights, human security and protection
 - > Protecting culture, cultural heritage and identity and dignity ... ‘(i)t is essential to protect traditional practices, values, knowledge, cultural heritage and identity’¹⁰.
 - > Continuing statehood, nationality and associated rights

Core areas for action that are relevant in the context of this project are:

- > Staying in place ... ‘(h)elping our people stay in their homes with safety and dignity is a fundamental priority for the Pacific.’¹¹
 - Committed to strengthening regional collaboration and collaboration with development partners
 - Committed to collaborating in ‘the development of science-based and traditional knowledge-based tools and technologies to support sustainable land use, access to water, temporary and forced-evacuation management and planned relocation’¹².
- > Planned relocations:
 - Committed to developing ‘regional planned relocation guidelines in consultation with affected Pacific Island Forum (PIF) members and communities’¹³
 - Committed to strengthening ‘regional mechanisms for capturing and sharing lessons learned from past relocations’¹⁴.

In regard to implementation ‘(t)he Framework recognises the critical need for research, accurate, timely, and disaggregated data and data management including multidimensional and multisectoral risk and vulnerability assessment that links to appropriate financing needs and instruments, to ensure well-informed decision-making and effective implementation.’¹⁵

9 McAdam, J 2023, ‘Australia’s offer of climate migration to Tuvalu residents is groundbreaking – and could be a lifeline across the Pacific’, *The Conversation*, 11 November 2023, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://theconversation.com/australias-offer-of-climate-migration-to-tuvalu-residents-is-groundbreaking-and-could-be-a-lifeline-across-the-pacific-217514>.

10 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat 2023, Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility, Pacific Islands Forum, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annex-C-Pacific-Regional-Framework-on-Climate-Mobility-1.pdf>.

11 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat 2023, Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility, Pacific Islands Forum, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annex-C-Pacific-Regional-Framework-on-Climate-Mobility-1.pdf>.

12 Ibid.

13 Ibid.

14 Ibid.

15 Ibid.

Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility (November 2023)

The *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility* set out 13 comprehensive, holistic, interconnected, and adaptable principles for addressing climate mobility, defined as ‘any type of movement – whether forced or voluntary, temporary or permanent, within or across borders – that may occur in the context of climate change and disasters’¹⁶. Associated with each principle are a set of key priorities as well as actions that can be tailored to the specific circumstances of those people who are affected by governments, affected communities, international organisations, civil society groups, and other stakeholders.

There are several opportunities to bring together researchers and built environment practitioners working in the Pacific urban contexts to pilot sample actions in relation to Principles 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, 11 and 13 in particular:

- > Support communities to stay safely at home
- > Protect people displaced in the context of climate change and disasters
- > Facilitate evacuations for people at imminent risk
- > Facilitate migration with dignity for those who wish to move
- > Facilitate planned relocations where necessary
- > Protect the human rights of all people affected by climate mobility
- > Ensure that the needs and rights of particular groups are met
- > Protect the cultural heritage and identities of affected communities
- > Protect citizenship and associated rights for affected communities
- > Ensure sustainable financing
- > Address loss and damage associated with climate mobility
- > Implement robust monitoring, evaluation and information management
- > Take a collaborative approach¹⁷

Living in the shadow of loss and damage: uncovering non-economic impacts (November 2023)

Living in the shadow of loss and damage sets out 14 case studies that illustrate the impact of non-economic loss and damage on traditional ways of living, cultural heritage, and biodiversity of Pacific Island communities as well as communities in Africa and Asia. These case studies detail the impacts of climate change on communities and the mechanisms they currently employ to cope¹⁸. The intention of the authors is to share practical solutions as well as provide an evidence base for those advocating for policy change in non-economic loss and damage at national and international levels¹⁹. Two case studies from the Pacific are included, from Fiji²⁰ and Vanuatu.

Key points of note:

16 McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia (page 4)

17 Ibid.

18 These coping mechanisms include preventative measures; measures to minimise impacts during events; measures, such as planned relocation; as well as measures that may be transformative.

19 Bharadwaj, R and Mitchell, T 2023, *Living in the shadow of loss and damage: uncovering non-economic impacts*, case studies, IIED, London, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2023-11/21891iied.pdf>.

20 Merewalesi Yee, a stakeholder consulted as part of this project, co-authored the case study on Fiji.

- > 'The increasingly harmful effects of climate change are driving loss and damage (L&D). These occur when the capacity of affected communities and countries are compromised to such an extent that they are no longer able to absorb the effects of climate risk or adapt to climate impacts.'²¹
- > 'Tackling loss and damage is not straightforward'²² (particularly non-economic L&D (NELD)) and planning for, responding to and recovering from climate change impacts 'exceeds the current knowledge, skills and capacity of governments, civil society and communities'²³.

Relevant in the context of this project, the case studies found the following

- > That there are knowledge gaps around L&D:
 - There is less focus on NELD.
 - There is limited coordination within the research community, specifically 'to work in multidisciplinary teams and develop more coordinated approaches for research'²⁴.
 - There is not enough evidence from the global South, little or no peer-to-peer quality control mechanism or collective learning among researchers, particularly on NELD.
- > There is a lack of multi-disciplinary input even as L&D 'intersects with multiple academic fields and human rights issues'²⁵.
- > 'A multi-dimensional approach to understanding loss and damage is needed'²⁶:
 - A nuanced understanding of current impacts is crucial, particularly of NELD²⁷
 - A focus is needed on non-economic losses in the identification of approaches and practices that might be most effective in different contexts.
 - An understanding of the resources (technology, finance and capacity) needed to adequately respond.
- > Non-economic loss and damage risks associated with loss of cultural heritage (Yee and McNamara in Bharadwaj, R, et al).
 - The loss of cultural heritage 'is not often a major narrative in global policy discourses on loss and damage'²⁸
 - Case studies (Fiji) have shown that loss of cultural heritage through sea-level rise and coastal inundation impacts wellbeing, sense of place and identity.
 - Problems can be compounded when communities are not customary landowners and cannot easily access alternative lands²⁹.
 - Participants in case studies have identified approaches for addressing losses, through relocation and on-site physical protection.

Also worth noting is that IIED will be launching an 'Observatory for L&D Research' with an online dashboard, a searchable database, a clearing house, skill and capacity building, and news and events. This presents an opportunity for the CI to share research and learning from its work in the future³⁰.

21 Ibid (page 6).

22 Ibid (page 6).

23 Ibid (page 7).

24 Ibid (page 8).

25 Ibid (page 9).

26 Ibid (page 9).

27 Ibid (page 9).

28 Ibid (page 101).

29 Ibid (page 96).

30 Ibid (page 16).

The Suva Statement for a Sustainable Urban Pacific (September 2023)

The Suva Statement for a Sustainable Urban Pacific sets out the outcomes of the Sixth Session of the Pacific Urban Forum³¹.

Key points of note are as follows:

- > Participants recognised 'the need to build resilience' for 'the climate emergency'.
- > Participants were concerned 'at the lack of integration of sustainable urbanization (sic) in key regional development frameworks, plans, strategies' and 'limited participation and enabling environment for Pacific local and subnational stakeholders to meaningfully engage in regional and global urban development and climate change fora'.
- > Participants called for regional cooperation to be deepened 'on sustainable urban development and the Pacific New Urban Agenda through, among other modalities, sharing of knowledge, good practices and lessons learned in the Pacific region'.
- > Participants called for the protection of vulnerable communities 'especially those residing in informal settlements' including 'against the devastating impacts of climate change'.
- > Participants called for acknowledgement of the role of cities and towns 'in providing pathways for mobility and livelihood transformation as the climate crisis accelerates'.
- > Participants called for recognition and enhancement of the role of the Pacific Urban Forum 'as the region's apex multistakeholder urban forum and dialogue platform for subnational and local government matters in the Pacific region'.
- > Participants called for members of the United Nations system in the Pacific (Australia and others) to '(a)ssist cities, towns and urban communities upon request, with the facilitation and provision of policy studies and capacity-building activities, to inform their efforts to promote sustainable and climate resilient urban development'.

The Pacific New Urban Agenda (2015)

The Pacific Urban Forum held in 2015 resolved to endorse the development of a New Urban Agenda for the Pacific featuring four thematic pillars: social equity is enhanced; environment, resilience and urbanization are comprehensively addressed; the urban economy is harnessed; and urban governance is strengthened³². Progress against the Pacific New Urban Agenda (PNUA) was reviewed at the fifth Pacific Urban Forum (PUF5) in 2019, and commitment to the PNUA reaffirmed. In 2019, at the Virtual Pacific Urban Forum, the Pacific Partnership for the New Urban Agenda was launched to accelerate sustainable urban development in the Pacific region. In 2023, at the sixth Pacific Urban Forum (PUF6), participants, hosts and organisers encouraged deeper regional cooperation on sustainable urban development and the Pacific New Urban Agenda.

31 The Pacific Urban Forum is led by the Pacific Urban Partnership which includes UN-Habitat, UNESCAP, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, ICLEI, EAROPH, Home in Place, The University of Melbourne's Centre for Cities, and Monash University's Sustainable Development Institute.

32 Pacific Urban Partnership, 2015, *Pacific Urban Forum 2015 – Towards a New Urban Agenda: Harnessing Opportunities in a Post-2015 Environment*, resolution, Suva, Fiji, viewed 4 October 2023, https://pacificurbanpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/New_Pacific_Urban_Agenda2015-PUF4-Outcome-Documents-1.pdf.

The four working pillars of the Pacific New Urban Agenda are as follows:



Figure 1. The four working pillars of The Pacific New Urban Agenda³³

Putting People First (2021)

Putting People First sets out the findings of research undertaken in Fiji, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu to determine the existence of features of area-based approaches in response to natural disasters. Area-based approaches are defined as actions that ‘support people after a disaster in a specific location to transition effectively from relief to recovery’³⁴ and are people-centred; place-based; span from relief efforts to recovery; and are locally owned and collaborative, across sectors and actors³⁵. Area-based approaches are ways of working in urban contexts in response to a disaster that acknowledge the increasing complexity of the urban context. In summary, the research found that different features of area-based approaches are applied in the Pacific.

Key points of note are as follows:

- > There is a need ‘to recognise and respond to the diversity of cultural and traditional climate adaptation practices’³⁶.
- > ‘In developing countries, the complexity of urban systems has been increased by migration’.
- > ‘Research into resilient Pacific cities identified that “strong community networks, shared resourcing approaches, and locally adapted traditional knowledges and coping mechanisms also provided novel

33 Pacific Urban Partnership, 2021, *Virtual Pacific Urban Forum – Proceedings and Outcomes*, report, Pacific Urban Partnership, Suva, Fiji, viewed 4 October 2023, https://pacificurbanpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/V-PUF-Aug21-Proceedings-and-Outcomes-Report_v2.pdf.

34 Sanderson et al (2018) in Keen M, Sanderson D, Osborne K, Deo R, Faith J, and Ride A 2021, *Putting People First: Area Based Approaches to Disaster Response in The Pacific, Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands Regional Synthesis*, Australia Pacific Security College, Australian National University, Canberra

35 Sanderson, D and Sitko, P 2017, Urban area-based approaches in post-disaster contexts – Guidance Note for Humanitarian Practitioners, IIED, London, viewed 4 October, <https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/migrate/10825IIED.pdf>.

36 Keen M, Sanderson D, Osborne K, Deo R, Faith J, and Ride A 2021, *Putting People First: Area Based Approaches to Disaster Response in The Pacific, Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands Regional Synthesis*, Australia Pacific Security College, Australian National University, Canberra

adaptation pathways that were otherwise unrecognised by formal institutional actors at city, sector-specific or ward scales”.

- > Need for access to disaggregated data on vulnerabilities.
- > ‘A strong theme across all countries was the highly valuable but often overlooked application of traditional knowledge and oral histories to prepare for and respond to disasters.’
- > ‘Studies of adaptive capacity have illustrated the “highly context-specific nature of adaptive capacity”
- > ‘Reflective practice offers an opportunity for collaborative learning, planning and action.’ Capacity in monitoring, evaluation and learning to serve the purpose of ‘sustainable community resilience’.
- > ‘National government, aid actors and aid providers cannot afford to ignore the pressing challenges of urban disaster recovery, and as such should consider promoting approaches such as ABAs, in policy, practice and funding.’

Why Pacific Islanders are staying put even as rising seas flood their homes and crops, *The Conversation* (January 2023)

*Why Pacific Islanders are staying put even as rising seas flood their homes and crops*³⁷ sets out an overview of research into ‘voluntary immobility’, where people experiencing impacts of climate change choose to stay in high-risk areas rather than relocate, and why people may choose this course of action.

Key points of note are as follows:

- > In Fiji, in the case of residents of Serua Island, the decision to remain is ‘based on “Vanua”, an Indigenous Fijian word that refers to the interconnectedness of the natural environment, social bonds, ways of being, spirituality and stewardship of place’³⁸. ‘Vanua binds local communities to their land.’³⁹
- > ‘Serua Islanders are concerned that relocating ... would disrupt the bond they have with the chief, sacred sites and the ocean’⁴⁰.
- > Moving requires ‘much more than simply giving up material possessions’⁴¹. Residents are concerned that moving means ‘disrupting – or losing – not just material assets such as foundation stones, but sacred sites, a way of life and Indigenous knowledge’⁴².
- > People are choosing to stay all around the world for reasons of livelihoods, place-based connections, social bonds, and differing risk perceptions⁴³. This decision raises issues about the value people ascribe to their connections to place⁴⁴.

37 Yee, M 2023, ‘Why Pacific Islanders are staying put even as rising seas flood their homes and crops’, *The Conversation*, 10 January 2023, viewed 13 November 2023, <https://theconversation.com/why-pacific-islanders-are-staying-put-even-as-rising-seas-flood-their-homes-and-crops-195100>.

38 Ibid.

39 Ibid.

40 Ibid.

41 Ibid.

42 Ibid.

43 Ibid.

44 Ibid.

Which priorities are opportunities now and why

Short-listed priorities that are opportunities now

Interviewees were asked the priorities of Pacific-based stakeholders regarding climate related displacement and its impacts on Pacific urban contexts. Documents were also reviewed for additional insights, as well as associated opportunities. We reviewed this long-list of priorities and developed a short-list of opportunities for further consideration in the short-term. These short-listed priorities and the reason for each being considered are set out in the table below.

Identified priorities	Why is this priority an opportunity now?
Climate mobility	
Enabling people to stay in place	In November 2023, the Pacific Island Leaders Forum endorsed a 'world-first' <i>Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility Framework</i> and the Kaldor Centre launched its <i>Principles on Climate Mobility</i> . Both identify as core areas for action staying in place and planned relocations. Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are all pursuing planned relations.
Understanding patterns of mobility and the importance of maintaining traditional links to land	In November 2023, the Pacific Island Leaders Forum endorsed a 'world-first' <i>Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility Framework</i> and the Kaldor Centre launched its <i>Principles on Climate Mobility</i> . Both emphasise the protection of culture, cultural heritage, and identity. Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are all pursuing planned relations.
Addressing challenges faced by non-Indigenous people who do not have customary connection to land	In November 2023, the Pacific Island Leaders Forum endorsed a 'world-first' <i>Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility Framework</i> and the Kaldor Centre launched its <i>Principles on Climate Mobility</i> . A set of 'tools' addressing land tenure and urban planning in response to climate mobility and disaster displacement has been developed by Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick for the Pacific Resilience Partnership and is soon to be launched.
Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	
Integrating mechanisms for leasing customary land with climate mobility	In November 2023, the Pacific Island Leaders Forum endorsed a 'world-first' <i>Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility Framework</i> and the Kaldor Centre launched its <i>Principles on Climate Mobility</i> .
Ensuring planning is linked to Pacific land tenure systems	Pillars 1 and 4 of the <i>Pacific New Urban Agenda</i> call for secure land tenure for those living in informal settlements. A set of 'tools' addressing land tenure and urban planning in response to climate mobility and disaster displacement has been developed by Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick for the Pacific Resilience Partnership and is soon to be launched.

Identified priorities	Why is this priority an opportunity now?
Improving the resilience of informal settlements	In September 2023, the <i>Suva Statement for a Sustainable Urban Pacific</i> called for the acknowledgement of the role of cities and towns 'in providing pathways for mobility and livelihood transformation as the climate crisis accelerates'⁴⁵. Pillars 1 and 4 of the Pacific New Urban Agenda calls for secure land tenure for those living in informal settlements. A set of 'tools' addressing land tenure and urban planning in response to climate mobility and disaster displacement has been developed by Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick for the Pacific Resilience Partnership and is soon to be launched. It is understood that standardised lease agreements are being trialled in Port Vila as part of the World Bank-funded Vanuatu Affordable and Resilient Settlements Project. At present, the political environment in Fiji is such that informal settlements are on the agenda of politicians.
Informal settlements	
Competition between developers looking for land for growth and informal settlers	In September 2023, the <i>Suva Statement for a Sustainable Urban Pacific</i> called for the acknowledgement of the role of cities and towns 'in providing pathways for mobility and livelihood transformation as the climate crisis accelerates'⁴⁶. At present, the political environment in Fiji is such that informal settlements are on the agenda of politicians. In November 2023, UNSW agreed a MoU (Dr Rita Henderson) with the Water Authority of Fiji.
Economic and non-economic loss and damage	
Establishment of a loss and damage fund and supporting governments to prepare institutionally	The Pacific Community (SPC) has prioritised loss and damage as a critical issue⁴⁷, and is focused on discussions about the establishment of a loss and damage fund that is user-friendly for country governments and able to be "distilled down to in-country actions". There is an acknowledged knowledge gap around loss and damage generally, the impacts, and approaches and practices that are most effective in different contexts⁴⁸. In November 2023, the Kaldor Centre launched its <i>Principles on Climate Mobility</i> with taking steps to reduce economic and non-economic loss and damage a key priority⁴⁹.

45 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, September 2023, *The Suva Statement for a Sustainable Urban Pacific – Accelerating Action at All Levels for Inclusive, Safe and Climate Resilient Cities, Towns and Communities in Pacific Island Countries*, Suva, 7 September 2023, https://pacificurbanpartnership.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/PUF6_OutcomeStatement.pdf.

46 Ibid.

47 Pacific Community (SPC) 2023, *'Loss and Damage Challenges in the Pacific'*, Pacific Community, blog post, November 2023, viewed 29 November 2023, <https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/interactive-story/2023/11/loss-and-damage-challenges-in-the-pacific>.

48 Bharadwaj, R and Mitchell, T 2023, *Living in the shadow of loss and damage: uncovering non-economic impacts*, case studies, IIED, London, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2023-11/21891iied.pdf>.

49 McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

Identified priorities	Why is this priority an opportunity now?
Consideration of the values people ascribe to connections to place when addressing loss and damage arising from climate change	The Pacific Community (SPC) has prioritised loss and damage as a critical issue⁵⁰, and is focused on discussions about the establishment of a loss and damage fund that is user-friendly for country governments and able to be “distilled down to in-country actions”. There is an acknowledged knowledge gap around non-economic loss and damage, in particular risks associated with loss of cultural heritage and approaches and practices that are most effective in different contexts⁵¹. Case studies (Fiji) have shown that loss of cultural heritage through sea-level rise and coastal inundation impacts wellbeing, sense of place and identity.
Urban planning, urban infrastructure, and informal settlements	
Urban infrastructure	At the time of writing, Australia, the USA, Saudi Arabia, and China had all committed funds to the Pacific Resilience Facility^{52,53} to help prepare for disasters by providing financing for small-scale, community-level disaster risk reduction projects. In November 2023, UNSW agreed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) (Dr Rita Henderson) with the Water Authority of Fiji. Pillar 1 of the <i>Pacific New Urban Agenda</i> calls for social equity to be enhanced through access to affordable basic services (including water).
Planned relocation	
Use of decolonised methods of engagement such as the Fijian Vanua Research Framework (Nabobo-Baba)	In November 2023, the Pacific Island Leaders Forum endorsed the <i>Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility Framework</i> including a commitment to developing ‘regional planned re-location guidelines in consultation with affected Pacific Island Forum (PIF) members and communities’⁵⁴. Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are all pursuing planned relations. Only Fiji has Standard Operating Procedures for planned relocations.
Gender and climate change	
Leveraging planned relocations so that they are gender-transformational	In November 2023, the Pacific Island Leaders Forum endorsed the <i>Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility Framework</i> including a commitment to developing ‘regional planned relocation guidelines in consultation with affected Pacific Island Forum (PIF) members and communities’⁵⁵. Fiji, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu are all pursuing planned relations. Only Fiji has Standard Operating Procedures for planned relocations. It is understood there are gender gaps within governments at the different levels insofar as decision-making about climate change.

Table 2. Priorities

- 50 Pacific Community (SPC) 2023, ‘*Loss and Damage Challenges in the Pacific*’, Pacific Community, blog post, November 2023, viewed 29 November 2023, <https://www.spc.int/updates/blog/interactive-story/2023/11/loss-and-damage-challenges-in-the-pacific>.
- 51 Bharadwaj, R and Mitchell, T 2023, *Living in the shadow of loss and damage: uncovering non-economic impacts*, case studies, IIED, London, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.iied.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/2023-11/21891iied.pdf>.
- 52 The Pacific Resilience Facility is ‘a Pacific owned, led, and designed initiative endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) Leaders (Pacific Leaders)’ with a goal to raise USD1.5B to help prepare for disasters by providing financing for small-scale, community-level disaster risk reduction projects ranging from USD50-200K.
- 53 Pacific Islands Forum 2023, *RELEASE: PIFLM52 – Global pledges begin as Leaders endorse new Pacific Resilience Facility*, 21 November 2023, viewed 24 November 2023, <https://www.forumsec.org/2023/11/21/release-piflm52-global-pledges-begin-as-leaders-endorse-new-pacific-resilience-facility/>.
- 54 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat 2023, *Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility, Pacific Islands Forum*, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annex-C-Pacific-Regional-Framework-on-Climate-Mobility-1.pdf>.
- 55 Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat 2023, *Pacific Regional Framework on Climate Mobility, Pacific Islands Forum*, viewed 14 November 2023, <https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Annex-C-Pacific-Regional-Framework-on-Climate-Mobility-1.pdf>.

Alignment of short-listed opportunities with our city focus

A high-level mapping of the alignment of the short-listed opportunities over the three core elements of city infrastructure, city performance and city wellbeing⁵⁶ illustrates how taking forward the opportunities might contribute to the strengthening of urban systems in the Pacific⁵⁷ in response to climate change as well as other shocks and stresses.

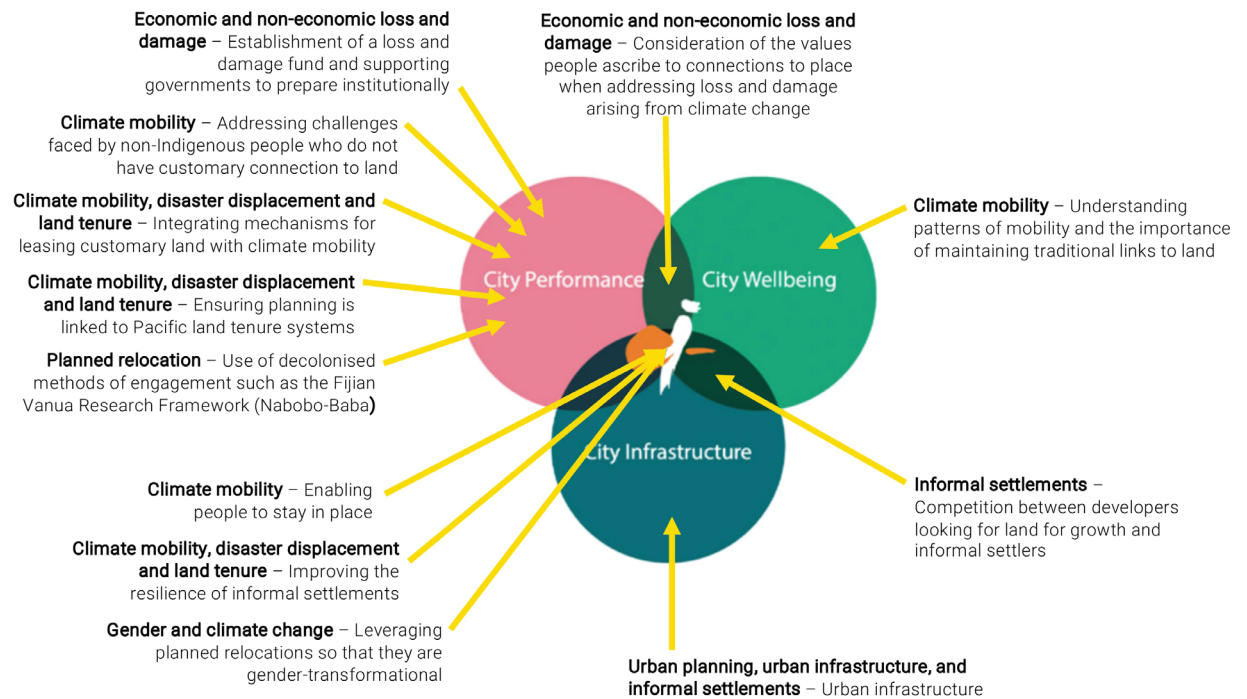


Figure 2. Opportunities and their alignment with the core elements that guide our pursuits

⁵⁶ University of New South Wales n.d., UNSW Cities Institute, UNSW Arts, Design & Architecture, Sydney, viewed 4 October 2023, <https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-research/research-centres-institutes/cities-institute>.

⁵⁷ Strengthening urban systems so they are both sustainable and equitable is a focus of the Institute.

Alignment of short-listed opportunities with a project lifecycle

A high-level mapping of the alignment of the short-listed opportunities with a built environment project lifecycle illustrates the potential for their practical application at different project stages.

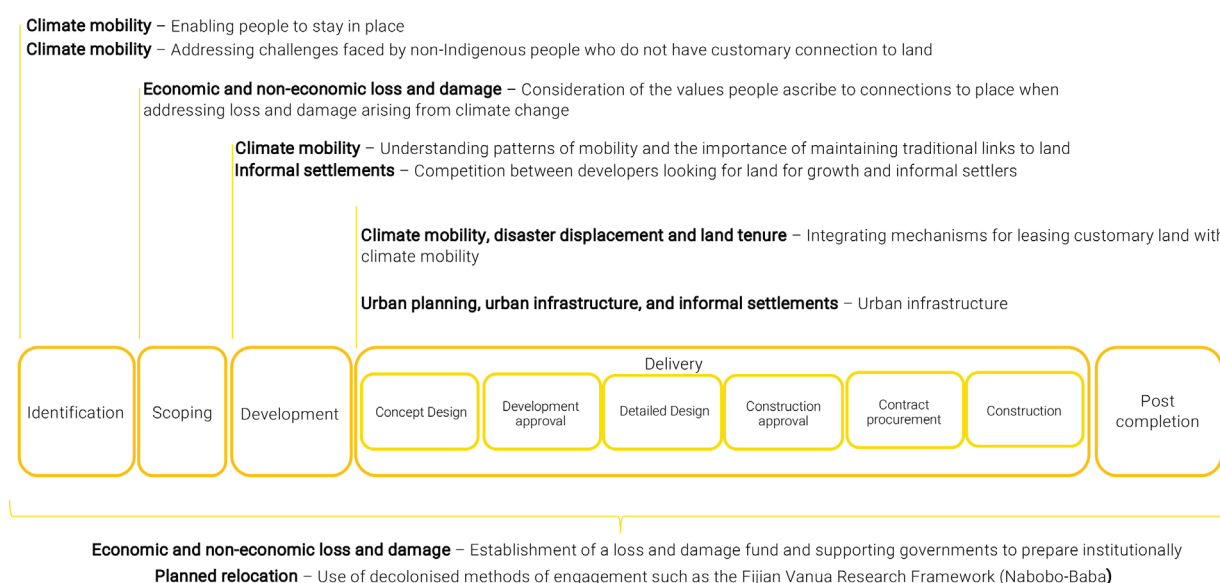
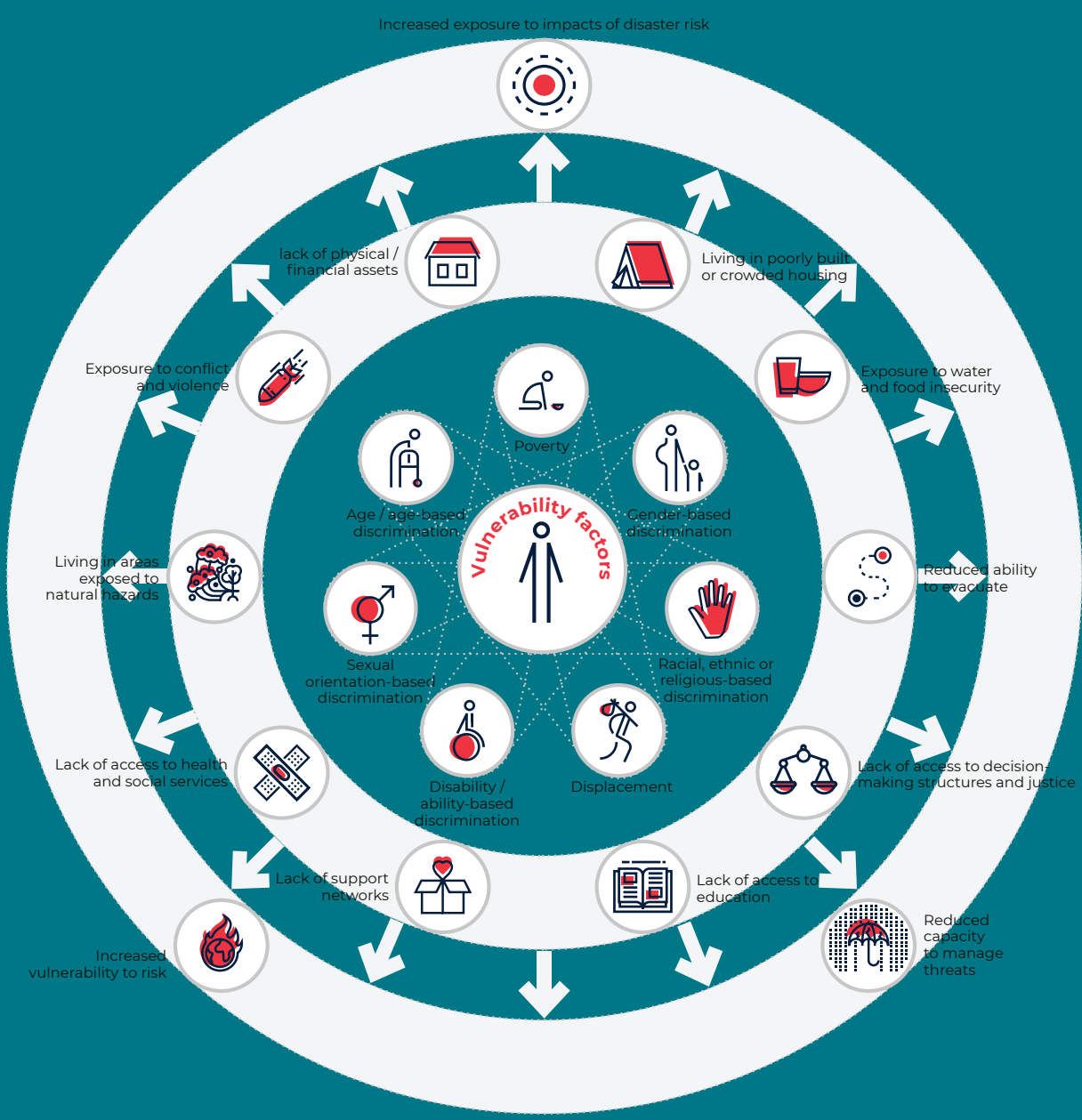


Figure 3. Opportunities and their alignment with a typical project lifecycle

Figure 3.8: Impacts of disasters and climate change on different groups



Immediate opportunities

A structured decision-making process

Deciding the opportunities we prioritise and why will be guided by a structured decision-making process involving all of our key stakeholders. Following a structured process, an example of which is set out below, will ensure that the opportunities we take forward contribute to:

- > Positioning ourselves in climate-related displacement and its impacts on cities/urban contexts in the Pacific.
- > Differentiating ourselves by uniting world class research with a real-world approach.
- > Developing long-lasting and meaningful partnerships within UNSW and across the region.

Ultimately, the opportunities we prioritise will enable us to leverage our unique position to accelerate the translation of research into practice and address the impacts of climate on the people and urban contexts of the Pacific.

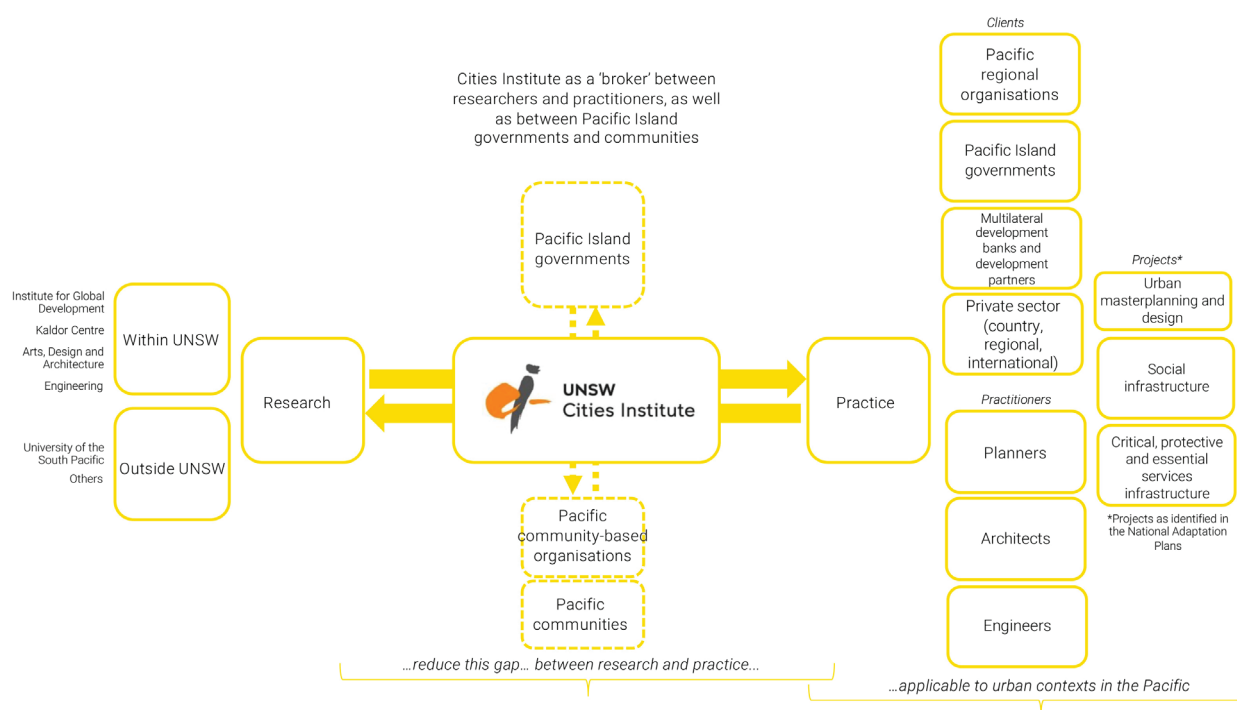


Figure 4. Our unique position at the nexus between research and practice

Several of the priorities identified by stakeholders align with our strategic direction and the interests of our research partners; suggest an opportunity to apply research to practice associated with projects that are proposed or already underway in the Pacific; and about which the practical application of research is likely to be of interest to a range of potential funders. In addition, the learning from the practical application of research in several areas would, we believe, offer learning for cities and/or practitioners working in Australia.

These priorities are in the area are:

- > Climate mobility
- > Economic and non-economic loss and damage
- > Urban planning, urban infrastructure, and informal settlements

Climate mobility

Most of the priorities identified during the consultation relate to climate mobility and have relevance to the identification, scoping, development, delivery, and operations of the built environment. Further consultation is needed with the Kaldor Centre to confirm the overlaps and agree the opportunities for practical application of existing research on climate mobility to projects, which may include the following:

- > A review of 'zoning laws, policies and practices to ensure that they do not permit settlements to be built in unsafe areas or allow land to be overdeveloped'¹.
- > Development of a framework for incorporating 'displacement risk management' into built environment project planning 'to ensure that development projects do not result in arbitrary displacement'².
- > 'Conduct land audits and consult with relevant stakeholders to identify the availability and capacity of land (including land for 'banking' for future use) and ensure that adequate and sustainable resources are in place'³.
- > Contribute to the establishment of 'mechanisms for assessing and addressing economic and non-economic losses arising from people's loss of or restricted access to land, and for providing equitable compensation for land and other assets'⁴.
- > Develop guidelines, policies, and training for built environment practitioners 'to develop awareness of human rights and ensure that human rights are given full effect in all practical measures relating to climate mobility'⁵.

1 Principle 1: Support communities to stay safely at home, sample action d) in McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

2 Principle 2: Protect people displaced in the context of climate change and disasters, sample action e) in McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

3 Principle 5: Facilitate planned relocations where necessary, sample action f) in McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

4 Principle 5: Facilitate planned relocations where necessary, sample action j) in McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

5 Principle 6: Protect the human rights of all people affected by climate mobility, sample action c) in McAdam, J and Wood, T 2023, *Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility*, Kaldor Centre, UNSW, Sydney, Australia.

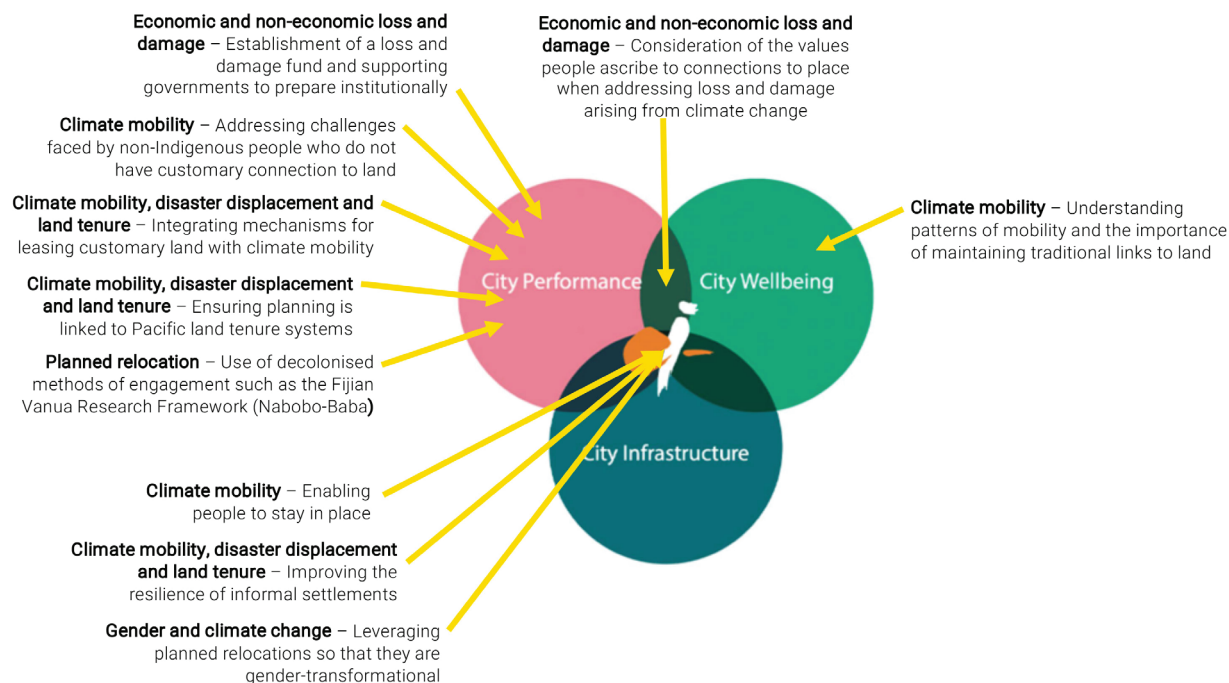


Figure 5. Priorities relating to climate mobility and alignment with the core elements that guide our pursuits

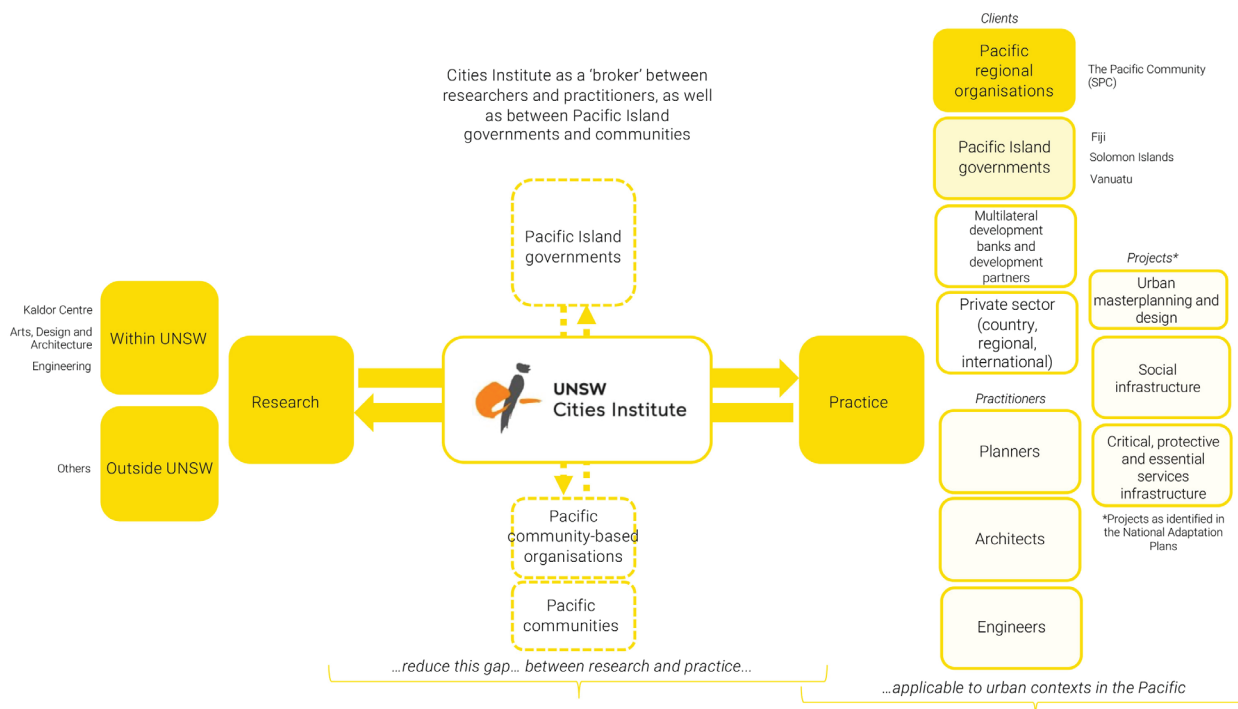


Figure 6. Role of the Institute in the practical application of research on climate mobility to practice

Economic and non-economic loss and damage

Several priorities identified during the consultation relate to economic and non-economic loss and damage and have relevance to the identification, scoping, development, delivery, and operations of the built environment. Further consultation is needed with the Pacific Community⁶ (SPC) to understand in change in its priorities (and those of Pacific Island governments) following agreement having been reached at COP28 on the operationalisation of ‘a fund that would help compensate vulnerable countries coping with loss and damage caused by climate change’^{7,8}. Further consultation is also needed with research partners to understand the opportunities associated with contributing to the emerging body of knowledge on non-economic loss and damage in collaboration with built environment practitioners⁹.

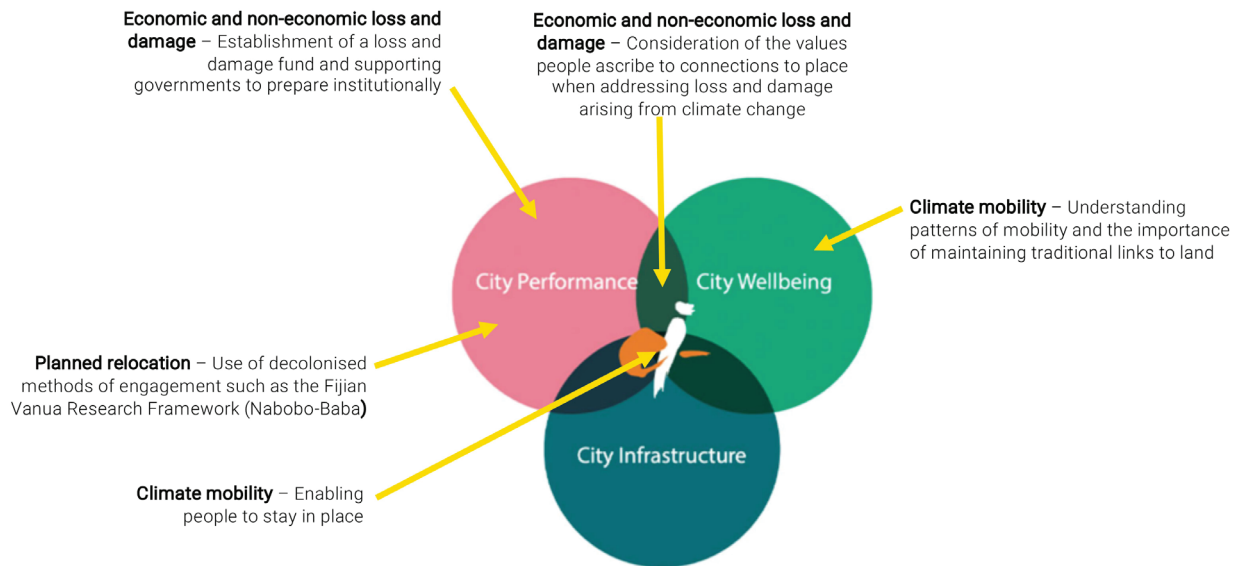


Figure 7. Priorities relating to loss and damage and alignment with the core elements that guide our pursuits

Urban planning, urban infrastructure, and informal settlements

Several priorities identified during the consultation relate to urban planning, urban infrastructure, and informal settlements and have relevance to the identification, scoping, development, delivery, and

- 6 Amit Singh, Project Development Specialist, Pacific Community (SPC). It is important to note that Amit will be in Fiji from 16-24 December 2023 and from 3 January 2024.
- 7 United Nations 2023, 'COP28 talks open in Dubai with breakthrough deal on loss and damage fund', UN News, 30 November 2023, viewed 5 December 2023, <https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/11/1144162>.
- 8 Contributions to the fund were announced by the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Germany, the United Kingdom (UK), the United States of America (USA) and Japan^{7,8}. Initially, the fund will be administered by the World Bank.
- 9 Bharadwaj et al (2023) notes that 'L&D research is primarily conducted by a handful of experts who largely operate in silos, and there is currently no mechanism to break down these institutional barriers and country boundaries, to work in multidisciplinary teams and develop more coordinated approaches for research on L&D'.

operations of the built environment. Further consultation is needed with UNSW Engineering to understand the scope of its MoU with the Water Authority of Fiji, depending on the agreed scope, the Kaldor Centre and Art, Design and Architecture to confirm the overlaps in research and agree the opportunities for practical application of research to urban planning projects.

Other opportunities

In addition to the above, we will continue establishing and building relationships as follows:

- > Schedule consultations with stakeholders contacted as part of the project but not consulted¹⁰.
- > Schedule consultations with stakeholders recommended but not contacted as part of the project¹¹.
- > Expand list of stakeholders to include the following:
 - UNSW Arts, Design and Architecture (Dr Sarath Mataraarachchi)
 - Global Cities Research Institute at RMIT University (Dr Darryn McEvoy)
 - Melbourne Centre for Cities at The University of Melbourne (Dr Alexi Trundle)
 - Lowy Institute Pacific Islands Program (Dr Meg Keen)

We will consider establishing relationships with the multilateral development banks and development partners which are investing in climate resilient infrastructure in the Pacific as well as the consultancies those organisations engage to manage built environment projects.

We will explore options for joining the Pacific Urban Partnership¹².

¹⁰ As set out in Appendix A1.1.

¹¹ As set out in Appendix A1.1.

¹² The Pacific Urban Partnership leads the Pacific Urban Forum and includes UN-Habitat, UNESCAP, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, ICLEI, EAROPH, Home in Place, The University of Melbourne's Centre for Cities, and Monash University's Sustainable Development Institute.

1. Is the opportunity aligned to CI?		
1.1 Is the opportunity aligned to one or more of the three core elements of CI?		
City infrastructure	City performance	
1.2 Does the opportunity connect those with insights (researchers) with those with needs (decision-makers)?		
Yes	Potentially	
1.3 If yes, does an opportunity to apply research exist?		
Yes - opportunity currently exists to practically apply research	Potentially - project exists and opportunity for practical application of existing research to be explored	
2. Does answering the question enable CI to achieve its goals?		
Yes - immediately	Yes - in Q1-Q2 2024	
2.1 If yes, with whom?		
Global Centre for International Development	School of the Built Environment	Kaldor
3. Does answering the question enable CI to connect with those who can influence decision-making?		
Yes	Possibly	
3.1 If yes or possibly, with whom?		
Regional organisations/entities	Governments (national, municipal, provincial governments)	Community leaders
4. Is the answering the question likely to be of interest to those who can influence decision-making?		
Yes - likely to be of interest in the short-term	Yes - likely to be of interest in the medium- to long-term	Possibly - further exploration of potential
4.1 if yes or possibly, with whom?		
Regional organisations/entities	Governments (national, municipal, provincial governments)	Bilateral donors
5. Does the answering the question offer learning opportunities?		
Yes	Possibly	
6. If yes or possibly, are there any barriers to learning?		
Yes	Possibly	

Figure 8. Sample decision-making matrix

What is the strategy and research direction?		
What elements of city infrastructure, city performance, or city wellbeing?		
Performance	City wellbeing	
Who are the people that shape and deliver city outcomes (policy makers and practitioners)?		
Potentially	No	
What connections to connect exist at the moment?		
Potentially - project is proposed and opportunity for practical application of existing research to be explored	Unknown - more exploration of potential opportunities is needed	
Is there a viable CI to connect across UNSW?		
No	Unknown	
With whom?		
Centre	School of Chemical Engineering	Others
How do we connect with Pacific-based stakeholders/actors?		
Potentially	No	
How do we connect with whom?		
Non-government organisations	Practitioners	Other private sector organisations/entities
What are the potential funders of interest to potential funders?		
Potential funders interests needed	No - unlikely to be of interest	Unknown
Which funders?		
Multilateral development banks	Non-government organisations	Private sector
What are the challenges for cities/practitioners working in Australia?		
Potentially	No	
Are there any other benefits?		
Potentially	No	

Priority and other stakeholders

List of stakeholders to be consulted and/or contacted

Name	Role	Organisation	Referred by
Contacted, with consultation to be scheduled early 2024			
Professor Carol Farbotko	ARC Future Fellow Griffith Centre for Social Cultural Research	Griffith University	Professor Jane McAdam
Anshuka	PhD Candidate	UNSW	Professor David Sanderson
Contacted, with no response			
Ofa Ma'asi-Kaisamy	Manager, Pacific Climate Change Centre Team	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	Professor Daniel Robinson
Tim Westbury		International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Professor Jane McAdam
Recommended for consultation in the future			
Bernhard Barth	Human Settlements Officer	UNHabitat	Professor David Sanderson
Masi Latianara	TBC	ex-Habitat for Humanity Fiji	Professor David Sanderson
Eleanor Earl	PhD Candidate	UNSW	Professor David Sanderson
Matt Blacker	Engineer	Cook Islands Government	Professor Daniel Robinson
Jon Barnett	ARC Laureate Fellow Geography, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences	University of Melbourne	Professor Daniel Robinson
Karen McNamara	Professorial Research Fellow (ARC Future Fellow), School of the Environment	University of Queensland	Professor Daniel Robinson
Representative/s of the Pacific Urban Partnership	TBC	TBC Representative/s of the Pacific Urban Partnership (UN-Habitat, UNESCAP, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, ICLEI, EAROPH, Home in Place, The University of Melbourne's Centre for Cities, and Monash University's Sustainable Development Institute)	Author

Abbreviations and Definitions of Key Terms and Concepts

Abbreviations

CROP	Council of Regional Organisations of the Pacific (comprising heads of the intergovernmental regional organisations in the Pacific; with PIFS the permanent chair)
CSO	Community Service Organisations
FRDP	Framework for Resilience Development in the Pacific
L&D	Loss and damage
NELD	Non-economic loss and damage
NUA	New Urban Agenda
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PNUA	Pacific New Urban Agenda
PRP	Pacific Resilience Partnership
PUF	Pacific Urban Forum
PUP	Pacific Urban Partnership (UN-Habitat, UNESCAP, the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, ICLEI, EAROPH, Home in Place, The University of Melbourne's Centre for Cities, and Monash University's Sustainable Development Institute)
SPC	Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

Briefing notes

Considerations

Question needing answering ¹	Category	Informed by stakeholder or document
How do you enable people to stay in place (which is what most people want)? How could the sample actions set out in the Kaldor Centre Principles on Climate Mobility be applied?	Climate mobility	Professor Jane McAdam
How can we support Pacific organisations with limited time and resources to collect stories from across the Pacific that are helpful and that acknowledge that what is wanted in one country may be different in another?	Climate mobility	Professor Jane McAdam
What can we learn from patterns of mobility in the Pacific (of people moving from urban contexts to villages and outer islands) and the importance of maintaining traditional links to land?	Climate mobility	Professor Jane McAdam
How can we apply tools developed by the Pacific Resilience Partnership to urban planning practice to improve the resilience of informal settlements?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick
How to leverage the fact that informal settlements are “the primary reception site in terms of climate change” in the Pacific?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick
How to ensure planning is linked to the Pacific land tenure systems (“as it is not possible to separate tenure from planning and planning from tenure”)?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick
How to overcome the challenge of Pacific-based practitioners being country-based and not regional and without access to their own funding? How to leverage regional networks such as SPREP’s for EIA practitioners for collaboration?	Collaboration and partnership	Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick
Is it possible to pilot suggestions for integrating mechanisms for leasing customary land with climate mobility (Fitzpatrick, 2022)?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Fitzpatrick, D 2022, <i>Research Brief on Land Tenure and Climate Mobility in the Pacific</i> , Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (page 12).
How to identify and record tenure relationships so to support community planning, risk reduction and early recovery after disasters (Fitzpatrick, 2022)? Can we pilot existing tools?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Fitzpatrick, D 2022, <i>Research Brief on Land Tenure and Climate Mobility in the Pacific</i> , Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (page 14)
Can we pilot the application of ‘Land and Natural Disaster – Guidance for Practitioners’ (United Nations Human Settlements Program, 2010) to Pacific-based projects and capture learning for sharing?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick

¹ The framing of stakeholder priorities in terms of a question is the author’s and was undertaken for the purposes of discussion with key stakeholders for short-listing. Questions themselves should not be attributed to the stakeholder listed as the source.

Question needing answering ¹	Category	Informed by stakeholder or document
What can we learn from the use of standardised lease agreements in Port Vila as part of the World Bank-funded Resilient Cities Program?	Climate mobility, disaster displacement and land tenure	Professor Daniel Fitzpatrick
How to address the conflict between living in informal settlements as a livelihood strategy and a protection from eviction with climate change impacts and 'environmental disadvantage'?	Informal settlements	Dr Eberhard Weber
How to respond to competition between existing informal settlements and the need for land for the growth/expansion of urban centres, between informal settlers and "developers looking for second or third rate land where development requires investment in infrastructure ... for posh apartments"? Can we collaborate with developers?	Informal settlements	Dr Eberhard Weber
How to ensure that ideas are coming from the people living in informal settlements themselves when they have other things they consider important and when climate change is not on top of their list of the challenges to be addressed?	Informal settlements	Dr Eberhard Weber
How to leverage the political opportunity in Fiji at present that means that politicians "at least try to create the impression that they think about people in the informal settlements"?	Informal settlements	Dr Eberhard Weber
How to reframe secure employment, disaster resilient housing, access to water and electricity for new residents as an equity issue?	Informal settlements	Dr Eberhard Weber
How can we maintain a focus on the priority for the Pacific of climate change and the urgency of the commitment to keep warming within 1.5 degrees... "this encompasses everything"?	Global carbon emissions	Amit Singh
How can we support the need for adaptation "because we can't just mitigate"?	Climate change adaptation	Amit Singh
How can we support discussions about the establishment of a loss and damage fund that is user-friendly for country governments and able to be "distilled down to in-country actions" as well as SPC's work with governments helping them prepare institutionally for implementation next year?	Economic and non-economic loss and damage	Amit Singh
How can we complement SPC's technical capabilities?	Collaboration and partnership	Amit Singh

Question needing answering ¹	Category	Informed by stakeholder or document
How can we leverage UNSW's new MoU (Dr Rita Henderson) with the Water Authority of Fiji and the Authorities ongoing work developing its new 20505 water strategy?	Urban planning, urban infrastructure, and informal settlements	Amit Singh
Can we offer a peer review of the new Suva (TBC) urban masterplan (being prepared by a Singapore consulting firm)?	Urban planning	Amit Singh
Can we contribute to 'closing' acknowledged loopholes in the Fiji Standard Operating Procedure for 'voluntary immobility'?	Voluntary immobility	Merewalesi Yee
Can we contribute to the development of Pacific case studies on the application of the Principles for Locally Led Adaptation Action (Soanes, M, et al 2021)?	Climate change adaptation	Merewalesi Yee
Can we contribute to the body of knowledge on planned relocations in the Pacific by supporting the application of decolonised research methods such as the Fijian Vanua Research Framework (Nabobo-Baba)?	Planned relocation	Merewalesi Yee
Can we contribute to the body of knowledge on climate mobility issues for non-Indigenous people in the Pacific who do not have customary connections to land but who may still feel connected to a place?	Climate mobility and land tenure	Merewalesi Yee
How can the values people ascribe to their connections to place considered when addressing loss and damage arising from climate change (Yee, 2023)?	Economic and non-economic loss and damage	Yee, M 2023, 'Why Pacific Islanders are staying put even as rising seas flood their homes and crops', <i>The Conversation</i> , 10 January 2023, viewed 13 November 2023, .
How to ensure that local partnerships are established early and that collaborations bridge research and evidence with practice (to avoid the risks of researchers "hindering the process" of adapting to climate change)?	Collaboration and partnership	Dr Betty Barkha
Is there an opportunity to collaborate with governments of Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, all of whom are pursuing planned relations and who have planned relocation guidelines (but only Fiji has Standard Operating Procedures)? How to bring technical expertise to partner?	Planned relocation	Dr Betty Barkha
How to address gender gaps in decision-making about climate change within the Fijian government at the different levels, when women working in the climate divisions are not working on gender issues or adaptation?	Gender and climate change	Dr Betty Barkha
How to reduce the gendered impacts of planned relocation? How to leverage planned relocations so that they are gender-transformational?	Planned relocation	Dr Betty Barkha

Key documents and references

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The key findings from the review of the following documents are set out in Appendix A2.3.

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Academic thinking grounds our practical initiatives in robust research. We connect those with insights with those that shape and deliver city outcomes, ensuring a practical application for policy, change and impact that ultimately benefits the communities around us.

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citiesinstitute@unsw.edu.au

UNSW Cities Institute
Parramatta Innovation Hub
Parramatta NSW 2150

In the spirit of reconciliation, the UNSW Cities Institute acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, waters and community. This publication was prepared by the UNSW Cities Institute. November 2024.

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