COMMUNITY NETWORKS, COPING SECTORS AND CHANGING TIDES:
Climate Change Adaptation in Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

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Content

• Introduce
  – Snapshot on SIDS vulnerability and adaptation

• Explore
  – Directions for global/national policy measures, building on lessons learned from research and work experience.
A. The Changing Tides...
Global & Regional Perspective

• What will climate change mean for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)?

• Do we know what we need to know about Pacific SIDS?

• How can we unlock the “black box” and understand the dynamics?
“Women are always affected by natural disasters. The men get aggressive. Women are more prone to violence when food is not provided” (SU_22, pers.com. 7 April 2010).

“Insurance doesn’t cover these people [communities] nor does it cover the businesses in town...there is no such thing as flood insurance nowadays. That means people, businessman and even farmers are affected increasing their hardship...” (NA_38, pers.com, 18 March 2010).
B. The Coping Sectors ...
Traditional warning indicators

Atoll Agriculture
“People know the seasons but even the seasons are thrown off the time and rhythm. The traditional method of reading the weather was ok but with the changing climate, we don’t know how accurate these traditional mechanisms are”

(SU_19, pers.com, 23 March 2010).
C. The Way Forward...
Are we global-local partners?

- **Global:** Financing mechanisms
  - Insurance and risk frameworks for SIDS
  - Adaptation costs within GEF policies
  - World Bank Development Strategies

- **Regional:** Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change
  - South-South knowledge exchange

- **National:** Adaptation Action Plans
  - Local networks
  - Ecosystem specific adaptations

- **Local:** Land use and traditional practices
  - Engagement of networks
  - Documentation of knowledge
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