Climate and Disaster Resilience in SIDS
Practical Solutions

Coordinating to mainstream climate and disaster resilience - forming a super Ministry
Tonga

Session 4: Institutional strengthening and coordination
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Early Days

- Energy, Climate change and Environment were under the Ministry of Lands, Survey and Natural Recourses.

- Communication and Information were under the Ministry of Communications.

- Meteorology and Disaster Management operated under the Ministry of Infrastructure.

- Fragmented under different mandates

- None the less CCA and DRM Joint Action Plan was established in 2010 in an attempt to coordinate DRM and CCA work.

- A multisector technical team was established to formulate JNAP.
Super Ministry

MEIDECC

Meteorology  Energy  Information  Disaster Management  Environment  Climate Change  Communications
What Has Gone Well? JNAP/Super Ministry

- Improved coordination between related agencies
- Better use of resources (shared)
- Improved services to customers (outer islands)
- Stronger voice (budget)
- Improved human resource development
- Improved financing (Climate change trust fund/Emergency fund)
- Bottom up top down approach
What has not gone well? JNAP/Supper Ministry

- Heavy reliance on donor aid to run the Ministry
- The JNAP was biased more towards climate change adaptation activities
- There are still fragmentation both in Institutional arrangements and legislation (NEMC/NECCC)
Lessons Learnt and practical solutions for improved institutional strengthening and coordination

- Strong leadership - the changes were made at the Deputy Prime Minister Level

- Multi-Sector Coordinated approach (need to focus more on sector)

- Strong partnerships (with development partners)

- Livelihoods focused (customer focused)