

When you
think with a
global mind
problems
get smaller



Building on established community
development theories to enhance the
rigour and utility of program evaluation:

A case study of the Fiji Community
Development Program



- Fiji Community Development Program
- Community Action Program
- Evaluation context, approach and methodology
- Reflections on the approach
- Summary of key findings



GOAL:

To deliver social and economic benefits to the people of Fiji through strengthened CSOs.



DURATION:

May 2012 – May 2017



LOCATION:

Throughout Fiji with program offices in Suva, Lautoka and Labasa.



BUDGET:

A\$20.9m (FJ\$32.6m)



AID MODALITY:

Grant funding and capacity building support to Fiji's civil society sector implemented through Coffey International Development (managing contractor).

SURPASSING TARGETS



304,328

PEOPLE REACHED

WITH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES DELIVERED BY FCDP-SUPPORTED CSOS



1,873

PEOPLE LIVING WITH DISABILITY (PLWD)



1,336

VILLAGES AND SETTLEMENTS REACHED IN RURAL, REMOTE AND MARGINALISED LOCATIONS ACROSS FIJI, INCLUDING THE MARITIMES AND OUTER ISLANDS

654

SCHOOLS

REACHED INCLUDING EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRES, PRESCHOOLS, PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS



- Capacity building program for individual representatives of CSOs
- Pilot program and subsequent program
- 37 participants from 20 organisations ranging in size, structure and focus
- Approx AUD \$1.5m to support training and grants
- Reached over 70 communities and nearly 9000 people
- Anticipated outcomes of the CAP:
 - Enhanced capacity of CSOs
 - Enhanced community capacity and empowerment
 - Increased resilience and reduced hardship
 - Enhanced sustainability

- Internal formative evaluation preceding an independent program completion report
- Organic development of the CAP approach
- Innovative approach with broader applicability on DFAT and other donor programs
- FCDP program coming to a close and design underway for the Fiji Facility

Purpose of the evaluation:

- To assess the effectiveness of the CAP design and delivery;
- To assess how effectively CSOs engaged with communities to develop community development plans (CDPs);
- To understand the effects of community engagement approaches on select CSOs and beneficiary populations; and
- To generate lessons learned and recommendations to benefit CSOs, DFAT and other donors.

Overarching approach:

- Process evaluation
 - Theory-based evaluation
 - Success case method
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Research overview:

- **Literature review:** including a detailed assessment of Asset Based Community Development (ABCD), Sustainable Livelihoods Approach (SLA) and Community Driven Development (CDD), Human Rights Based Approaches (HRBA)
- **Secondary research:** participant feedback, trainer assessments, trainer reports, CSO snapshots, grantee reports, FCDP monitoring reports, lessons learned workshops community profiles, community development plans
- **Primary research:** 30 in-depth interviews with participants, managers and FCDP staff, 13 community visits

- Using theory to improve evaluation
 - Objectivity
 - Defensibility
 - Utility
 - Generalisability
- Using evaluation to improve theory
 - Program theory
 - Application of development theory in Fiji

Program theory	Application of development theory
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• In-situ learning• Focus on individual strengths• Training on critical analysis and problem solving• Mapping informal associations and power structures• Capacity building and training in communities• Exploiting and managing partnership opportunities• Organisational support for mainstreaming• Process outcomes and multiple pathways to change – quality control	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Time and resources to establish trust and build relationships• Traditional villages and informal settlements• Oral culture• Entrenched inequality based on sex, race, age and social standing• Power structures which reinforce inequality• Joint problem solving and critical analysis• Relationship between civil society and government

Questions?

