

Case Study:	
Case Study Name:	Children of Nasau Embark on a Climate Smart Solution to Combat Rising Sea Levels
Country:	Fiji
Program/Project Name:	Child Centred Climate Change Adaptation (4CA)
Sectoral Focus:	Climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction; child rights; education
Case Study Narrative:	<p><i>"We got started in Nasau by getting the children and youths to undergo an awareness workshop at their community hall. It was from this workshop that the children themselves identified eroding waterfronts as a real concern, and came up with the idea that planting mangroves would help address the problem." (Watisoni Lalavanua, Project Officer, Foundation of Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF))</i></p>
Relevance to HFA	<p>HFA Priority 3: use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels - increased awareness and capacity of children, youth and communities on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation .</p> <p>Nasau Village lies along the fringes of Navitilevu Bay on the northern coastline of Viti Levu (Fiji's main and largest Island), which is particularly vulnerable to flooding, storm surges, spring tides, high waves and strong winds.</p> <p>For the past decade or so, villagers have had to watch helplessly as rising sea levels gradually chipped away approximately 20 metres of their land adjacent to the coast. Ten homes, including the village trade stores have now been claimed by the sea. Today, the village's community hall, one of the most important infrastructures of any Fijian village, sits right on Nasau's fast disappearing beachfront.</p> <p>With the mounting dangers of relocation, due to coastal erosion and rising water levels, Nasau village was in serious need for assistance. When the village leaders raised their concerns with the provincial government, they in turn brought the matter to the attention of Foundation of PCDF, the local network partner of Peoples of the South Pacific International (FSPI). As such, Nasau and five other nearby villages were made part of the 4CA program in Fiji in 2012.</p>

Saimoni Veiyala, aged 12 and Jacoro Namakedre, aged 11 were amongst those that took part in the capacity building workshop on climate change adaptation, which was followed by their design of a climate smart solution. In this case, their solution to the continuous beach and soil erosion was mangrove planting. *“Au tei dogo”*, was what Jacoro said when asked what he has done about wave surges. I planted mangroves. *“Ke sega na dogo, ena luvu na koro”*, he added. If we don’t plant mangroves, my village will be flooded.”

Under the seed grant award, PCDF helped the children purchase mangrove seedlings and implement their smart solution project. Children like Saimoni and Jacoro took part in the mangrove planting activity. Now, 18 months later, young mangrove plants are growing all along the coastlines of Nasau. The older folks showed encouragement and support to their children by erecting a stick barrier to compliment the young plants.

Through locally designed climate smart solutions linked to **HFA Priority 2** (identifying and assessing disaster and climate change risk through participatory vulnerability and capacity assessments), and **HFA Priority 4** (reducing underlying risk through the implementation of small community led or child led risk reduction and adaption measures supported by seed grants), children, youth and communities were able to assess climate and disaster risk and develop locally appropriate solutions to address the identified risk.

Photo:	https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s3ZYH8COy7Ck9vwoaFB4kOyXUE3zNARv0yVmbAdpcuo/edit?usp=sharing
Photo Caption:	Eighteen months after the mangrove planting project the beachfront has recovered remarkably. The 3 tier-steps which was exposed prior to the project, is now more than half way buried in sand.
Photo Credit:	Partners in Community Development Fiji (PCDF)
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