Planning for Sustainable Community Lifestyles - a Pacific Perspective

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The Challenge of Reading the Signposts...

...then Walking the Road.

- Contextualising the Pacific Island Countries (PICs)
- Common Challenges
- Seven Triads of Sustainability
- Role of Surveyors & Land Economists in long-term capacity building
- Looking beyond the signposts
- Planning...
- & Walking the Road towards Sustainable Community Lifestyles

Pacific Island Nations in context

- 12 nations – 22 nations
- Unique (geographic, biological, sociological & economic)
- 30 million km² ocean
- 550,000 km² land & 7.5 million pop.
- (87,587 km² land & 2.7 million pop.)
- 2,000 languages
The University of the South Pacific

**PICs – common characteristics**

- Remoteness & geographic isolation
- Environmental fragility
- Rapid population growth
- Limited land resources
- Dysfunctional/immature land markets
- Access to land (83-100% customary)

**PICs – common characteristics...**

- Housing
- Dependency on marine resources
- Poverty
- Limited diversification
- Limited capacity
- Vulnerability

**The Signposts for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**

- Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA) 1994
- Integration of Environmental Considerations into National Decision making
- Johannesburg Programme of Implementation (JPoA) 2002
- Most PICs lack resource/land use planning systems, & data to implement integrated planning
- BPoA+10
- National Assessment Reports

**The Signposts for Small Island Developing States (SIDS)**

- Lack of coordinated consistent land and resources use policy and practice frameworks = key barrier to achieving sustainable development
- Need for integrated planning systems... to enable PICs to address Settlement issues, instigate wise sanitation & water resource management & balance consumption with environmental thresholds
The Role of FIG

- Sustainable Development: a challenge and a responsibility for surveyors (1991)
- “To ensure that surveyors professional skills are used to promote environmentally sound planning and management of natural resource and human settlement”
- Bogor, Bathurst, Marrakech Declarations & Agenda 21
- Balancing the three pillars of sustainable development

“Sustainable Land Development and Land Management are not possible without the fundamental contributions of surveyors in the context of Good Governance and the aims of Sustainability” (Magel 2001)
Pacific Umbrella Initiative: Planning for Sustainable Community Lifestyles in the Pacific Island Countries

Purpose
Information
Knowledge
Expertise
Mobilise Partnerships
Empower Development
Community Environment Change Planning Partnering
Sustainable Strategies Assessment

The Seven Triads of Sustainability (GDRC 2004)

1. Participation - Sustainability is about fostering participation - with dialogue, cooperation and communication

2. Decision Making - Sustainability is about inclusive decision making - with consensus building, review and hearings, awareness building

3. Partnership - Sustainability is about strong partnerships - with interdependence, clustering and networking

4. Governance - Sustainability is about good local governance - with transparency, efficiency and accountability

5. Knowledge and Information - Sustainability is about managing knowledge and information - with appropriateness, timeliness and accessibility

6. Continual Improvement - Sustainability is about ensuring continual improvement - with monitoring and evaluation, feedback, and needs assessment

7. Lifestyles - Sustainability is about creating good lifestyles - with behaviour, values and ethics
Integration into Soft Systems

- FIG Bathurst Declaration (1999) - Recommendation 6: Encourage all those involved in land administration to recognise the relationships and interdependence between different aspects of land and property. In particular, there is need for functional co-operation and coordination between surveying and mapping, the cadastre, valuation, physical planning, land reform, land consolidation and land registration institutions.

Integration into Soft Systems

- FIG Bathurst Declaration (1999) - Recommendation 15: In view of the crucial importance of human resources in the management of land, ensure that there is sustained education and training in land administration. In particular, international agencies should seek to develop a multi-disciplinary, multi-national training courses in land administration and make these available at the local level through the use of modern information technology.

Role of Surveyors in Planning Sustainable Community Lifestyles in the Pacific

- Shelter
- Social Development & Poverty Eradication
- Environmental Issues
- Economic Development
- Governance
- International Cooperation
Taking the first steps...

- Beyond the signposts
- Will, commitment and motion... to move along the road.
- Overcoming inability to take the steps
- See the benefits, live the benefits
- Subscribe to a shared vision
- Walk the road towards sustainable community lifestyles