

Sharing the Findings

Case studies that demonstrate a risk-based approach to adaptation, including its mainstreaming in development planning, are of relevance beyond the Pacific Islands region. They support messages that should be heard and heeded by political, private sector, and community leaders in both large and small, developing and developed countries.

For this reason the case studies, and the methods and tools used in their preparation, are described in this book rather than in a more conventional technical report. The book is designed to appeal to readers with a diversity of backgrounds, current interests, and responsibilities. Both the overarching Summary for Policy and Decision Makers, and the key messages at the start of each chapter, reflect a conscious effort to ensure that the book influences the thinking and actions of those individuals who play critical roles in development planning, whether in government, the private sector, or civil society.

As noted in the Introduction, the case studies cover the spectrum over which adaptation takes place—from projects, through regulations and other mechanisms, short- and medium-term policy making and planning at the subnational level, to national strategic development planning.

Rather than the case studies being grouped nationally, the two project-level case studies are presented first, followed by those related to climate proofing at the community level and then by those concerned with national strategic development planning. One of the many benefits of this sequenc-

ing is the ability to identify more readily commonalities and distinctions in both the approaches and the findings. In many respects, these are dependent on the level of the case study. This approach has even greater value because of the marked political, social, economic, and other differences between the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the Cook Islands.

After introductory material on adaptation to climate variability and change, and presentation of the climate risk profiles (CRP) for the areas in which the case studies were located, the reader is taken in Chapter VI directly to the case studies themselves. Again, this is a deliberate initiative, reflecting the assumption that the target readership is likely to be more interested in the case studies and what they reveal than in how it was revealed. For this reason, technical details of the information, methods, and tools used in preparing the studies form part of the case study descriptions, but they are presented in ways that are intended to be informative while not distracting the reader from the important messages that the case studies are intended to convey.

Chapter VII, on key findings and their implications, also caters directly to the interests of the target readership. The key findings derive from the case studies, both individually and collectively.

The reader who has a greater interest in the more technical aspects of the studies is catered for in Chapter VIII, which provides detailed information on the approach, methods, and tools used to prepare the six case studies, as well as in the appendixes.