

# Community Involvement for EIA in the Pacific

Presented by: Naomay Tor

Principal Officer- Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC)

Vanuatu

### Local knowledge (vital)



- Weather
- Behavioural patterns
- Customs and traditions are also used in

the process



## Involving communities Why is it important?



- Land is life
- First approval from customary owners
- Must be aware of what is happening



### How are they actively involved?



- Awareness and Workshop
- Acceptance of affected individual and group
- Understand EIA assists with the implementation of project
- It only works if there is effective engagement



#### Communities also monitor!



- Ensure sustainability of projects (Vanuatu)
- Establishment of networks
- Our eyes and ears



