

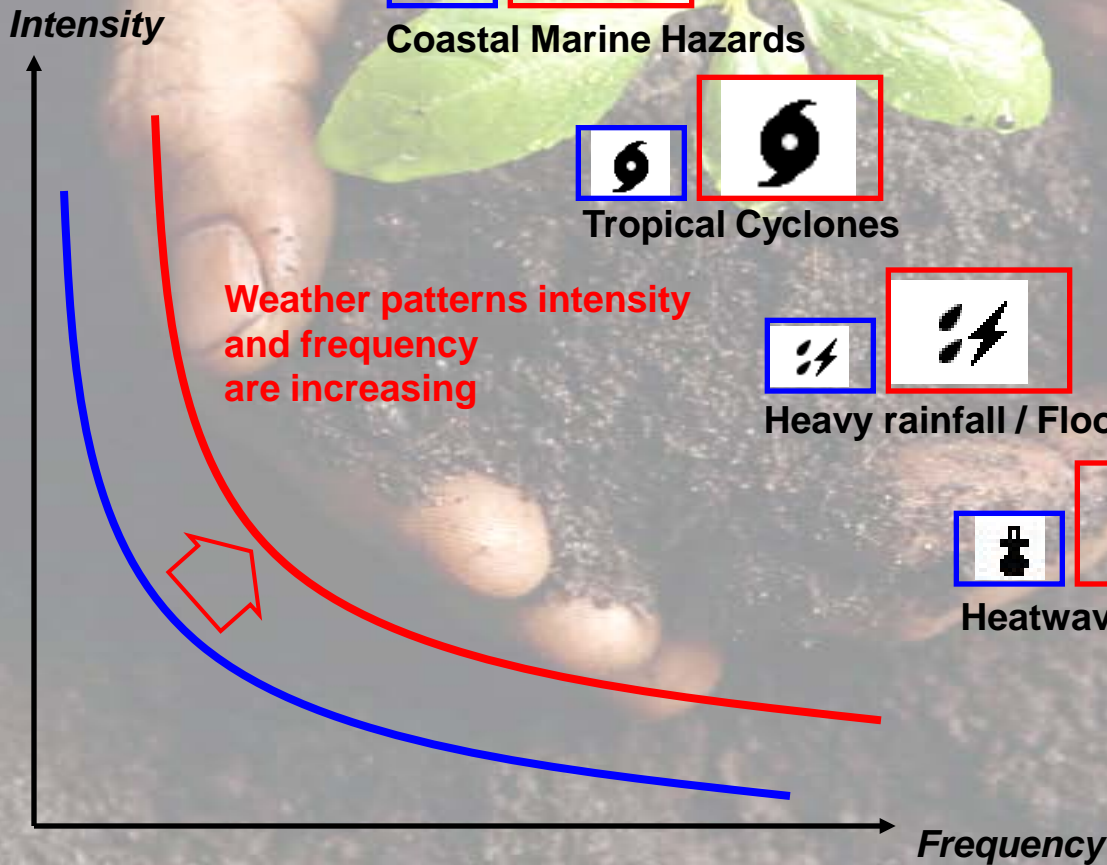
A pair of hands, one light-skinned and one dark-skinned, are shown from the top, cupping a small green seedling with four leaves and a clump of dark soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

# Rethinking Our Oceania

PACIFIC TRADE, ECOLOGICAL CHANGE,  
DEVELOPMENT

Fe'iloakitau Kaho Tevi  
General Secretary  
Pacific Conference of Churches

# Climate Change: *Increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather patterns*



# The Resettlement Challenge

Pacific has 8.2 mio people of which about 4 million live in coastal areas

Professor Steffen of the IPCC predicts 1.2m rise in 2100  
-Exponential effects  
Earth as a living organism

If 1.2 M RISE:

- >>17% of Bangladesh
- >>4 Pacific countries off the map
- >> 1 Pacific country 60% land under water
- >> other Pac Islands: loss of coastal and arable land

OPTION FOR PACIFIC ISLANDERS:

1. SEAWALLS
2. ADAPTATION
3. INTERNAL RELOCATION
4. INTER-ISLAND RELOCATION
5. RESETTLEMENT

# What are we saying....

- Climate Change impacts on the Pacific islands
  - New geopolitical setup of the region
  - Social structures to accommodate increased migration
  - Economic models that need to include human and nature capita
- Clear evidence that:
  - resources are not unlimited
  - endless growth is a myth.
- Clearest evidence on fallacies of the current economic growth model: externalisation...
  - CC and the threat to entire ecosystems...
- CC: questions our sense of continuity and permanency

# The present economic model

A pair of hands, one light-skinned and one dark-skinned, are shown holding a small green seedling with three leaves and a thin stem, growing out of a mound of dark soil. The background is a soft, out-of-focus grey.

- Ideology of “endless growth”.
- The strait jacket of development and growth
- Mainstreaming “more is better”

## When is enough, enough?

- “Formal” vs “informal sectors??
- Individualism vs community
- We are more than what we consume...

# Sustainable economic development?

- Logging in the Solomon Islands
- Customary land ownership in Vanuatu
- LNG PNG...who is benefitting?
- Tuna fishing in the Pacific
- Virgin coconut oil for Body Shop
- Supply of agricultural produce for exports (Lutu)
- Mapsanga (Finister range, PNG)
- Pawpaw supply on coral coast in Fiji