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Parallel Session 8

From Vulnerability to Resilience: Evidence on Development Support for SIDS and Fragile Contexts

Presenters:

Nassreena S. Baddiri, IED, ADB.

Lainie Thomas, Unit Head, CCFE, ADB.

Panelists:

Scott Morris, Vice President for Operations, ADB
Sarah Tangaroa-Teio, Director of Central Policy &
Planning, Cook Islands

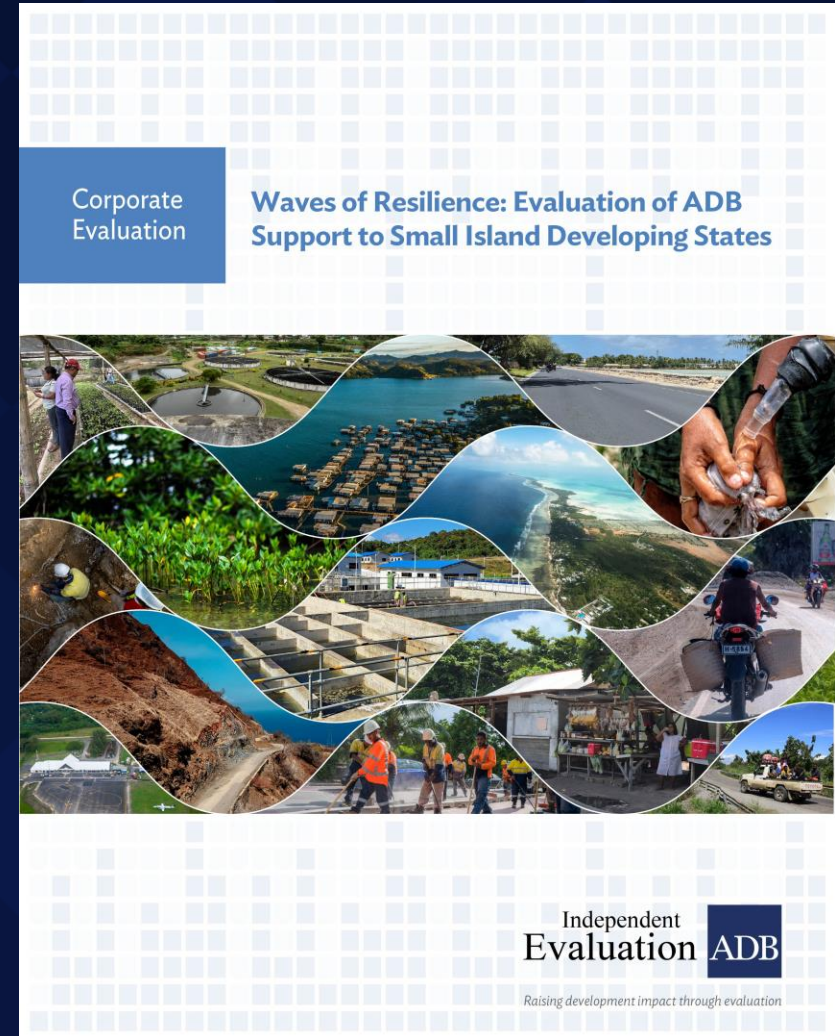
Isabel Chatterton, Director General, PSOD, ADB
Benjamin Graham, Director CCFE, ADB
Archi Rastogi, Chief Evaluation Advisor, IEU Green
Climate Fund

Nassreena Baddiri, Senior Evaluation Specialist,
IED, ADB

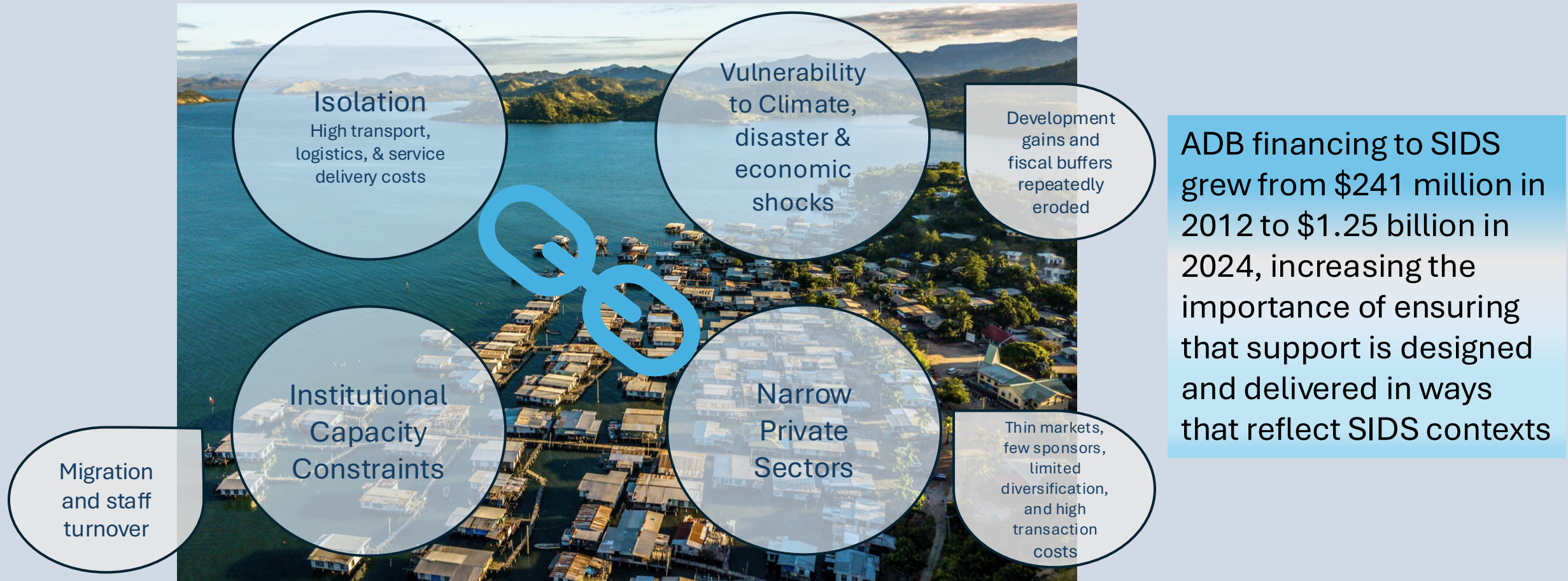
From Vulnerability to Resilience: Evidence on Development Support for SIDS and Fragile Contexts

Waves of Resilience: Evaluation of ADB's Support to Small Island Developing States

Nassreena S. Baddiri
Independent Evaluation Department, ADB



In SIDS, vulnerability is structural, and its drivers are interconnected.



Strategic recognition has strengthened; Operational adaptation remains key

ADB has strengthened its strategic commitment, expanded concessional resources, and improved risk identification.

**Larger concessional
financing envelope**

Financing that reflects absorptive capacity

**Expanded field
presence**

Field presence that supports continuity, and supervision intensity

**Better climate and
disaster risk
assessment**

Risk assessment that informs broader resilience pathways

**Strategic
commitment to
differentiation**

Differentiated approaches that are more consistently reflected in operational practice

Institutional capacity is central to resilience, and needs to endure beyond individual projects.



Training and Technical Outputs

Necessary but often person dependent

Routinized Institutional Systems

Procedures and digital systems
Staffing arrangements
Recurrent budgets and staffing continuity
Monitoring, evaluation and learning

Continuity through Turnovers and Shocks

Functions continue when people change and shocks occur

More durable institutional capability

Core functions sustained over time

Institutional systems are the engine that drives continuity, reliability, and adaptability over time.

Delivery Arrangements Shapes Results in SIDS

In vulnerable contexts, implementation realism is a development effectiveness issue.



- Sequence support over longer time horizons
- Match project scope and readiness to administrative capacity
- Results frameworks that track functioning systems, not only completed assets



Building economic resilience requires private sector approaches tailored to market realities

1. Upstream



Enabling policy and
regulation
Infrastructure and
connectivity
Financial sector and
business environment

2. Midstream



Sponsor development
Transaction preparation
Local institution and
enterprise capacity

3. Downstream



Private investment
Guarantees and
blended finance
Financial
intermediation and
repeat transactions



Thin markets call for integrated support, from enabling conditions and market-building to transaction preparation and financing.



SIDS vulnerability is shaped by structural and interconnected constraints: Strengthening resilience depends not only on what is financed, but also on how support is designed, sequenced, delivered, and sustained over time.

Three questions for the conversation

1

Understanding Vulnerability

What do different combinations of structural constraints imply for how development support should be differentiated?

2

Institutional Resilience and Delivery

What helps institutional capacity and delivery systems endure across projects, people, and shocks?

3

Economic Resilience and Opportunity

What does private sector development require in small and thin markets, and how can public and private support work together?

Thank you

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