

InsightShare PHOTOSTORY

Project: 'Tofiga O Pili Aau' (Samoa)

REPRESENTATIVES OF EIGHT VILLAGES FROM ACROSS SAMOA JOINED A PARTICIPATORY VIDEO WORKSHOP TO EXPLORE THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ISLANDS AND TO DOCUMENT THEIR COMMUNITY'S EFFORTS TO ADAPT AND COPE.

AUGUST 2009

DURING AN INITIAL 3-DAY WORKSHOP THE PARTICIPANTS BEGAN LEARNING TO USE THE VIDEO CAMERAS



LIPULO ISLAND



THE EXERCISES WERE FULL OF FUN; CONVEYED SIMPLE LESSONS AND HELPED CREATE A STRONG GROUP BOND



"PRESS THIS BUTTON TO START RECORDING"

PARTICIPANTS LEARNT NEW SKILLS AND THEN PASSED ON THE KNOWLEDGE... EACH ONE, TEACH ONE!



AFTER EACH EXERCISE, THE GROUP WATCHED BACK THEIR FOOTAGE TO LEARN LESSONS, REFLECT AND ENJOY THE RESULTS... WITH LOTS OF LAUGHTER!



THEN IT WAS TIME TO START CREATING VIDEO MESSAGES...



THE GROUPS PRACTICED CREATING SIMPLE VIDEO SEQUENCES, DURING WHICH THEY DOCUMENTED MANY OF THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE VILLAGE OF FAASITOO-TAI, WHERE THE WORKSHOP WAS LOCATED

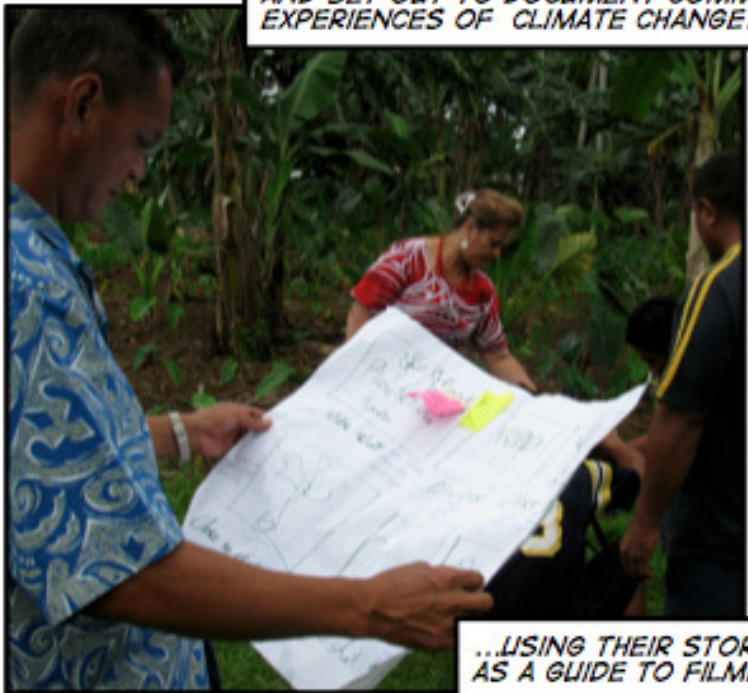


THE GROUPS THEN BEGAN PLANNING MORE VIDEO SEQUENCES USING STORYBOARDS TO PLAN EACH SHOT AND WHO WOULD OPERATE THE CAMERA, DIRECT, RECORD SOUND, INTERVIEW ETC.

"I CAN SHOW THE CHANGES HAPPENING ON MY PLANTATION"



THE PARTICIPANTS SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS AND SET OUT TO DOCUMENT COMMUNITY EXPERIENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE...



...USING THEIR STORYBOARDS AS A GUIDE TO FILMING

THE NEXT DAY THE PARTICIPANTS HEADED ACROSS THE WATERS TO SAVAI-I ISLAND AND THE HOME VILLAGES OF MANY IN THE GROUP.



SAVAI-I ISLAND



AFTER A TRADITIONAL WELCOME CEREMONY WITH THE PARAMOUNT CHIEFS, THE WORKSHOP CONTINUED IN A LOCAL FAMILY'S FALE (OPEN HOUSE) IN FAGAMALO VILLAGE



"WE SHOULD INTERVIEW THE PULLINU-U (VILLAGE MAYOR) OF LELEPA ABOUT HIS PLANS FOR IMPROVING THE ROAD"

DURING SEVERAL WORKSHOP SESSIONS THE PARTICIPANTS EXPLORED IN GREATER DEPTH HOW CLIMATE CHANGE IS AFFECTING THEIR COMMUNITIES.

THEY CREATED A 'PROBLEM TREE' DETAILING THE CAUSES AND EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE, A LIST OF KEY PEOPLE AND PLACES TO DOCUMENT, A LIST OF PRIORITY AUDIENCES FOR THEIR VIDEOS, AND FINALLY A 'ROAD MAP' FOR HOW THEIR FILM WOULD DEVELOP AND THEIR MESSAGES STRUCTURED.

WITH THEIR THOUGHTS ORGANISED AND INTENTIONS CLEAR, THE PARTICIPANTS THEN SET ABOUT CREATING MORE STORYBOARDS...



PARTICIPANTS WORKING TOGETHER TO PLAN THEIR VIDEO



"THIS IS WHERE MY HOME WAS...THERE IS NOTHING LEFT"



"OTHER HOMES WERE LOCATED HERE. ALL WERE DESTROYED BY THE CYCLONE"

THEY ASKED FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS ABOUT THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THEIR LIVES



FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS SHOW HOW THE COASTLINE HAS CHANGED



"ON THAT AREA WE USED TO DRY OUR COPRA (DRIED COCONUTS) IN THE SUN...THAT PLACE IS NOW DEEP UNDER THE SEA"

THE GROUPS FILMED THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE OCEAN, ESTUARIES AND RIVERS



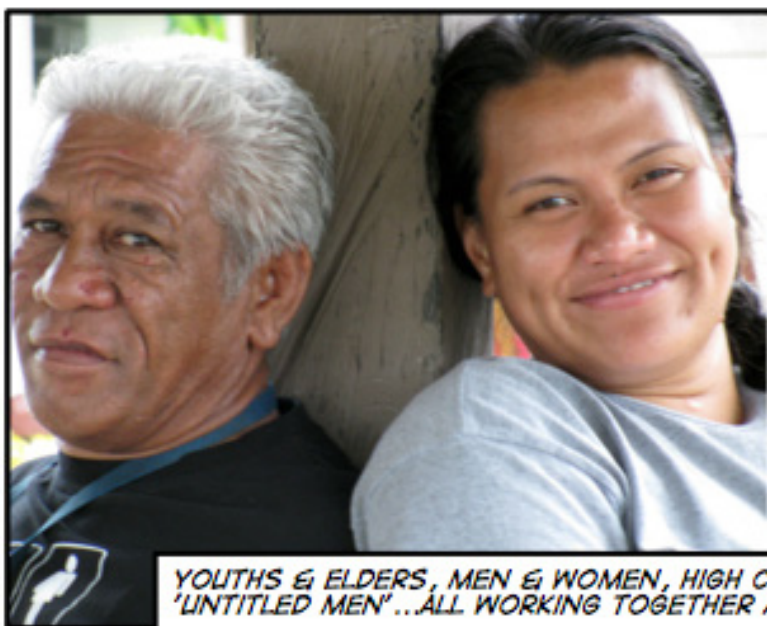
THEY INTERVIEWED EACH OTHER ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES...



...AND TRAVELLED AROUND THE ISLAND TOGETHER...



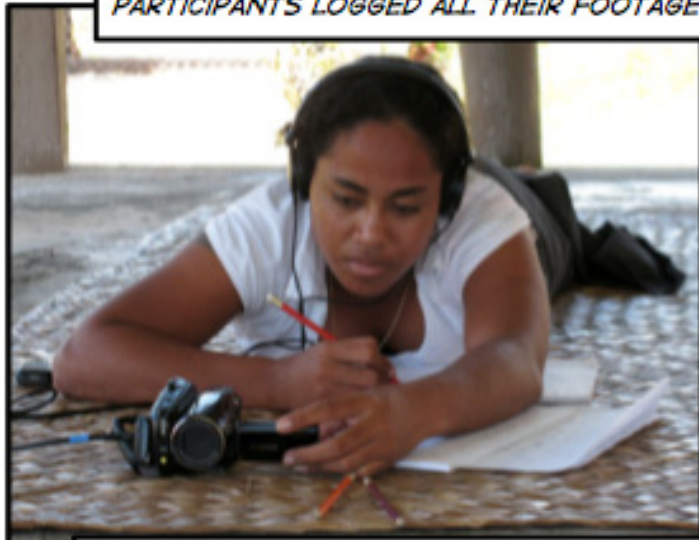
...DOCUMENTING ABANDONED VILLAGES AND LOST COASTLINES



YOUTHS & ELDERS, MEN & WOMEN, HIGH CHIEFS & 'UNTITLED MEN' ...ALL WORKING TOGETHER AS ONE



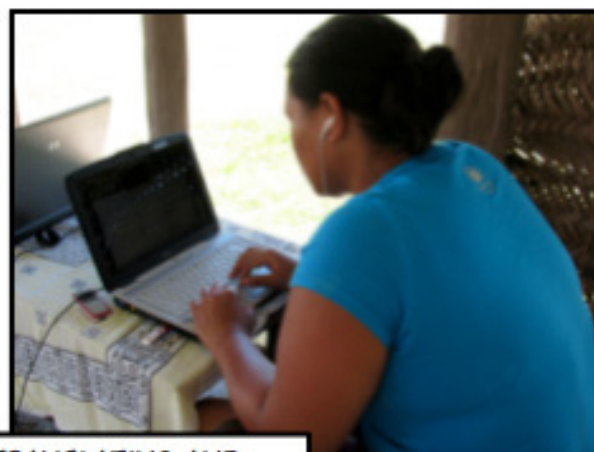
ONCE ALL THE FILMING WAS COMPLETE, THE PARTICIPANTS LOGGED ALL THEIR FOOTAGE...



...AND TOGETHER PLANNED THEIR FINISHED FILM USING A PAPER EDIT PROCESS



THEN FINALLY TRANSLATING AND EDITING THEIR FINISHED FILM: 'TOFIGA O PILI AAL'



THE FILM WAS SCREENED LOCALLY TO RAISE AWARENESS AND GAIN CONSENT FROM THE COMMUNITY.



COMMUNITY SCREENING IN FAGAMALO VILLAGE

SINCE COMPLETING THE FILM THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE HELD FURTHER COMMUNITY SCREENINGS AND THE FILM HAS SELECTED FOR SCREENING AT VARIOUS EVENTS INCLUDING THE COPENHAGEN CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT IN DECEMBER 2009.

IMPACTS:

- TEN COMMUNITY MEMBERS FROM EIGHT VILLAGES TRAINED IN PARTICIPATORY VIDEO FILMMAKING
- ONE MEMBER OF LINDP SAMOA TEAM TRAINED IN BASIC PARTICIPATORY VIDEO FACILITATION SKILLS
- AWARENESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AMONGST PARTICIPANTS INCREASED AND COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS ESTABLISHED
- AWARENESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AMONGST BENEFICIARY COMMUNITIES INCREASED
- 25MIN AND 11MIN VIDEOS CREATED FEATURING POWERFUL TESTIMONIES FROM COMMUNITIES EXPERIENCING MULTIPLE CHALLENGES, CAUSED OR EXACERBATED BY CLIMATE CHANGE



IMPACTS CONT.

- LINDP GEF SGP GRANT RECIPIENTS (LOCAL CHIEFS OR MAYORS) INTERVIEWED AND QUESTIONED BY MEMBERS OF OWN COMMUNITY ABOUT PLANS AND INTENDED OUTCOMES
- GRANT PROVIDER (LINDP/GEF SGP) ABLE TO ASSESS AWARENESS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AMONGST TARGET COMMUNITIES - OFTEN WELL DEVELOPED BUT AT TIMES INACCURATE, MISUNDERSTOOD OR OVERSTATED
- GRANT PROVIDER (LINDP/GEF SGP) ABLE TO MONITOR RESPONSES OF GRANT RECIPIENTS AND COMPARE VIDEO STATEMENTS WITH WRITTEN PROPOSALS (IN SOME CASES THESE WERE SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT)
- SOCIAL BARRIERS BETWEEN PARTICIPANTS & OTHERS WITHIN COMMUNITY CHALLENGED AND BROKEN DOWN THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT AS EQUALS
- AWARENESS OF LINDP / GEF COMMUNITY-BASED ADAPTATION PROGRAMME INCREASED (FROM STARTING POINT OF ZERO) AMONGST BENEFICIARY



ONE MONTH AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE FILM A DEVASTATING TSUNAMI STRUCK THE SAMOAN ISLANDS. THE PARTICIPANTS ARE NOW PLANNING TO DOCUMENT ITS IMPACTS AND THOSE OF THE WINTER STORMS ON THEIR COMMUNITIES.



FOR MORE INFO, PLEASE VISIT:

WWW.INSIGHTSHARE.ORG

&

[HTTP://SGP.LINDP.ORG/](http://SGP.LINDP.ORG/)

&

WWW.GEFWEB.ORG

