

ADB Strategy and Engagement in the Pacific Water and Urban Development Sector

Workshop on Water Supply for Pacific Island Countries

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ADB



Water and Urban Development Sector Challenges | Pacific

RAPID URBANIZATION

Average rates of 3 to 4% in some Pacific countries.

WATER SUPPLY

57% people lack access to basic water supply.

SUSTAINABLE SERVICES

Operational and financial sustainability of urban services.

CLIMATE CHANGE

High vulnerability to natural hazards and climate change

INFORMAL SETTLEMENT

20-40% of people live in informal settlements in larger towns.

SANITATION WASTE

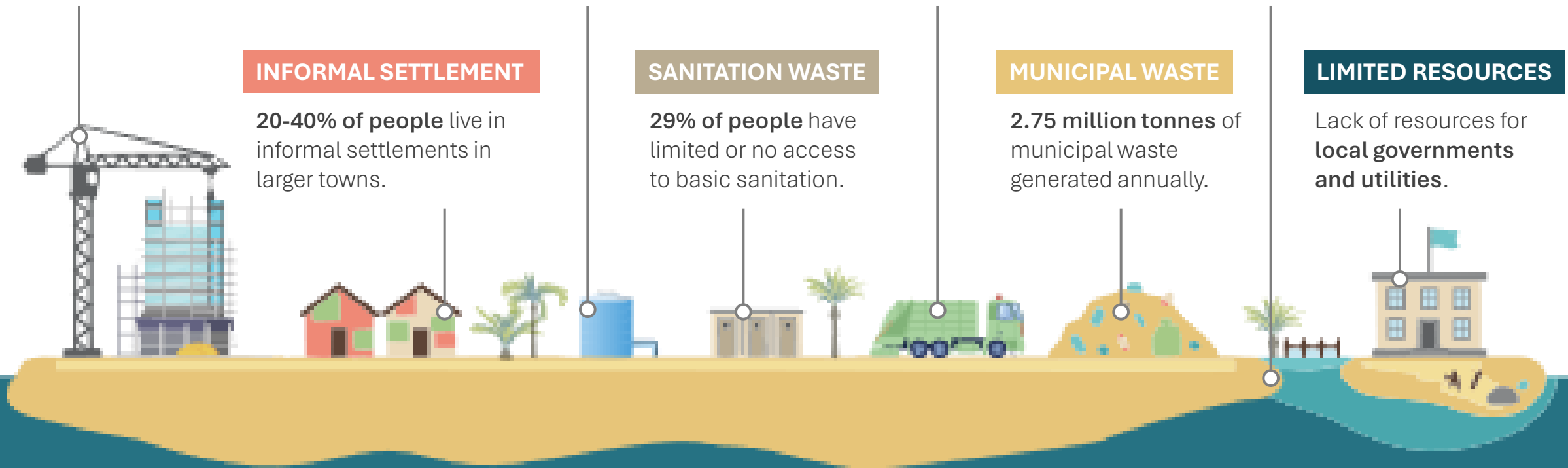
29% of people have limited or no access to basic sanitation.

MUNICIPAL WASTE

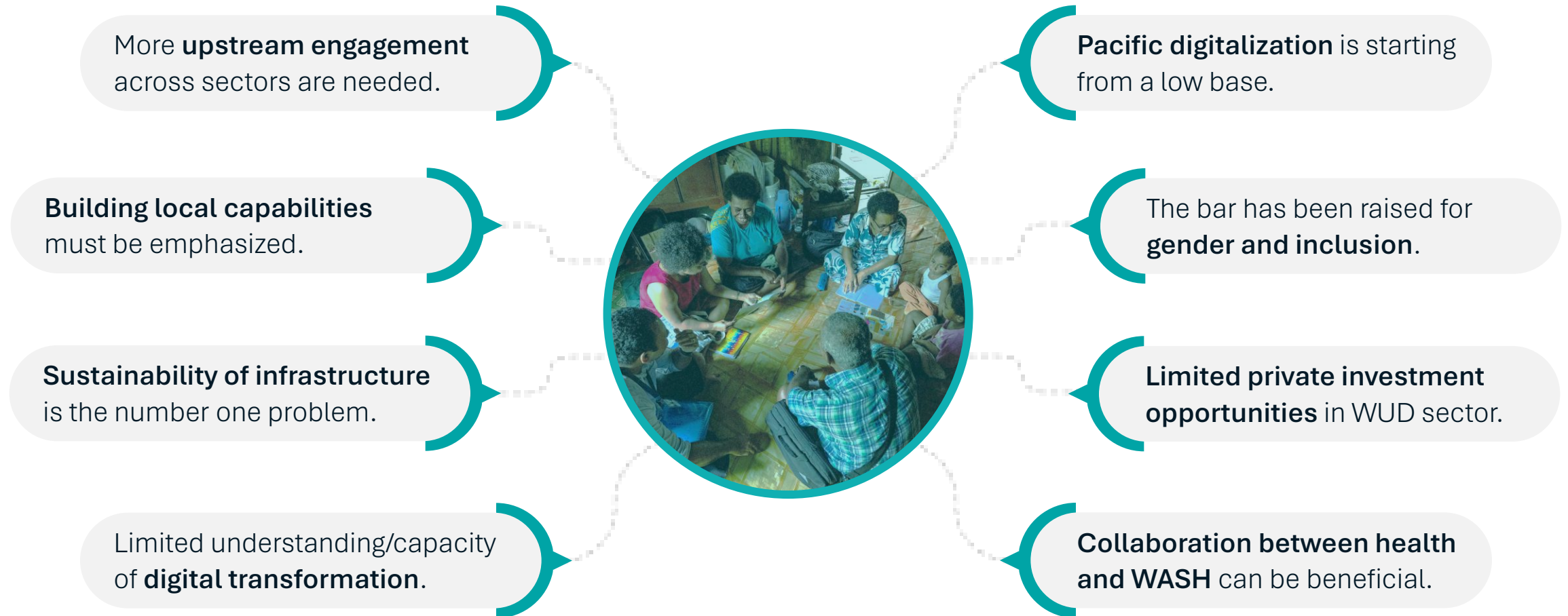
2.75 million tonnes of municipal waste generated annually.

LIMITED RESOURCES

Lack of resources for local governments and utilities.



Lessons and Insights from Consultations | Pacific



Source(s): ADB Pacific WUD Roadmap 2026-2030 First Draft Consultation (pp7-8), 2025. / Photo Credit: ADB, 2017.

WASH = Water, sanitation and hygiene; WUD = water and urban development

ADB 2030 Strategy and Operational Priorities



Source(s): ADB Business Opportunities Seminar Pacific Pipeline (p3), 2024; ADB Pacific WUD Roadmap 2026-2030 First Draft Consultation (p4), 2025.

Vision for WUD in the Pacific

“ *WUD Roadmap priorities align with the Pacific Approach themes.*

Key imperatives for Pacific resilience remain: addressing climate risks, diversifying water sources, and securing sustainable supply chains.



Pacific Approach	Code	WUD Priority Outcomes
A. Prepare for and respond to shocks	A1	› Strengthened climate resilience of urban water, sanitation, hygiene, and solid waste services
	A2	› Effective emergency readiness and response capabilities of cities and utilities
	A3	› Strengthened integrated urban planning
B. Deliver sustainable services	B1	› Expanded and improved services to un- and under-served populations
	B2	› Operational and financial sustainability of water supply, sanitation, and solid waste services and infrastructure improved
	B3	› Digital transformation to optimize operations, retain knowledge, and enable quicker response times
C. Support inclusive growth	C1	› City livability, ocean health, and environmental health improved via enhanced urban services, low-carbon development, circular economy approaches, and nature-based solutions
	C2	› Capacities, knowledge, and learning of people and systems strengthened to cope with increasing levels of change
	C3	› Inclusive, gender-responsive , pro-poor, and participatory approaches embedded in urban service delivery

Source(s): ADB Pacific WUD Roadmap 2026-2030 First Draft Consultation (p14), 2025; ADB Asian Water Development Outlook, 2025
WUD = water and urban development

ADB Pacific WUD Roadmap 2026-2030

OBJECTIVES

- Presents **ADB's vision and targets for WUD** and related subsectors in the Pacific
- Guides ADB project and **program design and implementation**
- Supports **ADB's communication with** Pacific Developing Member Countries and development partners

PURPOSES

- Serves as a **marketing document** to engage clients to profile WUD investment and project ideas
- Provides a **framework for ADB investment priorities**
- Guides alignment with **new ADB directions**

Ways of Collaboration



○ A differentiated approach in the Pacific

- › **Review and address policy/business process gaps** that constrain the operationalization of differentiated approach.
- › **Long-term partnerships**, concerning **access to supply chains** and **diversifying water sources** in the North Pacific.

○ Partnership with non-traditional partners

- › **Maintain primary engagement** with utilities and national agencies.
- › **Increase engagement with private sector**, local governments, NGOs, communities, training and education providers.
- › **Building resilience of water services**, reducing climate risks.

○ Regional and cross-sectoral integration

- › Increase support to **regional initiatives and forums**.
- › **Access Asian Development Fund resources** to address shared challenges (RCI and capacity building).
- › **Increase collaboration** and **scale-up co-financing** with DPs.
- › Increased commitment to **cross-sectoral solutions**.

Source(s): ADB Pacific WUD Roadmap 2026-2030 First Draft Consultation (p18), 2025.

DP = development partner; NGO = non-governmental organization; RCI = regional cooperation and integration

ADB WUD

Ongoing Projects in the Pacific

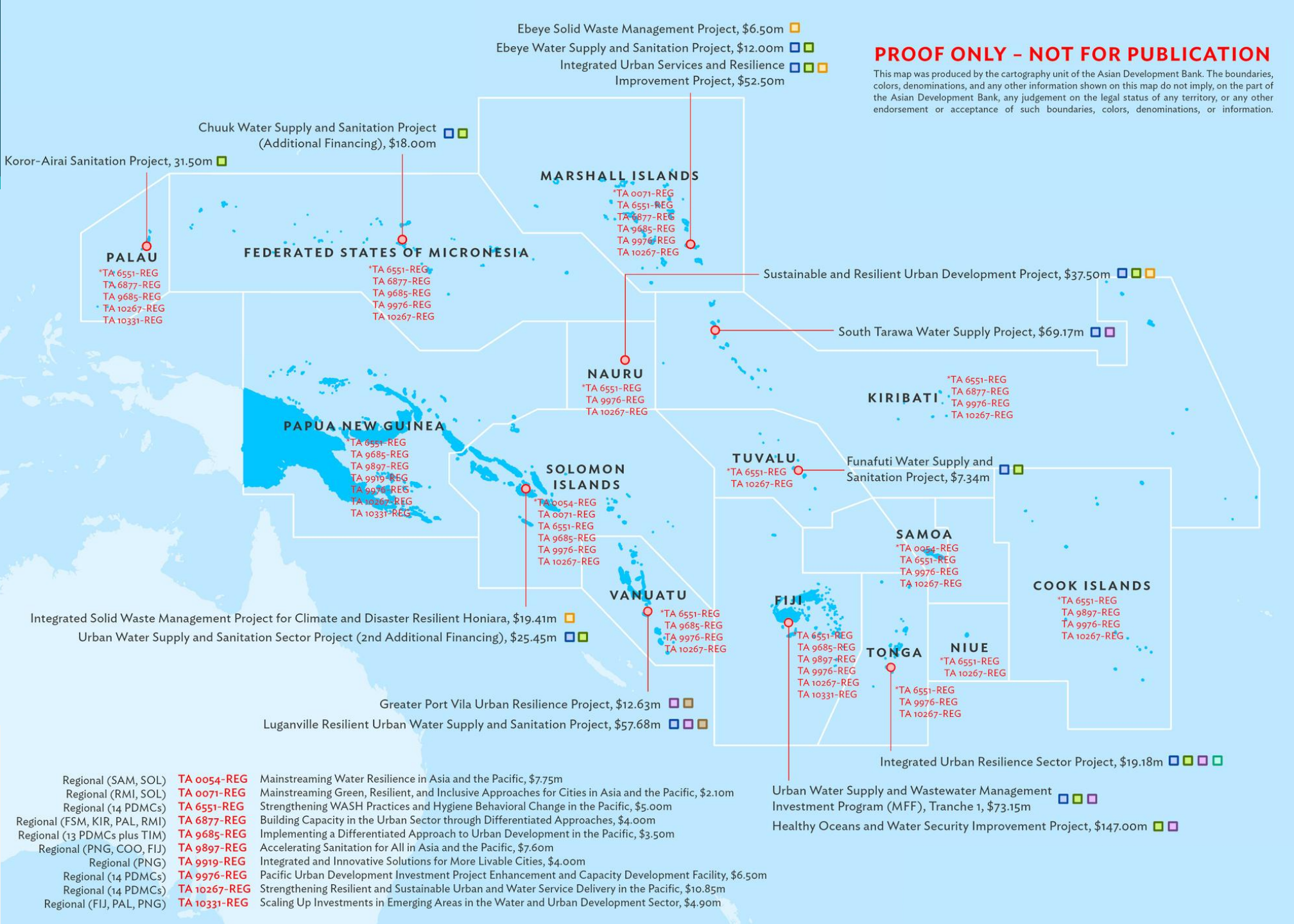
LEGEND

- Urban Water Supply
- Urban Sanitation and Sewerage
- Integrated Solid Waste Management
- Urban Policy, Institutional and Capacity Development
- Urban Flood Management
- Urban Disaster Risk Resilience

*Project funding (\$ as USD) combines ADB financed and administered funds

As per December 2025

Source(s): ADB Pacific WUD Projects 2021-2025 Map, 2025.



ADB WUD in the Pacific: Lessons and Insights

Examples of Existing Cross-Sectoral Collaboration

FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA



 Renewable energy  Water supply  Livelihoods

SAMOA



 Flood management  Energy  Water

FIJI



 Water technical  Vocational education

ADB WUD Pipeline in the Pacific

Tentative projects to be committed from 2026 to 2028

14 new projects

\$331.5 million

Source(s): ADB Pacific WUD Roadmap 2026-2030
First Draft Consultation (p13), 2025.

COO: Cook Islands; DMC = Developing Member Country; FSM: Federated States of Micronesia; KIR: Kiribati; PNG: Papua New Guinea; REG: Regional (project or initiative covering multiple DMCs); RMI: Republic of the Marshall Islands; SAM: Samoa; SOL: Solomon Islands; tbd = to be defined; TUV: Tuvalu; VAN: Vanuatu; WUD = water and urban development

DMC	Approval Year	Project No.	Project Name	ADB Financing (\$ mil)
COO	2026	53075-001	Climate Resilience and Environmental Improvement for Communities Sector Project	15.00
FSM	2026	58019-001	Preparing the Water Security and Resilience Improvement Project (PRF)	5.00
FSM	2028	tbd	Water Security and Resilience Improvement Project	30.00
KIR	2027	tbd	Sustainable South Tarawa Water Supply Operations Financing Facility	10.00
PAL	2027	tbd	Accelerated Infrastructure Project Preparation and Innovation Facility	15.00
PAL	2028	tbd	Affordable and Resilient Urban Development Project	20.00
PNG	2026	58040-001	Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Security and Resilience Improvement Project	60.90
PNG	2028	tbd	Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Security and Resilience Improvement Project (Additional Financing)	80.00
REG	2027	59374-001	Circular Pacific via Regional Recycling Network	10.60
RMI	2028	tbd	Urban Resilience Improvement Project	20.00
SAM	2028	tbd	Climate Resilient Water Supply and Sanitation Project	10.00
SOL	2027	tbd	Resilient Urban Services for Sustainable Tourism and Wetland Preservation (RESTOW)	30.00
TUV	2027	tbd	Funafuti Water Supply and Sanitation Project, additional financing	10.00
VAN	2026	52031	Greater Port Vila Urban Resilience Project (2nd Additional Financing)	15.00

An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely in Southeast Asia, featuring a large stadium, various buildings, and a body of water with several islands in the background. The image is overlaid with a dark teal filter.

Thank You

Focal person for inquiries:

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