

# Closing the Knowledge Gap

## Challenges facing island settlements

- Blurring of lines between local and national government – who has responsibility for settlements?
- Need to formalise tenure in order to provide support and so residents can plan and invest in resilience with confidence
- Dearth of data, or patchy inconsistent data – dependence on international agencies and exercises
- Translation of data into understandable and actionable information at City Government level
- Need for intermediary partners to assist to collate, interpret and action plan

# Honiara, Solomon Islands



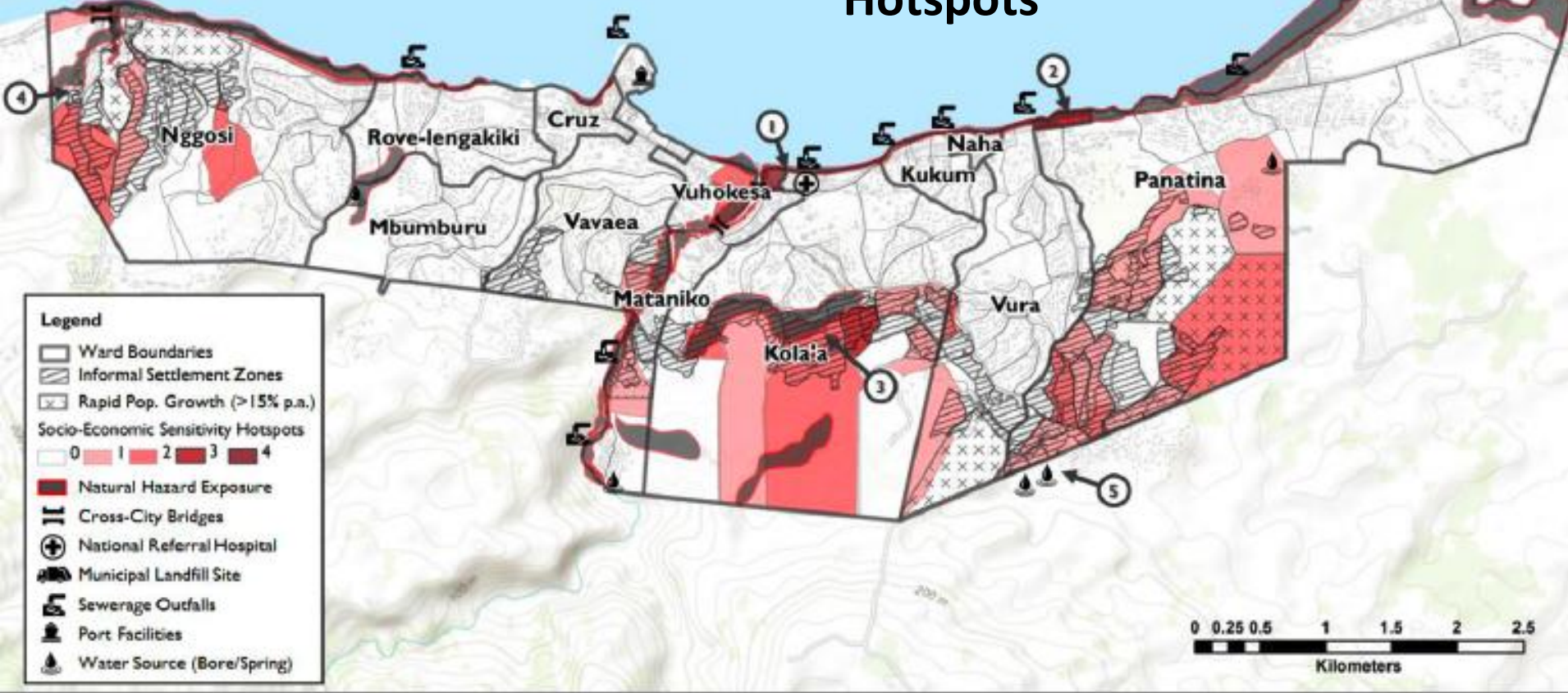
## Informal settlements

**28% of Honiara  
population  
15% of land area**



# EXAMPLE: Honiara Urban Risk and Climate Adaptation Plan (HURCAP) UN Habitat and ICLEI roles

## Vulnerability Hotspots





**Small islands have towns and cities with many of the same sustainable development challenges as other cities around the world!**

## Front-Line Cities & Islands

**ICLEI and GLISPA call for accelerated international assistance for the sustainable and resilient development of most vulnerable island towns and cities.**

**City – island twinning**

**Transformative Actions**

**Climate Change, SDGs, healthy oceans ....**

**Powerful partnerships**

This initiative is endorsed by the Fiji COP Presidency

## Front-Line Cities & Islands will ....

Build a movement of island mayors and leaders, other cities world-wide, regional and international partners, to:

- Highlight the **special case** of island urban settlements and economies
- Cultivate **city-to-city and island-to-island learning** and strategic partnerships
- Develop priority **issues and projects**
- Test and share **solutions**

Develop funding sources and **innovative financing** mechanisms for the long term

Develop a **special pathway** through UNFCCC and other multilateral and donor processes for coastal cities, municipalities and settlements to assist them to accelerate adaptation to climate change and urban resilience building