

TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND ECOSYSTEM-BASED ADAPTATION (EbA) IN THE PACIFIC

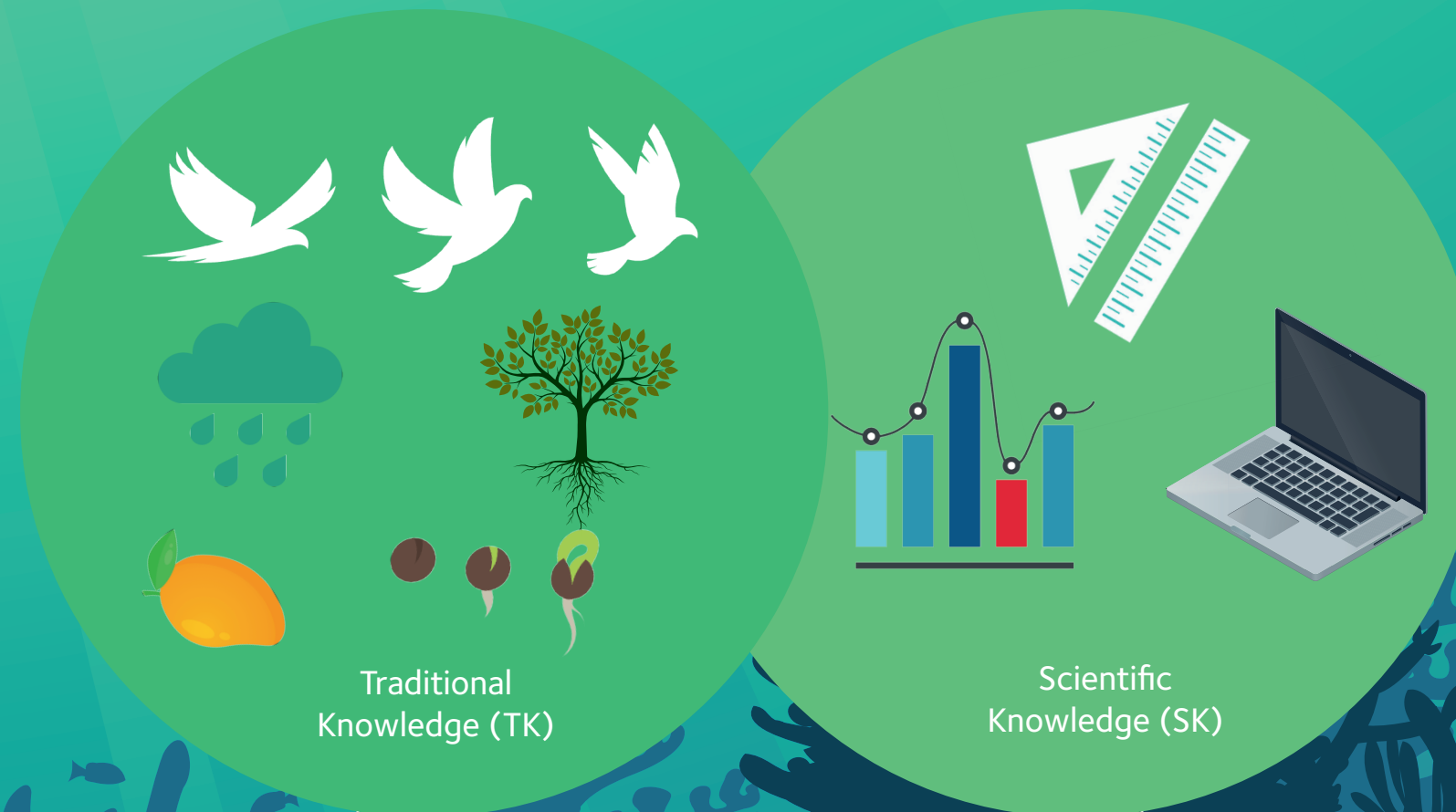
Benefits of TK

1: EbA can help communities to identify TK that can support climate adaptation.

2: Integrating TK and Science can result in new knowledge, with both knowledge recognised of equal importance.

3: Identify when TK is no longer representative of the current situation in a changing climate.

4: Using TK can increase community engagement and participation, and make adaptation actions more localised and meaningful.



Vanuatu: For communities who still practice traditional livelihoods, Ecosystem-based Adaptation offers unique ways to also respond to climate impacts. Many communities on Tanna Island (Vanuatu) use TK on daily basis, including weather and disaster indicators, determining planting times for crops, and timings of cultural ceremonies

Samoa: Many adaptation projects are often driven by scientific/technical assessments and external design, with hard infrastructure solutions being most common methods to combat coastal erosion. In Samoa, the role of TK is more to do with traditional governance structures rather than directly informing adaptation project design and implementation.

Dimensions of TK

Traditional Governance: decision-making, gender dimensions, perceptions of vulnerability, livelihoods

Historical Knowledge: past hazards, extent of flooding

Environmental Knowledge: crops, native species, agricultural practices, coastal stabilisation

Beliefs in causation: climate change, black magic, ancestral spirits