1. Introduction

- 330 islands and 106 are inhabited
- Total land area: 18,333 sq. km (Total sea area: 1.3 million sq. km)
- Total population: 813,327 (2007): Indigenous Fijian (66.87)
- 4.6% of Indigenous Fijian living in rural villages

Cyclone impacts on housing
Due to vulnerability of housing, rural housing is often subject to damage by strong wind created by cyclones.

1. Affected people
   - Limited financial resources
   - Dependency on housing reconstruction program

2. Reconstruction program
   - Takes time and possible delays
   - Create dependency

Under the circumstances where limited external assistance, people's expectation and their dependence on the assistance have them in the living environment that does not give much comfort and hinder them to resume their daily life with normality.

Promoting housing reconstruction with self-help methods will not only accelerate the recovery but also reduce the dependency and enhance capacity of people to recover on their own.

Fijian traditional housing for alternative solution for housing reconstruction

- Self-build housing
  - It sustained for the lengthy period of time and provide comfort

- Self-build methods
  - It should mobilize local resources both human and materials (UNIDO 1985)

- Self-build is possible
  "when housing design is relatively simple, labor is available, communities have a tradition of self-building and there is no strict time pressure" (Parakat, 2003)

Assume that traditional housing has the characteristics of self-build with locally available resources

Traditional housing

- Had been shaped over time to satisfy the most of the cultural, physical, and maintenance requirements
- Is built by the local people using their intelligence, ability and resources to their fullest extent (Rapp0port, 1969)

2. Research Framework
Need for alternative solution for housing reconstruction

- Affected people
- Limited financial resources
- Dependency on housing reconstruction program

3. Methodology
As Fijian traditional housing is hardly constructed in present day, Fijian traditional housing construction project was carried out in cooperation with Centre of Appropriate Technology and Development and Cautata village to obtain holistic understandings of its construction.

Key partners
Center of Appropriate Technology and Development (Gov. technical training institute)
A carpenter and 8 men from Cautata village

Construction cost: 12,300 FJD

Acknowledgement: This work was supported by JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Young Scientists (B) Grant Number 24701636 by and Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (C) 24550782 and Grant-in-Aid for the Global COE Program "Sustainability/Survivability Science for a Resilient Society Adaptable to Extreme Weather Conditions" from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) of Japan, and Ministry of Takuoku Affairs, Fiji