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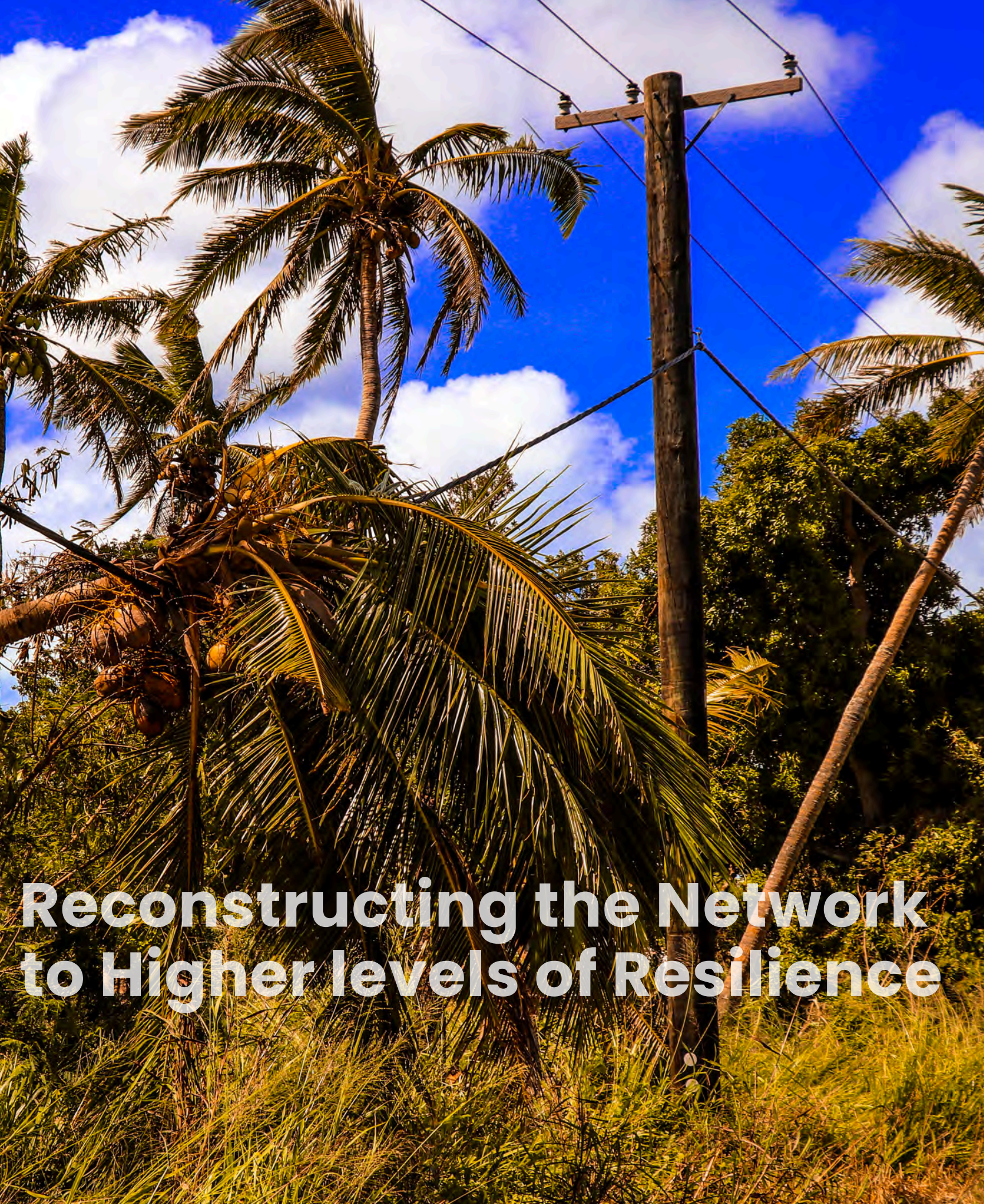
CLIMATE & DISASTER RESILIENT RECOVERY

ADB WEBINAR – JAN 2025



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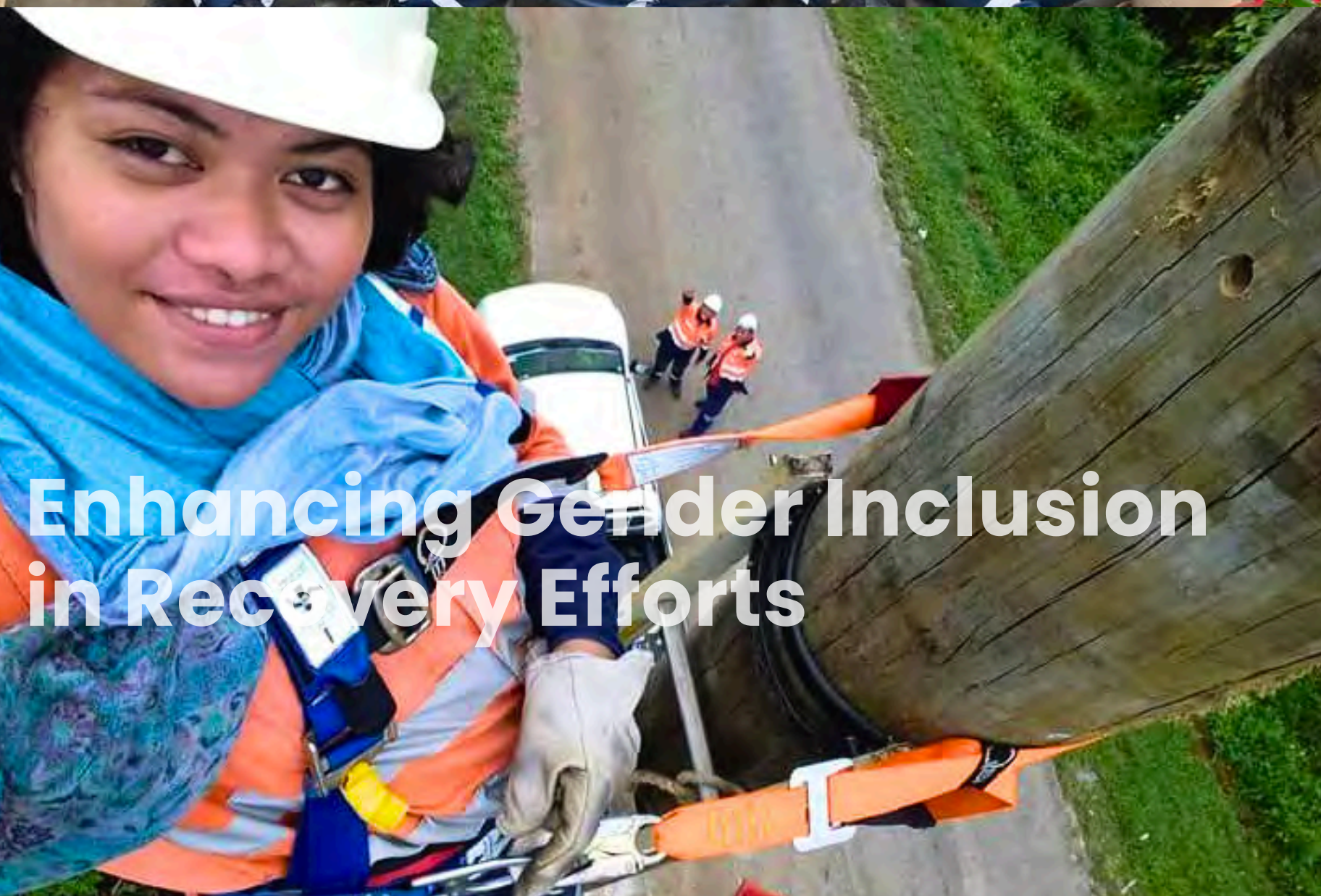


Reconstructing the Network to Higher levels of Resilience

- **Photo taken post TC Harold in 2020..2 years later since TC Gita**
- **Resilience and Robustness of the Recovery journey since 2018 is evident in the way Tonga has combated recent cyclones & natural disaster**
- **Reduced line losses from 18-20% to 9% in 2020**

Key Resilience Initiatives

- Transitioned to underground service lines to customers homes and critical facility infrastructure especially CBD Area which consist of majority of TPL's customers
- Replaced overhead lines from an open wire standard to bundled aerial conductors to enhance climate resilience.
- Bundled aerial conductors are more durable during cyclones, reducing the risk of conductor clashing and outages caused by high winds. Additionally, they lower the likelihood of damage from flying debris, enabling faster restoration and minimizing disruption.



Enhancing Gender Inclusion in Recovery Efforts

- **Promoting gender inclusion strengthened TPL's recovery efforts and project implementation**
- **Approx about 18% of women in the Project teams in technical roles Aiming to reach 20% by end of year**

Key Actions

- Women actively participated in line crews, demonstrating resilience in action and currently progressing forming all female line team
- Increased senior line woman mechanics promotions as part of the Network Upgrade project showing high performance of women in the team Aswell as working collaboratively with the linesman
- Increase in interested females taking up technical studies in the local technical institutions which reflects a good awarness and opportunities in technical roles in Tonga.



Key Takeaways

- **Strategic Disaster Budgeting:** Prioritize disaster preparedness in annual budgets to ensure stockpiling of essential resources like repair kits, spare parts, and materials, enabling rapid response.
- **Pre-Positioning of Resources:** Strategically locate critical materials and equipment near high-risk areas to reduce response times during disasters.
- **Continuous Training and Capacity Building:** Invest in training line crews and staff for emergency response, improving efficiency during recovery efforts.
- **Leveraging Partnerships:** Collaborate with regional and international partners such as ADB for funding, technical assistance, and knowledge-sharing. In order to meet affordability goals donors, play a key role in bridging this gap
- **Community Engagement:** Ensure transparent and consistent communication with local communities during disaster recovery efforts. Share regular updates on recovery progress, planned outages, and timelines for reconnection to build trust. Engage communities in planning processes to align recovery initiatives with their needs and expectations.



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