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| **Title of Research Presentation**Can leveraging agrobiodiverse food systems help reverse the rise of malnutrition while providing climate change resilience in Pacific Small Island Developing States (PSIDS)?  |
| **Background/Objectives**Indigenous food systems of Pacific Island Countries contain vast genetic, biological and culture diversity. Unfortunately, globalization is fuelling a nutrition transition away from local and traditional foods in favour of imported foods, leading to a dramatic rise in non-communicable diseases. Nine of the ten most obese countries in the world are located in the Pacific Islands. Additionally, climate change is increasingly threatening the food and nutrition security of these islands. We aimed to assess how the nutrition transition away from traditional, biodiverse foods and towards imported foods is influencing the health of rural Solomon Islanders. **Methods**This study assessed the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of indigenous villagers living on Rendova Island of The Solomon Islands through qualitative community focus group discussions and household nutrition questionnaires. We conducted 30 repeated quantitative 24-hour household dietary recalls, which assessed the diet quality, food diversity, and sourcing of each ingredient. We also assessed annual food insecurity levels and anthropometrics (height, weight, BMI, and body fat percentage).**Results**Our results found that 60% of participants were overweight or obese, and the average body fat percentage was 31%. Despite having access to a wide variety of biodiverse foods, diet patterns are significantly reliant on ultra-processed imported foods such as white rice, taiyo (canned tuna), biscuits, sugar, and sugary drinks. Diet quality is low in protein (80% of RDI), vitamin A (47%), iron (50%), calcium (38%), and thiamine (51%). Of interviewed households, 83% were worried about not having enough food throughout the year, and 43% have skipped meals due to lack of money. **Discussion**Particular varieties of foods in the Solomon Islands are excellent sources of missing essential nutrients in pacific islander’s diets. Leveraging the power of nutrient-dense, locally adapted, biodiverse foods can help mitigate malnutrition and food security while providing a measure of resilience against some of the adverse impacts of climate change. Repeating this research in several villages can help inform national policies and evidence-based agricultural guidance. **Keywords**Sustainable Food Systems, Biodiversity, Obesity, Malnutrition, Food Security, Pacific Islands, Developing Countries |