

An overview of findings for the Pacific from the United Nations **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's** (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) on Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

Pacific nations are increasingly affected by

Slow Onset Stressors

-  increase in air temperature
-  changes in rainfall patterns
-  increase in ocean temperature
-  sea level rise
-  ocean acidification

Extreme events

- more frequent strong tropical cyclones 
- increased storm surges 
- more droughts and extreme rainfall 
- increased climate variability 
- more frequent and severe heatwaves 



Pacific Nations are amongst the **most vulnerable and exposed¹** to climate change impacts, however, **adaptation can reduce the risks^{2***}**

Key risks³

-  Water and food insecurity
-  Reduced human health and well-being
-  Damage to towns, villages and roads
-  Economic decline and livelihood losses
-  Loss of cultural cohesion

Key risks

- Reduced habitability of islands 
- Loss of marine and coastal biodiversity and fishery productivity 
- Submergence of reef islands 
- Loss of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services 

Adaptation examples

-  Ecosystem based measures (e.g. mangrove restoration)
-  Early warning systems and action plans
-  Shoreline protection (e.g. sea walls)
-  Planned relocation and migration

Adaptation enablers

- Enhanced governance 
- Valuing culture and local knowledge 
- Adequate finance 
- Education and awareness 

Adaptation policy, finance and practice need to be stepped up urgently to respond to key risks

Adaptation alone will not be sufficient, as the opportunities and limits for adaptation will depend on emissions reductions.⁴

** = high confidence
*** = very high confidence

1 SPM.B.3.1 3 15.5
2 SPM.C.1.1 4 SPM.C.3.5