

WHO Support for Adaptation in the Context of Sustainable Development in SIDS

UNFCCC Expert Meeting on Adaptation in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Part II: Pacific and Indian Ocean SIDS, 26-28 February 2007 Dr Kevin Palmer WHO Representative in Samoa



Changes in frequency or severity of familiar health risks

HEAT WAVE:

Temperature and Mortality in Shanghai in the summer of 1998







Infectious diseases:

Changes in infectious disease transmission patterns are a likely major consequence of climate change. The prediction of future impacts remains a challenge because of the highly complex causal relationships.

Diarrhoeal diseases



Climate Sensitive Diseases in the Pacific

- Vectorborne diseases
 - Malaria Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu
 - Dengue all countries and areas
 - Lymphatic filariasis 11 countries and areas
- Food and Water borne diseases
 - Typhoid
 - Bacterial/viral diarrhea
 - Leptospirosis
 - Fish poisoning
- Nutritional diseases
 - Micronutrient deficiency
 - Anaemia

Dengue epidemics in the South Pacific 1970-1998 vs El Niño



For every 1⁰C ↗, Diarrhoea ↗ 5%





WHO support for climate change and health for SIDS

- Regional meetings on climate change and health in SIDS:
 - In Samoa for the Pacific in 2000
 - In Barbados for the Caribbean in 2002
 - In Maldives for global synthesis in 2003
- Synthesis report in 2005 with recommendation for improving the health sector's adaptation capacity
- GEF Climate Change and Health projects
 - Barbados and Fiji projects since 2006