

**Findings of the IPCC fourth Assessment Report  
Implications for adaptation in small vulnerable communities**

presented by:

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Since the IPCC TAR, progress in understanding the spatial and temporal changes in climate has been gained through improvements and extensions of numerous datasets and data analysis; broader geographical coverage; better understanding of uncertainties; and measurement and observation of a wider range of variables.

Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures, widespread melting of snow and ice, and rising global mean sea level.

Sea level rise will negatively impact coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs and mangrove forests, and commercial and artisanal fisheries based on those systems. These adverse effects are likely to manifest themselves through reduced abundance, loss of diversity and possibly shifts in distribution as a result of migration.