

Adaptation planning and Implementation

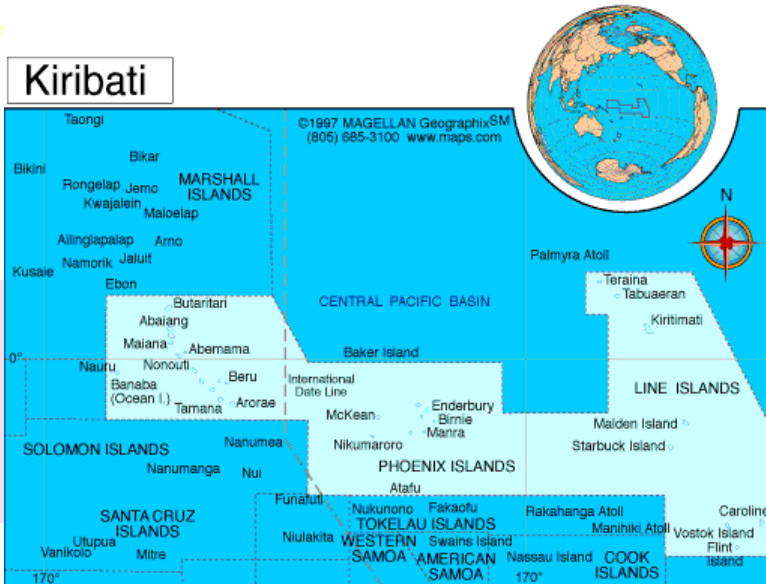
:a perspective from Kiribati Adaptation Project

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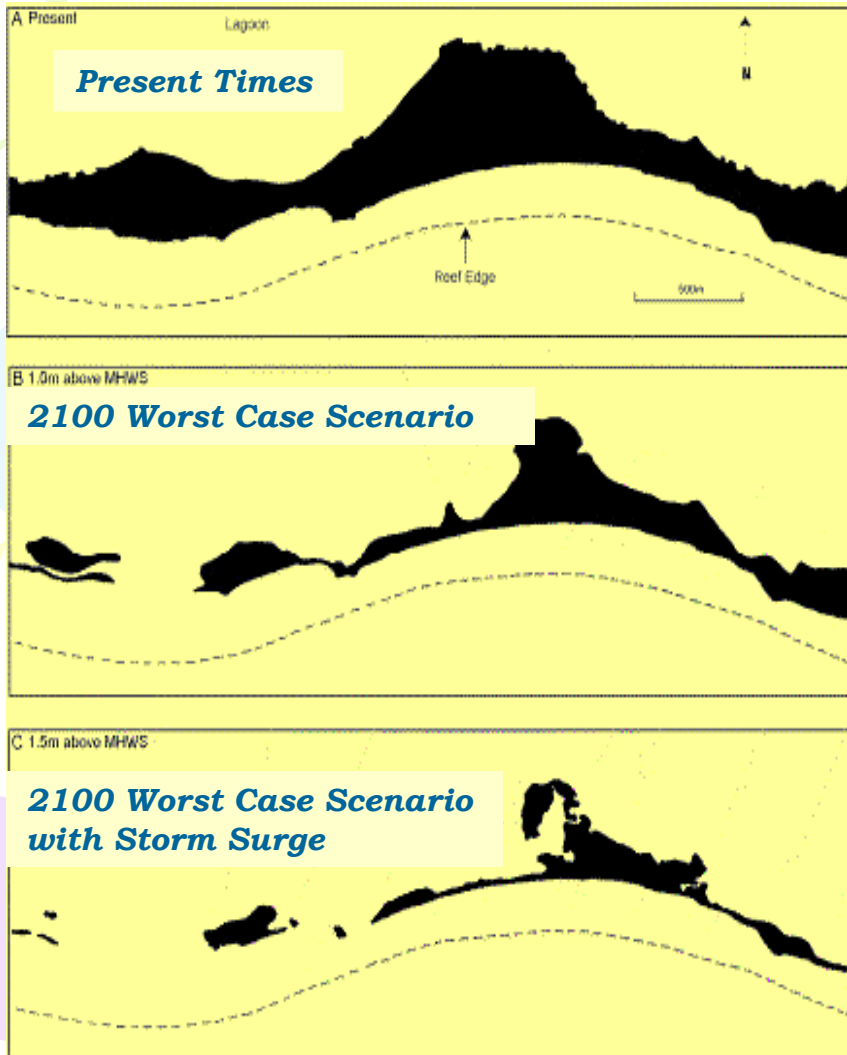
Bio-physical and socio-economic features of Kiribati



- tropical climate (wet and dry season)
- low lying atolls (33) with less than 500-1,000m in width and rise 3m above msl
- about 90,000 population (44% resides on a capital island, S.Tarawa) and high population growth rate
- categorized as a least developed country



Potential impacts of Climate Change



- in the absence of adaptation, 55%-80% of land in North Tarawa and 25%-50% of land in South Tarawa could be inundated by 2050 due to sea level rise and storm surges (World Bank study report-2000)
- potential damage of 17%-34% equivalent of Kiribati's GDP could happen by 2050 due to climate change impacts (WB study report)

Socio-environmental issues in Kiribati



- severe coastal erosion
- vulnerabilities of physical assets
- intrusion of seawater
- loss of biodiversity
- coral reefs breaching
- poor coastal structures
- illegal and intense sand mining
- coastal congestion and over-crowding
- **Presence of CC will exacerbate magnitude of those issues more!!**

Kiribati Adaptation Project

- **Phase I**
- **(i) to mainstream adaptation into national economic planning; and**
- **(ii) to prepare a pilot adaptation project to reduce overall vulnerability to cc, climate variability, and sea level rise.**

- **Phase II**
- **(i) to develop, demonstrate and build public support for the systematic diagnosis of climate related problems and the design of cost-effective adaptation measures,**
- **(ii) while continuing integration of CCA awareness and responsiveness into economic and operational planning.**

Key lessons learned

- **Climate change is a major economic and social risk, not just a long-term environmental problem**
- **Addressing short-term vulnerabilities is the best way to prepare for long-term impacts**
- **Adaptation needs to be housed in a high-level coordinating Ministry**
- **Adaptation plans need to be part of national development planning and budgets**

Lessons learned contd

- **KAP provides interface between International and local experts**
- **KAP is an important and useful approach to gain national cooperation and integrated adaptation (mainstreaming)**
- **Improved institutional arrangement, capacity and cooperation**
- **Adaptation needs a long-term process linking bottom up consultation with top down planning and policies**

Gaps, needs and concerns

- **Adaptation planning (mainstreaming) is a new concept and approach and is still being learned by most**
- **involvement of private sectors and communities are somewhat not clear in the implementation process**
- **lack of financial support for effective awareness progms on CC information**
- **insufficient data and monitoring schemes to solicit and evaluate adaptation planning and implementation actions**
- **inadequate specific adaptation policies across all sectors**
- **Adaptation planning is a time-consuming process and usually take a while before it make visible impacts on the ground**

Gaps, needs and concerns contd..

- **KAP is a centralized approach and need to be improved (into a decentralized and coordinated adaptation approach)**
- **down streaming technicalities of international experts to local experts usually not best attained (mentoring)**
- **building national capacities on prioritizing final (adaptation) investment activities, develop project proposals for adaptation, and to name a few**
- **how to maximize impacts of investment (adaptation) projects (small investmts in many sectors or large investment in 1-2 sectors)**
- **who is really responsible for adaptation? and how adaptation in SIDS is best assisted and facilitated by Annex I parties**

What to do to address those concerns?

- **adjustment of NSDS, policies and programs of government agencies to reflect their role in adaptation (local-level)**
- **private sectors, grassroots & individuals need to fully participate in the implementation of adaptation measures**
- **implementation of regional framework and other regional initiatives on climate change (regional-level)**
- **mechanisms to facilitate exchange of information and lessons learned among parties (regional & internal level)**
- **Establishment of SIDS window under Adaptation Fund (KP) and expanded share of proceeds from JI, Emission Trading, etc**
- **Decisions of international conventions (eg UNFCCC) need to be regularly updated, meaningful and consistent with dynamics of climate changes and observed impacts on the ground (internal)**
- **There is great need to better integrate the issue of climate change into international development cooperation programs (internal)**