

Advancing NAPs and Climate Resilient Recovery under COVID-19

KIRIBATI (LDC/SIDS)

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Implications of COVID-19

- ▶ National State of Emergency Declared (26th March 2020)
 - ▶ Resulted in closing of borders (Airport - International flights)
 - ▶ National Group established (led by Secretaries and technical personnel)
 - ▶ Awareness and alerts
 - ▶ Enforcement of restrictions in place
 - ▶ No COVID-19 Plan in place (a separate group of national officials and experts developed to formulate plan)
 - ▶ Regulations not yet in place (DRM and CC Act 2019)
 - ▶ Confusion in relation to the powers/ authorities
- ▶ A sense of confusion/fear by the general public

Climate Change Adaptation - Kiribati

- ▶ **KJIP - Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan (2019-2028)**
- ▶ **Whole of Island Approach (WOIA)**
- ▶ **KNEG - Kiribati National Experts Group on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management**
- ▶ **DRM and CC Act 2019**
- ▶ **NDC Implementation Strategy and Investment Plan (in-progress)**
- ▶ **Enhanced NDC (in-progress)**
- ▶ **Pipeline proposals (GEF, GCF, AF, CIF)**

Challenges to our Adaptation efforts

- ▶ Flight disturbances/ restrictions/cancellations saw the repatriation of TAs
- ▶ A slight pause in the progress made on various programs and projects
- ▶ Communication between development partners and the government went silent (2 month period)
- ▶ Postponement to key dialogues, trainings and workshops (halt in Capacity Building initiatives)
- ▶ Virtual meetings/ trainings not always effective for Kiribati officials (internet connection as an issue/ the costs to connect to high speed internet)

“Continuity, Consistency, Effectiveness”

Recommendations

- ▶ Adaptation Financing must be consistent and mechanisms need to support LDCs
- ▶ The COVID19 has provided a plot of vulnerable cases and where the health and climate change adaptation needs focused (Majority of LDCs)
- ▶ Development assistance supporting infrastructure to have safeguard mechanisms in place for these cases
- ▶ A need for ramped up and urgent delivery of climate finance and implementation
- ▶ Adaptation through health lens (sector specific emphasis), applicable to all sectors especially for vulnerable countries LDCs/SIDS
- ▶ Coordinated supported (mitigate risks - delays and postponement)
- ▶ Dedicated Technical Assistance (in-country offices/presence required)
- ▶ COVID19 plans need to be place, effective and operational (national, by donor countries, ajenices)