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**Third Session:
Small Island Developing States:
Transport and Trade Logistics
Challenges**

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**Risk Reduction and Adaptation to
Climate Change in Small Island
Developing States**

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Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Fifth Assessment
Report, Working Group II (Coastal and low-lying areas)

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Working Group II : Impacts, Adaptation, and Vulnerability



Risk reduction and adaptation to climate change in Small Island Developing States

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November, 25 2014

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OUTLINE

Conceptual Framework

Climate-related drivers and associated impacts

Human-related drivers and associated impacts

Attribution to climate change

Adaptation

Conclusions

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Conceptual Framework

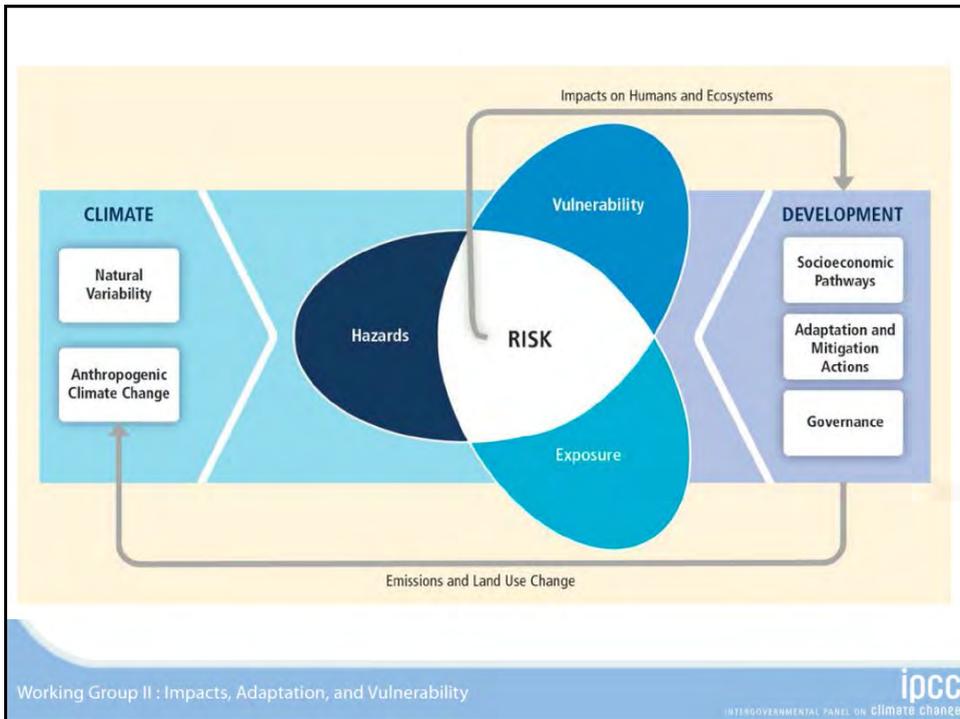
Climate-related drivers and associated impacts

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Low exposure and low vulnerability

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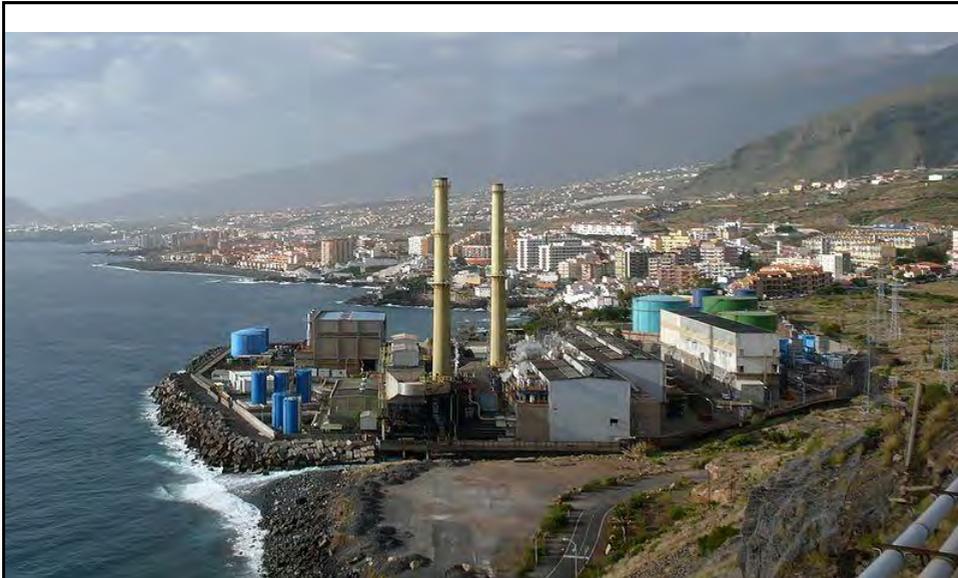
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High exposure and medium vulnerability

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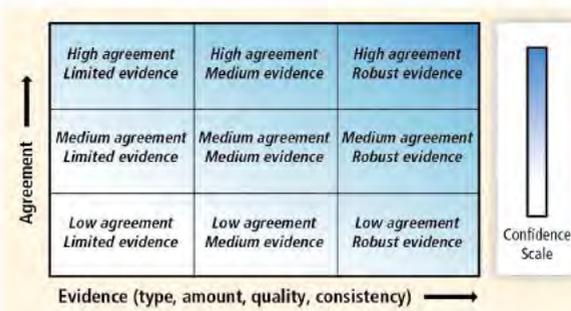


High exposure and high vulnerability

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Communication of the degree of certainty in assessment findings



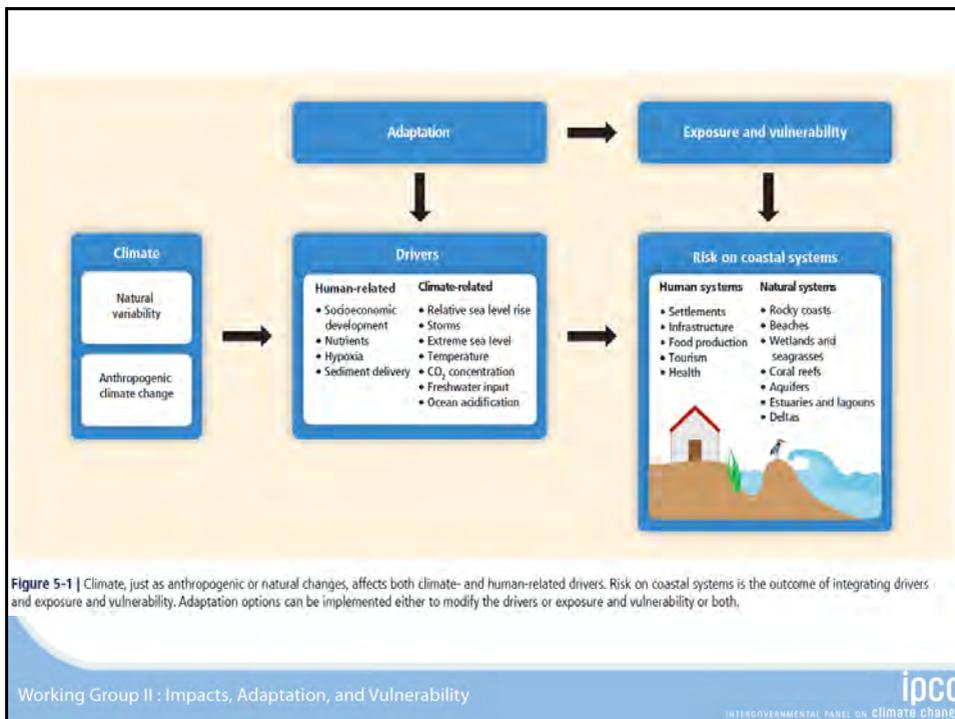
Agreement ↑	High agreement Limited evidence	High agreement Medium evidence	High agreement Robust evidence
	Medium agreement Limited evidence	Medium agreement Medium evidence	Medium agreement Robust evidence
	Low agreement Limited evidence	Low agreement Medium evidence	Low agreement Robust evidence
	Evidence (type, amount, quality, consistency) →		

Term*	Likelihood of the outcome
<i>Virtually certain</i>	99–100% probability
<i>Very likely</i>	90–100% probability
<i>Likely</i>	66–100% probability
<i>About as likely as not</i>	33–66% probability
<i>Unlikely</i>	0–33% probability
<i>Very unlikely</i>	0–10% probability
<i>Exceptionally unlikely</i>	0–1% probability

* Additional terms used more occasionally are *extremely likely*: 95–100% probability, *more likely than not*: >50–100% probability, and *extremely unlikely*: 0–5% probability.

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Current and future **climate-related** drivers of risk for small islands during the 21st century include sea level rise (SLR), tropical and extratropical cyclones, increasing air and sea surface temperatures, and changing rainfall patterns (high confidence; robust evidence, high agreement)

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Impacts are dependent on the magnitude, frequency, and temporal and spatial extent of the event, as well as on the biophysical nature of the island and its social, economic, and political setting.

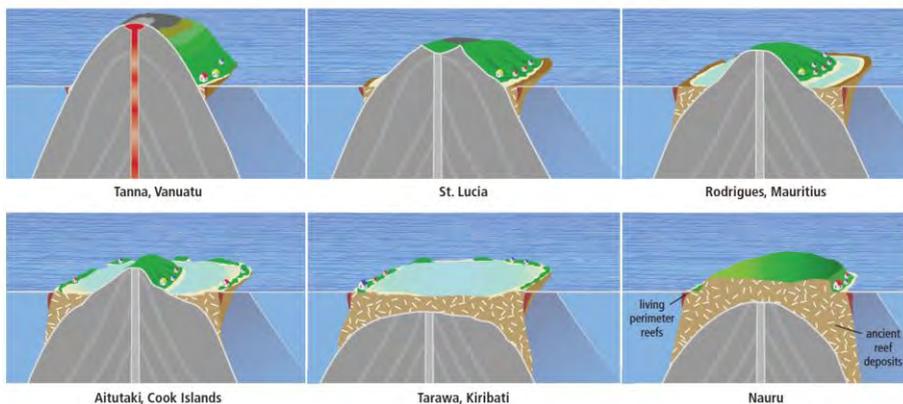
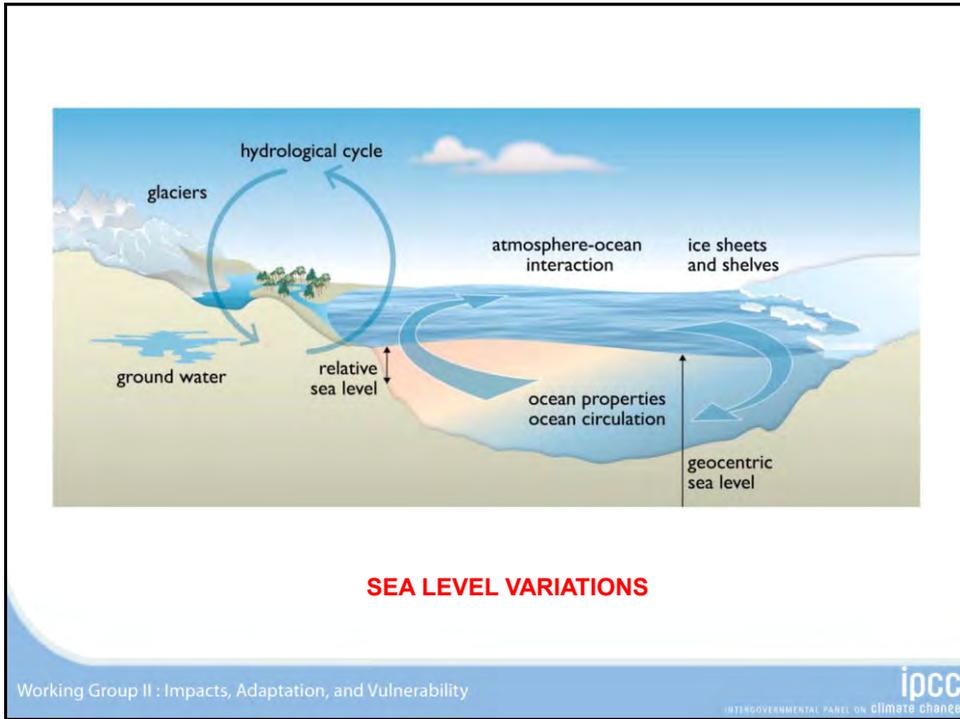


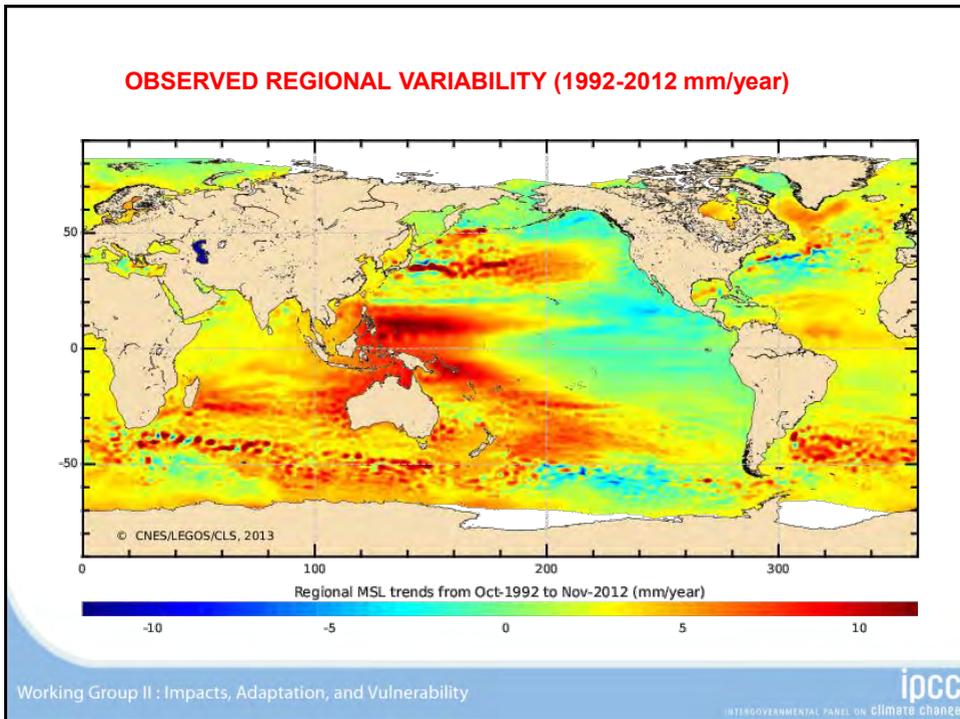
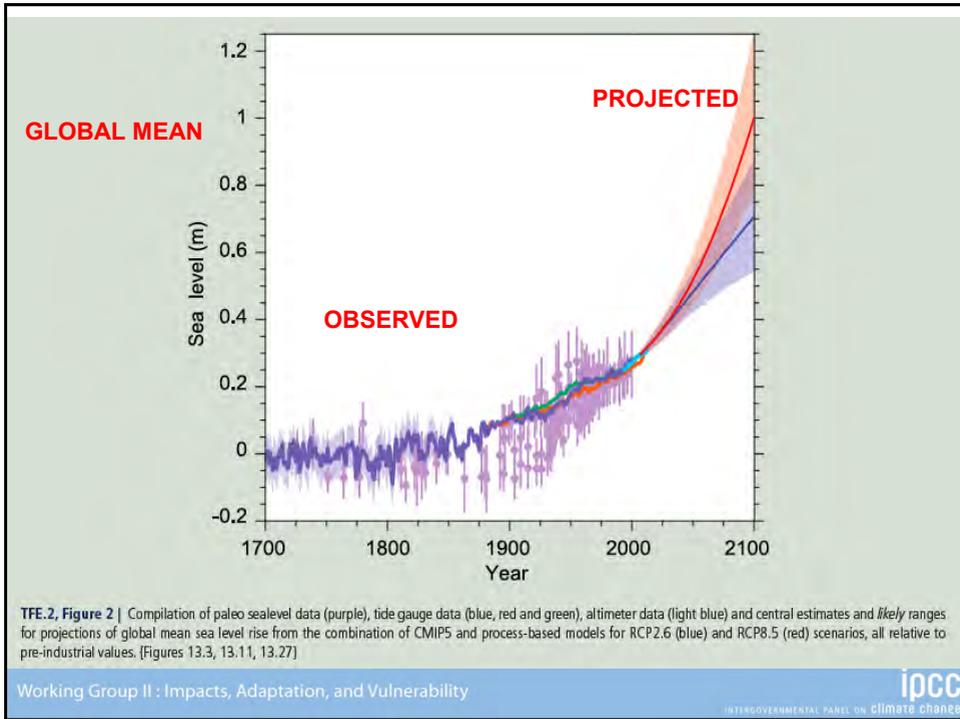
Figure 29-1 | Representative tropical island typologies. From top left: A young, active volcanic island (with altitudinal zonation) and limited living perimeter reefs (red zone at outer reef edge), through to an atoll (center bottom), and raised limestone island (bottom right) dominated by ancient reef deposits (brown + white fleck). Atolls have limited, low-lying land areas but well developed reef/lagoon systems. Islands composed of continental rocks are not included in this figure, but see Table 29-3.

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Climate-related driver	Physical/chemical effects	Trends	Projections	Progress since AR4
Sea level	Submergence, flood damage, erosion; saltwater intrusion; rising water tables/impeded drainage; wetland loss (and change).	Global mean sea level <i>very likely</i> increase (Section 5.3.2.2; WGI AR5 Sections 3.7.2, 3.7.3).	Global mean sea level <i>very likely</i> increase (see Table 5.1; WGI AR5 Section 13.5.1). Regional variability (Section 5.3.2.2; WGI AR5 Chapter 13).	Improved confidence in contributions to observed sea level. More information on regional and local sea level rise.
Storms: tropical cyclones (TCs), extratropical cyclones (ETCs)	Storm surges and storm waves, coastal flooding, erosion; saltwater intrusion; rising water tables/impeded drainage; wetland loss (and change). Coastal infrastructure damage and flood defense failure.	TCs (Box 5-1; WGI AR5 Section 2.6.3): <i>low confidence</i> in trends in frequency and intensity due to limitations in observations and regional variability. ETCs (Section 5.3.3.1; WGI AR5 Section 2.6.4): <i>likely</i> poleward movement of circulation features but <i>low confidence</i> in intensity changes.	TCs (Box 5-1): <i>likely</i> decrease to no change in frequency; <i>likely</i> increase in the most intense TCs. ETCs (Section 5.3.3.1): <i>high confidence</i> that reduction of ETCs will be small globally. <i>Low confidence</i> in changes in intensity.	Lowering of confidence of observed trends in TCs and ETCs since AR4. More basin-specific information on storm track changes.
Winds	Wind waves, storm surges, coastal currents, land coastal infrastructure damage.	<i>Low confidence</i> in trends in mean and extreme wind speeds (Section 5.3.3.2, SREX, WGI AR5 Section 3.4.5).	<i>Low confidence</i> in projected mean wind speeds. <i>Likely</i> increase in TC extreme wind speeds (Section 5.3.3.2, SREX).	Winds not specifically addressed in AR4.
Waves	Coastal erosion, overtopping and coastal flooding.	<i>Likely</i> positive trends in Hs in high latitudes (Section 5.3.3.2; WGI AR5 Section 3.4.5).	<i>Low confidence</i> for projections overall but <i>medium confidence</i> for Southern Ocean increases in Hs (Section 5.3.3.2).	Large increase in number of wave projection studies since AR4.
Extreme sea levels	Coastal flooding erosion, saltwater intrusion.	<i>High confidence</i> of increase due to global mean sea level rise (Section 5.3.3.3; WGI AR5 Chapter 13).	<i>High confidence</i> of increase due to global mean sea level rise, <i>low confidence</i> of changes due to storm changes (Section 5.3.3.3; WGI AR5 Section 13.5).	Local subsidence is an important contribution to regional sea level rise in many locations.
Sea surface temperature (SST)	Changes to stratification and circulation; reduced incidence of sea ice at higher latitudes; increased coral bleaching and mortality; poleward species migration; increased algal blooms.	<i>High confidence</i> that coastal SST increase is higher than global SST increase (Section 5.3.3.4).	<i>High confidence</i> that coastal SSTs will increase with projected temperature increase (Section 5.3.3.4).	Emerging information on coastal changes in SSTs.
Freshwater input	Altered flood risk in coastal lowlands; altered water quality/salinity; altered fluvial sediment supply; altered circulation and nutrient supply.	<i>Medium confidence (limited evidence)</i> in a net declining trend in annual volume of freshwater input (Section 5.3.3.6).	<i>Medium confidence</i> for general increase in high latitudes and wet tropics and decrease in other tropical regions (Section 5.3.3.6).	Emerging information on freshwater input.
Ocean acidity	Increased CO ₂ fertilization; decreased seawater pH and carbonate ion concentration (or "ocean acidification").	<i>High confidence</i> of overall increase, with high local and regional variability (Section 5.3.3.5).	<i>High confidence</i> of increase at unprecedented rates but with local and regional variability (Box CC-OA).	Coastal ocean acidification not specifically addressed in AR4. Considerable progress made in chemical projections and biological impacts.

SREX = IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation.





PROJECTED GLOBAL MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE RELATIVE TO 1986-2005

Table 5-2 | Projections of global mean sea level rise in meters relative to 1986–2005 are based on ocean thermal expansion calculated from climate models, the contributions from glaciers, Greenland and Antarctica from surface mass balance calculations using climate model temperature projections, the range of the contribution from Greenland and Antarctica due to dynamical processes, and the terrestrial contribution to sea levels, estimated from available studies. For sea levels up to and including 2100, the central values and the 5–95% range are given whereas for projections from 2200 onwards, the range represents the model spread due to the small number of model projections available and the high scenario includes projections based on RCP6.0 and RCP8.5. Source: WGI AR5 Summary for Policymakers and Sections 12.4.1, 13.5.1, and 13.5.4.

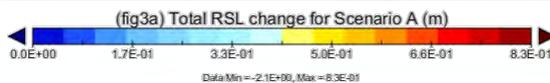
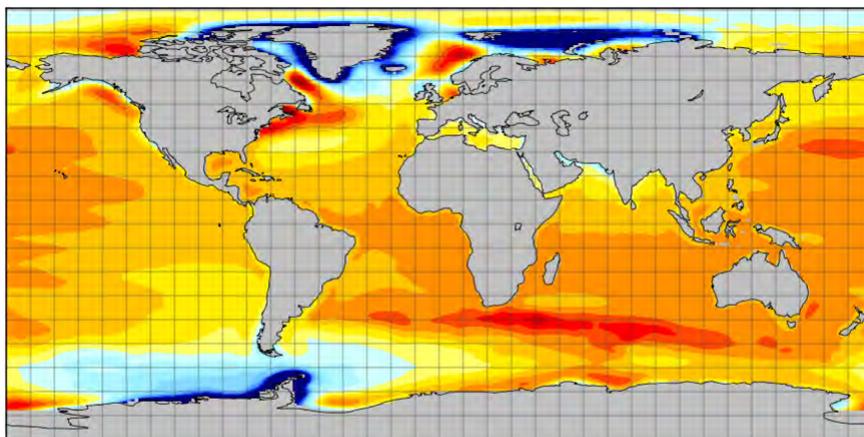
Emission scenario	Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP)	2100 CO ₂ concentration (ppm)	Temperature increase (°C)	Mean sea level rise (m)					
				2081–2100	2046–2065	2100	Scenario	2200	2300
Low	2.6	421	1.0 [0.3–1.7]	0.24 [0.17–0.32]	0.44 [0.28–0.61]	Low	0.35–0.72	0.41–0.85	0.50–1.02
Medium low	4.5	538	1.8 [1.1–2.6]	0.26 [0.19–0.33]	0.53 [0.36–0.71]	Medium	0.26–1.09	0.27–1.51	0.18–2.32
Medium high	6.0	670	2.2 [1.4–3.1]	0.25 [0.18–0.32]	0.55 [0.38–0.73]	High	0.58–2.03	0.92–3.59	1.51–6.63
High	8.5	936	3.7 [2.6–4.8]	0.29 [0.22–0.38]	0.74 [0.52–0.98]				

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PROJECTED REGIONAL MEAN SEA LEVEL RISE

RSLR RCP4.5 (Slangen et al. 2014)



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Table 29-1 | Climate change projections for the intermediate low (500–700 ppm CO₂e) Representative Concentration Pathway 4.5 (RCP4.5) scenario for the main small island regions. The table shows the 25th, 50th (median), and 75th percentiles for surface temperature and precipitation based on averages from 42 Coupled Model Intercomparison Project Phase 5 (CMIP5) global models (adapted from WGI AR5 Table 14.1). Mean net regional sea level change is evaluated from 21 CMIP5 models and includes regional non-scenario components (adapted from WGI AR5 Figure 13-20).

Small island region	RCP4.5 annual projected change for 2081–2100 compared to 1986–2005						
	Temperature (°C)			Precipitation (%)			Sea level (m)
	25%	50%	75%	25%	50%	75%	Range
Caribbean	1.2	1.4	1.9	-10	-5	-1	0.5–0.6
Mediterranean	2.0	2.3	2.7	-10	-6	-3	0.4–0.5
Northern tropical Pacific	1.2	1.4	1.7	0	1	4	0.5–0.6
Southern Pacific	1.1	1.2	1.5	0	2	4	0.5–0.6
North Indian Ocean	1.3	1.5	2.0	5	9	20	0.4–0.5
West Indian Ocean	1.2	1.4	1.8	0	2	5	0.5–0.6

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Table 5-3 | Main impacts of relative sea level rise. Source: Adapted from Nicholls et al. (2010).

Biophysical impacts of relative sea level rise	Other climate-related drivers	Other human drivers
Dryland loss due to erosion	Sediment supply, wave and storm climate	Activities altering sediment supply (e.g., sand mining)
Dryland loss due to submergence	Wave and storm climate, morphological change, sediment supply	Sediment supply, flood management, morphological change, land claim
Wetland loss and change	Sediment supply, CO ₂ fertilization	Sediment supply, migration space, direct destruction
Increased flood damage through extreme sea level events (storm surges, tropical cyclones, etc.)	Wave and storm climate, morphological change, sediment supply	Sediment supply, flood management, morphological change, land claim
Saltwater intrusion into surface waters (backwater effect)	Runoff	Catchment management and land use (e.g., sand mining and dretching)
Saltwater intrusion into groundwaters leading to rising water tables and impeded drainage	Precipitation	Land use, aquifer use

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Coastal systems and low-lying areas will increasingly experience adverse impacts such as submergence, coastal flooding, and coastal erosion due to relative sea level rise (RSLR; *very high confidence*).

- Beaches, sand dunes and cliffs currently eroding will continue to do so under increasing sea level (*high confidence*).
- Large spatial variations in the projected sea level rise together with local factors means RSLR at the local scale can vary considerably from projected (GMSLR) (*very high confidence*).

Coastal systems and low-lying areas will increasingly experience adverse impacts such as submergence, coastal flooding, and coastal erosion due to relative sea level rise (RSLR; *very high confidence*).

- **The storms related impacts and associated storm surges will be worsened by GMSLR-although uncertainty related to changes in tropical and mid-latitude cyclones at the regional scale will signify that there is *low confidence* in projections of storm surge change.**
- Both and impacts are also influenced by a variety of local processes unrelated to climate (e.g., subsidence, glacial isostatic adjustment, sediment transport, coastal development) (*very high confidence*).

Coastal flooding

Inundation/sumergence vs. Flooding

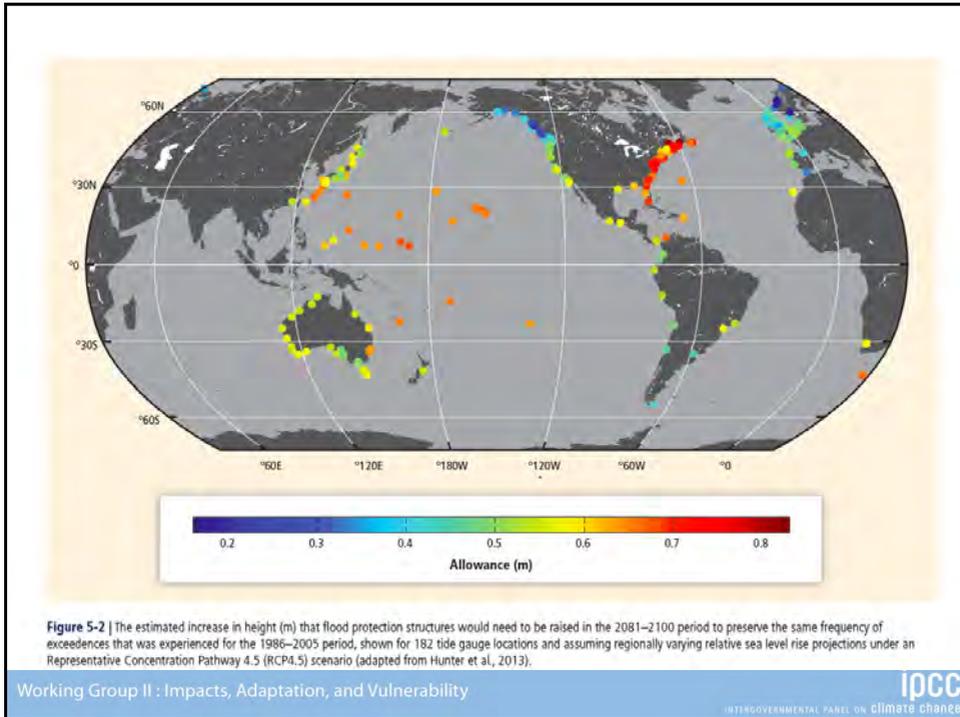
Flooding:

Combined effects !!!

- Waves
- Wind
- Atmospheric pressure
- Astronomical tide
- Mean Sea Level

MA: Marea astronómica
MM: Marea meteorológica
RU: Run-up
CI: Cota de inundación

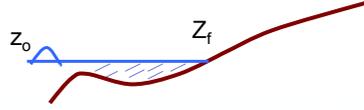
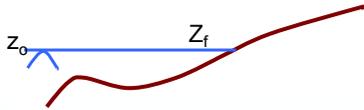
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QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT OF FLOODING CONSEQUENCES

$z_f = z_o$ is a bathtub approach

$z_f = f(z_o, \text{duration, roughness, DTM})$
using a 2D hydrodynamic model



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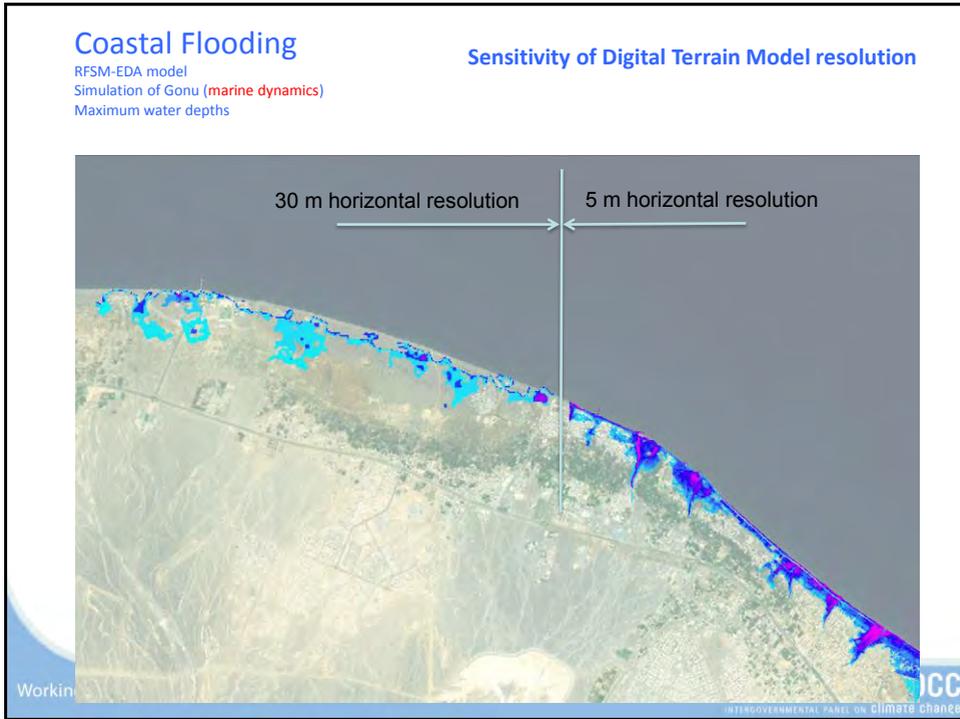
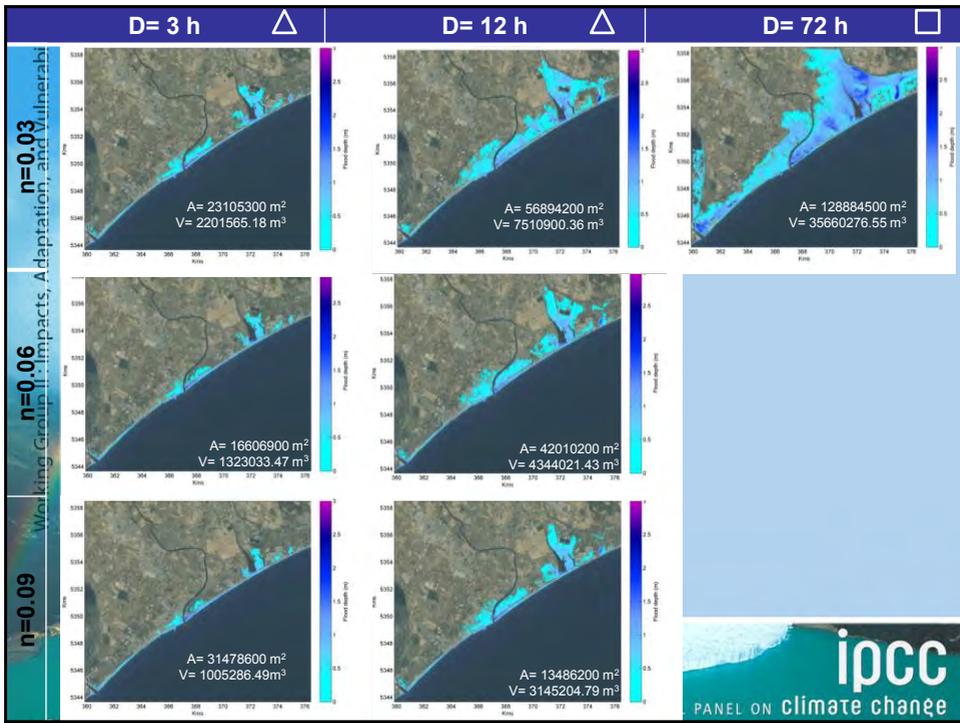
Sensitivity analysis to event duration and inland roughness



Delta L'Orb
LIDAR 1 m
GOW+GOS data bases
20- years extreme TWL

W





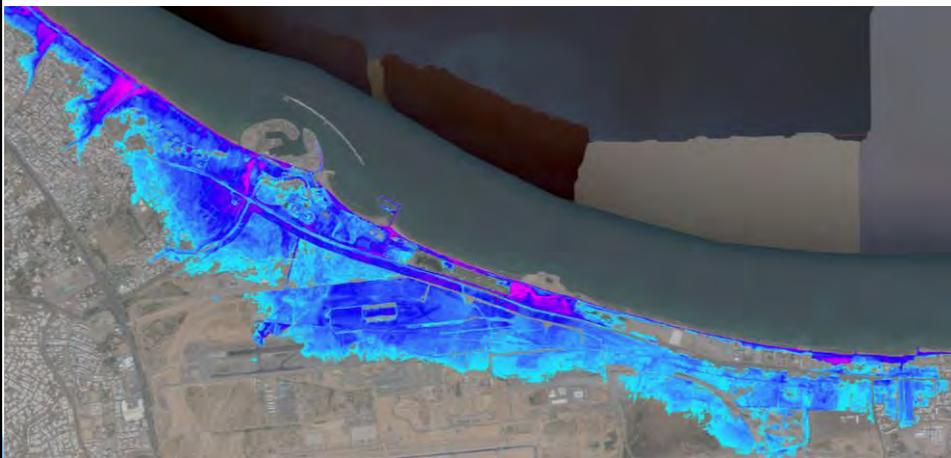
Muscat- GONU



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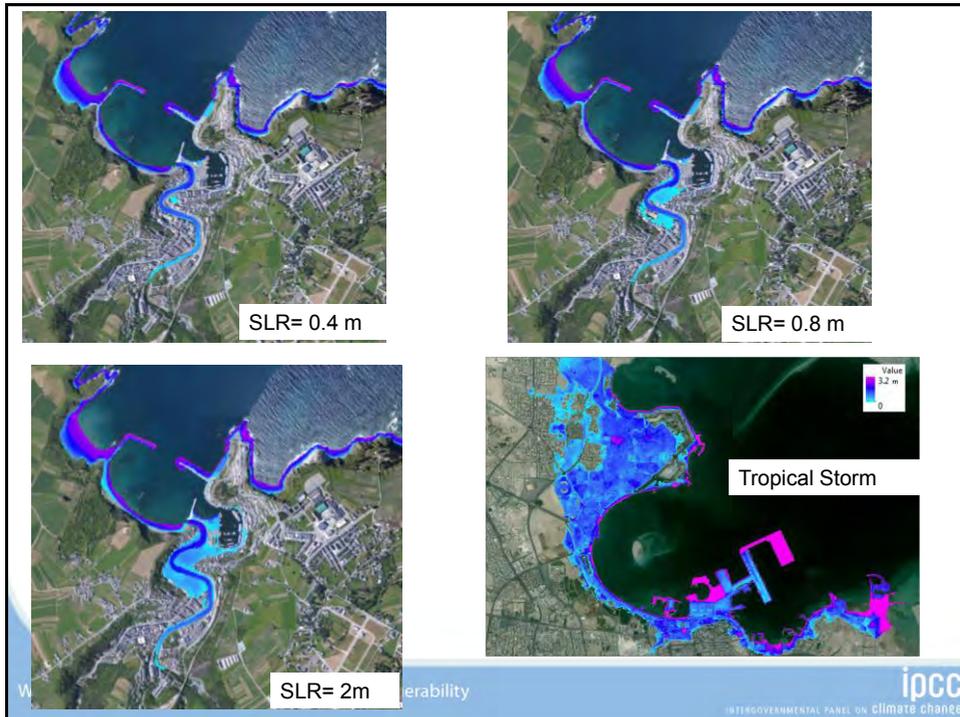
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Muscat Airport - GONU



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Acidification and warming of coastal waters will continue with significant negative consequences for coastal ecosystems (*high confidence*).

The increase in acidity will be higher in areas where eutrophication or coastal upwellings are an issue. It will have negative impacts for many calcifying organisms (*high confidence*).

Warming and acidification will lead to coral bleaching, mortality, and decreased constructional ability (*high confidence*), making coral reefs the most vulnerable marine ecosystem with little scope for adaptation.

Temperate seagrass and kelp ecosystems will decline with the increased frequency of heat waves and sea temperature extremes as well as through the impact of invasive subtropical species (*high confidence*).



Figure CR-1: A and B: the same coral community before and after a bleaching event in February 2002 at 5 m depth, Halfway Island, Great Barrier Reef. Coral cover at the time of bleaching was 95% bleached almost all of it severely bleached, resulting in mortality of 20.9% (Elvidge *et al.*, 2004). Mortality was comparatively low due in part because these coral communities were able to shuffle their symbiont to more thermo-tolerant types (Berkelmans and van Oppen, 2006; Jones *et al.*, 2008). C and D: three CO₂ seeps in Milne Bay Province, Papua New Guinea show

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Decade	None (%)	Mild to moderate (%)	Severe (%)
1985-1994	90	5	5
1995-2004	60	15	25
2000-2009	95	2	3
2010-2019	85	10	5
2020-2029	75	15	10
2030-2039	40	35	25
2040-2049	10	40	50
2050-2059	5	20	75
2060-2069	2	5	93
2070-2079	1	2	97
2080-2089	0	0	100
2090-2099	0	0	100

Figure 5-3 | Percent of reef locations (1° × 1° grid cells which have at least one reef) that experience no bleaching, at least one mild bleaching event, or at least one severe bleaching event for each decade. Observed bleaching events are summarized from the ReefBase data set (Kleypas *et al.*, 2008). In the observations, some of the “no bleaching” cells may have experienced bleaching but it was either not observed or not reported. Modeled bleaching events are averages of data from four ensemble runs of the Community Climate System Model version 3 using the Special Report on Emissions Scenarios (SRES) A1B CO₂ scenario and the standard degree heating month formula (Teneva *et al.*, 2011). The labels of values ≤1% are not shown.

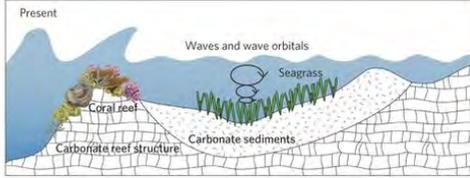
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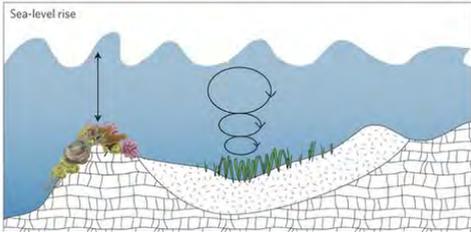
Saunders et al. (2014) Why is this important?



a



b Present



c Sea-level rise

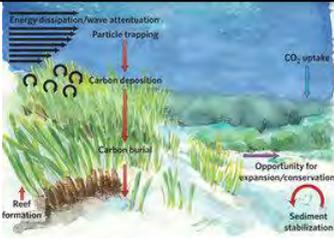
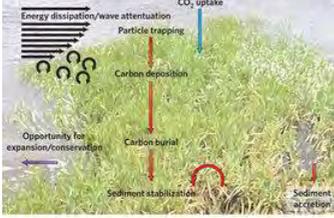
a, Seagrass meadows and coral reefs form distinct ecosystems, yet often live in close proximity in linked tropical marine ecosystems. **b**, Coral reefs block and dissipate wave energy and permit seagrass, which is less wave tolerant, to exist in protected lagoons. **c**, Deepening water from sea-level rise will allow larger, more energetic waves to traverse the reef into the lagoon, reducing habitat suitability for seagrass

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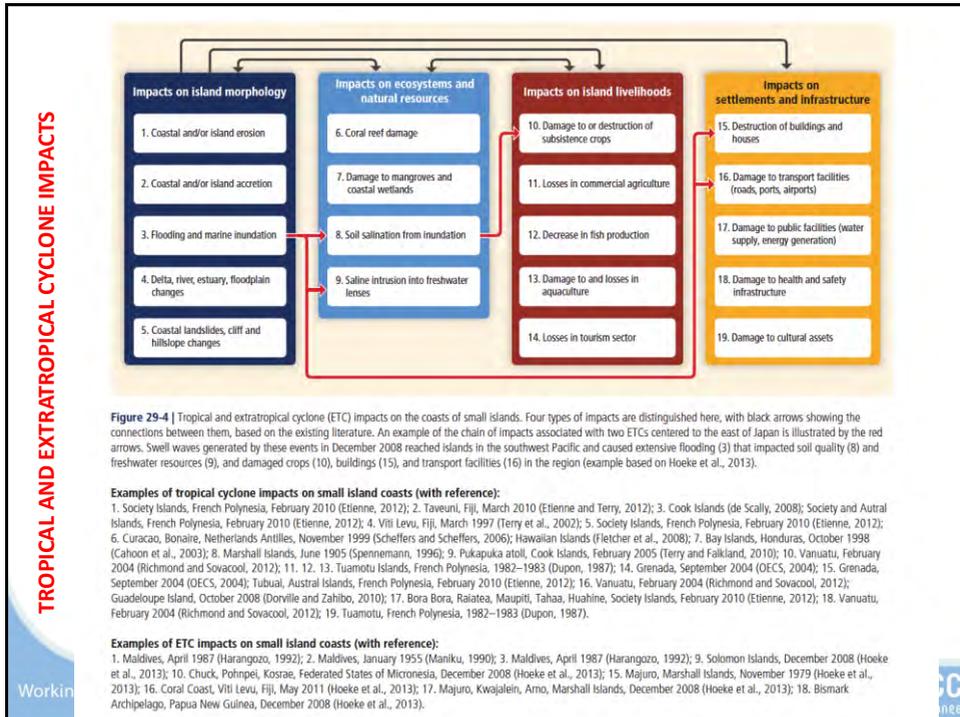


Processes that affect the capacity for climate change mitigation (**CO₂ sinks**) and adaptation (shore line protection from rising sea level) are shown for seagrass meadows (upper panel), salt marshes (middle panel) and mangrove forests (lower panel). Blue arrows indicate transport of atmospheric or dissolved material, red arrows show transport of particulates and purple arrows indicate vegetative growth Duarte et al. (2013)

SYNERGIES BETWEEN ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION


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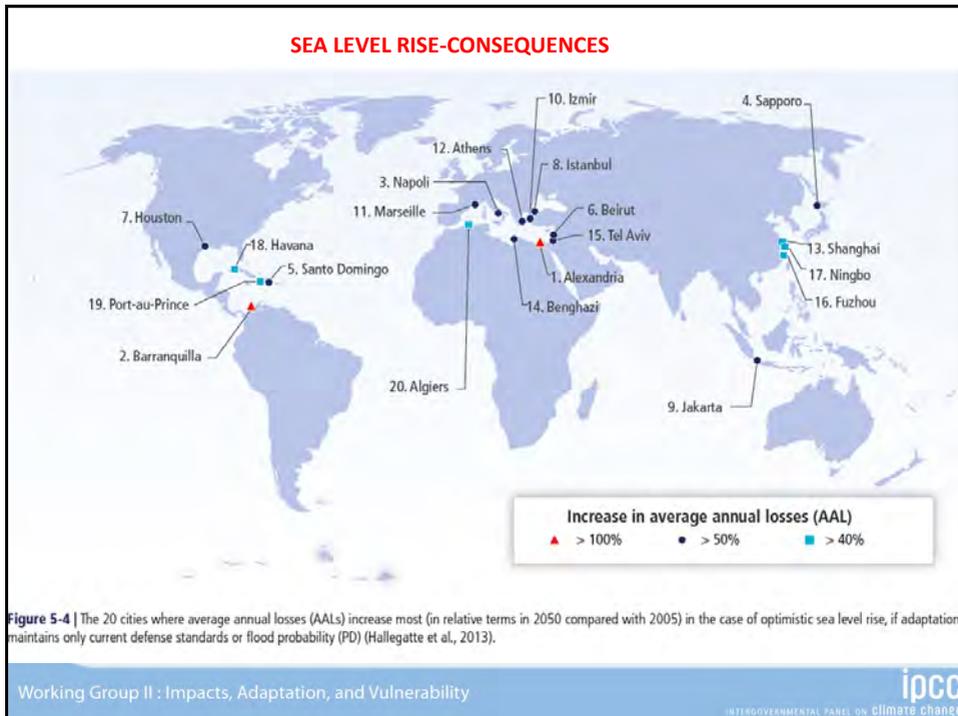
Conclusions

The population and assets exposed to coastal risks as well as human pressures on coastal ecosystems will increase significantly in the coming decades due to population growth, economic development, and urbanization (*high confidence*).

- The exposure of people and assets to coastal risks has been rapidly growing and this trend is expected to continue.
- Humans have been the primary drivers of changes in coastal aquifers, lagoons, estuaries, deltas, and wetlands (*very high confidence*) and are expected to further exacerbate human pressures on coastal ecosystems resulting from excess nutrient input, changes in runoff, and reduced sediment delivery (*high confidence*).

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EXPOSURE TO STORMS BETWEEN 1998-2009

Table 29-5 | Top ten countries in the Asia-Pacific region based on absolute and relative physical exposure to storms and impact on GDP (between 1998 and 2009; after Tables 1.10 and 1.11 of ESCAP and UNISDR, 2010).

Rank	Absolute exposure (millions affected)	Relative exposure (% of population affected)	Absolute GDP loss (US\$ billions)	Loss (% of GDP)
1	Japan (30.9)	Northern Mariana Islands (58.2)	Japan (1,226.7)	Northern Mariana Islands (59.4)
2	Philippines (12.1)	Niue (25.4)	Republic of Korea (35.6)	Vanuatu (27.1)
3	China (11.1)	Japan (24.2)	China (28.5)	Niue (24.9)
4	India (10.7)	Philippines (23.6)	Philippines (24.3)	Fiji (24.1)
5	Bangladesh (7.5)	Fiji (23.1)	Hong Kong (13.3)	Japan (23.9)
6	Republic of Korea (2.4)	Samoa (21.4)	India (8.0)	Philippines (23.9)
7	Myanmar (1.2)	New Caledonia (20.7)	Bangladesh (3.9)	New Caledonia (22.4)
8	Vietnam (0.8)	Vanuatu (18.3)	Northern Mariana Islands (1.5)	Samoa (19.2)
9	Hong Kong (0.4)	Tonga (18.1)	Australia (0.8)	Tonga (17.4)
10	Pakistan (0.3)	Cook Islands (10.5)	New Caledonia (0.7)	Bangladesh (5.9)

Note: Small islands are highlighted in yellow.

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Coral bleaching and species ranges can be attributed to ocean temperature change and ocean acidity.

**For many other coastal changes, the impacts of climate change are difficult to tease apart from human-related drivers
(e.g. land use change, coastal development, pollution)
(high agreement, robust evidence)**

Small Islands

Chapter 29

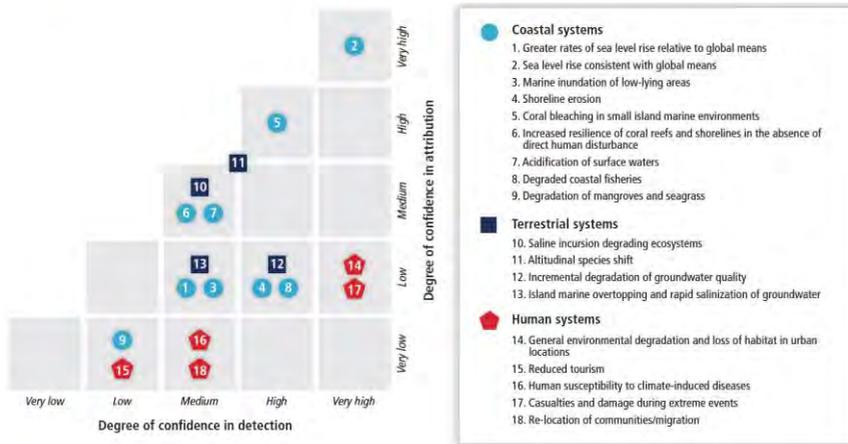


Figure 29-2 | A comparison of the degree of confidence in the detection of observed impacts of climate change on tropical small islands with the degree of confidence in attribution to climate change drivers at this time. For example, the blue symbol No. 2 (Coastal Systems) indicates there is very high confidence in both the detection of "sea level rise consistent with global means" and its attribution to climate change drivers; whereas the red symbol No. 17 (Human Systems) indicates that although confidence in detection of "casualties and damage during extreme events" is very high, there is at present low confidence in the attribution to climate change. It is important to note that low confidence in attribution frequently arises owing to the limited research available on small island environments.



For the 21st century, the benefits of protecting against increased coastal flooding and land loss due to submergence and erosion at the global scale are larger than the social and economic costs of inaction (*high agreement, limited evidence*).

- Without adaptation, hundreds of millions of people will be affected by coastal flooding and will be displaced due to land loss by year 2100; the majority of those affected are from East, Southeast, and South Asia (*high confidence*).
- At the same time, protecting against flooding and erosion is considered economically rational for most developed coastlines in many countries under all socioeconomic and sea level rise scenarios analyzed, including for the 21st century GSMLR-of above 1 m (*high agreement, low evidence*).

The relative costs of adaptation vary strongly between and within regions and countries for the 21st century (*high confidence*).

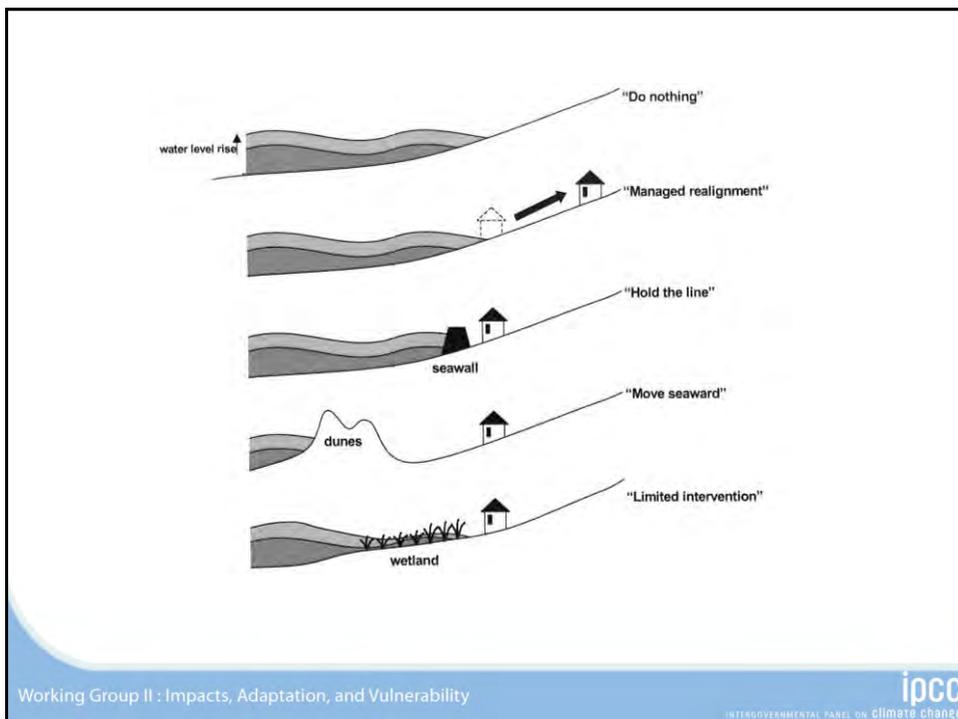
- Some low-lying developing countries (e.g., Bangladesh, Vietnam) **and small island states are expected to face very high impacts and associated annual damage and adaptation costs of several percentage points of gross domestic product (GDP).**
- Developing countries and small island states within the tropics dependent on coastal tourism will be impacted directly not only by future sea level rise and associated extremes but also by coral bleaching and ocean acidification and associated reductions in tourist arrivals (*high confidence*).

The analysis and implementation of coastal adaptation has progressed more significantly in developed countries than in developing countries towards climate resilient and sustainable coasts (*high confidence*).

- Given ample adaptation options, more proactive responses can be made and based on technological, policy related, financial, and institutional support. Observed successful adaptations include major projects (e.g., Thames Estuary, Venice Lagoon, Delta Works) and specific practices in both developed countries (e.g., Netherlands, Australia) and developing countries (e.g., Bangladesh).
- **More countries and communities carry out coastal adaptation measures including those based on integrated coastal zone management, local communities, ecosystems, and disaster reduction, and these measures are mainstreamed into relevant strategies and management plans (*high confidence*).**

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Functional and healthy ecosystems	
A1	Wetland protection and restoration
A2	Marine areas protection and conservation agreements
A3	Payment for ecosystem and environmental services




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Wetland restoration and protection

Goal:

Reduce flooding and erosion by creating new habitats and providing environmental benefits holding the coastline



Characteristics:

Highly efficient
Takes advantage of natural adaptive capacity
Marshes and mangroves restoration is the most extended practice



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Reduce exposure of the coastal system	
B1	Beach nourishment
B2	Artificial and restoration of dunes
B3	Shoreline stabilization using natural techniques
B4	Seawalls
B5	Jetties and groynes
B6	Retreat
B7	Adaptation to flooding. Flood proofing.






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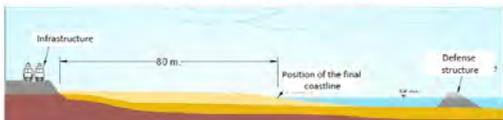
Beach nourishment

Goal
Reduce coastal erosion and protect against flooding
Characteristic:
Engineering soft measure Usually combined with dune restoration or artificial dunes Effective under mean conditions. Extreme events may require additional nourishing

PROFILE OF THE BEACH BEFORE CHARGING

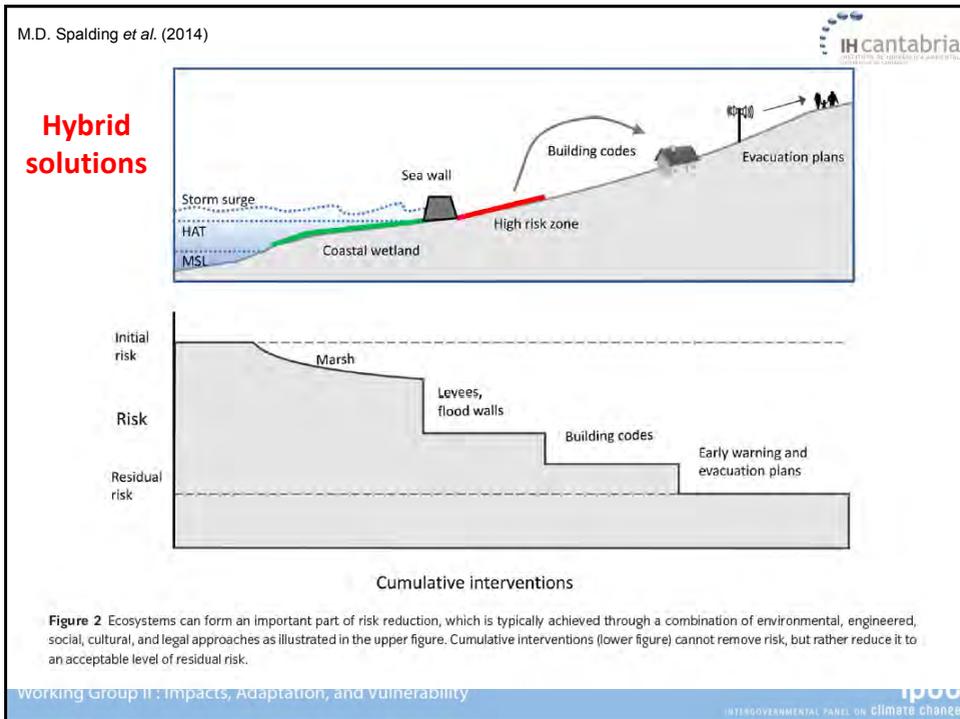
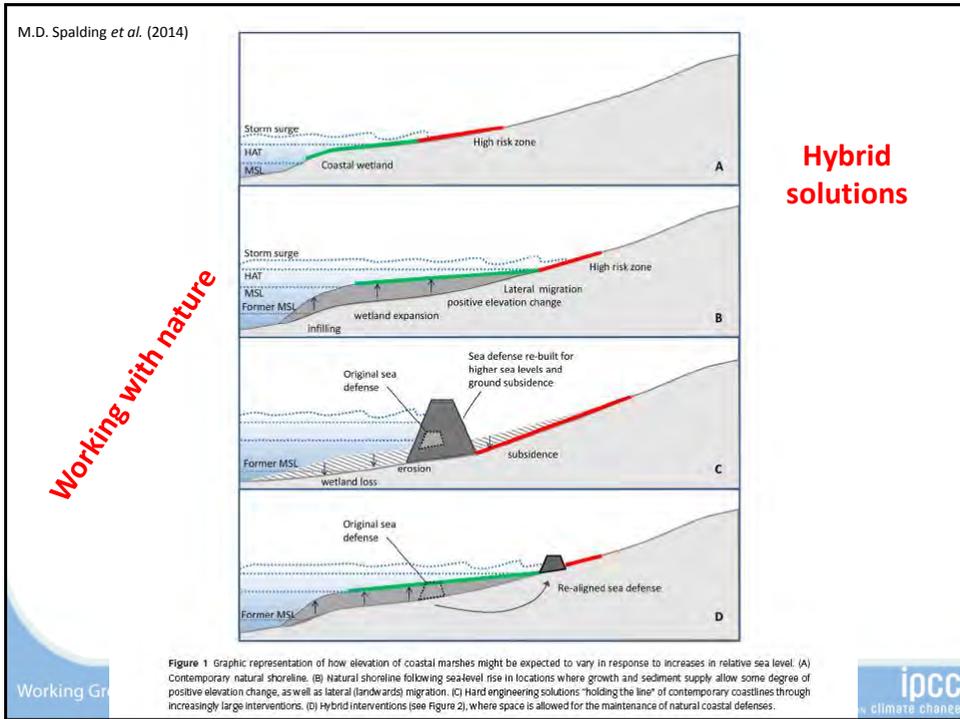


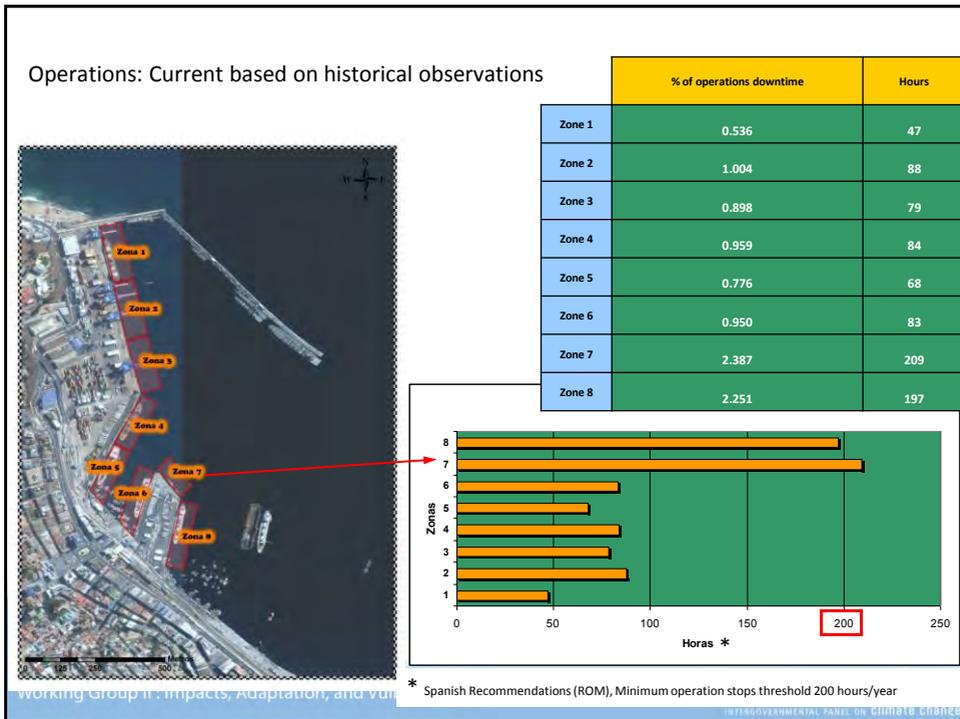
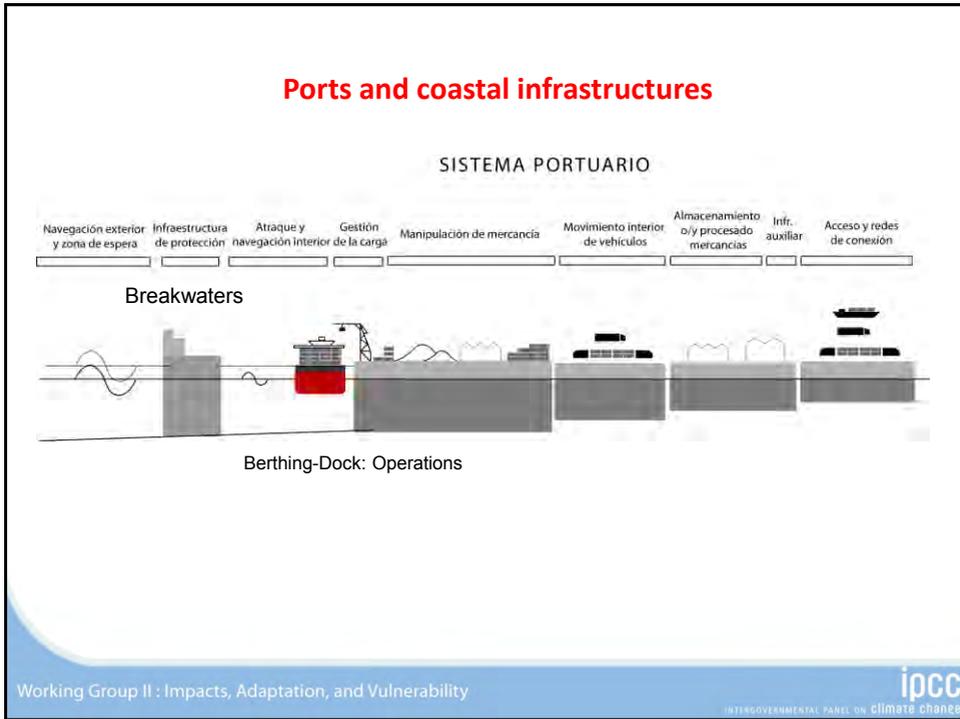
PROFILE OF THE BEACH AFTER CHARGING

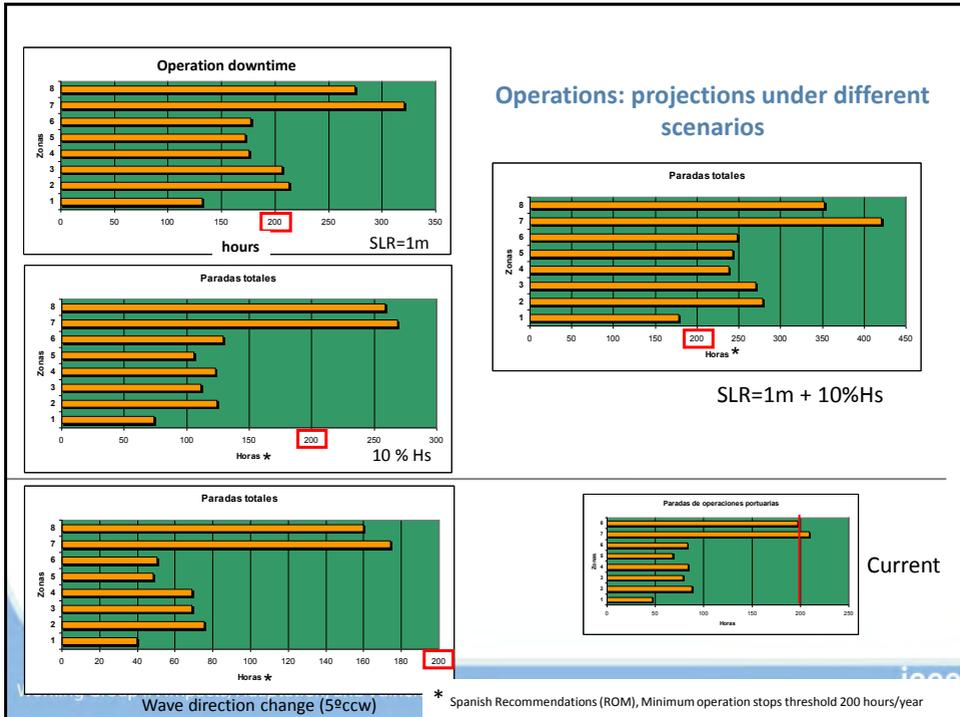
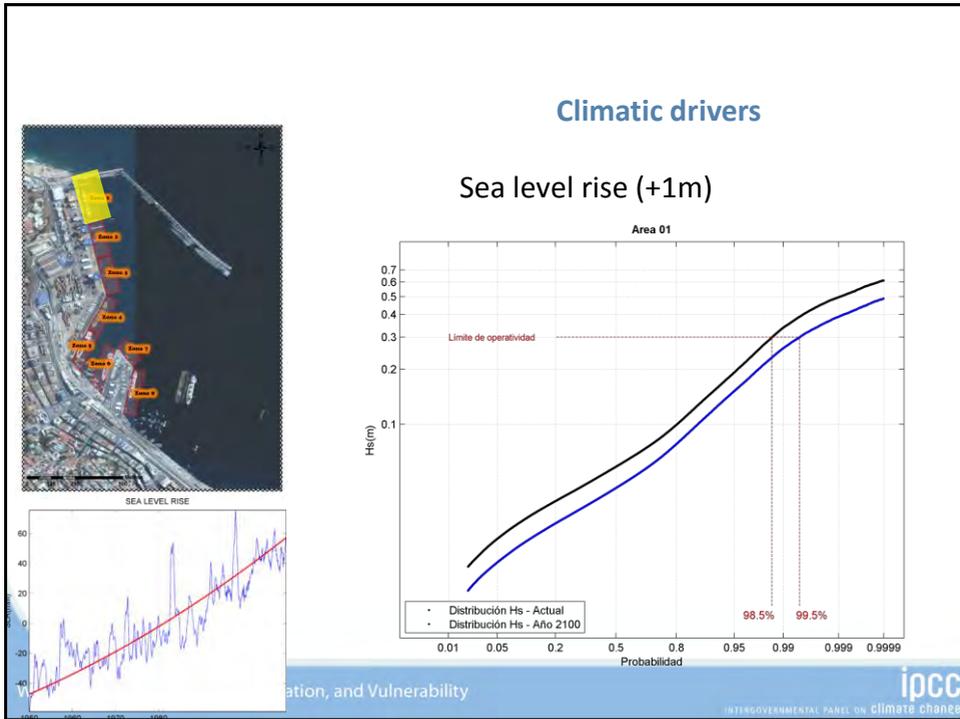


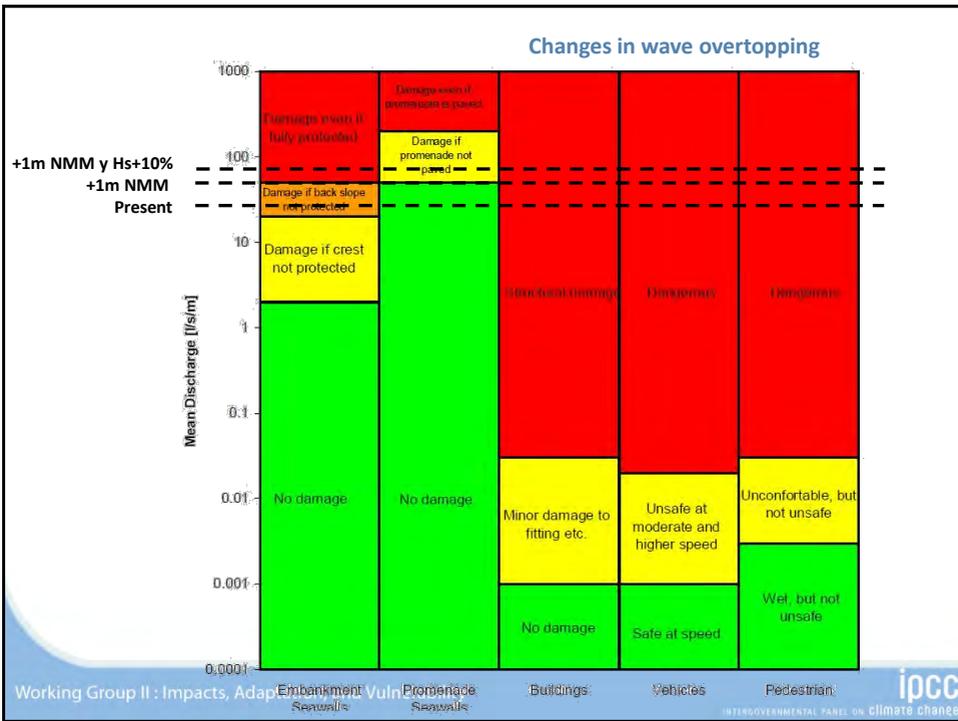
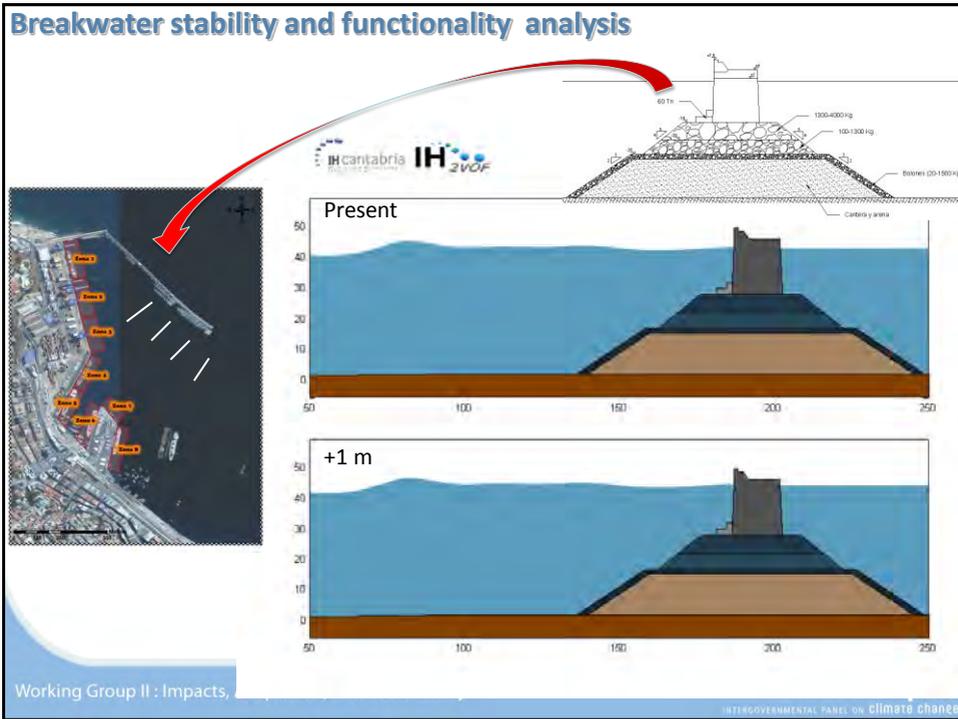
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Changes in stability: Forces and moments

Parameter	Present	+1m NMM	Change
Force	188 kN/m	197 kN/m	+5%
Stab. coef. sliding	5.53	5.37	-3%
Stab. Coef. Overtur.	5.04	5.02	-0.4%
Overtopping rate	22 l/m/s	48 L/m/s	+118%

Parameter	Present	+1m NMM and Hs+10%	Change
Forces	188 kN/m	210.5 kN/m	+12%
Stab. Coef. sliding	5.53	5.20	-6%
Stab. Coef. Overtur.	5.04	4.99	-1%
Overtopping rate	22 l/m/s	64 L/m/s	+190%

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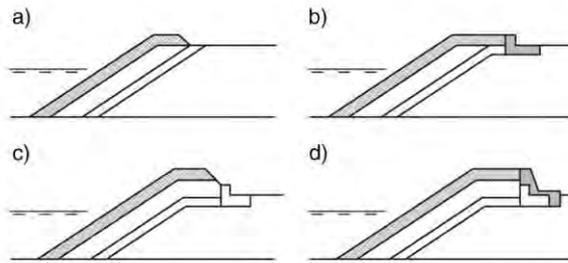


Fig. 1. Concepts of upgrading in which an increase in crest level is acceptable.

Adaptation options

Burcharth, Lykke and Lara (2014)

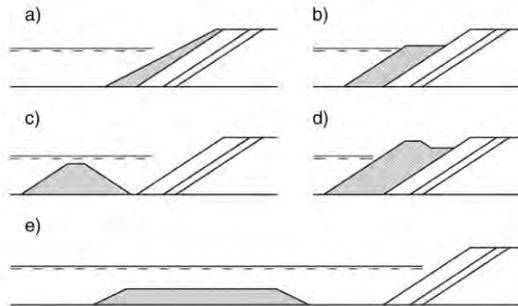
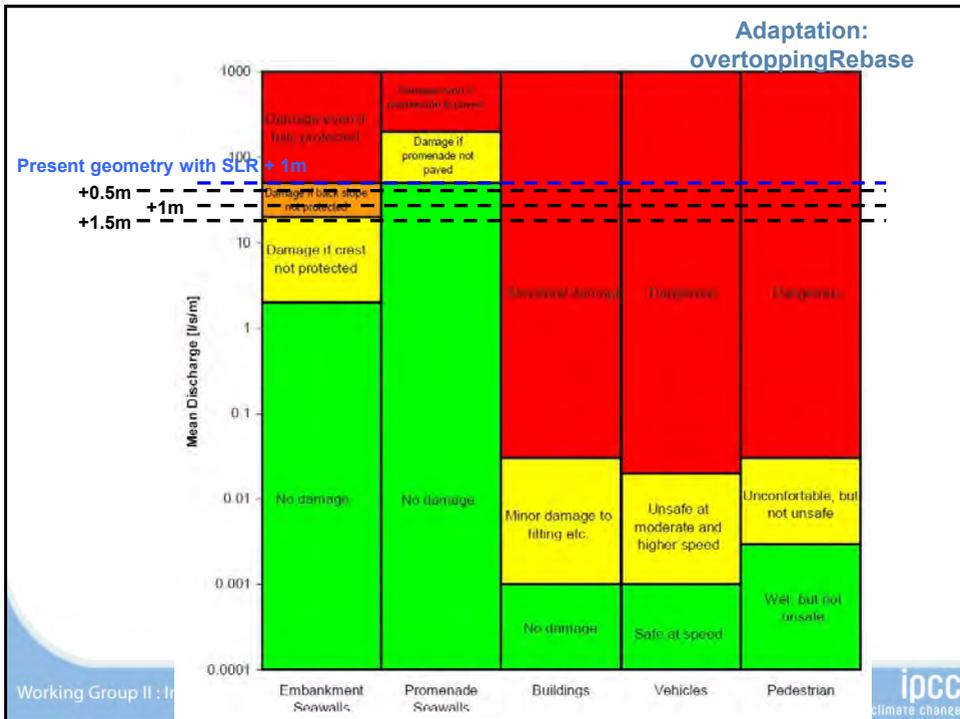
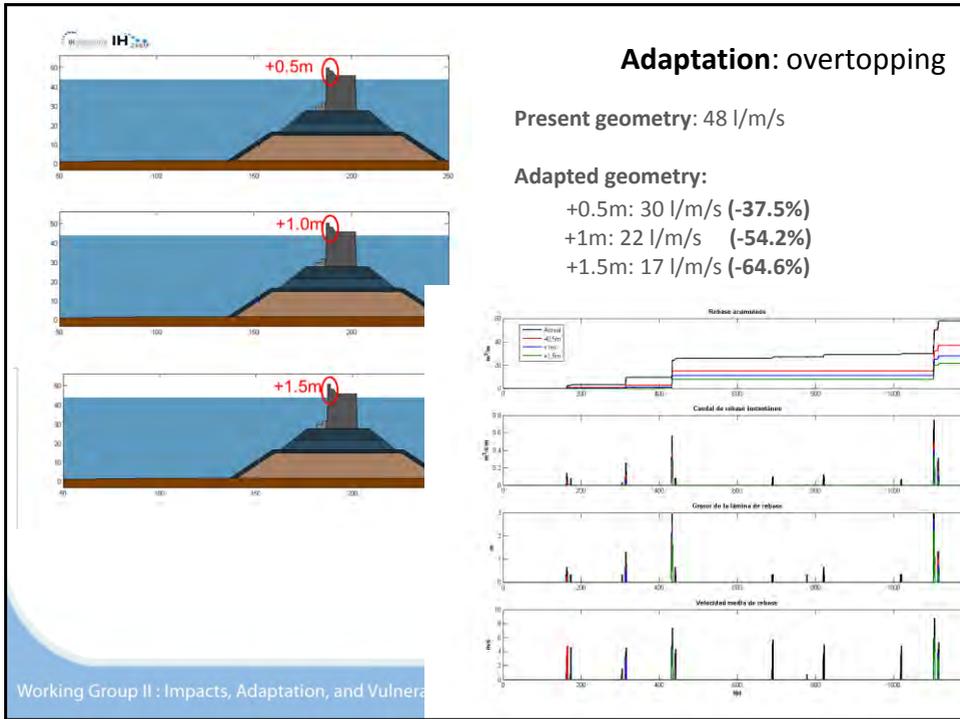


Fig. 2. Concepts of upgrading in which an increase in crest level is not acceptable.





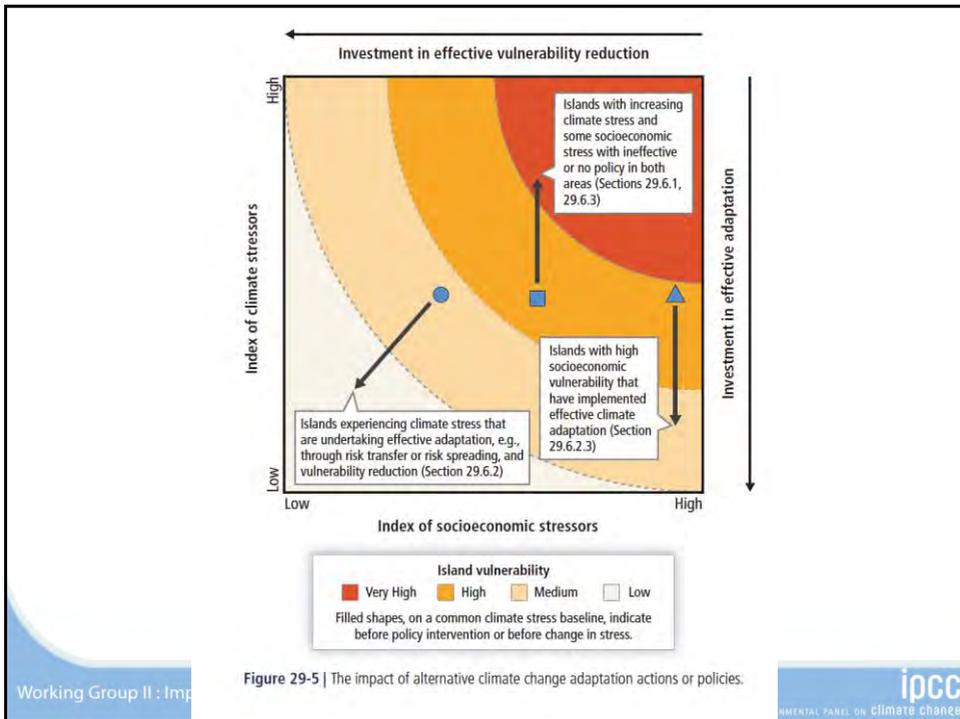
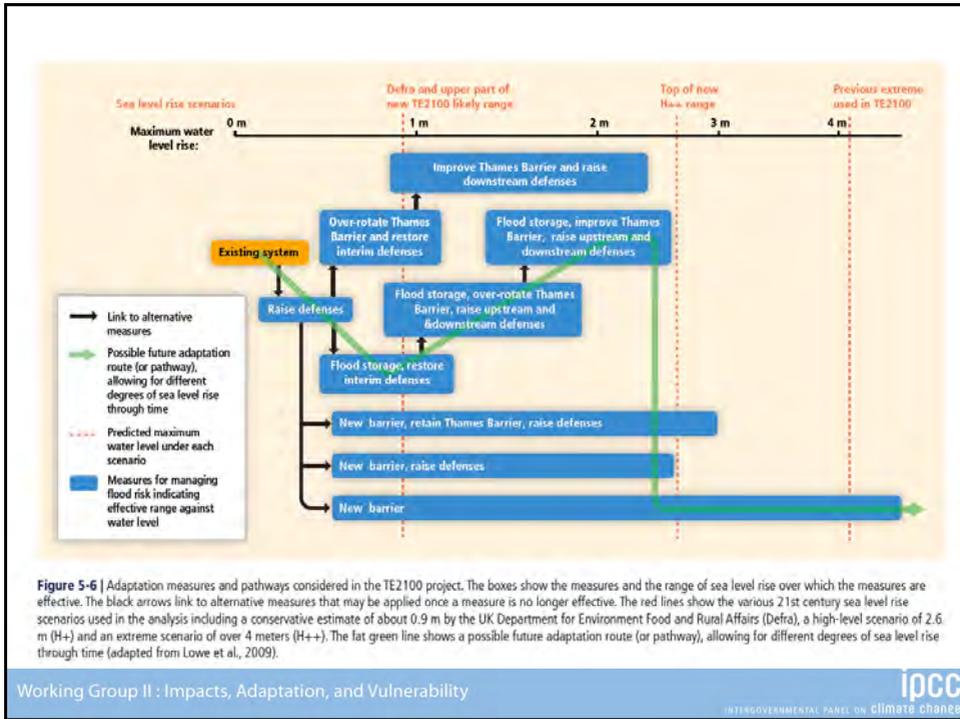


Table 29-4 | Selected key risks and potential for adaptation for small islands from the present day to the long term.

Climate-related drivers of impacts								Level of risk & potential for adaptation	
Key risk	Adaptation issues & prospects			Climatic drivers	Timeframe	Risk & potential for adaptation			
Loss of livelihoods, coastal settlements, infrastructure, ecosystem services, and economic stability (high confidence) [29.6, 29.8, Figure 29-4]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant potential exists for adaptation in islands, but additional external resources and technologies will enhance response. Maintenance and enhancement of ecosystem functions and services and of water and food security Efficacy of traditional community coping strategies is expected to be substantially reduced in the future. 				Present Near term (2030–2040) Long term 2°C (2080–2100) 4°C		Very low Medium Very high		
Decline and possible loss of coral reef ecosystems in small islands through thermal stress (high confidence) [29.3.1.2]	Limited coral reef adaptation responses; however, minimizing the negative impact of anthropogenic stresses (i.e. water quality change, destructive fishing practices) may increase resilience.				Present Near term (2030–2040) Long term 2°C (2080–2100) 4°C		Very low Medium Very high		
The interaction of rising global mean sea level in the 21st century with high-water-level events will threaten low-lying coastal areas (high confidence) [29.4, Table 29-1; WGI AR5 13.5, Table 13.5]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High ratio of coastal area to land mass will make adaptation a significant financial and resource challenge for islands. Adaptation options include maintenance and restoration of coastal landforms and ecosystems, improved management of soils and freshwater resources, and appropriate building codes and settlement patterns. 				Present Near term (2030–2040) Long term 2°C (2080–2100) 4°C		Very low Medium Very high		

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CONCLUSIONS

Adaptation in SIDS starts with promoting quantitative and integrated assessments of climate change and climate variability risks together with long-term observations

Adaptation can be undertaken by reducing socioeconomic vulnerabilities, building adaptive capacity, enhancing disaster risk reduction or building longer term climate resilience

Adaptation to climate change generates larger benefit to small islands when delivered in conjunction with other development activities, such as disaster risk reduction and community-based approaches to development (medium confidence).

The ability of small islands to undertake adaptation and mitigation programs, and their effectiveness, can be substantially strengthened through appropriate assistance from the international community (medium confidence).

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Risk reduction and adaptation to climate change in Small Island Developing States

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Universidad de Cantabria

November, 25 2014




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Table 29-3 | Types of island in the Pacific region and implications for hydro-meteorological hazards (after Campbell, 2009).

Island type and size		Island elevation, slope, rainfall	Implications for hazard
Continental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large • High biodiversity • Well-developed soils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High elevations • River flood plains • Orographic rainfall 	River flooding more likely to be a problem than in other island types. In Papua New Guinea, high elevations expose areas to frost (extreme during El Niño).
Volcanic high islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relatively small land area • Barrier reefs • Different stages of erosion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep slopes • Less well-developed river systems • Orographic rainfall 	Because of size, low areas are not exposed to tropical cyclones. Streams and rivers are subject to flash flooding. Barrier reefs may ameliorate storm surge.
Atolls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very small land area • Small islets surround a lagoon • Larger islets on windward side • Shore platform on windward side • No or minimal soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very low elevations • Convictional rainfall • No surface (fresh) water • Ghyben-Herzberg (freshwater) lens 	Exposed to storm surge, "king" tides, and high waves. Narrow resource base. Exposed to freshwater shortages and drought. Water problems may lead to health hazards.
Raised limestone islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concave inner basin • Narrow coastal plains • No or minimal soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steep outer slopes • Sharp karst topography • No surface water 	Depending on height, may be exposed to storm surge. Exposed to freshwater shortages and drought. Water problems may lead to health hazards.

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