

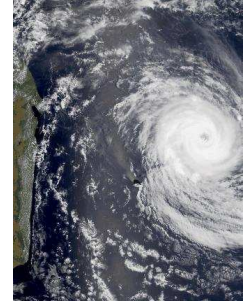
## ADAPTATION IN MAURITIUS: ASSESSING THE ROLE OF INSTITUTIONS IN PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE



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## Agenda

- Climate change impacts in Mauritius
- Managing Adaptation
- Research methodology
- Preliminary findings
- Conclusion, discussion questions



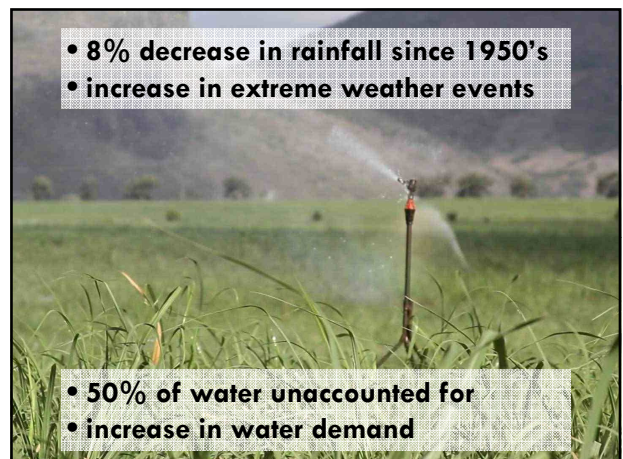
**Major coral bleaching observed in  
1998, 2004, 2009**



**21 beaches currently experiencing erosion  
(23% of Mauritian beaches), 22 sites  
recently experienced surges/flooding**



**26km of beach, 37km of  
coastal road projected lost  
from 1m rise in sea level**



- 8% decrease in rainfall since 1950's
- increase in extreme weather events

- 50% of water unaccounted for
- increase in water demand

## Managing Adaptation

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- Challenges of managing climate change adaptation
  - Metrics less clear than mitigation (i.e. CO<sub>2</sub>e)
  - Dealing with uncertainty
  - Many problems likely incremental, long-term
  - Responsibilities cut across many ministries, organizations
- At the national level, it requires consideration of:
  - activities that can exacerbate climate change impacts
  - activities that can build resilience
  - ecosystem services and populations impacted by climate change
  - measuring and projecting impacts
- Mainstreaming: Africa Adaptation Programme

## Relevant Ministries

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- Prime Minister's Office
- Environment & Sustainable Development
- Finance & Economic Development
- Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade
- Fisheries and Rodrigues
- Energy and Public Utilities
- Agro Industry and Food Security
- Tertiary Education, Science Research and Technology
- Education and Human Services
- Local Government & Outer Islands
- Tourism and Leisure
- Housing and Lands
- Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport & Shipping

## Research Methodology

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- Research laws, policies, reports, etc related to adaptation
  - [www.gov.mu/portal/sites/legaldb/index.htm](http://www.gov.mu/portal/sites/legaldb/index.htm)
- 12 Interviews With Key Stakeholders
  - United Nations Development Program
  - University of Mauritius
  - Mauritius Meteorological Services
  - Mauritian Wildlife Foundation, International Organization for Migration, and other NGOs
  - Government consultants on budget and climate change
- Next Step... complete interviews, compare against other countries

## ARIA Tool

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- Adaptation – Rapid Institutional Analysis (ARIA) tool, developed by World Resources Institute (pilot phase)
- Five Categories of Analysis
  - Vulnerability and Impacts Assessment
  - Long-term Planning and Prioritization
  - Coordination
  - Information Management (Gathering, Analysis, Dissemination)
  - Climate Risk Reduction
- Examined for comprehensiveness, transparency & participation, institutional capacity, and accountability

## Assessment: Preliminary Findings

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- National vulnerability and impacts assessment
  - Top-down exercise not really coordinated with community-based assessments
  - Socioeconomic data beginning to get incorporated
  - Broad set of stakeholders engaged
  - Respondents: skills and time the main issue, not budget
- No comprehensive inventory of adaptation activities
- Assessments generally publicly available

## Prioritization/Planning: Preliminary Findings

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- No documented decision of adaptation priorities
- No systematic approach to prioritization
- Transparency: government funds and priorities
- Skills: Project management, adaptation knowledge necessary
- Programme-Based Budgeting
  - 3-year planning framework
  - Links public funds to outputs and outcomes

## Coordination: Preliminary Findings

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- Primary coordinating body: Climate Change Adaptation Unit in Ministry of Environment's Climate Change Office
- Government structure requires champion in Prime Minister's office and Finance Ministry
- Appears to be broad stakeholder engagement across Government, but not with public and civil society
- A lot of committees, but few coordinated activities
- Good coordination internationally
- Stakeholders avoid stepping on toes, raising hands

## Information Mgmt: Preliminary Findings

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- Climate data undergoes international peer review
- Analysis
  - Budget not an issue in developing 2<sup>nd</sup> National Communication
  - UNFCCC climate modeling recommendations used
  - Need skills for downscaling and projecting localized effects, incorporating socioeconomic data
  - Data exists, but not enough analysis
- Information Dissemination
  - Agricultural Research Extension Unit (AREU) SMS system for farmer outreach
  - System for notifying fishers of bad weather
  - How to better engage general public?

## Climate Risk Reduction



## Conclusion, Discussion Questions

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- How to incorporate adaptation into existing funds (e.g. Maurice Ile Durable Fund, Tourism Fund) or new adaptation fund?
- How to get the most out of Environmental Impact Assessments?
- How do engage and sensitize public on climate change?
- How do you better train government officials on adaptation?
- How to improve standards or procedures for strategy or project development?
- How to integrate top-down and bottom-up assessments & project implementation?
- What's the best model for coordination across key institutions?

## Thank You!

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[www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQli7HJdnU8](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OQli7HJdnU8)  
[www.wri.org/project/vulnerability-and-adaptation](http://www.wri.org/project/vulnerability-and-adaptation)  
[http://us.fulbrightonline.org/program\\_country.html?id=69](http://us.fulbrightonline.org/program_country.html?id=69)

## Mainstreaming Adaptation Diagram

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