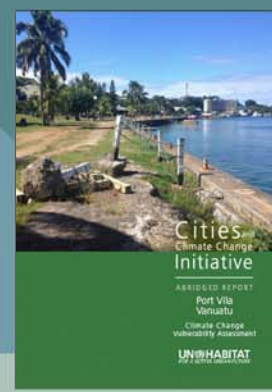
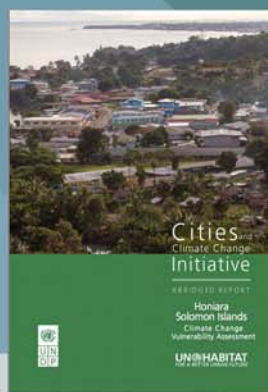
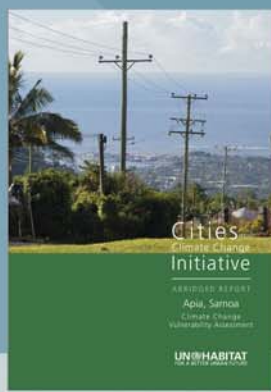
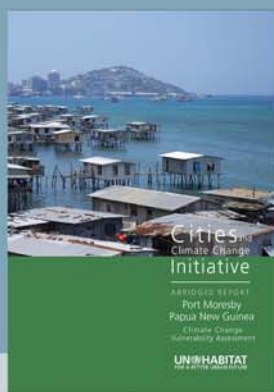
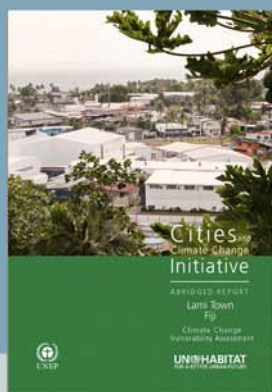


CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS FOR CITIES IN THE PACIFIC



<http://unhabitat.org/urban-initiatives/cities-and-climate-change-initiative/>

The Cities and Climate Change Initiative (CCCI) enhances the adaptive capacities and responsiveness of local governments to the challenges of climate change. It achieves this by supporting and promoting stronger governance structures, civil society participation, innovative financing mechanisms and sustainable construction, as well as designing and implementing targeted strategies and action plans. In partnership with Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, the long-term goal of the CCCI in the Pacific is to support Pacific Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in building their climate change adaptation and mitigation capacities through improved urban management and a range of proven good practices.

Update!

The recently published Honiara, Solomon Islands - Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment highlights the city's hazards, sensitivity and adaptive capacity, assisting key actors to develop the city council's disaster response plan. This has helped strengthen its disaster preparedness and management capacity to address its long-term resilience, as recommended in the assessment. This was triggered after floods in April 2014 destroyed 675 houses, internally displaced 10,000 people and devastated parts of Guadalcanal province in the Solomon Islands.

Update!

The 2014 Shelter Academy organized by UN-Habitat and ARCADIS from 1 - 4 September in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, had for its theme "Adapting and Mitigating Climate Change: Options for Cities". One of its representatives, Ms. Selaima Maitoga, acting CEO for Lami Town Council, discussed their intention to incorporate maps of areas susceptible to flooding, coastal erosion and landslides, with respective adaptation and mitigation provisions, into the Lami Town Planning Scheme which is due for revision in 2015. The recently published Lami Town, Fiji - Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment provided all the necessary data and analysis to support this process.

Update!

The Apia Climate Vulnerability Assessment addresses Apia's climate change situation from a climate risk perspective that focuses on exposure to climate change hazards, socio-economic sensitivities and the adaptive capacities of the city and its stakeholders. The Planning and Urban Management Agency in Samoa is using the Apia Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment to inform the Samoa City Development Strategy (CDS) defined in the four priority areas of their economic, social, infrastructure and environmental sectors with outputs expected to make positive contribution to the quality of life of urban dwellers and at a broader level, contribute to Samoa's achievements of the MDGs. The Apia Vulnerability Assessment was launched by the Minister of Natural Resources and Environment in December, 2014.



Cities^{and} Climate Change Initiative PACIFIC

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Honiara

Update!

Following completion of the Honiara Vulnerability Assessment Report, CCCI is moving into the next phase of the city's climate change planning. In December 2014, a joint team of climate adaptation and flood engineering experts from RMIT University and ARCADIS were hosted by UN-Habitat, and the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey. Their remit was to examine damage and recovery following severe flash flooding events earlier that year and scope out potential adaptation options to be prioritized in 2015.

Preliminary stakeholder consultations and site examinations confirmed the findings of the CCCI Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment (VAA), which mapped closely to the areas affected by flash flooding in April 2014. As noted by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Survey, a key focus of the ongoing work will be informing the wider community of these risks. While resourcing in government departments for planning around high risk areas remains limited, the VAA is already being used to inform the revision of a local planning scheme, with opportunities for further legislative and planning measures part of ongoing discussions with local government and council representatives.

An extensive transect walk was conducted by the team through one of the most vulnerable informal settlements in Kola'a, on the southern edge of central Honiara, with a focus on water and sanitation options. The need for local information dissemination clarifying climate and non-climate impacts was also identified, with potential community engagement activities scoped with local community leaders. The RMIT University team will be returning to Honiara in 2015 to focus on building the knowledge and capacity of both the community and the newly-appointed Honiara City Council to respond to climate risks, as well as scoping potential adaptation actions based on stakeholder objectives and priorities.



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Update!

Port Vila

A final round of stakeholder consultations on the Port Vila Climate VAA has been completed, having been positively received by the Port Vila Municipal Council Town Clerk, the National Disaster Management Office, SHEFA Provincial Council and representatives of the NGO community. It is intended that the full report will be put to the National Advisory Board for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction early in 2015 prior to its release.

Extensive mapping of socio-economic data across the city - a key factor in determining sensitivity to climate impacts - was positively received by all stakeholders, and will allow newly established ward councils to better understand both climate and non-climate changes and stressors across the city.

RMIT University researchers discussed options for creating broader community awareness about the report's findings through Wan Smolbag Theatre - a local NGO highly active in the informal settlements to the north of the city.



http://www.fukuoka.unhabitat.org/programmes/ccci/index_en.htm

<http://unhabitat.org/urban-initiatives/cities-and-climate-change-initiative/>