



Whole of Island Approach

Objective: Increase capacities of communities to cope with impacts of climate change and hazards for sustainable development



Climate change & hazards are impacting all sectors and livelihoods



A range of partners support joint efforts to enhance coordination, collaboration & learning



SPREP
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme



SPC
Secretariat
of the Pacific
Community

giz



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



german
cooperation
DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT



USP
PACIFIC CENTRE FOR
ENVIRONMENT AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- The Whole of Island partnership is open to new partners -

Whole of Island Approach

Objective: To increase capacities of communities to cope with impacts of climate change and hazards for sustainable development

In 2011, the Government of Kiribati (GoK) requested new regional climate change programs to support communities on outer islands in their efforts to:

- 1) adapt to the adverse impacts of climatic changes and variability and;
- 2) to strengthen the islands' response capacities to man-made and natural hazards with a holistic and integrated approach.

Instead of focussing on only selected villages or single sectors, the Whole of Island Approach targets the whole island ecosystem, communities and governance structures whilst also considering its relationships with the national government and partners. Climate change and disaster risks must be dealt with in the context of local development. Actions towards increasing resilience should become integral part of local development plans that multiple partners support in its implementation and monitoring. The ownership of this plan is with the respective Island Councils. The coordination is supported by the new Kiribati Joint Implementation Plan (KJIP) Secretariat and the Kiribati National Expert Group on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (KNEG).

With this, the Government of Kiribati wishes to get beyond 'project by project' approaches towards a better coordinated, informed and more programmatic approach for the benefit of the i-Kiribati people and a more effective use of donor assistance.

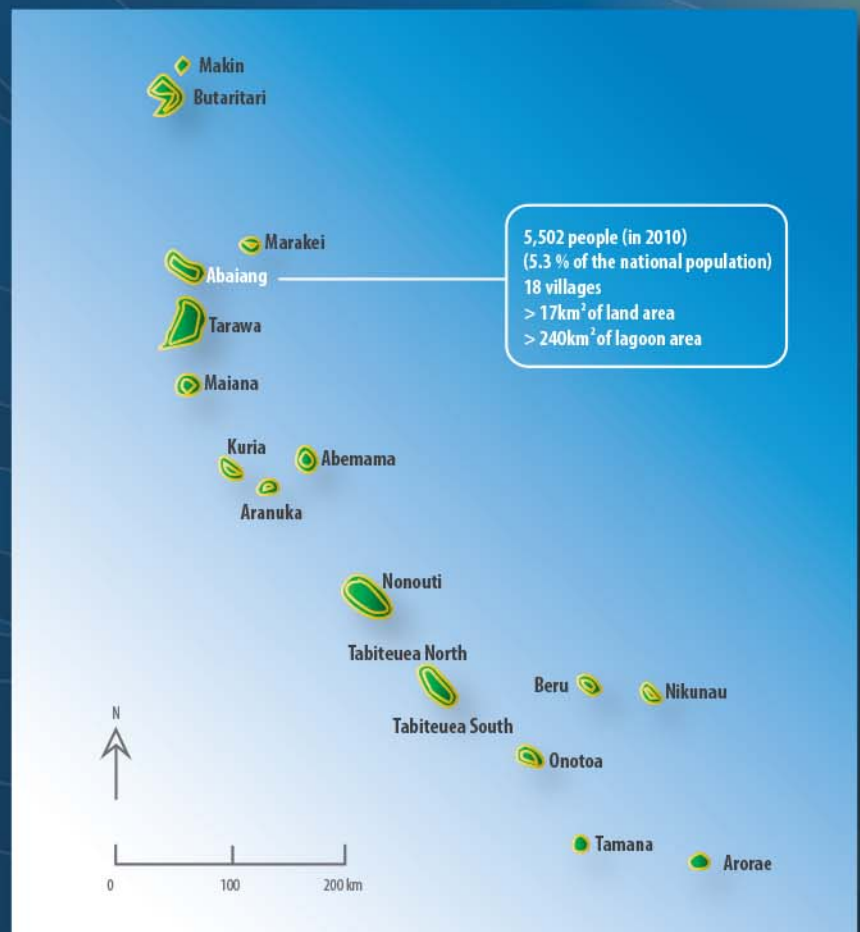
Abaiang Atoll

The Whole of Island Approach, site selection criteria and the development of an integrated vulnerability assessment were approved by Cabinet in August 2013.

The following criteria were utilised to compare vulnerability among outer islands:

1. Decreased household accessibility to food crops and livestock
2. High dependency on fishing
3. Low average sustainable ground water yield per capita
4. High incidence of diarrhoea
5. High extent (length) of coastal erosion
6. High biodiversity value

Abaiang and Tabiteuea North were then selected by the Cabinet out of the atolls determined 'most vulnerable'. The Whole of Island approach is first being applied in Abaiang and resources are now being sought for implementation in Tabiteuea North.



Partners in Abaiang

With the guidance of the Government of Kiribati, so far the following programs have now come together to support Abaiang in achieving its development priorities in relation to climate change adaptation and disaster risk management under the Whole of Island approach:

Program	Focus areas in Kiribati	Focus area on Abaiang	Duration
SPC/USAID Vegetation and Land Cover Mapping and Improving Food Security for Building Resilience to a Changing Climate in Pacific Island Communities	Agriculture, Livestock, GIS (development of Whole of Island Approach)	Integrated vulnerability assessment, development & adaptation planning, agriculture, livestock, GIS	2012-2014
SPC/GIZ Coping with Climate Change in the Pacific Island Region (CCCPIR); on behalf of BMZ (German Development Cooperation)	Strategy development (KJIP, development of Whole of Island Approach), Good Governance, Education, Energy, Fisheries, Livestock	Integrated vulnerability assessment, development & adaptation planning, education, fisheries	2011-2015
KIRIBATI/SPREP/USAID Climate Change Adaptation Partnership	Water (development of Whole of Island Approach)	Integrated vulnerability assessment, development & adaptation planning, water	2012-2015
SPC/SOPAC EU African Caribbean Pacific Natural Disaster Facility	Disaster preparedness & response, Strategy development (KJIP, NDRMP)	Integrated vulnerability assessment, disaster preparedness & response	2013-2016
SPC/Ausaid International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative: Building resilience in fisheries, agriculture and health. Implemented by SPC and funded by the Australian Agency for International Development (ICCAI) Project	Food Security (resilient crops, fisheries)	Climate ready crop collection	2012-2013
SPC/Global Climate Change Alliance (EU): Pacific Small Island States (SPC GCCA: PSIS)	Health (national & local level), Public Finance Management, Communication & Coordination (national level)	Implementation of selected health & climate change related measures	2012-2015
SPC/IFAD POETCOM Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community	Organic Farming	Organic Farming	2012-2014
USP EU Global Climate Change Alliance (USP PACE SD GCCA)	Community Engagement and Applied Research in Climate Change, Training	Vulnerability assessment, planning, rainwater harvesting and good governance in the village of Ewena	2010-2014
Coastal Communities Adaptation Program (USAID / C -CAP) funded by the United States Agency for International Development, (USAID)	Community level: Climate change vulnerable infrastructure (risk assessments & cataloguing & prioritization)	Community-based infrastructure projects identified by the Infrastructure Prioritization Index (IPI) in Borotiam, Ewena and Taniau. (Tebwanga)	2014-2017

There are also a range of further programs under implementation in Abaiang that are not necessarily operating through the Whole of Island Approach, but welcomed to join in.

Progress in 2013

September, 2013 - Integrated Vulnerability and Adaptation Assessment

- A team of over 30 KNEG representatives & partners undertake the integrated vulnerability assessment in Abaiang, based on the sustainable livelihoods approach.
- Participatory rural appraisals conducted in 8 villages (divided into women, men and youth groups)
- 10% of all households surveyed across all 18 villages, lead by the National Statistics Office.
- Sector specific surveys undertaken for agriculture, governance, fisheries, water and education.



Abaiang key findings

Quick facts:

Latitude (DMS): 1° 51' 29.62" N

Longitude (DMS): 172° 56' 28.58" E

Lagoon: 240 square kilometres & barrier reef on western side

Land area: 17 square kms. Atoll lengths: 37 kms

Population: 5,502 (2010) in 926 households, fourth largest population of any atoll in Kiribati, 14 villages & two separate high school locations (Tabwiroa and Morikao)

Key local authority: Abaiang Island Council

Sources of income: traditional subsistence lifestyles, based on fishing and agriculture. Cash income from copra sales, seaweed, sea cucumber and arc shell as well as handicrafts. The main employers are the Island Councils and schools.

Communities are experiencing

- Increase in hot days and cold nights
- Decrease in wet season rainfall and general unpredictability of rainfall
- Increase in coastal erosion
- Increased seawater intrusion and brackish groundwater
- Increase in frequency of droughts
- Fruits are becoming smaller
- Fish are spawning out of season and corals are bleaching
- Increase in cases of diarrhoea

Science furthermore observes and predicts:

- Increase in sea-level rise
- Increase in temperatures
- Increase in ocean acidification
- Substantial variation in rainfall from year to year & associated droughts
- Increase in extremes
- Very poor soil fertility

Full outcomes of the Abaiang Assessment will be available upon publication of the Joint IVA Report in 2014.

November, 2013 - Abaiang Participatory Planning Workshop

- Results of the integrated vulnerability assessment are presented and verified by the Island Council, the Island Development Committee and community representatives.
Over 168 Abaiang residents attend the week long workshop, facilitated by 18 representatives of the KNEG & partners.
- The Island Development Committee is confirmed to become the steering mechanism for programs focussing on climate and disaster risk reduction
- Community representatives review and define their development vision, mission and objectives and an action plan to be incorporated into the 2014-2017 Abaiang Island Council Strategic Plan.
- The Abaiang Council approves the Strategic Plan in a special meeting.



2014-2017 Abaiang Island Council Strategic Plan.

Vision: Abaiang, land of progress today for a sustainable future.

Working hand in hand with the communities, central government and partners will result in and improve the Council's efforts to bring prosperity and security to its people through sustainable economic, social and environmental development. This will focus on education, health, economic development, conservation and management of the environment and natural resources, application of organic principles, protection of women, children and people living with disabilities, preservation of culture and other key priorities in the face of climate change.

Objective 1	Objective 2	Objective 3	Objective 4	Objective 5	Objective 6
To ensure healthy and secure communities	To improve food and water security on the island	To strengthen good governance, socio-economic conditions and services on the island	To improve livelihoods through the sustainable utilization of terrestrial and marine resources and the environment	To preserve the traditional knowledge, cultural values and practices of our people and our island	To enhance formal and community education and to support youth, women and people living with disabilities and sports programmes

Climate change adaptation, sustainable energy and disaster risk management considerations are incorporated across all underlying 15 strategies.

Implementation to 2016 and beyond

Implementation activities have now begun: Two fish aggregating devices are deployed to increase access to pelagic fish for communities; locally produced organic cocosap sugar has been rated highest quality; new bylaws to regulate community based fisheries management have been written; coastal zones management areas and organic certification are in development.

The next steps on Abaiang, among others are:

- To complete the Abaiang Action Plan by
- developing an Monitoring and Evaluation Framework;
- establishing indicative costs for all actions; and
- inserting sub-actions by inviting all partners of Abaiang to share what they do
- To build capacities of the Island Development Committee and Island Council to boost their leadership and coordination role in the longer term
- To assess fisheries resources, install water tanks in selected villages and rain gauges in secondary schools, establish community nurseries, develop health & climate change awareness materials and train teachers.

For the Whole of Island Approach, the next steps are:

- To promote it among all partners;
- To conduct a joint integrated vulnerability assessment on Tabiteuea North;
- To develop a partnership agreement among all partners; and
- To assist the National Statistics Office in the establishment of an integrated Whole of Island data base

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