



# SEA-LEVEL RISE MAPPING

*An eye-opener for a Solomon Islands community*

**W**hen it comes to understanding climate change, a map can speak more than a thousand words. That was the case in one village in the Solomon Islands, where a recent training on sea level rise mapping showed community members first-hand some of the changes they can expect to see on their small farms.



# SEA-LEVEL RISE MAPPING

Eighty percent of people in the Solomon Islands live in rural areas and are prone to climate change impacts such as flooding, higher tides and more intense storms. Climate change has also put further stress on the already limited food supply of the country.

With UNDP support and funding through the Adaptation Fund, a project called StrongemWaka lo CommunityfoKaikai (SWoCK), aims to strengthen the ability of communities in Solomon Islands to manage the climate change-driven pressures on local food production and build their resilience. By training SWoCK project coordinators and community members to map and interpret sea level rise, the challenge of climate change can be put into perspective and this can help to point out some of the necessary changes in farming practices and planning.

Using lasers and a detector to measure the height of the village setting above the rising high water mark, some attendees described the training as an “eye-opener.” In a country with very few trained land-use planners, this kind of community-based training and mapping is essential to help people make informed decisions about where to plant, when, and what techniques to use.



The SWoCK project is funded through the Adaptation Fund for the period of 2010-2014, implemented through the United Nations Development Programme and executed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, Disaster Management and Meteorology of the Solomon Islands. In addition to the introduction of climate resilient crop varieties and enhanced farming systems, the project also supports a range of other practical adaptation measures, including climate-resilient land-use planning, and climate early-warning and information systems

*For more information on the project, please visit the UNDP-ALM SWoCK Project Profile.*



## UNDP CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Adaptation-undp.org is UNDP’s knowledge-sharing platform, highlighting UNDP’s support to countries on climate change adaptation.

For UNDP, adaptation to climate change means climate-resilient economic development and sustainable livelihoods, especially for vulnerable populations - the poor, women, and indigenous peoples. UNDP supports these goals by assisting over 90 countries to integrate current and future climate risks and uncertainties into national and sub-national development efforts.



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