

**Workshop Proceedings  
Many Strong Voices Stakeholder Workshop**

**27-30 May 2007  
Best Western Biltmore Plaza  
Belize City, Belize**



*This document offers summaries of presentations and discussions held during the workshop. For full speeches and PowerPoint presentations, please see <http://www.manystrongvoices.org>.*

Acknowledgements

UNEP/GRID-Arendal, CICERO and the OAS Department of Sustainable Development would like thank Dr. Kenrick Leslie, Maryann Sutherland, Ethlyn Valladares and the rest of the staff at the CARICOM Climate Change Centre for their hard work in setting up and hosting the MSV workshop.

The organizers would also like to thank the Norwegian Ministry of Environment, the U.S. National Science Foundation, and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for their financial support.

**Day 1 Sunday 27 May**  
*Field trips: climate change impacts and vulnerability in Belize*

**Marine trip**

A marine tour took participants to San Pedro, a town on Ambergris Caye, the largest offshore caye (island) in Belize. The caye is in the heart of tourism activity, but is highly vulnerable to storms due to its location practically on the barrier reef itself. In addition, extensive development on the caye has resulted in the loss of many natural protection features such as mangrove forests. Just outside of San Pedro, participants visited the Consolidated Water Belize Limited desalination plant, which residents of the caye depend upon for a potable water supply.

On the way to San Pedro, participants passed by Caye Chapel, a privately owned island which has been extensively developed as a golf course and resort, removing many of its natural protection features. Sea walls are present on the edges of the island but constantly require replacement. Participants also passed by Caye Caulker and viewed “The Split”, a waterway splitting the north and south ends of the island. According to locals, “The Split” was created in 1961 by Hurricane Hattie and is evidence of the vulnerability of Belize’s islands.

**Inland trip**

This tour took participants across the entire width of the country and exposed them to a transect that changed from the low-lying coastal area at sea-level, into low rolling hills, then into the western part of the country with pine and broadleaf forests. Participants visited Xunantunich, one of the largest Mayan sites in the country, before observing the damage wrought by Southern Pine bark beetles in a natural pine forest that previously generated considerable employment and income for the country.

In the evening, participants enjoyed a reception at the hotel, with a presentation by Albert Binger on the importance of renewable energy to the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Highlights are given below.

**Sustainable Development in SIDS: the Energy Challenge** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Albert Binger, Advisor to the Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre*

- Energy is important for quality of life, and SIDS are highly dependent on imported petroleum.
- Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC), an energy technology that uses the ocean's natural thermal gradient, has potential as a renewable energy source for SIDS.
- Sugarcane crops could be more profitably sold as an energy source than as a sugar.

**Day 2 Monday 28 May**  
*Perspectives on Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Needs*

The focus of Day 2 of the workshop was on the latest work on vulnerability and adaptation in the Arctic and SIDS. Participants discussed key vulnerability and adaptation issues in their regions that could inform the development of the Many Strong Voices programme.

Morning Chair: Cletus Springer, Department of Sustainable Development, Organization of American States
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**Welcome and Introduction**

*Joan Eamer, UNEP/GRID-Arendal*

*Grete Hovelsrud, CICERO*

- There is a growing recognition that some regions of the world are more vulnerable than others to the present and imminent impacts of climate change.
- Many Strong Voices was launched at Arctic Day at COP 11 in December 2005. A planning meeting was then held in Ottawa in March 2006, at which a Steering Committee was formed, the programme document was prepared, and the decision was made to have this workshop. After some funding delays, we received funding from the Norwegian government, as well as from the National Science Foundation and in-kind support, to cover expenses for a first year of activities which include this workshop.
- We should now develop ideas based on the programme document from the Ottawa meeting, but with a sharper focus and potential for further funding.

**Opening Address** [[Statement](#)]

*The Honourable John Briceño, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment, Government of Belize*

- Minister Briceño lends his support to this important undertaking.
- This is a timely meeting, as it occurs during a period of unusually high hurricane activity, due to a combination of natural variability and global warming. Also, two weeks ago, the Caribbean Community and the Ministers of Central America called for a high level meeting on climate change impacts and needs, showing that they take this issue very seriously.
- We must continue to pressure developed countries but also large developing countries like China and India to curb their emissions.
- The issues of outreach and education and the science behind climate change are very important, and it is commendable that these issues are on the MSV agenda.
- The reality and immediacy of SIDS vulnerabilities need to be communicated and should not be diluted by the new celebrity attention to climate change.

Let us resolve therefore to ensure that our many voices be heard loudly in every forum, insisting that we are the most vulnerable and that we need action now not tomorrow.
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*The Honourable John Briceño*

**Keynote Addresses**

**“Climate Change in the SIDS”**

*Kenrick R. Leslie, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre*

- A 2°C global temperature rise would have serious detrimental effects on SIDS – we need to lobby for better/deeper reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
- King tides, which are now occurring more often, are an example of an impact of climate change on SIDS. In 1992 a king tide submerged the Tuvalu islands, reaching up to 4.5 meters.
- Adaptation is essential for coping with the current and future impacts of climate change. The Caribbean has adopted the IPCC’s recommended three stages of adaptation for developing countries. The first two stages are being accomplished through 2 GEF projects and 1 CIDA project started in the late 1990s. They are now in the early stage of implementing stage three.
- It must be recognized that SIDS are vulnerable – the cost of adaptation is high relative to GDP. They are vulnerable to changes in rainfall, sea-level rise and rise in surface temperature, which cause damage to infrastructure, coral reefs, and mangrove forests.
- The main emitters are failing to fulfill their Official Development Assistance commitments, which makes it harder for SIDS to allocate resources for adaptation.
- Advocacy groups from 1995 onwards have highlighted the lack of action on the Barbados Plan of Action – there is a need for a communication and outreach strategy as outlined in the MSV programme document. There is a need for a comprehensive sustainable development plan in the SIDS.
- Partnerships between the private sector, civil society, governments and academia are important.



**“The Arctic- Indicator of Global Change”** [[Presentation](#)]

*Patricia Cochran, Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)*

- ICC is a permanent participant to the Arctic Council, and has a seat on the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
- Climate change is a reality that is lived with everyday in the Arctic.
- Examples of climate change impacts:
  - Coastal erosion of up to 100 feet per year, for example in Shishmaref, Alaska, where several houses have fallen into the sea, and sea water has already contaminated the drinking water.
  - Melting of ice cellars used as food storage.
  - New species of animals.
  - Onslaught of mosquitoes and blackflies.
  - Storms come more often – e.g. “200 year storms” now come almost every year.
- Examples of predicted future impacts:
  - Ice-free Arctic in summer by 2070, possibly sooner.
  - Transformation of ecosystems.
- The Arctic is far away and few people live there, yet it is important in the debate on how to deal with climate change because it acts as a harbinger for things to come globally.

Climate change is not just a theory to us in the Arctic; it is a stark and dangerous reality.

*Patricia Cochran*

- What can 155 000 Inuit do about climate change? Refuse to play role of powerless victims – we are not helpless, but are resilient on the front-line of global environmental changes.
- Climate change is a human issue, and needs to be presented as such to get our voices heard in the corridors of power.
- We are not asking for a backward step, but only to develop economies using *appropriate* technologies. Short-term economic interests must be balanced with long-term environmental needs.

### **The Latest Scientific Results and What they mean for Adaptation Planning**

#### **“Findings of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report – Implications for Adaptation in Small Vulnerable Communities”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Leonard Nurse, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, University of the West Indies*

- The key messages from the Fourth Assessment Report of the IPCC are that warming is now unequivocal, and changes can be attributed to *anthropogenic* greenhouse gas emissions as opposed to just greenhouse gas emissions as stated in the Third Assessment Report.
- The 100 year linear trend in temperature has increased to 0.74 °C (from 0.6 °C in the Third Assessment Report). Temperatures are rising faster with time. Land surface temperatures are rising faster than sea surface temperatures. There are widespread changes in extreme temperatures, based on observations of cold days and warm days.
- Changes in sea level and snow cover in the Northern Hemisphere have accelerated.
- Long-term changes have been observed in precipitation amounts, ocean salinity, wind patterns, and extreme weather events (including *intensity*, but not *frequency*, of tropical cyclones).
- Projected warming varies by region. Even an increase of 1.8 °C (best estimate for low scenario B1) by 2100 is not a trivial amount. For example, in the case of corals, only a 1 °C change is required for bleaching to occur.
- Decreases in precipitation are predicted in most sub-tropical regions; an increase in precipitation is predicted in the Arctic, followed by a decrease. Lapse time between successive extreme events is expected to decrease, as Patricia Cochran observed. Tracks of tropical storms are expected to move northwards.
- In the SIDS sea level rise will impact ecosystems. Climate change will also have human impacts, on tourism, agriculture (imports as well as exports), water availability, human health, and infrastructure. The concentration on a few industries/sectors in SIDS contributes to their vulnerability to climate change. For example, on islands such as St. Eustatius the main industry is scuba diving, and on Grenada nutmeg is the only important export.
- Adaptive capacity is uneven. For example, it is thought to be higher in the USA than in the SIDS (though Hurricane Katrina showed New Orleans to be an exception).

#### **“Arctic Adaptation Research Considerations and Challenges”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Grete Hovelsrud, CICERO*

- Arctic communities are highly adaptable but more vulnerable than before due to recent and rapid changes. A look at surface reflectivity illustrates why changes are faster in the Arctic. Changes have been found to be faster than previously thought.

- Changes in the Arctic include reduction in snow cover and changes in other snow qualities, retreat of sea ice, melting of ice caps and glaciers, reduction in river and lake ice thickness, sea level rise, and changes in ocean salinity.
- Some changes bring new economic opportunities, such as expansion of agriculture and new shipping routes. The impacts of these opportunities are not all beneficial.
- The Community Adaptation and Vulnerability in the Arctic Regions (CAVIAR) project is a good illustration of what we would like to do with the research component of MSV. CAVIAR is an International Polar Year project led by Grete Hovelsrud at CICERO and Barry Smit at the University of Guelph, Canada.
- There are lessons to be learned from CAVIAR. The project aims to fully integrate traditional and local knowledge. It takes a bottom-up and interdisciplinary approach in order to fully understand the problems identified by local communities. Local involvement in the research design and local consultation on choice of indicators is very important. Assessments and socioeconomic scenarios are designed to be comparable across the entire Arctic region.
- Policy relevant research is necessary, and MSV has potential in this area.
- There needs to be a focus on both adaptation and mitigation – the IPCC has made this clear.

### **Discussion Points**

- Acidification of the oceans negatively affects their capacity to serve as a carbon sink. The impact of rising ocean temperatures on the carbon sink capacity of the oceans is not presently discernable, though it may be an issue – it's a gap in research. The role of oceans as a carbon sink could be addressed in an IPCC special report, which may help to strengthen the bargaining position of SIDS.
- The IPCC only tracks published, peer-reviewed literature. There is much adaptation work around the world that does not yet qualify for inclusion in the IPCC reports that MSV can include.
- There is no systematic way for the IPCC to track literature- it is done through the knowledge of the authors and reviewers. Perhaps there should be a procedure whereby studies can be fed into the IPCC.
- A number of extreme events (e.g. high precipitation, droughts, increases in intensity of ENSO events) are now directly linked by the IPCC to long term climate change. Rainfall is harder to decipher than temperature signals. IPCC predicts an increased frequency of heavy precipitation events, more floods, and changes in rainfall distribution. There may not be a change in average annual precipitation amounts, but some models show that the duration of droughts will be much longer in some areas.
- The way to submit a request for an IPCC special report is through the plenary – the IPCC, as a group of scientists, does as it's told. The plenary are probably more amenable to a special report on vulnerable groups than one specifically on SIDS. The time to request a report is now – the sooner the better after release of the IPCC synthesis report. There are other ways of getting the research done, however, that reduce the political tensions associated with getting a formal adoption by the IPCC. The research does not have to be done through the IPCC – it can proceed if agreed upon by regional governments, as long as IPCC will take into account the results afterwards.

## Adaptation and Mitigation – Links to International Conventions

### “Progress on Adaptation under the UNFCCC” [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Paul Desanker, Capacity Building and Outreach Unit, UNFCCC Secretariat*

- The UNFCCC uses the IPCC as the main input into the policy process, though other sources can be used in a similar way.
- There are two main bodies under the UNFCCC. The Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) summarizes and builds on the science, but doesn't implement anything. The Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) looks after adaptation funds and implementation.
- The National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) under the SBI was designed in 2001 to enable Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to address their urgent and immediate needs for adaptation. 15 of the 49 LDCs are SIDS. Countries are getting support for NAPAs through GEF and bilaterally. The approach in NAPAs is similar to the research in Arctic communities presented to us here.
- The Nairobi Work programme on Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change (NWP) is the work programme for the SBSTA finalized at the last COP in Nairobi. Relevant organizations are one of the key stakeholder groups – organizations are urged to undertake their own activities in support of the objectives and to share the outcomes. There is a workshop on “Climate related risks and extreme events” (one of the nine focus areas of the NWP) in Egypt June 18-20 and a workshop in September (tbc) on “Adaptation planning and practices”. There is still opportunity to become involved.
- The 5-year New Delhi Work Programme on Article 6 (Education and Outreach) is also relevant. It will expire at the end of this year- they are currently sending out invitations to the last regional workshop for SIDS (St. Lucia, 4-6 July 2007). The Caricom Climate Change Centre could be a regional centre under Article 6 – under the article, country Focal Points can include regional centres on climate change.
- Given their early experiences in addressing climate change, contributions from SIDS are important in the SBSTA Nairobi WP, the NAPA under the SBI, and other areas such as Article 6, capacity-building, technology transfer, etc.

### “Links to other international convention processes” [\[Presentation\]](#)

*M.J. Mace, Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD)*

- Sometimes it's better to look at a different convention instead of the UNFCCC. Many other conventions have the same countries as parties – one can use these inter-linkages strategically and politically to raise the same issue in different forums. These linkages can also be used to get different scientific perspectives. Conventions are meant to be supportive but sometimes end up with conflicts due to different dynamics of each convention.
- The danger is of spreading our voices too thin.
- Adaptation commitments under the UNFCCC relate to other international conventions as well. There are also many conventions that relate to the impacts of climate change or in some cases to mitigation of climate change.
- Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) – the link between climate change and biodiversity is

There is a lot of room for raising SIDS/Arctic issues in a range of forums. Many countries are very aware of this range of opportunities, and SIDS should be as well.

*M.J. Mace*

stronger under this convention than under the UNFCCC. A variety of issues relating to climate change mitigation, adaptation, and vulnerability are being discussed. In general this convention is more scientific and less political, and things are easier due to the USA not being a party.

- CO<sub>2</sub> can be classed as a pollutant, and a lot of conventions, e.g. UNCLOS, London Protocol, SPREP Convention, impose obligations on countries if it is classified this way. This provides some political traction to deal with the US as it is a party to these conventions.
- There are also opportunities to address climate change issues under the Ramsar Convention on wetlands, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Montreal Protocol, the UNESCO Convention, and many others.
- It's important to note conflicts, e.g. between the Montreal Protocol and UNFCCC, but also to appreciate the synergies. There is a lot of room for raising SIDS/Arctic issues in a range of forums. Many countries are very aware of this range of opportunities, and SIDS should be as well. There is room for more coordination among SIDS, particularly with respect to environmental protection.

Afternoon Chair: Stephanie Meakin, Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada

### **What needs to be considered in developing an adaptation strategy?**

#### **“Caribbean Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation” [\[Presentation\]](#)**

*Neville Trotz, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre*

- The Barbados Programme of Action indicated that climate change was a high priority for the Caribbean, thus governments initiated a series of regional projects addressing climate change adaptation. The executing agency for these projects moved to the region starting with the ACCC project. Governments also agreed to a permanent centre for climate change, established in 2004.
- During the first project, CPACC, National Adaptation Policies were developed. The adaptation options identified for different sectors, e.g. water, tourism, under CPACC are interesting for MSV.
- The current project, MACC, takes a different approach to adaptation. It uses vigorous modelling to give more site-specific projections and regional climate models. It makes use of sectoral vulnerability assessments – particularly for agriculture and water. For vulnerability assessments, earlier guidelines from UNEP and the IPCC focusing on physical vulnerability were first used. We then crafted a new vulnerability assessment now used in studies. There is a need for more realistic models to use in work. The project also used sectoral impact models. In agriculture, there hasn't been wide use of sectoral models – this must be taught. In Belize, there was a focus on water impacts, in Barbados a focus on tourism.
- In the upcoming project, SPACC, the first component will be to design adaptation options that address biodiversity and land-use change. Component 2 will involve actually implementing adaptation. Component 3 will develop a framework to use the “ecosystem approach”.
- There are several initiatives to collaborate more closely with the disaster management community, which is very important.
- There is potential to collaborate with the Indian Ocean and Pacific SIDS. E.g. reaching a wider audience with the Masters program in climate change now existing in the

Caribbean. Also, the UN processes and GEF will never be able to mobilise the kind of funding needed to finance adaptation in SIDS, so we need to start thinking about how we ourselves can fund adaptation. E.g. propose a carbon levy on all air traffic, establish a Trust Fund for Adaptation in SIDS.

- Adaptation needs to be seen as a whole process of capacity building, not just the final product, when seeking funding. We need funding for the *process* of adaptation and not just the final *outcome*.

### **Arctic Considerations on Developing an Adaptation Strategy**

*Terry Fenge, Fenge Consulting, Ottawa*

- In network-building for MSV, probably the most important organization to engage in the Arctic is the Arctic Council. Established in 1996, it consists of the 8 Arctic nations and 6 indigenous organisations which participate as states, which is an interesting precedent. Four of these 6 “permanent participants” are represented here today.
- The Arctic needs allies to influence the global debate. For example, in the past, the Arctic has enlisted the help of SIDS and other non-Arctic states to raise Arctic issues at convention meetings. A good example of the Arctic influencing the global debate is the recognition of the Arctic in the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs), which was made possible through Arctic Council-sponsored POPs research in the 1990s and the use of Sheila Watt-Cloutier as a spokesperson.
- The Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA) was a regional assessment of climate change impacts, unique in that it attempted to integrate traditional knowledge. The changes described in ACIA form an important part of the growing number of stories about climate change in the Arctic, which should help in raising Arctic issues under the UNFCCC. Many climate change impacts in the Arctic are already breaching the fundamental mandate of UNFCCC, particularly with respect to access to food.
- In developing the five-year action plan, we should be thinking of big ticket items around which we can coalesce. We should attempt to attract big money and important influential people and not be pulled into administrative solutions.
  1. Amend the UNFCCC, based on the findings of ACIA and the fact that Arctic was not considered in its negotiation. The Arctic cannot bring this forward formally, but SIDS can because they are states.
  2. Use human rights as another set of instruments. Last year Inuit mounted a petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights regarding impacts of climate change.
  3. Consider environmental refugee issues – think in terms of mobility treaties. In Scandinavia, there is a draft treaty being negotiated regarding mobility rights of Sami that could be a source of information.
  4. Focus on governance – talking about adaptation is talking about the ability of governments to govern. In northern Canada, for example, there are some



dysfunctional institutions. To plan adaptation, we must increase the capabilities of the institutions that we already have.

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“The Capacity Building to enable the Development of Adaptation Measures in Pacific Island Countries (CBDAMPIC) Project Approach”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Taito Nakalevu, Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme*

- The Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme is an intergovernmental organization formed by Pacific Island countries.
- The CBDAMPIC project was funded by the government of Canada and ran from 2002-2005. It focused on empowering local actors to define adaptation solutions in four countries– Cook Islands, Fiji, Samoa, and Vanuatu, with the goals of mainstreaming climate change adaptation and increasing adaptive capacity.
- Community Vulnerability & Adaptation (CV&A) assessments were conducted, which were a new concept in 2002. SPREP trained Core Teams in CV&A, based on CV&A guidelines developed by SPREP. The Core Teams joined the already-existing National Climate Change Country teams at the community level. The original project design focused on modeling, but based on institutional objections this was revised. The assessments were conducted using a bottom-up approach – similar to the CAVIAR framework.
- Water emerged as a key issue in each of the four pilot sites.
- We are really scratching the surface – there is a need for more assessments and more data collection. In this project we tried not to work in isolation, but instead tried to get government officials together to discuss results. There is a debate about community-focused versus sectoral studies. Integrated community vulnerability assessments results into mainstreaming across sectors, but both methods have advantages.
- Some of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre’s work will be useful because of problems with modeling in the Pacific.



### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Estimating the Future Cost of Alaska Public Infrastructure at Risk to Climate Change”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Peter Larsen, Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage*

- This is the first attempt to quantify the vulnerabilities to climate change that Alaska may face.
- The temperature in Alaska has warmed very significantly in the last 50 years or so, and changes are projected to accelerate. Depending on the model, Alaska and Siberia are predicted to warm more and faster than any other places in the world.
- Thawing permafrost is one of the more costly effects. As far as coastal erosion and sea level rise, there is inundation in some places but retreat in others. Relocation is imminent in several coastal communities.

- We built a database showing classes of public infrastructure in the state. We conducted a lifecycle analysis to calculate additional public infrastructure replacement costs due to climate change, by taking into account a base scenario (given that infrastructure wears out anyway) and a climate change scenario on top of that. We then took the climate models and the database we made, and mapped the predicted impacts.
- We found that about 30% of additional costs due to climate change will go towards maintaining water and sewage structures. We added an adaptation algorithm to the model – once 20% of the value of a structure is lost due to climate change or extreme weather, people start making strategic decisions regarding adaptation.
- Putting a value on losses makes a case for action now, and this is a partial explanation for using the top-down, rather than a bottom-up, approach. Policymakers in the state aren't necessarily ready to act yet. They need this information before they can go to communities to verify.
- Uncertainty must also be discussed with policy makers, and should be addressed in this workshop.
- All numbers are given in net present values and real, not nominal, values. We used a 3% discount rate, which is conservative and defensible, unlike the discount rate used in the Stern report, 0.1%, which has been highly criticized.

Putting a value on losses makes a case for action now...  
Policymakers in the state aren't necessarily ready to act yet.

*Peter Larsen*

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Tourism and climate change: NZTRI Cases from the Arctic”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*John S. Hull, New Zealand Tourism Research Institute and Intervale Associates, Inc.*

- There is an opportunity to integrate MSV into continuing work.
- There are an increasing number of tourist expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic. Tourism in the Arctic is dominated by small and medium tourism enterprises (SMTEs). Arctic tourism is nature-based and highly vulnerable to climate change, but SMTEs have little capacity to respond to climate change – we need to work with these organizations. The World Tourism Organization's Derba Declaration (2003) acknowledges a two-way relationship between climate change and tourism – tourism has a responsibility to minimise adverse impacts on the environment, and climate change will reduce the attractiveness of tourist destinations.
- For the New Zealand Tourism Research Institute, case study pilot projects are an opportunity to integrate climate change issues. E.g. there is a plan to include a module on climate change and tourism in the instructional handbook produced by the Nature-based Tourism Network. There is also a project called Building Port Readiness in Greenland, which involves working with small ports in the north, training them to identify and exploit sustainable tourism activities.

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Tourism and Climate Change: Impacts & Adaptation in South Pacific SIDS”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Simon Milne, New Zealand Tourism Research Institute*

- Tourism is a vital and growing component of the economy in the South Pacific.
- Tuvalu receives the highest number of tourists (journalists and others) during the King Tides. They are now talking about making some money off of climate change impacts.

- A regional survey by the South Pacific Tourist Organization ([www.spto.org](http://www.spto.org)) and the EU revealed that 61% of small or medium tourism enterprises think that environmental change is very important and want to know more.
- A tourist survey conducted on the Cook Islands revealed unpleasant environment as the top tourist concern. People from more environmental conscious countries complain about non-friendly practices. Visitor perceptions are the most powerful way of changing tourism approaches.
- Low-cost solutions such as online resources can be used to improve sustainability and awareness of environmental change in the tourism industry. For example, the South Pacific Tourist Organization produced online resources on how broader environmental change relates to businesses ([www.pacifictoolkit.org](http://www.pacifictoolkit.org)).
- In terms of fund-raising for adaptation to climate change, perhaps instead of taxing industry we should tax tourists, who would be more than willing to pay.
- The New Zealand Tourism Research Institute ([www.tri.org.nz](http://www.tri.org.nz)) is hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> Coastal and Marine Tourism Congress in September 2007.

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Climate Change in Northern Canada”** [[Presentation](#)]


*Darcie Matthiessen, Arctic Athabaskan Council*

- The Arctic Athabaskan Council (AAC) was established in 2002 and represents approximately 32,000 Athabaskan peoples in Canada and the US. It is a permanent participant in the Arctic Council.
- Climate change in northern Canada has potential impacts on human well-being. For example, unpredictable weather affects participation in traditional activities. Glacier melt is a concern as a source of freshwater. The area is sparsely populated but climate change has the potential to affect land use.
- The AAC currently has several climate change-related projects. 1) A project looking at the effects of climate change on human health and ways to re-integrate traditional food use into the community. 2) A Climate Change Risk Assessment based on asking a community what they feel are the risks from climate change, and an analysis of how to use First Nations Final Agreements for climate change adaptation. 3) A project regarding traditional knowledge and intellectual property rights- who owns right to the research, individual, First Nation, or researchers? The International Polar Year has re-ignited the debate, and some communities are establishing policies regarding this. 4) A project looking at how the AAC and Athabaskan communities can contribute to the Arctic Council’s Arctic Biodiversity Assessment 2010.
- There are barriers to climate change adaptation in the north. There is a lack of funding and lack of research, regarding, for example, how to implement energy efficient technologies, especially with cold climate (despite the low contribution of the north to global greenhouse gas emissions, we want to act as an example regarding energy efficient technologies). A climate change research centre of excellence in a First Nations organization would allow partnerships between government and education. There is a lack of education – for example, resources are required to hold basic climate change workshops in all communities.

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Sami Reindeer Herders’ Snow Terminology in a Changing Climate”** [[Presentation](#)]

*Inger Marie Gaup Eira, Sami University College, Kautokeino*

- The Sami people are a reindeer herding people. They share a common language, culture, and traditions, but live in four different states.
  - The EALÁT project ([www.ealat.org](http://www.ealat.org)), which means pasture in the Sami language, examines reindeer herding in the light of climate change.
  - Inger Marie's PhD research under EALÁT looks at how traditional knowledge is used by Sami herders to adapt to environmental change both within and between years. Specifically, she looks at the use of the over 300 + words for snow structure and quality in the Sami language. Traditional vocabulary can be used as an adaptive strategy to reduce vulnerability to change as it allows herders to give information on snow conditions. Reindeer herding is strongly influenced by climate and mostly snow conditions, for example, in winter food must be found under the snow.
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- The International Centre for Reindeer Husbandry (ICRH) states that reindeer herders have an ethical responsibility to conserve their cultural heritage – “Cultural and linguistic diversity goes together with biological diversity. It is through the language that traditional knowledge is available.”
  - EALÁT works through co-production of knowledge – through researchers like Bob Correll and herders like Anders A. Siri. Collaboration and exchange of knowledge between different reindeer herding groups is also important.

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Climate Adaptation in the Pacific (CLIMAP)”** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Joe Konno, Chuuk Environmental Protection Agency*

*Theresa Manarangi-Trott, Private Consultant, Cooks Islands*

- It's amazing that we are still talking about vulnerability when real impacts are already being felt. There has been a lack of progress on climate change vulnerability and adaptation in the SIDS. We should focus on joining forces when we sit down at the table with the nations that are most to blame for these changes.
- Climate Adaptation in the Pacific (CLIMAP) was funded by the Government of Canada and implemented through the Asian Development Bank. The implementation was mainstreaming adaptation at bank level operations.
- Risk-based methodology was used in the project instead of vulnerability assessments because it's familiar to people and it allows *quantification*, which is what the “big boys” require. The project involved top-down and bottom-up approaches, addressing local to top level.
- We required climate data, which is difficult to get or non-existent in SIDS, particularly historical data. We created climate profiles for specific sites, and “climate-proofed” the infrastructure and construction/ planning sector from the bottom to the top level.
- In Micronesia, we climate-proofed road section RS4 in the Micronesian state Kosrae – we made a decision to re-design to accommodate projected changes in rain fall, as the

current design will ultimately be more expensive. We were able to work with the government to include climate change in different sectors (including the health sector) of the National Strategic Development Plan.

- In the Cook Islands, we used three case studies to demonstrate the similar reasons for addressing climate change despite the different nations. First, we climate proofed the National Strategic Development Plan. Second, we demonstrated how assessments could support low risk shoreline development. Third, we made sure that the national code was climate proofed, e.g. building two story houses (on stilts) instead of one story houses. We learned that care should be exercised to ensure that future development does not exacerbate climate-related risks.
- Lessons: Mainstreaming is key in addressing climate change adaptation, since government are already overloaded. As Terry Fenge said, policy makers need to be targeted in terms of adaptation. Decision support tools that facilitate inter-comparison of adaptation measures are invaluable. Showing symbols of what is going to happen is very important. Available funding does not match local project cycles, which can create conflicts for project managers.



### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“Climate Change Research and Adaptation Planning in Clyde River, Nunavut”**

[\[Presentation\]](#)

*Nick Illuaq, Clyde River Research Committee and Municipality of Clyde River*

- The Clyde River Research Committee was founded in 2005. A new research centre is to be launched later this year in Clyde River.
- Clyde River is actively involved in climate change research. Since 2000, the knowledge of the elders about climate and environmental change has been systematically documented. The Igliniit project is an International Polar Year project that involves mounting GPS/ weather station units on to snowmobiles to track travel routes. This will be useful not only as a measurement of environmental change, but also to document land/ice use, gather harvest data, and as a safety device. The Siku-Inuit-Hila project is an international collaboration to study sea ice, sea ice use, and changes at local scale (Clyde River, Barrow, Qaanaaq). It includes sea ice monitoring at each community and ongoing interviews with local ice experts.
- With regards to adaptation, Clyde River will be the pilot community for the Integrated Assessment of Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation Options in Nunavut Communities, a joint project between Natural Resources Canada and the Government of Nunavut to create a climate change adaptation plan for the territory of Nunavut. The pilot project will involve scientific assessments of climate change impacts in Clyde River as well as work with the Canadian Institute of Planners to create a community adaptation plan.
- Clyde River has great interest in including alternative energy sources as part of the community adaptation plan. Currently, there is no money for adaptation in the form of

alternative energy sources, yet these are of major interest to communities. Clyde River aims to get off the grid in less than 10 years.

### **Adaptation in Practice**

#### **“The Climate Witness Programme- Adaptation Lessons from Fiji”** [[Presentation](#)]

*Jyotishma Naicker, WWF South Pacific Programme*

- The Climate Witness Programme grew from being focused on awareness raising at the community, national, and international levels to including community adaptation.
- Community adaptation was undertaken mainly through the implementation of the Climate Witness Community Toolkit developed by WWF, which started with identifying problems and ended with a community action plan for adaptation. This allowed communities to take ownership of the soft adaptation options. For the hard adaptation, WWF is able to raise funds. WWF has trained NGOs and community based organizations to use the toolkit, to ensure continuation of the project and wide implementation.
- In terms of awareness raising and advocacy for action, this ranged from the community level (talking to school children and getting them to write messages on postcards to USA and Australia) to the international level (taking one Climate Witness, Penina Moce, to the COP in Argentina which received a lot of media attention and to a climate change symposium in Japan where she raised money for water tanks).
- Strengths of the programme included a high return with low investment, the use of anecdotal/ traditional knowledge as well as scientific knowledge, the use of an exit strategy (a way to get WWF out and get the community to run the project), and replication of the programme through translation of the toolkit.
- Challenges of the programme included a mismatch of funds – different funds were available at different times. Also, it has been a challenge finding out how to use the network of Climate Witnesses to influence climate change policy/ decisions. One way has been through featuring them on the WWF International website ([www.panda.org](http://www.panda.org)), but more options are needed.

### **Discussion Points**

- It's very important that traditional and indigenous knowledge are included and integrated with scientific knowledge in MSV.
- It's important to consider the effects of climate change on traditional culture. The UN is an organization of cultural diversity, therefore actions taken within the UNFCCC should not violate cultural diversity. RAIPON and ICC approached UNEP at its last Governing Council meeting to make an indigenous policy.
- The objectives of MSV should be within the framework of sustainable development – indigenous peoples are strong supporters of sustainable development.
- For amendments to the UNFCCC, we could consider something about looking to Arctic and SIDS as an early warning sign or about incorporating traditional knowledge. The specifics of the proposed amendment need to be discussed. The important thing is not to discard the idea of amendments on the basis of fear.
- The twinning of educational initiatives, communities, or individuals from the Arctic and SIDS could be incorporated into the MSV programme. There is the potential to involve the University of the Arctic in educational initiatives.
- We must make the effort to engage with one another. For example, China is now an observer of the Arctic Council – there is the potential for SIDS to do the same.

- We may want to look at putting values on climate change impacts as a potential area of research for this program, to fill the present gaps. We could use the Economic Vulnerability and Resilience Index completed for SIDS by the University of Malta, and could also benefit from the methodology used in the study in Alaska presented here. Policy-makers want actual values and costs, as well as quantification of the uncertainties – ignoring these is dangerous and makes the basis for decision-making difficult. However, there is a time and a place for focusing on costs and quantitative values – when the context demands *qualitative* analyses, we shouldn't do cost analyses for cost analyses sake. We must take care of leaping onto quantifications because it's a way of avoiding the need for adaptation.
- Although the Many Strong Voices programme may focus on adaptation in its research and case studies, we should not exclude mitigation as an important aspect of this programme. There is an opportunity for MSV to make a powerful message about adaptation, which will also deliver a strong message on the need for mitigation. With regards to mitigation, industry and governments need to be held more accountable, but we should not limit mitigative measures to those nations that contribute the most to climate change. Mitigative measures such as renewable energy also have benefits for our regions.
- This workshop illustrates that information on the internet regarding current adaptation initiatives is often lacking or difficult to access.
- There are some signs that we can get through to the big emitters. For example, Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, is in Greenland right now to learn about climate change impacts and bring that knowledge back to the government.

**Day 3 Tuesday 29 May**  
***Designing the MSV Five Year Action Plan***

Day 3 started with three presentations from participants on their work on climate change adaptation and perspectives on MSV. Most of the day was spent building the five-year action plan by discussing key elements of the action plan in three thematic groups.

Chair: Teresa Manarangi-Trott, Cook Islands

**“Overseas Countries and Territories of the EU and Many Strong Voices”** [[Presentation](#)]

*Lida Skifte Lennert, Greenland Department of Foreign Affairs*

*Vaia Tuuhia, Délégation de la Polynésie française auprès des institutions européennes*

- Greenland participates in the climate change debate in many forums, but we will focus on Greenland’s role as an OCT (Overseas Country and Territory) of the EU in this discussion. The EU is an actor at the forefront of addressing climate change, and despite differences, OCTs and the EU stand united to face climate change.
- The OCTs have pointed out that there is a need for more research and access of OCTs to specific EU research programmes, and a need for awareness regarding the vulnerability of OCTs to climate change. We have requested an EU action plan regarding OCTs.
- The reason that OCTs are interesting in this forum is that OCTs are situated in the same geographical area as the SIDS and in the Arctic. Therefore we face the same or similar issues and challenges. One difference between OCTs and SIDS is that OCTs are part of an EU member state and therefore not independent. Vaia and Lida attend this meeting on behalf of the OCT association based in Brussels.
- Greenland experiences visibility in the outside world due to climate change. The visibility is especially felt in terms of more high level visits to the country, as was mentioned earlier. One might say that this is a positive side effect of climate change. Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of US House of Representatives, has just left Greenland. She was in Greenland to personally see the melting of the icecap and will report back to the G8 summit immediately after her visit. Later this year Greenland will be visited by José Manuel Barroso, President of the EU Commission, and Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany and President of the European Council. The issue for all visits is the melting icecap and the need for more research, including involvement of researchers from Greenland.
- We are working to get French Polynesian representation in the EU. Actions regarding climate change and sea level rise in French Polynesia have involved matching scientific information and traditional knowledge.
- OCTs are not SIDS, but they are vulnerable, and would like to join their voices with Many Strong Voices. MSV has pointed out the necessity to link communities that are vulnerable.



## “Aleut People: Times of Change” [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Victoria Gofman, Aleut International Association*

- The Aleutian Islands stretch over 2000 km, and there are a diversity of peoples – about 30 groups. The Aleut International Association was formed to represent the Aleut on an international level.
- On a local level, there are adaptation projects examining alternative energy options and energy efficiency.
- On the international level, there is the Bering Sea Sub-Network, an IPY project and part of the National Science Foundation Arctic Observing Network (AON). The program is based on idea that humans can be used as sensors of change. The project will consist of structured interviews and a resident watch network of volunteers. One of the results will be an assessment based solely on the human observations collected in the project. This will bring indigenous and traditional knowledge (ITK) to a new level, rather than being presented as anecdotal evidence or case studies.
- Please remember that the mechanism of funding adaptation in the Arctic is very different than in the SIDS. Arctic regions are not states, so cannot go through funding mechanisms such as GEF or the World Bank. We must instead get funds from governments.
- We must work within the processes to get our message across. For example, rather than marching to the US embassies, a former ICC chair testified in the US Congress.
- We can work together and learn a lot from each other, but we have to select our common foci with care and respect for our differences.
- Alternative energy sources are particularly interesting for the Aleutian Islands and are a promising field for collaboration between the Arctic and SIDS.

We can work together and learn a lot from each other, but we have to select our common foci with care and respect for our differences.

*Victoria Gofman*

## “NORA – Nordic Atlantic Cooperation” [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Kasper Lythans, NORA – North Atlantic Cooperation*

- Nordic Atlantic Cooperation (NORA) ([www.nora.fo](http://www.nora.fo)) is a cooperation between states in the northern part of the North Atlantic that has been in place for almost 55 years. It is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers. We take mainly a business approach to improve the framework and conditions for industry, trade and development in the region, by setting up networks in research, business, and authorities to develop common projects.
- One of the most successful projects has been to support the reduction of oil consumption in ships, which makes up a substantial portion of oil consumption. In the Faroe Islands consumption by ships has been reduced from 33% to 28% of total oil consumption.
- We are setting up a conference on climate change adaptation in southern Greenland in a few years, which will bring researchers and politicians together. We will address adaptation as a business issue – identifying important areas for action and cooperation, and hopefully funding some of the resulting projects. We hope to make some contacts at this MSV meeting to participate in the conference.

### Discussion Points

- ICC Greenland is in the process of developing a project called Documentation and Adaptation regarding climate change in Greenland, which is part of the Siku-Inuit-Hila

project discussed by Nick Illauq in his presentation. MSV will be kept informed of this project.

- The connections between OCTs and MSV should be explored. OCTs represent institutional architecture already in place connecting the Arctic and SIDS, and are also a fundraising opportunity. Former colonial powers with interest in the Arctic, e.g. the UK, are potential sources of funds in particular.

### **Summary of Day 1: Common Themes and Guiding Principles for Moving Forward**

[\[Presentation\]](#)

*Dr. Leonard Nurse, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, University of the West Indies*

Some common themes identified by presenters from both the Arctic and SIDS were:

- Climate change is not a threat or theory but a reality for the Arctic and SIDS.
- Adaptation is not only about the future but about our current exposure and risks.
- There is a need to have community-focused, people-centred projects focused on sustainable livelihoods.
- Capacity building, training and awareness-raising should be inputs to adaptation.
- Partnerships, collaboration and engagement of multiple stakeholders are essential.
- Identification of knowledge gaps.
- Use of traditional knowledge as a basis for decision making.
- Development of appropriate approaches, tools and methodologies.

Some guiding principles for moving forward in the MSV programme:

- We must be clear as to whom exactly the beneficiaries of MSV are within the Arctic and SIDS, and what is important to them.
- We must have concrete, realistic goals, and timelines to achieve them.
- We need a mechanism for citizen advocacy to ensure that MSV is heard at the highest level in international forums.
- We must demand accountability, from both countries and the private sector.
- We should address capacity building in the management of the energy sector, since energy is the most critical sector with respect to emissions. The UNFCCC process has not focused sufficiently on this.
- We need a mechanism for information exchange and coordination of advocacy.
- We need to cooperate with respect to mobilizing resources. Some countries have greater resources and ability to access resources, which we should exploit for the common cause.

### **Building a Five-Year Action Plan – Charge to the Groups** [\[Presentation\]](#)

*Joan Eamer, UNEP/GRID-Arendal*

- Goals of the three thematic groups are to get some consensus on focus, mechanisms for follow-up to get the action plan done in a fairly short period, and identification of key opportunities in the short and long term.
- Build on our strengths and unique position. For example, we have a base in traditional knowledge and participatory research. We represent a variety of organizations, from government to non profit.
- We should base this planning on the vision, goals and objectives, and operating principles in the Programme Document from the Ottawa meeting. Note that both adaptation and mitigation are covered in the first two objectives of the Programme Document.

## **Discussion Points**

- UNEP/GRID-Arendal is well positioned to continue with coordination of MSV, but the major issue is continued funding.
- One of MSV's concrete actions should be to consolidate our position in post-2012 negotiations, for example, regarding a limit for temperature rise. FIELD is an excellent source to help with consolidating that position.
- The Inuit Circumpolar Council (Patricia Cochran) is planning a conference for 2008 regarding climate change and indigenous peoples. The discussion will be held in a traditional way and industry will be represented at the table.

## Theme Group 1: Research needs and a proposed scoping study

Facilitator: Grete K. Hovelsrud

- It was decided that we don't want an impact assessment, but want to move beyond to a vulnerability assessment. Therefore we decided that this project should be a vulnerability/adaptive capacity assessment for SIDS.
  - Note: we're not sure now if it should be a vulnerability or adaptive capacity assessment. If we follow the recommendations of the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment (ACIA), it calls for *vulnerability* assessments. But the technical definitions complicate things, so we'll use the two terms for now.
  - This assessment in the SIDS will hopefully lead to a vulnerability assessment for the Arctic as follow up to ACIA.
- Step 1 will be to develop the project design for the assessment. We have funding for this step at this stage. We don't have a lot of time– we hope to have Step 1 complete by end of the year or a little later. The project design will include:
  - A summary on impacts of climate change on SIDS.
  - A literature review on vulnerability and adaptation in SIDS– we (CICERO) have started compiling this but will need to work with others to complete it. We are looking for grey literature, not necessarily peer-reviewed– studies, projects.
  - An analysis of data availability (e.g. meteorological, socioeconomic, natural resource)– the availability of data will determine the design of the assessment. We will need help to find out where and how easily accessible data is. In this step we won't assess data but will see what's available.
  - Results of stakeholder consultations, which will occur on the web, not through workshops.
  - Recommendations for a vulnerability/adaptive capacity assessment.
- The project design won't be too thick but will have lots of appendices.
- We will have a good website and forum for dialogue for Step 1 since we can't fly around to workshops. There are several questions still to be answered regarding communication for Step 1. For example, should a student or researcher from the SIDS come to Oslo? It may be better to connect via the internet.
- We hope to have the names of SIDS representatives identified by end of day who can work closely with CICERO to develop the project design.
- For Step 2, we will start with a small group to make an implementation plan for the assessment. A larger stakeholder group will then discuss the plan. This will be a good thing to take to regional bodies for endorsement. We will need scientists, stakeholders, and businesses involved. There are several areas where external experts will be needed. We don't have funding yet for this step, we hope to next year.
- During Step 3, the implementation plan will be used to seek funding. We need to consult on funding sources. We discussed Bill Gates, but he apparently only funds things he can solve in 10 years.



- Comparative case studies are already part of the MSV action plan. We could have a Caribbean/Pacific CAVIAR, as a way to compare case studies. It's important to have case studies to actually illustrate what vulnerability means- these will be a parallel process to the assessment and will help to inform the assessment.
- We will keep thinking about other different areas of research, e.g. research on sector-specific impacts in SIDS, research on national policy options, on social transformation and change.
- Research on what is 'dangerous' climate change is important (called extreme events in the Arctic), because what is interesting is when the change all comes at once, not monthly averages.
- We will take back the climate change versus natural variability research question to our climate change colleagues.
- Development of climate scenarios is an important part of vulnerability research, and we will take this back to discuss with meteorologists.
- The assessment will also function to identify gaps in knowledge.

## **Theme Group 2: Communications and outreach**

*Facilitator: Cletus Springer*

There are actually few communication and outreach strategies on climate change, so first of all there is a need to discuss the 'why'.

**Why** is communications necessary?

- The goal is to reach those affected by climate change and also those causing the problem.
- Communications is a forum for action- by gathering and putting out information, we will help people to take action, advancing the overall goal of MSV.
- To counter bad/false information.
- To gain funding.

**Why** is outreach necessary?

- To create a deeper, more sustained action between centre & periphery.
- To pool resources for greater impact.
- To promote optimal use of existing resources.
- To create more a focused & effective approach to climate change adaptation concerns and issues.
- To involve children and youth.
- Make sure information is used properly.
- To get a reaction.
- To provide a forum to get information back.

**What** actions regarding communications?

- Use conventional media – such as print broadcast, internet.
- Use unconventional media – such as community theatre, drama, schools, newsletters, in-flight magazines, podcasts, blogs.
- There is a need to build synergies between media – e.g. use print media to call attention to website.
- Identify champions to advance the agenda – e.g. community leaders, government or religious ministers, BP chairman, Bill Gates, Virgin Atlantic chair, Dr. Kenrick Leslie present at this meeting. We should be open to all different people.
- MSV website – needs to be changed for greater impact.
- Search engines – BBC, Google need to get dedicated space on MSV, especially BBC, we should discuss this right away. Google Earth also.
- New media – we could encourage people to post on e.g. MySpace on their climate change experiences.
- Action alerts – to inform people of important issues or events and ask them to e.g. a postcard, letter.
- Create a virtual library of sources – centralize and make information accessible to e.g. researchers.
- Provide media with photos, films, interviews from MSV.
- Work with progressive companies – get companies to write a statement of intent or action regarding support of MSV. This could extend to MSV making an endorsement announcement which would also advance MSV. MSV best practices could also highlight what small and medium-sized businesses are doing (not just large corporations).
- Produce a periodic state of environment-type report.

**What** actions regarding outreach?

- Create an inventory of partners, allies, stakeholders.
- Hold regular meetings at regional & community level.

- Create MSV champions within MSV network.
- Establish MSV focal points in regions – it will be important to do this immediately.
- Formalize cooperative agreements between MSV founding members.
- Assist in building capacity of existing community-based organizations.
- Clarify & settle governance arrangements for MSV program.
- Create a traditional knowledge database using the Alaska Native Science Commission model.
- Create an inventory of human capital (climate change specific). What skills can we draw into the climate change initiative?

**Who** to target for communications?

- Private sector (all levels)
- Insurance industry – at the moment they are on the periphery of climate change. They are making money out of it, it's necessary now to have discourse with them.
- Youth – we could bring groups of youth together from e.g. Caribbean, Pacific. The commonwealth youth group is a good place to start.
- Elders
- Civil society groups (e.g., churches, community organizations). Churches in the US have just made a collective bold statement on climate change. In the Pacific, some have expressed the need to move along on climate change.
- Governments (national & sub-national)
- Legal system – they can have a powerful effect on adaptation capabilities. There should be more environmental lawyers hooked in to climate change and involved in MEAs.
- Academic community
- UN Conventions – especially convention secretariats.
- Donors
- Inter-governmental organizations

**Who** to target for outreach?

- Communities
- Countries
- Institutions
- Indigenous groups
- NGOs

**How** to implement communications?

- Institutionalize a programmatic approach to MSV.
- Apply for observer status in different organizations (e.g., conventions, regional organizations). For UNFCCC, application needs to be by August.
- Start with existing resources. Do not use lack of funding as an excuse not to act.
- Draw on synergies in existing programs.
- Use imminent windows of opportunity – e.g. COP, Arctic Council.
- Communicate MSV objectives, etc. to governments of SIDS and Arctic. We have gone as far as we can without the endorsement of countries, we now need to get support.

### **Theme Group 3: Political strategies and lobbying**

*Facilitator: Paul Crowley*

Many of these strategies also fall under communications and outreach- an illustration of the fact that the best approach is often educational, as political avenues can sometimes be closed.

#### **Practical requirements:**

- Good spokespersons (including youth and new leaders).
- Roster of experts.
- Support for spokespersons from an MSV Secretariat.
- Good science to back up MSV messages, including research on costs.
- Common messages.
- MSV branding with, e.g., letterhead, logo.
- Media contact list.
- Archive of photos, video footage

#### **Tools/advantages to capitalize on:**

- The Arctic has been getting global attention.
- Inuit have a presence in Washington through the Northstar lobby group.
- SIDS have access to UN processes as they are member states.
- SIDS have permanent missions in NY and Washington.
- We have the moral high ground – and have to make sure we don't let go of it.
- We are exotic and appealing.

#### **Targets:**

- UNFCCC and post-2012 negotiations – from now to 2009 is key.
- U.S. and other recalcitrant countries such as Canada and Australia.
- EU and Climate Action Network (a network of NGOs) – they have adopted a 2 °C target.
- Poor corporate citizens.
- Rapidly developing nations such as India, China, Brazil.

#### **Concrete actions:**

- Meeting of the UNFCCC Dialogue Group and Kyoto Protocol Ad-hoc Working Group on post-2012 targets, August 27-31, Vienna.
  - Joe Konno is willing to advance message through Micronesia but must receive material by mid-July, possibly others.
- UNFCCC COP in Bali
  - MSV side event – informative and/or cultural presentation (North Slope Borough of Alaska dancers and Torres Strait Islands activities).
  - Pre-Bali meeting of MSV (perhaps with AOSIS).
  - Bring out issues during negotiations.
- Input into the Nairobi Work Programme on Adaptation.



- Request to IPCC for a report on “vulnerable groups”.
- Invite SIDS (perhaps AOSIS Chair) to become observer at the Arctic Council.
- Press releases and letters to editors.
- TV public service announcements (in Alaska but get picked up nationally sometimes).
- Be present at the Nordic Council ministers meeting in Greenland 2008 at which they will present a document with all the EU regulations that deal with the Arctic

**Other opportunities:**

- There will be a panel of advisors appointed for the UN Secretary-General’s three special envoys on climate change (one of which is Brundtland).
- Adaptation – funding is not working through the negotiations process. Advance the message of using the Polluter Pays principle for funding adaptation.
- Define the concept of vulnerability – what does “dangerous” climate change mean?
- Explore legal avenues through, e.g., SPREP, mobility treaties, refugee law, NAFTA, human rights.
- Non-traditional media, e.g. airline magazines
- Bring SIDS to Arctic and Arctic to SIDS (speaking tours) – concrete, fundable.
- Convention on Biological Diversity
  - SSBSTA meeting in Paris, July 9-12 will discuss climate change
  - Next COP 2008
- Engage Indigenous Peoples groups (must be aware of situation regarding the UN Declaration on Indigenous Rights)
  - UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
  - International indigenous climate change meeting in Alaska in 2008 (organized by Patricia Cochran)

**Other groups to engage:**

- Religious groups
  - World Council of Churches
  - Religion, Science and Environment meeting in Greenland– Grete Hovelsrud is invited but someone else may be able to take her place.
  - Baha’i
- International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent
- Youth groups
- Commonwealth, Commonwealth Policy Studies Unit
- Francophonie
- Arctic Parliamentarians
- Councils of mayors and regional carbon trading organizations in the US.
- OCTA
- State of Alaska Climate Change Commission
- Insurance and Reinsurance companies (Munich Re and Suisse Re)
- Enlightened companies (BP and Toyota, Richard Branson)
  - Must be careful to not lose moral high ground
- Hollywood, e.g. Q’orianka Kilcher. Many celebrities have homes particularly in the Caribbean.
- Clinton Global Initiative
- GEF
- American Public Health Association (APHA), educators associations

**Day 4 Wednesday 30 May**  
*Assembling the Strategy*

On Day 4 participants met in plenary to hear reports from each of the three theme groups and to discuss workshop follow-up.

Chairs: Joan Eamer and John Crump, UNEP/GRID-Arendal
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## Discussion Points

### 1. MSV identity

- We should remain open to other partners. A large part of Arctic is Russian Arctic- we need to involve the Russian Association of Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON) in this programme. African SIDS should also be included.
- It is important to relate MSV to UNEP:
  - MSV is currently a part of the Division of Early Warning and Assessment (DEWA) work plan.
  - We will try to elevate MSV to the global UNEP level, not just as a polar work item.
  - MSV can also relate to the UN through the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
  - We should have a presence at the next UNEP Governing Council meeting in February – a presentation or draft resolution (**ACTION**).
  - Perhaps some direct dialogue with Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director, would be possible. Former Executive Director Klaus Toepfer was a supporter of the MSV initiative.
  - UNEP has observer status in SPREP, and a UNEP representative is currently sitting in SPREP.
- The MSV programme has more of an emphasis on *communications* than on *advocacy*.
- The assessment work can be easily housed within existing research institutes, while the rest – capacity building, etc, is the trickier part in terms of coordination. For now, the programme coordination can be housed at UNEP/GRID-Arendal – a separate secretariat should be set up if needed in the future.
- MSV is currently an informal network with limited time-dependent funding. Steps to evolve MSV's identity:
  - Strengthen MSV's message and communication items.
  - Solidify institutional arrangements with governments and formal agreements with partners.
  - Start working with the steering committee.
  - Possibility for MSV to apply as an entity for observer status to organizations such as the Arctic Council and UNFCCC.

### 2. Concrete actions

- It's important to go to intergovernmental organizations to raise issues– in order to do this, statements must be fed to member countries. One upcoming meeting is a SPREP meeting in September – the deadline for paper submissions has passed, but the Cook Islands, Samoa, Fiji, or Micronesia for example, could raise issues from the floor. Something specific from MSV will have to be given to these countries at least four weeks before the meeting. (**ACTION**)

- We should make a flowchart of upcoming events relevant to MSV to ensure representation (***DONE***). Pre-Bali UNFCCC meetings are important to give input into the process. To be included:
  - Dialogue and Ad Hoc Working Group meetings of UNFCCC, 27-31 August, Vienna
  - UNFCCC - Workshop on climate related risks and extreme events, 18-20 June, Cairo
  - Nairobi Work Programme on Adaptation, October?, Rome. Submissions are accepted until June 15<sup>th</sup>.
- We should not focus too much on the pressure of upcoming meetings. Key actions are:
  - Be at the COP in Bali.
  - Exchange SIDS/Arctic representatives at the Arctic Council and a relevant forum in the SIDS.
  - Complete the vulnerability assessment.
  - Find funds to keep the programme running.
  - Build an effective communications strategy.
- It is possible to link to OCTs whenever the Arctic and SIDS connection is mentioned. The Religion Science & the Environment conference in Greenland is a good opportunity to bring up OCTs and SIDS. OCTs can support the MSV message within the EU.
- The Nordic Council of Ministers have been requested by Greenland to gather all EU policies that mention the Arctic in a document, and it will be the basis for a conference.
- Funding: we need to assess options for big pots of long term and stable funding, e.g. GEF, National Science Foundation in the US, countries. We need concrete goals for the programme in order to get funding for ongoing coordination. Perhaps we should use a person with high connections, e.g. Gro Harlem Brundtland, to fund-raise.
- Indigenous perspectives should be included in the vulnerability assessment work, including involvement of indigenous authors.

### 3. MSV messages

- Solidifying specific positions on the post-2012 negotiations is critical. We could focus on establishing a number for, e.g., target temperatures or CO2 levels, but we will focus instead on the *consequences* of these numbers for the Arctic and SIDS. What are the *critical thresholds*, for example, for corals?
- Important messages that should come from MSV:
  - Climate change is already “dangerous”. Emphasize urgency. Communities in the Arctic and SIDS are already facing adverse effects of climate change
  - These areas are connected to other parts of the globe. Connect it to a worldwide issue. For example, the melting of ice in the Arctic will affect people in other countries, and it’s immoral to be put in that position. Why should people from, e.g., Ottawa care?
  - Dramatizing the human dimension is very important. Emphasize loss of cultural identity. Images are lasting messages.
- The “high moral ground” of SIDS and the Arctic is important – SIDS are net sequesters and low emitters, and if the same is true for the Arctic, we should capitalize on this fact.
- It would be more strategic to use “small” rather than “strong” voices, to project the idea of vulnerability. However, to change it now would be confusing and project some indecision. The issue may be revisited through due process later.

### 4. Workshop follow-up and feedback

- Workshop follow-up:

- Press release (***DONE***). Regions could personalize the press release for their purposes, possibly combining it with a longer statement that explains the issues further. Key people should be quoted and be contacts for press follow-up. The press release can become the basis for other material.
- Powerpoint presentations and other materials on website (***DONE***).
- 2 page summary to use when reporting back to organizations (***DONE***).
- Proceedings of the workshop (***DONE***).
- Presentation package – powerpoint that could turn into a booklet format people could print themselves (***ACTION***).
- Revised programme document and five-year action plan (***ACTION***). This will incorporate a communications and outreach plan, fundraising plan, and vulnerability assessment plan. There will be sets of milestones, broken out to short term and long term. The action plan will be done through the steering committee, but everybody at this meeting will have the opportunity for input.
- Feedback on the workshop:
  - It's important to bring policymakers, the private sector and youth to the table as well, which was not done here.
  - Rotation during the theme group meetings was highly effective.
  - The sense of a connection brought about by meeting in person is important.

## Appendix: List of Participants

<b>Albert Binger</b>	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)
<b>Patricia Cochran</b>	Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC)
<b>Paul Crowley</b>	Independent Consultant, Nunavut, Canada
<b>John Crump</b>	UNEP/GRID-Arendal
<b>Paul V. Desanker</b>	Capacity Building and Outreach Unit, UNFCCC Secretariat
<b>Joan Eamer</b>	UNEP/GRID-Arendal
<b>Inger Marie Gaup Eira</b>	PhD researcher, EALÁT project
<b>Terry Fenge</b>	Independent Consultant, Ottawa, Canada
<b>Ramon Frutos</b>	Belize National Met Service
<b>Victoria Gofman</b>	Aleut International Association (AIA)
<b>Selwin Hart</b>	Permanent Mission of Barbados to the United Nations
<b>Petter Haugneland</b>	Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo (CICERO)
<b>Grete K. Hovelsrud</b>	Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo (CICERO)
<b>John Hull</b>	New Zealand Tourism Research Institute and Intervale Associates, Inc.
<b>Nicodemus Illauq</b>	Clyde River Research Committee and Municipality of Clyde River
<b>Joseph M. Konno</b>	Chuuk Environmental Protection Agency
<b>Tiina Kurvits</b>	UNEP/GRID-Arendal
<b>Peter Larsen</b>	Institute of Social & Economic Research, University of Alaska Anchorage
<b>Kenrick R. Leslie</b>	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)
<b>Lida Skifte Lennert</b>	Greenland Department of Foreign Affairs
<b>Kaspar Lyththans</b>	Nordic Atlantic Cooperation (NORA)
<b>M.J. Mace</b>	Climate Change & Energy Programme, Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD)
<b>Heather Main</b>	UNEP/GRID-Arendal
<b>Teresa Manarangi-Trott</b>	Independent Consultant, Cook Islands
<b>Darcie Matthiessen</b>	Council of Yukon First Nations
<b>Stephanie Meakin</b>	Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) – Canada
<b>Simon Milne</b>	New Zealand Tourism Research Institute
<b>Jyotishma Rajan Naicker</b>	WWF South Pacific Programme
<b>Taito Nakalevu</b>	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)
<b>Leonard Nurse</b>	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies, University of the West Indies
<b>Carl Christian Olsen (Puju)</b>	Inuit Circumpolar Council (ICC) – Greenland
<b>Barry Smit</b>	Department of Geography, University of Guelph
<b>Cletus Springer</b>	Department of Sustainable Development, Organization of American States (OAS)
<b>Ulric Trott</b>	Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC)
<b>Vaia Tuuhia</b>	Délégation de la Polynésie française auprès des institutions européennes
<b>Jennifer West</b>	Center for International Climate and Environmental Research – Oslo (CICERO)