

# Many Strong Voices: Well-being, living, and thriving for the Arctic and Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

<http://www.manystrongvoices.org>



Chalky Mount in Barbados, a SIDS.

## Background

The Many Strong Voices (MSV) programme brings together people and places in the Arctic and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in a collaborative effort to document and respond to the common challenges that climate change presents to the regions. MSV supports a consortium of policy-makers, researchers, and implementers in the regions according to the needs that they have identified. The focus is exchanging knowledge and action on the communities' own terms.

## Aims

- To assist in strengthening the Arctic's and SIDS' role in climate change negotiations.
- To conduct and publish research on climate change vulnerability and adaptation using community-based participatory processes.
- To raise awareness about climate change's effects.
- To motivate knowledge-based action on addressing and preventing climate change's adverse impacts.



Nunavut's coast in Canada's Arctic.

## Why Arctic & SIDS?



Climate change impacts on coastal zones provide a common denominator between the two regions, giving context for comparing vulnerability and adaptation; for addressing both; and for placing those strategies in wider contexts of sustainable development.

The magnitude of present and forecasted climate change in the Arctic and SIDS means that these regions are harbingers of what could be in store for the rest of the planet. They are requesting assistance on their own terms, covering and combining different knowledge forms to understand what is happening and how to deal with the challenges.

The rest of the world has an interest in learning from and contributing to the responses to climate change which are implemented in both regions. Arctic and SIDS peoples have much to learn and to teach regarding climate change.



## Publications

A full list of peer-reviewed scientific publications is at <http://www.islandvulnerability.org/docs/islandsclimatechange.pdf>  
Portraits of Resilience uses photography to document community perspectives at <http://www.manystrongvoices.org/portraits-of-resilience.html>

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