



# Climate Vulnerability Assessment

MAKING FIJI CLIMATE RESILIENT



## FIJI FACTS



1<sup>st</sup> Country to ratify the Paris Agreement



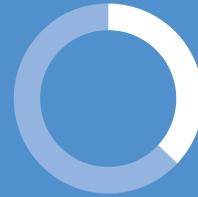
900,000

Fiji population

18,000km<sup>2</sup>

Land mass, spread over 332 Islands  
(of which 110 are inhabited)

37%



Share of Fijian households deriving  
some form of income from agriculture

820,000

Tourists per year

25,700

Fijians pushed into poverty each year  
due to cyclones and floods

F\$500  
million

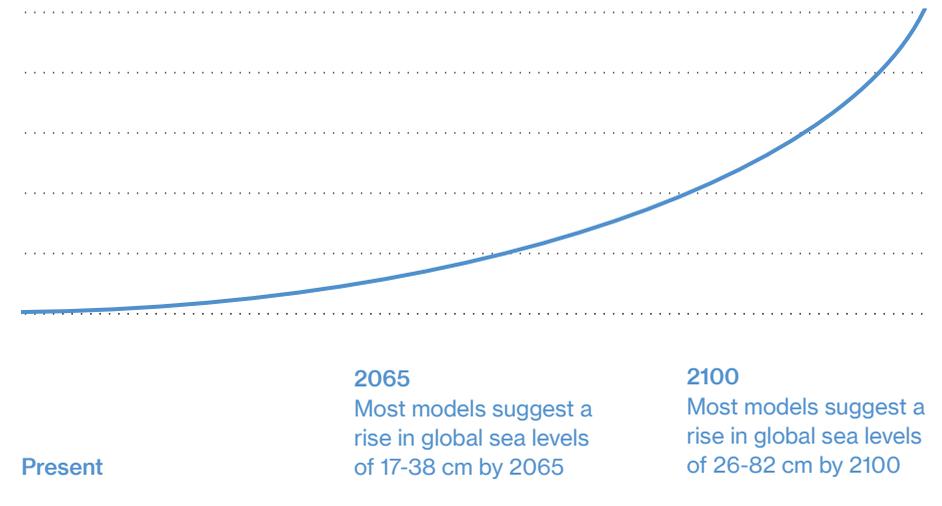
Estimated average annual asset losses  
due to tropical cyclones and floods

32,400

Predicted average number of Fijians  
pushed into poverty due to tropical  
cyclones and floods by 2050 (per year)

## Fiji is an island nation with ambitious development goals, facing major threats from natural disasters and climate change.

The 20-year and 5-year National Development Plan aims to more than double the real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita by 2036 and to provide universal access to all services, including housing, electricity, clean and safe water and sanitation, high-quality education, and health care.



Note: above figures derived from IPCC 2013: Summary for Policymakers - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). The Physical Science Basis. Working Group I Contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report.



## **Fiji has prepared a Climate Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) to inform investment decisions.**

The CVA report aims to quantify and enhance the understanding of the threat that natural hazards and climate change pose to Fiji's Development Plan objectives. It pilots a methodology to assess climate and disaster vulnerability for Fiji and design climate change adaptation and risk management plans and strategies.

The CVA approach combines sectoral analyses considering multiple dimensions of climate vulnerability – including infrastructure, governance and financing, socioeconomic aspects and population characteristics, and the environment.

An innovative approach has been used to undertake the analysis presented in the CVA, combining a cross-sectoral vulnerability assessment and preparation of integrated adaptation and disaster risk management plans.

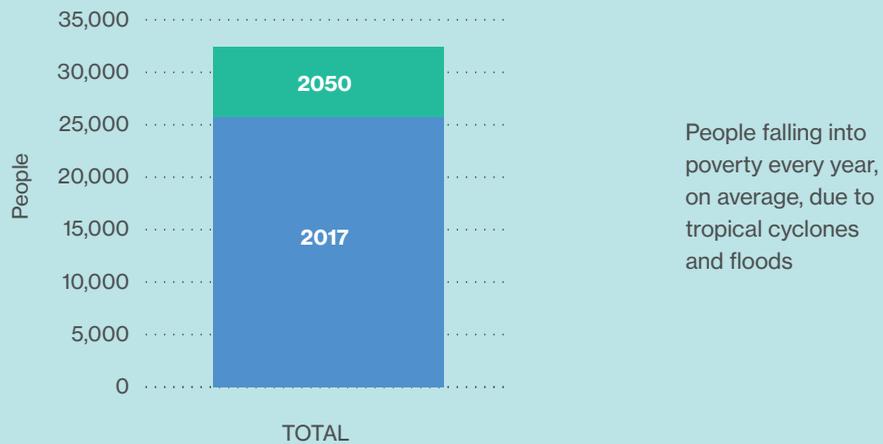
This methodology is replicable by other countries and can support the design and update of the adaptation components of the Nationally Determined Contributions of the Paris Agreement.

The CVA report has four key messages to guide future investments in climate resilience.

Photo: Alana Holmberg / World Bank.

## MESSAGE 1

Fiji is already exposed to large natural risks, and climate change is likely to amplify these risks, threatening the development objectives of the country's Development Plan.

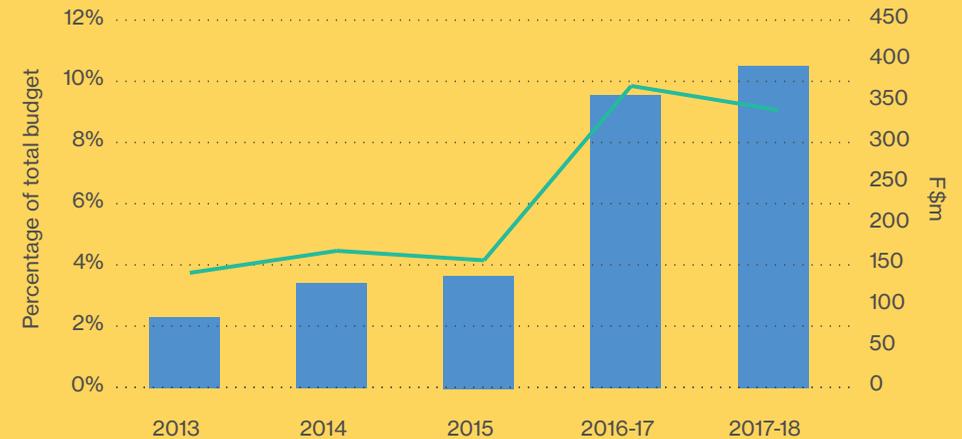


By 2050, climate change could increase the cost of cyclones and floods to 6.5% of GDP, and push 32,400 people into poverty per year.

- 2017
- 2050

## MESSAGE 2

The government has made significant efforts to reduce climate and disaster risks, better prepare for natural disasters, and respond to major shocks.



After TC Winston affected the country, the government responded using its social protection system to provide post-disaster support. An evaluation of this response shows its efficiency: the post-disaster support was used by affected families to buy essential items and it helped beneficiaries recover earlier, reducing the overall impacts of TC Winston on the population. It is estimated that this support **reduced the losses to the bottom 20 percent by 25 percent.**

- Total Spent on climate change and resilience (F\$ million)
- Percentage of Total Budget

## MESSAGE 3

Interventions in five main areas can reduce further the country's vulnerability, but they have significant financial implications, with investment needs estimated at F\$9.3 billion over 10 years, plus additional maintenance and operation costs and social expenditures.

### The identified priorities for the next ten years include:

- Capturing the window of opportunity to design economically vibrant, inclusive, and resilient towns and cities, with a focus on bringing safe greenfield sites onto the market.
- Improving infrastructure services (flood and coastal protection, transport, energy, water, health and education) to achieve universal access while boosting resilience.
- Supporting agriculture and fisheries development that is smart for the climate, the environment, and the economy.
- Conserving ecosystems and the local environment to protect valuable development assets.
- Building socioeconomic resilience, by taking care of the poor and keeping economic growth inclusive, through actions on preparedness, social protection, and health care.

## Summary of identified sectoral needs over the next 10 years to strengthen resilience of Fiji:

Sector	INVESTMENT NEEDS (Cost F\$ million)			RECURRENT COSTS (Cost F\$ million)		
	Planned	New	Total	Planned	New	Total
Housing/land use	63	152	215			
Hazard management	n.a.	2,106	2,106			
Transport	3,098	1,591	4,689			
Energy	271	175	446			
Water	685	447	1,132		175-440	
Health/education	5	568	573			
Environment	55	22	77			
Agriculture	11	3	14			
Fisheries	6	14	20			
Social Protection				47	4	51
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>4,194</b>	<b>5,078</b>	<b>9,272</b>			<b>226-491</b>

Note: n.a. = not available.

## MESSAGE 4

Implementing these interventions will be extremely challenging and would be facilitated by improved decision making (especially regarding public asset maintenance), well-managed public finances, and support from the international community.



ACP-EU Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Program  
An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group, funded by the European Union and managed by GFDRR

**As the President of the COP23 and on behalf of the small island nations, and building on the findings of this report, Fiji is asking the world for drastic action on climate change-building resilience through adaptation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions so that climate change does not impose a limit to our development and the aspiration of our people to live in their own lands.**

The Hon Voreqe Bainimarama

Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji and incoming COP23 President



“Climate Vulnerability Assessment of the Republic of Fiji: Making Fiji Climate Resilient” can be viewed at [www.ourhomeourpeople.com](http://www.ourhomeourpeople.com)