

# Nauru



## KEY FACTS:

- ◆ Joined Commonwealth: 1968
- ◆ Population: 10,000 (2007)
- ◆ Official language: English
- ◆ Time: GMT plus 12hr
- ◆ Currency: Australian dollar

## Current vulnerabilities and threats

### 1. What are the health risks from current or future climate change impacts that are of most concern to your country?

- ◆ Communicable disease outbreaks such as cholera, dengue and diarrhoea.
- ◆ Natural disasters including flooding, tsunamis and drought.

### 2. What population groups in your country are most vulnerable to the health impacts of climate change and what are the impacts likely to be?

- ◆ Younger population groups at risk from disasters and communicable diseases.
- ◆ The older generation at risk from disasters and communicable diseases.
- ◆ The whole population, especially those living in low lying areas.

## Strategy and Policy

### 3. How much of a priority is addressing the impacts of climate change on health for your country?

Mid-level priority.

### 4. Please describe the strategies your country has developed (for example, health and climate change adaptation strategies) that address the health impacts of climate change.

- ◆ Disaster preparedness strategies.
- ◆ Disease outbreak prevention and control strategies.

### 5. The health been integrated into national climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies?

Yes.

### 6. What steps have been made towards implementation of these strategies?

- ◆ Workshop carried out.
- ◆ Strategies still in planning stage.

### 7. What are the current policy gaps in addressing climate change and health?

- ◆ Multi-sectorial active involvement.
- ◆ Commitment from policy-makers.

- ◆ Regular practising of planned strategies.

### 8. How well equipped is your health system to cope with the impacts of climate change?

- ◆ Medical supplies stockpiled.
- ◆ Healthcare personnel on the ground.

### 9. Have you made any changes to your health system in response to increased risks resulting from climate change and if so, what changes have you made?

An annual health operational plan to cope with the risks has been developed.

### 10. What are the main constraints to addressing the health impacts of climate change in your country and how will these be addressed?

- ◆ Low levels of human, financial and material resources available.
- ◆ Communication difficulties.
- ◆ Transportation difficulties.

### 11. Have national resources been allocated to address climate change and health in your country? If so, approximately how much has been allocated and for what issues?

Budget allocated to a certain extent on communicable diseases outbreak control.

### 12. Is the Ministry of Health working together with other ministries (such as Ministries of Agriculture, Environment, Fisheries or Finance) to address health and climate change issues?

Yes.

### 13. Has your country been involved in work to manage climate change and health at the international level?

No.

### 14. How would you describe the capacity of your country to participate at the global level on climate change and health?

Low capacity to be involved at the global level.

***Any other comments or information you would like to provide***

Nauru is neither industrialised nor a developed country, but is vulnerable to disasters and can be a victim of climate change driven by the industrialised and developed countries. Therefore, Nauru appreciates the Commonwealth Secretariat's effort on this issue.