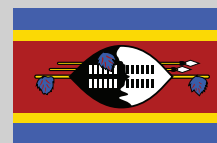


Swaziland



KEY FACTS:

- ◆ Joined Commonwealth: 1968
- ◆ Capital: Mbabane
- ◆ Population: 1,141,000 (2007)
- ◆ GDP growth: 0.2% p.a. 1990–2005
- ◆ Official language: siSwati, English
- ◆ Time: GMT plus 2hr
- ◆ Currency: lilangeni, plural emalangeni (E)

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?*

- ◆ Nutritional risks, as well as access to safe water.

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?*

- ◆ Under fives – malnutrition.
- ◆ Women – distance travelled to collect water.

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.*

- ◆ Increased budget in water and sanitation coverage .
- ◆ Draft National Food and Nutrition Policy.

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?*

- ◆ Poverty Reduction Strategy and Action Plan (PRSAP) linked to HIV/AIDS through the National Emergency Response committee on HIV/AIDS (NERCHA), UNAIDS, UNICEF and others.
- ◆ Ministry of Agriculture – less labour intensive crops.
- ◆ Food aid.
- ◆ Micronutrients and food supplements.
- ◆ National Food Security policy for Swaziland.

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

N/A.

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

We have an Epidemic and Emergency Task Force teams.

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?*

Food supplements at health facilities.

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

- ◆ Staffing problems – addressed through the National Strategic Action Plan.

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?*

Yes, for the development of safe water systems.

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?*

Yes, through programmes such as Emergency Preparedness and Response.

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

Very minimal.

Any other comments or information you would like to provide

There is need for the Ministry of Health to establish a Unit that will monitor climate trends and advise relevant departments accordingly and in time.