

Committee: United Nations Office for
Disaster Risk Reduction

Chair:

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Topic: “The Vulnerability of Island Nations
to Natural Disasters Challenges and
Global Response”



I. INTRODUCTION:

The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is the organizing point for countries to promote and regulate the risk of natural disasters within the UN system, as well as interested parties who work in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Its main objective is to reduce the losses caused by these natural disasters and thus build cities that are resilient to these events. The UNDRR is based on the Sendai Framework (2015-2030), which replaced the Hyogo Framework for Action (2005-2015). It was founded in 1999 by the UN, for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR). What are the topics that

The UNDRR discusses:

- Sendai Framework
- Climate changes
- Adaptation
- Sustainable development
- Risk prevention in natural disasters
- Systemic Crises
- Education and prevention towards sectors
- Early warning system

The role of UNDRR is to successfully implement the Sendai Framework. This is monitored to ensure that their expectations are being met. They also share news and stories from cities that have

made progress. They act as media as they organize and archive information received from different parts of the world regarding natural disasters in order to find solutions to the risks of natural disasters and control the situation.

Turning now to the topic, it refers to how countries that are made up of islands or chains of islands are the most likely to have more natural disasters due to their geographical area and how thanks to the occurrence of these events, the countries are left in a much more fragile position due to the lack of development in them, creating certain conflicts in good quality housing and survival for people who are residents of these island countries. Instead, these countries must obtain help from other countries and organizations to move forward.

This problem has always existed, unfortunately climate change has been increasing, which creates more natural disasters in these areas, because thanks to their geographical location they are more prone to ocean acidification and high sea levels, this is worrying since these factors are the main ones that cause various natural disasters such as hurricanes, tsunamis, cyclones, etc.

Also, this problem exists in the following countries:

Antigua and Barbuda, The Commonwealth Of The Bahamas , Barbados, Belize, The Republic Cabo verde, The Union Of The Comoros, Cook Islands, The Republic of Cuba, The Commonwealth of Dominica, The Dominican Republic, The Republic of Fiji, Grenada, The Republic of Guinea-Bissau, The Co-operative Republic of Guyana, The Republic of Haiti, Jamaica, The Republic of Kiribati, The Republic of Maldives, Marshall Islands, The Federated State of Micronesia, The Republic of Mauritius, The Republic of Nauru Niue, The Republic of Palestine, The Independent State of Papua New Guinea, The independent State of Samoa, The Democratic State of São Tomé and Príncipe, The Republic of Singapore, Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, The Republic of Seychelles, Solomon Islands, The Republic of Suriname , The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, The kingdom of Tonga, The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, The Republic of Vanuatu.

Islands are commonly strong food suppliers, for other nations, becoming an important issue and a concern for the same reason. Furthermore, the Caribbean countries are the most affected as The Republic of Cuba, The Republic of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, The Commonwealth Of The Bahamas, Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, and The Republic of Trinidad. The most common natural disasters that these islands suffer are typhoons, hurricanes, tropical storms and floods.

The UN has already followed up on this problem by implementing the Sendai Framework, which seeks to reduce the risks that natural disasters leave on businesses, residents, the economy, and homes. This framework has a deadline of 2030 to fulfill its purpose. Also, this topic was addressed at a fourth international conference, where island nations were highlighted. The issue of natural disaster risk and how it affected them was discussed. At the same time, an action program was developed to follow up on this problem.

II. HISTORY OF THE CONFLICT

As already mention, the main conflict is the devastating side effects that natural disasters leave, among them the people on the Pacific Islands which are amongst the most likely to disaster and climate risks, this includes: tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides, flood, cycle, and lastly consequences as droughts and deaths. On the other hand, these natural calamities have transcendent impact on livelihoods, referring to infrastructure, mentioning Pakistan floods of 2022 and Hurricane Katrina which struck the Southern United States in 2005, costing more than \$30 million and \$186 billion, affecting the most vulnerable people and especially the poorest individual groups (ILO).

Furthermore, there is not a specific date register that shows when and how did the conflict start, it has been historically recognized that Island nations have always been more likely to have natural calamities such as cyclones, tsunamis, volcanic activity, and earthquakes among others, due to their geographical action. The most existing solid record starts from Mid 20th Century, starting with post-WWII development which started enhancing more the relevance and scientific investigation towards the problem, at the same time there are historical records of Ancient communities pioneering on the reduction of Natural Disasters knowledge such as *Fijian storm shelters* being

constructed on raised on mounds (small hills) or Samorian oral histories that warned of tsunamis. Later on with the advances of science, there is a wider background of events established between the 1950s to 1970s.

In addition, what made the conflict escalate is the magnitude, presence and alarming rising of these natural disaster trends, (specially on Pacific Islands countries) raised along with the climate change. With the increasing global surface temperature, the possibility of more droughts and increased intensity of natural disasters have raised. Since more water vapor is evaporated into the atmosphere it becomes more powerful storms to develop. At the same time, this increases the wind speeds in tropical storms. It is also essential to ambition the role of Rising sea levels mostly caused by the melting of the poles, that has been actively subjected to the power of the sea and their triggering erosive waves forces.

Some important dates when relevant events occurred are the following:

- May 2, 1960: Great Chilean Earthquake: 9.5 largest scale recorded magnitude, set off a tsunami that resulted in the death of 60 individuals in Hilo, Hawaii. Including The Republic of Japan. Its impact regarded the need for international tsunami monitoring, meaning an important expansion of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.
- 1987: Maldives Capital flooded. In April 1987, high tides phenomenon, resulted in the flood of the low level lying capital of the Maldives, Male. This event exposed the vulnerability that atolls face, and their low level establishments. Also, recalling the rising effects of climate change, which were not accepted back then. And the international call made by the Republic of Maldives, that took part in the evolution of the current topic.
- 1990: UN Declaration: International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction(IDNDR) With its purpose, to reduce the human life losses, property damage, and social pauses that natural disaster provoked, emphasizing vulnerable countries. This is considered the first global institution step upon a wider perspective on larger development recession rather than individual events.

- 1994: Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Regarded as the first conference Natural Disaster Reduction, carried out in the State of Japan. This prioritized the *prevention*, preparation and reduction, enhancing how the lack of resources and infrastructure represented a grand issue. The lasting strategy “prevention is better than cure”, regarded as a basis for the modern subject of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
- 2004: Cyclone Era Destroys Niue.: Category 5 tropical cyclone, hit Nue and strongly affected the states of Tonga and Samoa. Having effects as 75% destroyed or damaged infrastructure. And the imminent loss of communication systems and livelihoods, showed how entire nations were affected or completely devastated.
- 2015: Paris Climate Agreement: At 21st edition UN Climate Change Conference(COP21), global leaders signed the Paris Agreement. Involving Tuvalu, the Marshall Islands, and the Maldives which were of active relevance on limiting the global temperature to 1.5°C contrasting 2°C, considering the sharp importance that many islands faced as, coral reef loss, floodings even before reaching 2°C.
- 2021: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment Report: Releasing the most alarming report until now, regarding global climate, the report detailed on how low level islands have an important possibility to become uninhabitable in the 21st century, due to natural disasters possibilities and effects.

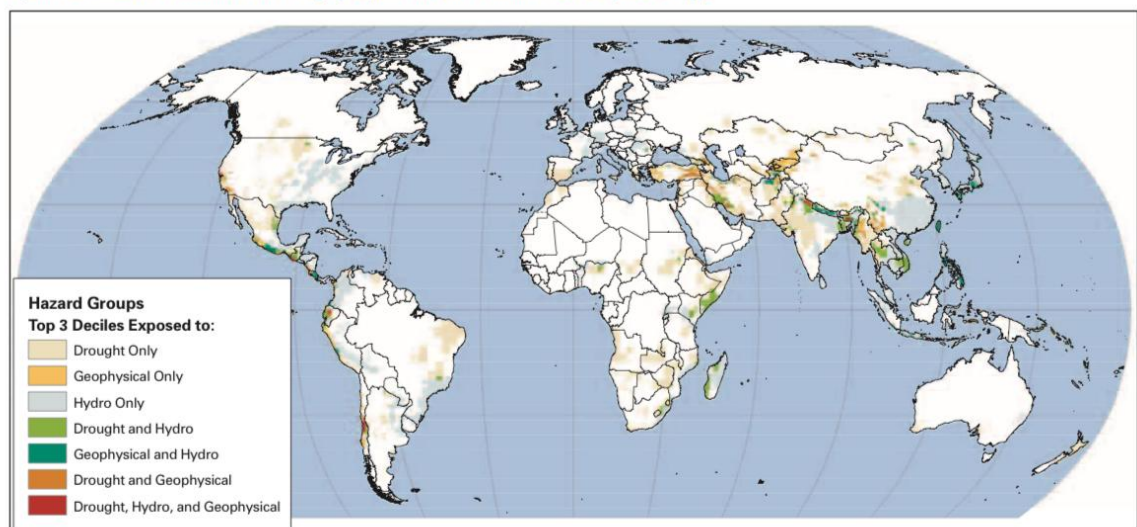
Furthermore, the most affected countries have been: United States of America, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, The Republic of Indonesia, Republic of the Philippines, Federal republic of Brazil, The Republic of Colombia, Pacific Ocean Region, Low level Islands

As in previous situations, natural hazards get intensified. Despite then noticeable progress toward the topic as former projects powered by Tuvalu and Kiribati as references including current UNESCO SIDS, movements as reinforcing local media preparation and broadcasting , the legal advances and improving warning global systems, funding and lack of resources is still an important obstacle.

In addition, the most recent mitigated crisis was the Caribe Wave Tsunami 8.6 magnitude simulation, which demonstrated an improvement in and effectiveness of tsunami warnings. Involving emergency agencies, communications visas, schools and population, the simulation resulted as successful, actively showing the improvements in preparation upon Natural disasters.

Also, some challenges of the vulnerability of island nations to natural disasters are in the following image.

Figure 1.1. Global Distribution of Areas Highly Exposed to One or More Hazards, by Hazard Type



Note: Geophysical hazards include earthquakes and volcanoes; hydrological hazards include floods, cyclones, and landslides.

Source: World Bank Org

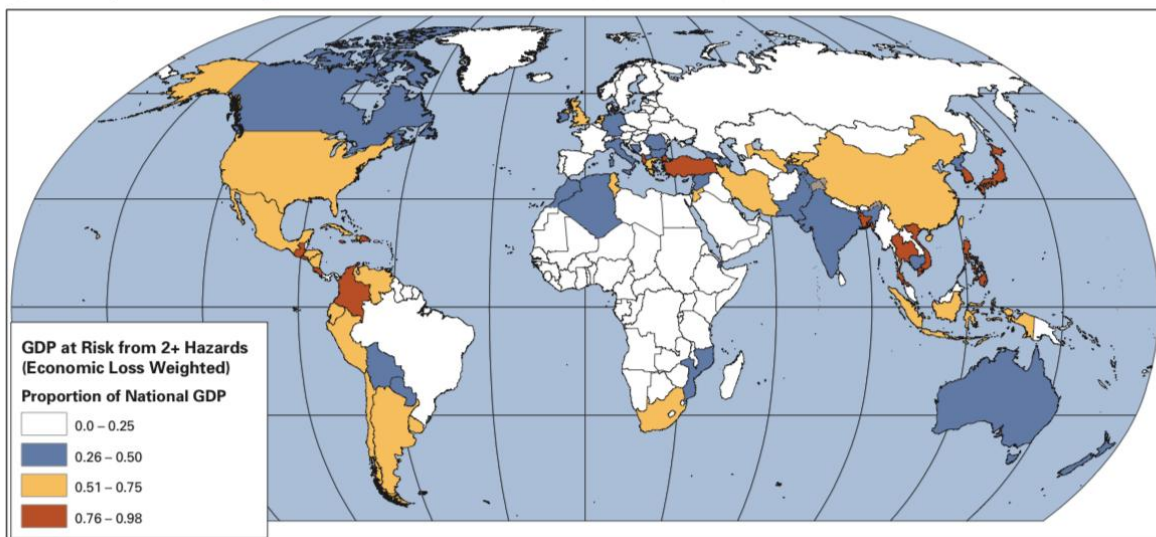
Many Institutions, Organizations, states and Nations have shown their strong interest upon the topic, enhancing the importance in current times. As many conferences are held for referencing SIDS Conference (May 2024) established in Antigua and Barbuda, highlighting the importance of improving warning systems, and climate funding, UNESCO SIDS strategies, Island's former Projects, and Economic importance as it raises its Threats Costs shown in a World Bank report, establishing that 0.5 in Kiribati, Tuvalu and Marshall Island could represent a cost up to \$10 billion dollars, in other words 2 decades of the GDP of these nations.

It is necessary to mention that natural disasters affect societies. Further than the strong loss it represents, whole nations disappearing risks and lasting consequences as deaths trends which

overall trend points to a decline from several hundreds of thousands of deaths annually during the first half of the 20th century to roughly 45,000 deaths globally each year. Over time repeated and constant natural disasters can certainly put communities and populations under an unfinishing poverty circle and irreparable infrastructure issues due to the lack of resources and funding that especially small nations face.

Among the important aspects, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are geographically and economically most vulnerable, some aspects include earthquake zones, and the important phenomenon of the Pacific Ring of Fire which are strong causes of tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, tropical storms and rising sea levels. Also, the Isolation and Size of the proper island sometimes known as coral atolls as Tuvalu or the Maldives.

Figure 1.5. Proportion of GDP In Highest Risk Areas from Two or More Hazards (Economic Losses)



Source: World Bank Org

According to the World Bank, which has compiled data of approaching 26,000 mass disasters from 1990.

Among them these are the most sharp and key Economic devastations: Vanuatu Pam Cyclone 2015, destroyed 64% of the state GDP represented in damages.

Dominica, Hurricane Maria 2017, damaged 226% of the state GDP, resulting in the near collapse of the Island economy.

Moving on to the main environmental challenges are the following:

1. Sea-Level Rise
2. Tropical Cyclones and Hurricanes
3. Coral Reef Degradation
4. Droughts
5. Flooding and Storm Tides
6. Loss of Biodiversity

Now, the social challenges are:

1. Climate Migration and families relocation
2. Public Health Threats (cholera & dengue)
3. Loss of Identity and Cultural Heritage(Sacred places and community pauses)
4. Inequality in Services Access rural populations in terms of evacuation, health care, and disaster prevention and management)
5. Education pauses

Lastly, an important part are the economic challenges. The lack of economic and climate funding, among the nations who face these challenges in reconstructing infrastructure, millions of people in Asia attempt to rebuild their lives and communities following the devastating earthquake and tsunami that occurred on December 26, 2004. The earthquake occurred off the coast of Sumatra, registering 9.0 on the Richter scale, and causing tsunami waves that swept through the Indian Ocean at a rate of 500-700 km per hour, devastating coastal areas of countries across South and Southeast Asia and East Africa. More than 220,000 people were killed, thousands more were injured, and millions affected. Damage to infrastructure, social systems, and the environment has been a substantial lack of resources funding.

What governments have done to face the challenges previously mentioned is to engage in global conventions, advocate for the prevention of climate change which is the main cause of the struggle that creates sea levels on islands. And joining initiatives in order to promote the eradication of the causes of this problem. Former community projects, locals build cyclone-proof houses, and actively get more involved in small actions in an aim to recover as, planting and water tanks placements as

examples. Along with the traditional knowledge, as indigenous methods in order to face weather. And in more advanced countries the implementation and investigation of better systems and knowledge upon the topic.

Also some of the countries that have helped the vulnerable islands over the years are:

- Commonwealth of Australia: Important funding sponsor in Pacific ocean territories.
- The Realm of New Zealand: actively promotes and supports Pacific Island preparation.
- State of Japan: Providing innovative infrastructure solutions and sister risk reduction.
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Finances Caribbean and Pacific Island through Green Climate Fund.
- United States of America: American USAID & FEMA agencies fund emergency relief, and continuously promote climate science and military responses.

Moreover, some organizations that have helped with this crisis are, UNDRR, UNDP, World Bank, GEF and red cross. Also, governments like The Republic of Japan, The Realm of New Zealand, The Commonwealth Australia, The United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. All the help helps eradicate and prevent natural disasters, but there are many cases where prevention failed because of the bad administration, and some current investors are: coastal protection, early warning systems, and climate resilient infrastructure.

III. CURRENT HAPPENINGS

Because of the current cases of Climate Change natural barriers have been going down and that debilitates the countries or Islands security. A current example could be the rising sea levels because of the ice bodies melting. Also, some organizations have brought aid to the individuals affected by the conflict: UNDRR, UNDP, Red Cross, World Bank, CCRIF, etc.

Among the most affected countries, percentages are the loss of Vanuatu's housing, clean water, and healthcare resources are 60-70%. Tuvalu 45 percent of land loss and displacement.

And the significant loss of agriculture, migration, and water salinization in Kiribati of 40%. 50% of Fiji experiences flooding, mangrove damage, and losses in tourism.

Moreover, this problem has affected us socially and economically. First, socially with internal displacement, cultural identity loss and community disruption. Lastly economically with agricultural decline, tourism Loss, damaged infrastructure, Increased Aid dependency.

The impact that it has had on the environment, erosion along the coast, biodiversity loss, destroyed mangroves and coral which means an essential factor as natural barriers. Along the freshwater resource salinization. In addition, the issue jags affected population in forced migration and a declining economy loss and loss of livelihoods. Thus, islands become inhabitable, rising food and water insecurity, and extreme weather events which are prone to destroy their livelihoods and structures vital for hospitals or care organizations.

Consequently, around 10% to 20% Island populations have already migrated. The countries with major migrant concentration from Island populations are New Zealand, Australia, in an important minority to Fiji, despite the unstable circumstances.

The most involved organizations in aiding these affected regions are: UNDRR, UNDP, World Bank, Green climate fund, Global environment facility, Pacific Island Forum, SIPS DOCK, International red cross.

IV. INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS

United Nations: Pacific Island Forum August 2024 *Secretary General, Antonio Guterres* launched an urgent global call upon developed countries to duplicate the financial fund in climate adaptation for over annual USD 40 thousand million for 2025, moreover declared that the ocean warming rises upon 3 times faster than average.

General Assembly: GA/12397 76th session 54th meeting, among the different topics discussed this meeting adopted resolutions calling for urgent and global action in an aim to address the threat impact of climate change on small developing States. Acting without a vote on the report “Disaster risk reduction” (document [A/76/533/Add.3](#)) no voting, the Assembly adopted an ambitious resolution on the conduction of *multi hazard disaster risk assessments*, regarding climate

projections, and the urgent need for solid evidence based disaster risk reduction strategies, along with guide risk-informed development investments by the private and public sectors. On September 2023, Session: Charting Livable pathways for humans and nature. The Assembly reaffirmed their commitment with the Sendai Framework, upon SIDS and their urgent financial fund need, early preparations\ and risk reduction.

Security Council: 14 February 2023, Location : New York “Pacific Islands forum remarks at Security Council the threats increased sea level rise represents to international peace and security” Highlighting strong points, *presented by H.E. Viliami Va’inga Tone*, in addition to the previous issues already established, was of great concern, to recall the International Law Commission on “*Sea-level rise in relation to International Law*” in exclusive economic areas that have recently been affected by the sea level rise. Also recalling the need of an especial representative on Weather and Security fostering constant reports of the Security Council about these threats. All these while discussing their ground-breaking *Declaration on Preserving Maritime Zones in the face of Climate change-related Sea-level rise*, emphasized the importance of UNCLOS for maintaining peace, justice and progress for the people.

United Nations Human Rights Office (OHCR): On March 6, 2015 senior UN officials joined high-level delegates from Pacific Island States that are currently struggling the global sea level issue for exploring the potential risks and devastating outcomes at the UN Human Rights office. Considering the undermines to the health, alimentation, water, sanitation, household rights in SIDS as Republic of Kiribati and Tuvalu addressed by sub commissioner *Flavia Panseiri*. While regarding the submerging of low lying islands, the Government Minister of the Republic of Kiribati exposed what the call “climate change refugees” expressing that Kiribati has been buying land offshore for providing people with the skills to “*migrate with dignity*” when their islands were no longer habitable, Mr. Colville said. Concluding on the importance of individual rights on possible “*no state*” islands by the sea level rise submerging of the same. By all this recalling the importance of this debate on the continuous UN Climate change agreement on Paris later that year.

United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA): Among the various responses and actions that UN OCHA has had throughout the years, the most remarkable

ones include: July 24, 2024 Hurricane Beryl response delivered virtually to a briefing at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, 19 July 2024. In which Caribbean leaders gathered for briefing on Hurricane Beryl and its implications. The road to recovery from Hurricane Beryl will be a “*herculean task*” one Minister said, urging climate justice, a call echoed by the UN Resident Coordinator. Underscoring the strong need for international support for aiding the implicated communities. Discussing people's great losses, and “*disrupted life paths in many cases permanently*” remarked by Elizabeth Riley executive director of CDEMA. In addition to the insurance, infrastructure, and economic struggles.

Later, leading on ground response, the UN response plan estimated an initial USD \$9 million fund needed for supporting humanitarian efforts, *UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres* allocated USD \$4 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund. Besides this case UNOCHA is responsible for the activation and rejoinder of the UNDAC system, based on the mobilization of technical teams in engineering, logistics, residual management, regarding requests on vulnerable states from natural disasters in a deadline of 24-48 hrs. As in the Republic of Vanuatu 7.3 scaled earthquake in December 2024, in which UNDAC team provided evaluation labors, medic urgencies, water, sanity, and logistics supported by USD \$ 1 Million form Central Emergency Fund. Actively providing resources for natural disaster emergencies cases.

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDDR):

Throughout the years, significant actions have been taken to emphasize the importance of disaster reduction policies for Small Island Developing States (SIDS). A key event, the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS 4) on May 31, 2024, highlighted that integrating disaster risk reduction into national policies can safeguard developmental gains from disasters and mitigate existing risks. This effort aligns with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Reduction, a global strategy aimed at reducing disaster losses by 2030.

The Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) underscores agreements aimed at enhancing the capacities of SIDS through initiatives like the UN Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All Initiative and the Santiago Network, which seek to address climate-related loss and damage.

Additionally, the UN Secretary-General urged developed countries to fulfill their commitment to double adaptation financing by 2025.

In comments made by Mami Mizutori, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, at the COP 26, it was noted that SIDS face “double exposure” to economic and environmental shocks. The situation of the Republic of Vanuatu, which suffered extensive damage from a cyclone five years post-2015, and the Commonwealth of Dominica, which lost 240% of its GDP during the 2017 hurricane season, exemplifies the vulnerabilities these countries face. Their proactive response to ratifying the Paris Agreement showcases a commitment to coordinated climate action.

Furthermore, the UNDDR supports the establishment of national disaster loss databases in over 110 countries, enabling access to the Global Assessment Framework for early action. This initiative fosters a robust data ecosystem to bolster early warning systems. Additionally, the UNDDR has partnered with various organizations through initiatives like the CREWS climate risk and early warning system, the Urban Resilience program, and the Making Cities Resilient 2030 initiative, which currently involves over 1,400 cities. The SIDS4 Investing in Resilience campaign emphasizes the economic rationale that for every USD \$1 invested in risk reduction, there could be potential savings of USD \$6 in recovery efforts. Collectively, these efforts have led to crucial advancements in resilient infrastructure and disaster readiness for financial prevention, continuous strategies creation, and constant case study and investigation.

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP): During the 2023-2024 Emissions Gap Report the UNEP reported that “The World is far from meeting the Paris Agreement goals” “-threatens SIDS who contribute the least but suffer the most”. At the COP 28 UNEP executive Director Inger Andersen declared that “Island nations are literally facing disappearance”. Looking forward to improving this situation UNEP has acted in several ways in an aim for mitigating the risk that these states face as the fellow. *UNEP’s Caribbean Office* worked along *Jamaica National Environmental Policy Act*, the *University of the West Indies Centre for Marine Scientists* in the restoration of mangroves, coral reefs and seagrass beds and 20 planting red Mangrove saplings with the intention of acting as natural buffers against coastal erosion and hurricanes, this as an example of in their

Coastal Ecosystem Restoration Project (2021-2022). Taking role on the General Assembly resolution establishing World SeaGrass Day (1 March 2024), the resolution was inspired by the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka mangrove Regeneration started in 2015 onward, this action rearranged mass planting for natural regeneration, restoring 500 hectares. This restoring principle was also shown on the Lamu Blue Carbon Mangrove Restoration at the Republic of Kenya 2023 Launched in 2023, it has restored over 4,000 hectares of mangroves boosting community income via carbon credits. All these actions show the key role that UNEP represents in the active prevention of Risk Reduction at a Global Scale.

United Nations Development Programme: Focusing more on SIDS programs and implementation for development, the UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner has established “The flight for survival in countries like Tuvalu, Kiribati, and the Maldives is real”. At the UN SIDS4, actions have been carried out as the Kiribati Adaptation Program 2012-2016 based on the Mangrove replanting, rainwater harvesting and improved drainage systems, the improving of policy frameworks for land water management. COVID Climate Recovery Projects 2020-2022 for the Republic of the Maldives ,the Republic of the Seychelles and the Independent State of Samoa, enhancing the resilient energy systems and public works and integration of climate risk into health infrastructure. Also actively aiding Tuvalu’s TCAP project constructing coastal geotextile berms (raised barriers made with synthetic fabric filled with sand), community training, and prevention actions in addition to a total funding of \$US 38.9 Million. All these actions have especially contributed to the welfare of the SIDS.

IGO’s

- **European Union:**The European Union has collaborated regarding natural disasters with two main programs. The first is the EU Civil Protection Mechanism, which seeks to facilitate the movement of resources so they can quickly reach the countries that need them, while also allowing countries to support each other in both communication and resources. The second program is the EU Solidarity Fund, which provides money to countries affected by these natural disasters.

- **Human Rights Watch:** This IGO aims to ensure that people's rights are respected, in this case focusing on natural disasters. They ensure that people obtain basic rights when these disasters strike, such as humanitarian protection, non-discrimination, and adequate protection. These actions were reflected in the case of the Myanmar earthquake that occurred on March 28, 2025, where HRW immediately supported affected people by moving them to safe shelters.
- **Alliance of Small Island States:** This organization has focused and assisted this problem with perseverance and a lot of activity on its part regarding the natural disasters and climate changes that occur to its participating members of this organization, since it has been able to negotiate with countries resilient to these problems to find a good adaptation and mitigation. What AOSIS does is to be able to evaluate the risk of natural disasters in certain areas, it supports countries that are developing to provide information on prevention and preparation for these problems, it is the main engine that supports above all the involvement of AI and technology to be able to improve their preparation and information for island countries and more.
- **Caribbean Community:** This program has been heavily involved in taking action against these natural disasters and raising awareness of climate change that increases the risk of natural disasters. It has been an important participant in the creation of the Caribbean Early Warning System, created to safely detect the onset of natural disasters throughout the Caribbean region and, at the same time, help mitigate the effects of climate change. It is an influential stakeholder in climate change, proposing an ecological process for products and climate adaptation, thanks to the fact that sea level rise, acidification, and climate change are threats to these Caribbean islands. The Caribbean Community has encouraged its members to be a source of information, resources, and active natural disaster drills. This same organization has its own fund called the Caribbean Regional Disaster Fund, which offers various insurance policies for natural disasters. These are available to all its members in case of emergency.
- **Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery:** About this organization, it is the one that provides aid to island countries so that they are not so vulnerable in the face of natural disasters in conjunction with climate change, its help has been

reflected through its participation in technology, the support it provides to developing countries in terms of climate change adaptation, risk reduction and knowledge programs to be able to ask these natural disasters. It is a factor that supports and promotes the Sendai framework for natural disaster risk reduction, on the other hand, it has created a repair guide after natural disasters, where it breaks down how we can achieve it through sustainable development without further affecting climate change.

- **International Monetary Fund:** The International Monetary Fund helps by providing donations to poor and developing countries affected by natural disasters and epidemics, so that these countries can be relieved of their debts. This program was declared in 2015 and modified in 2020. This organization has been informed of this problem in order to provide rapid and effective emergency assistance to these countries affected by natural disasters. Furthermore, the bank also offers a higher financing limit if required, depending on the severity of the issue faced by the countries.
- **Pacific Islands Forum:** The PIF has been involved in natural disaster preparedness and response, which is available to its member countries. It places significant emphasis on its members so they can meaningfully support them so they are not vulnerable and can adapt to these drastic changes that leave serious consequences. Thanks to this, it has offered proposals to improve early warning to make it even more effective. It has also provided technical and financial support to its members so they can have rapid responses, post-disaster preparedness, and can first assess the disaster that will impact them. This organization has spoken out for other countries and has communicated that action by all other countries is needed to avoid national disasters in the near future.
- **Inter-American Development Bank:** This organization has been involved in supporting countries in the Caribbean and Latin America, such as assessing the impact of these natural disasters, creating essential tools that can help in these serious and risky cases, providing economic support for recovery and prevention to countries in danger, and encouraging countries to adapt to their new circumstances. In terms of partnership building, this platform created the Risk Monitor, which

provides information on sectors that are at risk, face threats, and which may be potentially affected. The IDB supports projects and policies that address natural disaster prevention, safeguarding lives in the face of these disasters, climate change adaptation, and sustainable resource management. The IDB is a highly-functional organization that has invested over \$1.1 billion in programs that educate the public about the risks posed by natural disasters and how they can prepare.

NGOS

- **International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies:** The IFRC is a federation of National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies working together to provide humanitarian aid and support to communities around the world. The organization provides aid in areas such as disaster response, health, and emergency preparations.
- **CARE International:** CARE international is an organization that fights against poverty and social injustice, helping vulnerable communities, especially girls and women.
- **Oxfam organization:** Oxfam is a confederation of humanitarian organizations working together to address issues of poverty, inequality, and social justice around the world. The organization provides humanitarian aid and support to communities affected by natural disasters and conflicts.
- **World Vision:** World Vision is a Christian Humanitarian organization that works to improve the lives of children and families around the world. Provides assistance to areas such as education, health and disaster prevention.
- **ShelterBox:** ShelterBox is a humanitarian organization that provides shelter and aid to people affected by natural disasters and conflicts.
- **GlobalGiving:** Global Giving is a crowdfunding platform that connects donors with projects and organizations working around the world to address humanitarian and development humanitarian and development issues. The platform allows donors to support specific projects and see the impact of their donation.

- **Team Rubicon:** Team Rubicon is a non-profit organization that provides humanitarian aid and disaster reduction worldwide. Their team of military veterans and civilians who work together to provide assistance in crisis situations. Humanitarian aid after hurricane Katrina in New Orleans

V. BLOCK ANALYSIS

Republic of Fiji: Fiji's economy has grown by approximately 3.4% since the pandemic hit in 2020, with more tourists visiting. However, its external debt, inflation, and vulnerability remain a major challenge for this island nation. The most significant investment the Republic of Fiji made was in 2016, when it requested and secured a \$50 million loan from the World Bank for recovery after Cyclone Winston. The government has declared itself committed to helping refugees and continues to support the UNHCR. It supports its country by submitting to programs such as the IFC, UNDP, UNHCR, etc. It is committed to continuing its action programs for natural disasters and helping developing island countries.

Republic of Haiti:

The country is experiencing an economic crisis that has brought with it a desolation of basic needs for its inhabitants, terrorist activity, and significant political insecurity. The Republic of Haiti has investments in the UNHCR, which promises to have \$49.3 million by 2025. The government has responded by providing aid to those affected in its nation, providing them with support and protection. Support will continue to be provided to those affected through their protection, as well as to their internal communities. Laws to facilitate internal migration will be expanded. It has cooperated with INGs, IOM, and UNHCR. The Republic of Haiti limits itself to accepting people from outside its nation as its primary focus is on its own population.

Maldives:

In 2024 The Maldives established a US 25 million water security and climate resilience project in companion with the organizations UNEP and GCF, as a consequence of the declaration that the island would become inhabitable by 2100. The government has declared that is a "matter of

survival”, highlighting the coastal protection. Despite the fact that it actively works with UN agencies, the country does not rely on a refugee resettlement program.

Barbados:

The Republic of Barbados is recognized as economically stable and has a vision for investment. However, there are no exact records of how much money it has invested in its residents affected by natural disasters. The government is willing to improve the country's resilience and migration flow. It is currently planning new laws and ways to address this issue. It has cooperated with the IOM, and regarding refugee acceptance, this country accepts only migrants who meet the proposed criteria.

Tuvalu:

Tuvalu's economy depends on seafood harvesting, however, it is vulnerable to rising sea levels and the significant climate changes it is experiencing. This country is facing increasing natural disasters, specifically flooding, which has forced it to find another place to live for its inhabitants. The World Bank has been a strong sponsor with \$11.5 million, which has gone toward climate resilience. This supports Tuvalu through resources provided by this campaign, since it annually donates 15% of its income to this fund. Australia has recognized Tuvalu's problem and has offered support for the mobility of Tuvaluans to other regions due to natural disasters. Furthermore, the government has already taken action by launching a campaign for its inhabitants after natural disasters. This region is cooperating with Australia and the Food Bank. As for the acceptance of external migrants, they have taken the position of not accepting them.

Republic of Dominica: Now a prominent and leading country in risk reduction Dominica has become one of the highly vulnerable to cyclones, rising the sea levels. This affects their economy since it relies on tourism and has been recovering from past disasters, such as Hurricane Maria from 2017. Furthermore, the World Bank supported seven countries in Central America and the Dominican Republic in Disaster Risk Financial Management. It helped by giving technical assistance for the development of financial management strategies and operational implementation

plans. Moreover, the World Bank gave US \$350 million in Emergency Response Loans; in which \$150 million were for Honduras and \$200 million for the Dominican Republic (World Bank, 2025).

Republic of Philippines: The Republic of Philippines is a country highly vulnerable to typhoons and cyclones, which can cause landslides, floods, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. In late 2024, the nation faced a series of cyclones and storms that caused evacuations and damages to infrastructure; impacting most of the coastal regions (Statista, 2025). The Philippines received financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank, to help to mitigate the effects of natural disasters. Besides, this aid also provided emergency shelters for the affected people and funds to improve infrastructure (ADB, 2025).

Republic of Indonesia: Historically, the Republic of Indonesia has suffered devastating natural disasters, among them, earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods and landslides . One of the most historic events to this issue has been the 2004 tsunami in Aceh and the 2018 Palu earthquake; demonstrating the country's seismic and coastal vulnerability (Mercy Corps, 2019). Besides, the World Bank approved a US \$500 million loan operation to support Indonesia's efforts to strengthen its financial response to natural disasters, climate risks as well as health crises (World Bank Group, 2021). In addition, Indonesia is not a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention (Jazeera, 2024).

United Mexican States: Due to its geographic location, Mexico is exposed to multiple natural disasters, primarily earthquakes, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions floods and droughts. Disasters such as the 1989 and 2017 earthquakes and Hurricane Otis in 2023, are examples of the most devastating disasters that have impacted the country in the last years (Cid, 2024). The National Center for Disaster Prevention (CENAPRED) is a Mexican institution that monitors natural phenomena to prevent and control the risks of natural disasters (Centro Nacional de Prevención de Desastres, 2025).

Republic of India: Implementing Heat Action Plans in 23 states in collaboration with World Bank and JICA (Japan International Collaboration Agency) it also supports nearly 250,00 refugees among them Tibetans, Afghans, Rohingya despite not being a Refugee Convention signatory . In July 2025 the Punjab Assembly requested US \$1.2 Billion in flood aid from New Delhi, nevertheless the National Disaster Response Fund released only US\$60 million.

State of Japan: As an active financing country, in UNHCR and disaster recovery. In March 2025, promised USD \$ 55 million dollars to IOM humanitarian operations, regarding climate migration initiatives in Asia and Africa. However, the country remains as one of the lowest refugee recognition rates globally, as in 2023 only approved 202 asylum applications out of 12,000 candidates.

Commonwealth of Australia: Under the 2023 Falepili Union, the country magnified its contributions to the Tuvalu Trust Fund, additionally co-financing the 36 million dollars Tuvalo Coastal Adaptation initiative with UNDP. Supporting the Pacific Engagement Visa started in July 2025, opens to 280 Tuvaluans annually. Thus, positioning as one of the few developed states with an annual refugee quota, and strict domestic asylum.

United States of America: in 2025 ex President Biden, signed an executive order suspending refugee admissions, under URSAP unsettled revision. Moreover the country provided \$250, 000 dollars to the Philippines by the World Food Programme after tropical cyclone “Ragasa” , it remains as UNHCR’s strongest donor over USD 2 billion annually.

French Republic: During the co-hosted 2025 UN ocean Summit in Nice, President Emmanuel Macron guaranteed €100 million financial support for ocean and coastal resilience. Furthermore, it has committed €500 million (2021-2025) for the Green Climate Fund, and supports multiple initiatives of the UNHCR to reinforce asylum systems in Africa and the Caribbean regions. The country bears over 130,00 asylum applications per year and resettles refugees along the UNHCR.

New Zealand (Aotearoa New Zealand): Establishing a 1,500 refugee quota per year. including the Pacific population, in 2025 expanded its Pacific Access Category visa for citizens of Tuvalu, Kiribati, Tonga and Fiji. The country highlights the principle of “manaakitanga” (hospitality), as their role in the issue. Additionally to financial support of NZ \$20 million per year in Pacific climate initiatives.

VI. KEY POINTS:

Natural disasters: Catastrophic natural events that end lives and properties, they are only called natural disasters if they affect a population.

Vulnerability: Fragility in the face of a threatening situation where harm could be suffered, due to a lack of stability.

Island nations: They are sovereign countries that are surrounded by water and can be accommodated with other small islands.

Climate change: It's the frequent change in temperatures that the planet suffers, this is caused by human activities such as the burning of fossils and deforestation.

Disaster risk reduction: It is the organization that is responsible for helping to regulate and manage natural disasters in order to avoid more misfortune in the future or to indicate natural disasters in certain areas in advance for the protection of people.

Sustainable development: It is mainly based on making people aware of the importance and care of the environment, in order to achieve the proposed objectives such as a better economy, safeguarding nature and the wellbeing of people.

Tsunamis: A group of large waves that impact with great energy, these are caused by violent shaking of the sea.

Flooding: When water invades a normally dry area for a period of time. Floods are caused by storms, rains, river flows, etc...

Earthquakes: It is the consequence of the aggressive movement of Earth's tectonic plates.

Emergency relief: It focuses on helping anyone who finds themselves in a vulnerable position in a quick and effective way to avoid a tragedy or danger.

Humanitarian help: The support offered to others who are going through tragedy, such as natural disasters, wars, poverty, and other disasters.

VII. KEY QUESTIONS:

1. If Islands like Vanuatu completely disappeared,
What guidelines should be implemented to guarantee the individual's rights as nationality along with the universal ones?
2. Whether developed countries take responsibility for climate change, in what matter should the financial response: as historical responsibility or highest current emissions.
Following the last question how would that affect their economic independence.
3. *Contemplating* the sinking of SIDS how would the territory be remained as, national sovereignty or internationally exploitable waters?
4. *Aware* of the SIDS lack of resourced conditions, in which ways can be ensured millionaire high technology implementation in engineering prevention of natural disasters.
5. *Recalling* the vulnerability of the sovereignty of a Small Island nation in case of disappearance, What place would it happen to take in the UN and the financial word debt.

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