

Small Islands Supplementary Material

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SM15.1 Key Risks

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
KR1. Loss of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem services	EPA measures (15.4.4). Marine protected areas (MPAs), including paired terrestrial and marine protected areas aimed at preventing marine ecosystem degradation, and enhancing climate resilience (Bates et al., 2019; Carlson et al., 2019).	Medium evidence, low/ agreement (with regard to CC adaptation and benefits)	Widespread across small island regions. Some of the largest MPAs globally have been designated around small islands (e.g., Chagos, Hawaii, Galapagos, Cook Islands, Pitcairn). Some advocated for climate resilience purposes, e.g., Pacific islands (McLeod et al., 2019), including Fiji and Papua New Guinea (Le Comte et al., 2018).	Strong governance and sufficient financial resources to allow for adequate management and enforcement (Schleicher et al., 2019)	Restricting human activities through MPAs is assumed to create more resilient biological communities with a greater capacity to resist and recover following climate events. Yet species protected from activities such as fishing can also be vulnerable to climate stressors – the ‘Protection Paradox’ (see Bates et al., 2019).	Secondary benefits for marine biodiversity and coastal economies. Support to food supply. Increased human health and well-being.		
KR1. Loss of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem services	EPA measures (15.4.4). Active restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems (e.g., coral reefs, mangrove forests and seagrass meadows)	Limited evidence, low/ agreement (with regard to long-term success)	Replanting of mangroves or seagrasses and transplantation of corals is becoming common practice in small islands although often only at a small scale. For example, artificial reefs are found in the Maldives (Fabian et al., 2013) and in Mauritius (Duvat et al., 2002a); beach nourishment in Tuvalu (Onaka et al., 2017) and Mauritius (Onaka et al., 2015); vegetation planting in Fiji (Veitayaki and Holland, 2017) and Sicily (Alagna et al., 2019). Coral reefs and seagrass are among the most expensive ecosystems to restore. Mangrove restoration projects were typically the largest and the least expensive per ha. The overall success of restoration projects is variable, in particular success of seagrass replanting is typically relatively low (~38%) worldwide (Bayraktarov et al., 2016).	Adaptation taxes and levies imposed on tourism can provide funding for restoration and protection, e.g., in the British Virgin Islands. Blue bonds are an innovative ocean financing instrument whereby funds raised in international markets are earmarked exclusively for projects deemed ‘ocean-friendly’ (e.g., Seychelles and Grenada). In the Seychelles, coral restoration programmes and mangrove reforestation are promoted through public-private partnerships, generating opportunities for wetland tourism (Khan and Amelie, 2015).	Active intervention in the form of habitat recreation is assumed to enhance resilience of natural ecosystems, thereby reducing their vulnerability.	Improve water quality; reduction in coastal erosion and flood risks since vegetated habitats (and intact coral reefs) help to dissipate wave energy and to protect coastlines; economic benefits.		

Table SM15.1 | Summary of adaptation options to key risks identified for small islands.

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
	Hard protection (15.5.1). Hard shoreline structures sometimes designed to also enhance marine biodiversity	Medium evidence, medium agreement	Artificial reefs have been increasingly used in small islands to support reef restoration and reduce beach erosion, e.g., in the Maldives (Fabian et al., 2013), in Mauritius (Duvat et al., 2020a), in Antigua (Cummings et al., 2015). Adaptation taxes and levies imposed on tourism can provide funding for restoration and protection, e.g., British Virgin Islands. In the Caribbean, fiscal instruments are used such as environmental taxes and levies but there is <i>limited evidence</i> of direct reinvestment in conservation and management (Attze et al., 2014; CANARI, 2020)		Uncertainty on reduction of exposure and vulnerability of marine ecosystems. Usually implemented in order to reduce exposure of human assets/infrastructure, with secondary benefits for marine and coastal biodiversity. Sometimes left as substrates for passive colonisation by marine species (e.g., fish and corals); elsewhere has been introduced alongside active transplantation of coral colonies.	Support to food supply. Secondary benefits for coastal economies (can be a tourism asset in its own right). Increased human health and well-being.		
	KR1. Loss of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem services				Yes, in both Antigua and Vanuatu (Blair and Momtaz, 2018). New fishing areas in Vanuatu (Blair and Momtaz, 2018) and fishermen go further offshore in Madagascar (Lemahieu et al., 2018) and Dominican Republic (Karlsson and McLean, 2020). A directed switch from targeting vulnerable inshore reef fish, to targeting less sensitive offshore pelagic species, e.g., in Dominica (Phineas et al., 2019). Active switch to aquaculture (away from fisheries) to diversify incomes and spread risks, e.g., Caribbean (Thomas et al., 2019), Solomon Islands (Dey et al., 2016) including a move toward seaweed farming (e.g., St Lucia).		Sustainably managed fisheries, improved food and income security. Greater economic and societal resilience.	

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KR1. Loss of marine and coastal biodiversity and ecosystem services	Reef-to-ridge ecosystem management (Figure 15.4). Improved land use as a key driver of marine ecosystem health: better management of forests, nutrients and wastewater in upstream catchments	Mostly in the Caribbean and Pacific, where ridge-to-reef studies are currently focused e.g., within the Indo-Pacific Islands (Rude et al., 2016; Brown et al., 2017). Better forest management in upstream catchments (and thereby control of sediment run-off) can greatly benefit coral reef condition around islands, e.g., Kubulau District, Fiji (Delevaux et al., 2018a), Raja Ampat, Indonesia (Rude et al., 2016).	Improved governance	Better management of forests, nutrients and wastewater in upland catchments reduces the exposure of coral reefs to human degradation, thereby enhancing their resilience, e.g., Hā'ena and Ka'ipūlehu in the Hawaiian Archipelago (Delevaux et al., 2018b), American Samoa (Comeros-Raynal et al., 2017).	Improved ecosystem protection services, e.g., against flooding, erosion, landslides, mudflows; improved biodiversity; improved human health outcomes; improved livelihoods			
KR2. Loss of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services	Limited evidence, medium agreement		National determined contributions, external funding (e.g., international NGOs), engagement of local landowners, gender-sensitive participation, resolution of land ownership governance issues, long-term approaches to account for recovery between extreme weather events and disturbance, maintained connectivity between social and ecological systems, ensured long-term funding (Jupiter et al., 2014); economic incentive for tree planting (Hidalgo et al., 2021)	Some examples: e.g., increase in forest extent, social benefits in pilot but limited by barriers in implementation (Buckwell et al., 2019), increased acreage forested (SPCR, 2011), reduction in human exposure to natural disasters (hurricanes, landslides), improvement in vulnerability assessment scores (UNDP, 2012)	Mainstreaming into national policies (Robinson, 2017), filling data gaps, e.g., flora and fauna baseline data (Vocca, 2011; Klock and Finch, 2019), integrated island management and cross-sectoral (Jupiter et al., 2014), regular monitoring and evaluation (Mercer et al., 2012); long-term sustainability, greater recognition of importance of diverse range of ecosystems, especially terrestrial (McNamara et al., 2020)	Increased connectivity between forest fragments (Buckwell et al., 2019), sustainable livelihoods (SPCR, 2011), reduced soil erosion (UNDP, 2012), reduced emissions (UNDP, 2012), improved soil health (GIZ, 2011), decreased poverty (GIZ, 2011), improved livelihoods and environmental awareness, improved water supply, health and sanitation (Hidalgo et al., 2021); supports global mitigation via carbon sequestration in both forest and soils	Little evidence that disbenefits have been considered in adaptation actions more generally (Robinson, 2017)	
KR3. Loss of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services	Decreased deforestation (15.5.4)							

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
	EbA: Increased reforestation (native species—towards habitat connectivity, heterogeneity and diversity) (15.5.4)	Medium evidence, high agreement	Relatively widespread, e.g., Dominican Republic (Monty et al., 2016); Jamaica (SPCR, 2011); Fiji (Daigneault et al., 2016); Tuvalu, Tonga, Samoa (Beyerl et al., 2018); Timor-Leste (Mercer et al., 2014); Micronesia (Hagedoorn et al., 2019).	Locally driven projects tend to yield effective adaptation when externally driven (Klöck and Finch, 2019), embedding adaptation within disaster risk reduction, e.g., ecosystem-based DRR (Mercer et al., 2014; Monty et al., 2016), NDC funding, technical assistance, supply materials, provision of land, awareness raising, enforcement of policies from governments and NGOs (Beyerl et al., 2018), sense of shared responsibility (Beyerl et al., 2018), inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and local knowledge (IKK) (Nialu et al., 2018), social capital (Hagedoorn et al., 2019).	Some examples; e.g., Fiji (Daigneault et al., 2016), but generally <i>limited evidence</i> and tendency for lack of sustainability of projects, investment in expensive pilot projects (Jupiter et al., 2014) and lack of long-term monitoring.	Increased DRR, fewer floods and landslides (Mercer et al., 2014), reduced erosion, increased human health and well-being (Beyerl et al., 2018) (Nialu et al., 2018), increased quality of ecosystem services (Nialu et al., 2018), increased adaptive capacity (Hagedoorn et al., 2019); supports global mitigation via carbon sequestration in both forest and soils		
	KR3. Loss of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services	EbA: Agroforestry and other silvicultural/agroecological practices (e.g., climate-smart agriculture) instead of intensive agriculture and plantation forestry (15.5.4)	Widespread in the Caribbean and Pacific, e.g., Samoa (Chong, 2014), Vanuatu (Buckwell et al., 2019), Pacific Islands (McLeod et al., 2019; McNamara et al., 2020), Jamaica (Tomlinson and Rhiney, 2017)	Locally funded initiatives implemented by NGOs outperformed those with international funding or implemented by governments and universities, integrated with EbA initiatives outperformed those focused on land loss, NDC, shared access and benefit (McNamara et al., 2020), local knowledge, e.g., farmers knowledge of crop drought resistance and irrigation, although some local knowledge is counter to SDGs (Beckford, 2018), farmers, private sector for developing technology, financing and investing in local solutions, importance of data (Voccia, 2011). Success of EbA depends on enabling national political, socioeconomic and institutional conditions (Chong, 2014), training (Tomlinson and Rhiney, 2017)	Limited examples; some increases in adaptive capacity (Tomlinson and Rhiney, 2017)	Improvement in climate change awareness, increase local well-being and improved non-climate issues, improve gender equity (McNamara et al., 2020), improved productivity and livelihoods, increased well-being (Buckwell et al., 2019)		

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
KR3. Loss of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services	Watershed management/conservation (reforestation, slope revegetation, etc) (15.5.4)	Medium evidence; high agreement	Widespread, e.g., Samoa (Chong, 2014); Pacific Islands (McNamara et al., 2020); Jamaica, Haiti and Grenada (Mercer et al., 2012); Micronesia (McLeod et al., 2019).	Locally funded initiatives implemented by NGOs outperformed those with international funding or implemented by governments and universities, integrated with EbA initiatives outperformed those focused on land loss, shared access and benefit (McNamara et al., 2020), but watershed management less socially and politically acceptable than engineering solutions (Enriquez-de-Salamanca, 2018), communication and trust between stakeholders, sustainable financing mechanisms (Mercer et al., 2012), island remoteness barrier to logistical implementation (McLeod et al., 2019).	Some evidence, e.g., improved water security (McLeod et al., 2019), reduced adaptation costs, slope stabilisation (Mercer et al., 2012), reduced vulnerability to drought (McLeod et al., 2019)	DRR, increased water security and quality, greater resiliency to and recovery from wildfires, reduced run-off and sedimentation, improvement in climate change awareness, increased local well-being and financial stability (McNamara et al., 2020)		
	Ridge-to-reef ecosystem management (Figure 15.4) — improved land use as a key driver of terrestrial ecosystem health	Medium evidence; high agreement	See above	See above	Limited but slowly increasing evidence to date			

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KR3. Loss of terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystem services	Increasing the connectivity of Protected Areas (PAs) across elevation/climatic gradients to facilitate climate-driven redistribution of species via establishment of: (a) new PAs; (b) forested migration corridors across elevation/climatic gradients or (c) improving landscape connectivity by permanent protection of stepping stones (Figure 15.4)	Very limited evidence, high agreement	Low degree of new implementations due to chronic terrain limitations combined with competition from human land use needs (especially at low altitudes). However, there is currently large variation in terrestrial PA coverage among islands (e.g., Caribbean: ~70% of Guadeloupe vs 1.3% of Barbados) (Gould et al., 2020; Mouillot et al., 2020).	(a) Conservation of larger areas of forest habitat surrounding (especially source) PAs; (b) reforestation of degraded areas to facilitate forest corridors; (c) increasing and enforcement of forest cover <i>within</i> PAs (e.g., Scriven et al., 2015); (d) intra- and inter-governmental/Island policies towards the coordination of conservation actions/partnerships among multiple PAs and other non-PA natural/habitat areas within a given insular region (Monahan and Theobald, 2018; Mahatraj et al., 2019); incorporation of Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs)	Yes, especially if landscape connectivity is improved (both protected and non-protected land). For example, setting up of migration corridors to facilitate movement of species along elevation gradients from isolated low-altitude to high-altitude PA (e.g., Scriven et al., 2015)	DRR, improved coastal ecosystem health, greater resiliency and recovery from wildfires, reduced pollution and runoff around water sources, facilitates development of ridge-to-reef PAs (e.g., Yap and Chuuk of Federated States of Micronesia) (McLeod et al., 2019).	May facilitate movement of IAS	A few native species may be harmed during eradication process—but usually temporary, and is alleviated once eradication process is completed (Jones et al., 2016)
Eradication of IAS on islands (15.3.3.3)	Robust evidence, high agreement	Widespread degree of implementation with > 700 islands (e.g., Jones et al., 2016)	(a) Integration of changing climate conditions within ongoing prevention, control and eradication strategies, by incorporating models of current and future distributions of IAS (Courchamp et al., 2014; Vorsino et al., 2014) (b) prevention via ongoing vigilance and biosecurity via quarantine, control and monitoring of incoming cargo and goods into islands (Silva-Rocha et al., 2015)	Yes, positive demographic and distributional responses of native species (596 populations), including within IUCN's threatened (critically endangered, endangered and vulnerable categories) following eradication of IAS (including 123 recolonizations by formerly extirpated species) (Jones et al., 2016)	Food security, protection of ecosystem health and services, increased livelihood security			

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
	Rainwater harvesting (15.3.4.3)	<i>Robust evidence, high agreement</i>	Widespread across small islands. Specific examples in the Caribbean: Jamaica (Aladenola et al., 2016); Barbuda (Mycoo, 2018b); in the Pacific (Quigley et al., 2016); Micronesia (Bailey et al., 2018); Solomon Islands (Chan et al., 2020).	Sociocultural and financial-cultural practices and poverty—people may not have the resources to build or purchase more tanks to increase their capacity to store water (McCubbin et al., 2015).	Yes, heavy reliance on aquifers and rainwater harvesting in small islands, particularly atolls, coupled with overcrowding, population growth, and contamination increase the risk of water-borne disease (McIver et al., 2014).	Integrated water resource management—use management and integrated water resources policy implementation (Gohar et al., 2019). Governance—whole-of-island approaches foster integrated management practices in small islands (Remling and Veitayaki, 2016).	Biodiversity (watershed protection); health (WASH); economic (reduced dependence on public supply); food security	Dependent on mode of implementation. Nothing mentioned in the chapter.
	Desalination (15.6.1)	<i>Limited evidence, high agreement</i>	KR4. Water insecurity	Financial, not explicitly mentioned in the chapter. These general references are possible options: Governance, financial arrangements and human resource capacity [are key] to the successful implement adaptation actions on the ground (Cvitancic et al., 2016; Scobie, 2016; Beckford, 2018; Ha'apio et al., 2019). In Mauritius, a lack of financial resources for climate change adaptation has been recognised as a specific impediment in district council level (Williams et al., 2020).	Yes, in Barbados, where groundwater is relied upon for food production, urban use, and environmental needs; higher food prices are expected in the future if informed land use management and integrated water resources policy implementation are not put in place to manage groundwater in the short term, even with modest climate change threats (Gohar et al., 2019).	Health (WASH); economic (reduced dependence on public supply)	Energy intensive (carbon footprint)	
	Reforestation (15.5.4)	<i>Medium evidence, high agreement</i>		Examples in the Caribbean and Pacific: Caribbean (McMillen et al., 2016; Mycoo and Donovan, 2017; Wang et al., 2017; McLeod et al., 2019; Nanni et al., 2019); Papua New Guinea (Jupiter et al., 2014); Fiji (Hidalgo et al., 2021).	Yes, in the Seychelles, reforestation is promoted through public-private partnerships, generating opportunities for wetland-tourism (Khan and Amelie, 2015). Growing evidence suggests high resilience of forest habitats (Keppel et al., 2014; Luke et al., 2017), especially within intact forest ecosystems to hurricanes and cyclones (Goulding et al., 2016).	Economic (agroforestry); biodiversity (watershed restoration); food security; disaster risk reduction (DRR)	Dependent on mode of implementation. Nothing mentioned in the chapter.	

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
KR4. Water insecurity	Protected area management (terrestrial) (15.5.4)	Widespread across small islands, e.g., Samoa (Chong, 2014); Pacific Islands (McNamara et al., 2020); Jamaica, Haiti and Grenada (Mercer et al., 2012); Micronesia (McLeod et al., 2019).	Financial/governance—the success of protected areas is undermined by weak governance due in part to limited financial resources which undermine management and the enforcement of regulations governing activity within them (Schleicher et al., 2019).	Yes, terrestrial protected areas have shown that forest conservation and rehabilitation yield better (socioecological) outcomes as forests stabilize soils and prevent erosion and sequester groundwater pollutants (Carlson et al., 2019) (<i>low-to-medium evidence, high agreement</i>).	Biodiversity (forest conservation); DRR	Dependent on mode of implementation. Nothing mentioned in the chapter.	Beach loss, e.g., in Hawaii (Romine and Fletcher, 2013) and Papua New Guinea (Mann, 2014); erosion acceleration, e.g., on Malé Atoll, Maldives (Rasheed et al., 2020) and in the Bahamas (Pezold et al., 2018); nearby ecosystem degradation through material extraction from reef flat and/or upper beach and/or sand dune, e.g., in South Tarawa, Kiribati (Duvat, 2013), Puerto Rico (Jackson et al., 2012); increases vulnerability (Nunn et al., 2021)
KR5. Destruction of settlements and infrastructure; n.b.: works for submergence of reef islands, at least for those islands that host large communities and human assets	Hard protection (15.5.1)	Limited evidence, medium agreement (with regard to climate change adaptation and success)	External funding (Mycoo, 2018a; Nunn and Kumar, 2018). Social and cultural: hard protection often meets the preference of inhabitants because it is viewed as a 'true' and permanent solution providing value for money, e.g., in the Maldives (Shaig, 2011), in Samoa (Hills et al., 2013), in Comoros (Betzold and Mohammed, 2017). Political-institutional: e.g., supported by the centralization of power at the highest levels of government in favour of hard protection in the Maldives (Ratter et al., 2019); business-as-usual unidirectional approach of coastal risks is in favour of hard protection on Reunion Island (Magnan and Duvat, 2018). Technical, i.e., requires materials and technical skills to be available locally: maladaptive structures showing poor design in the Bahamas (Pezold et al., 2018), Maldives (Kench, 2012), Kiribati (Duvat, 2013) and Samoa (Crichton and Esteban, 2018).	Reduces exposure in some places, e.g., Malé, Maldives (Duvat et al., 2021) but not in others, e.g., South Tarawa, Kiribati (Duvat, 2013), Puerto Rico (Jackson et al., 2012); increases vulnerability (Nunn et al., 2021)	Limited monitoring and evaluation. What works in short term may not in the long term.	Limited evidence of co-benefits	Beach loss, e.g., in Hawaii (Romine and Fletcher, 2013) and Papua New Guinea (Mann, 2014); erosion acceleration, e.g., on Malé Atoll, Maldives (Rasheed et al., 2020) and in the Bahamas (Pezold et al., 2018); nearby ecosystem degradation through material extraction from reef flat and/or upper beach and/or sand dune, e.g., in South Tarawa, Kiribati (Birbo and Woodroffe, 2013; Duvat, 2013); modelling projects increased SLR impacts in areas modified by coastal engineering, e.g., on Malé Atoll, Maldives (Rasheed et al., 2020)

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Accommodation (15.5.2)	Limited evidence (with regard to climate change adaptation and success)	Relatively limited (e.g., local initiatives in Philippines and Indonesia (Jamer et al., 2017; Esteban et al., 2020)	Technological, financial, institutional, social and cultural (e.g., limited success despite incentives in French Polynesia; (Magnan et al., 2018))	Limited evidence to date	Maintains the functionalities of coastal systems and enables their maintenance through landward migration under SLR	Offers new land for economic development, e.g., in the Maldives (Hinkel et al., 2018); generate revenues through sale or lease of land in urban areas, e.g., in the Maldives (Bisaro et al., 2019).	Widespread ecosystem destruction, increased negative impacts of SLR in some places (Parnell and Smithers, 2020)	
	Advance with land raising and/or through the creation of artificial islands (15.5.2)	Limited evidence with regard to climate change adaptation (e.g., driven by population growth in the Maldives; Naylor, 2015)	Technological, financial, institutional, social and cultural; has a higher potential in urban (compared to rural) areas	Yes, where high standard, as in Hulhumalé, Maldives (Brown et al., 2020)				
KR5. Destruction of settlements and infrastructure; n.b.: works for submergence of reef islands, at least for those islands that host large communities and human assets				Often seen as a last-resort option due to high economic and sociocultural cost (McNamara and Des Combes, 2015); key enablers: participatory inclusion of all social groups in decision making required (e.g., Fiji (Piggott-Mckellar et al., 2019); financial, especially for small and remote communities e.g., Torres Strait, Australia; (Parnell and Smithers, 2020) Solomon Islands (Albert et al., 2018), social-cultural connections e.g., Fiji, (Piggott-Mckellar et al., 2019), strong governance frameworks, enabling legislation, land availability or ownership e.g., Torres Strait Islands, Australia; (Parnell and Smithers, 2020), Solomon Islands, (Albert et al., 2018); Bertana, 2020) and conditions in receiving locations; technical support; residents are generally reluctant to retreat as a result of place attachment and high uncertainties on the conditions offered at relocation site, including concerns about livelihood opportunities, as reported in the Philippines (Jamer et al., 2017)	Limited examples of successful resettlement that reduces both exposure and vulnerability; reduced exposure locally, e.g., on Nutatambu Island, Solomon Islands (Albert et al., 2018); has created new vulnerabilities at some locations by, for example, bearing significant economic cost, impacting social capital, reducing access to services (e.g., (Albert et al., 2018); Gilbertese resettled in the Solomon Islands; (Weber, 2016; Tabe, 2019))	New livelihood opportunities	Loss of cultural heritage, impacts on receiving communities	

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KR5. Destruction of settlements and infrastructure; n.b.: works for submergence of reef islands, at least for those islands that host large communities and human assets	EBA measures (15.5.4)	Medium agreement, medium evidence	Increasingly experienced; includes artificial reefs, e.g., in the Maldives (Fabian et al., 2013) and in Mauritius (Duvat et al., 2020a); beach nourishment in Tuvalu (Onaka et al., 2017) and Mauritius (Onaka et al., 2015)	Environmental/physical conditions: potential effectiveness varies with site configuration and boundary conditions (Fenneman et al., 2013); social and cultural; technological; major role of cooperation agencies/external support for implementation, e.g., JICA in Tuvalu (Onaka et al., 2017) and in Mauritius (Onaka et al., 2015) and of NGOs (in the Caribbean region (Mercer et al., 2012); ILK (e.g., Pacific, (Nalau, 2018); Haiti, (Mercer et al., 2012)); financial (Nalau, 2018); climate awareness raising increases success (McNamara et al., 2020); inclusion in national adaptation policies increases the acceptance/ implementation of EBA measures; e.g., considered as a complement to hard protection in Tuvalu; vegetation restoration seen as a key priority to combat erosion in Vanuatu (Hills et al., 2013))	Limited evidence to date	Biodiversity strengthening; increased food supply; increased human health and well-being		
KR6. Health degradation			Increase public awareness of health risks associated with climate change; provide training to health sector staff on health impacts of climate change; Improve reliability and safety of water storage practices at household and community level (15.6.2)	For example, Dominica (Schnitter et al., 2019)	Financial and human resources to implement options, public uptake and buy in	Primarily reduces vulnerability	Building early warning and response systems for climate-sensitive health risks; developing emergency plans; integrating climate services into health decision-making systems; strengthening emergency response and surge capacity; improving climate change and health data collection systems (Schnitter et al., 2019)	Increased water security

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	Circular migration (15.5.3)	Limited evidence with regard to climate change adaptation (mostly a response to economic or social factors)	Circular migration to Funafuti and locations overseas from Nanumea Atoll in Tuvalu reduces pressure on limited freshwater availability, thus reducing exposure to drought (Marino and Lazarus, 2015).	Labour and education opportunities in Funafuti and overseas (Marino and Lazarus, 2015)	Yes, on Nanumea Atoll (Marino and Lazarus, 2015)	Investment in technology and education (Blair and Momtaz, 2018), local and indigenous knowledge (Blair and Momtaz, 2018; Karlsson and McLean, 2020), financing farm inputs (Guido et al., 2018)	Job and education for migrants (Marino and Lazarus, 2015)	
	Diversifying livelihoods (15.5.6)	Limited to medium evidence, low agreement	Changing fishing grounds and considering weather insurance in Antigua, Dominican Republic, and Efaté (Vanuatu) (Blair and Momtaz, 2018; Karlsson and McLean, 2020) (Lemahieu et al., 2018; Turner et al., 2020)	Use of indigenous knowledge and local knowledge and changing fishing areas (Blair and Momtaz, 2018)	Yes, in both Antigua and Vanuatu (Blair and Momtaz, 2018). New fishing areas in Vanuatu (Blair and Momtaz, 2018) and fishermen go further offshore in Madagascar (Lemahieu et al., 2018) and Dominican Republic (Karlsson and McLean, 2020)	Diversification allows fishermen to fish in new areas and reduces pressure on previous fishing areas (benefits for biodiversity)	New technologies and moving to new areas enable greater catch which puts pressure on the fish stock	
KR7. Economic decline and livelihood failure	Improved technology and equipment/ training (15.5.6)		In Antigua, adaptation strategies have included investments in improved technologies and equipment, changing fishing grounds and seeking better training and education (Blair and Momtaz, 2018); in Jamaica they involved irrigation technologies due to increased drought and infrequent rainfall (Popke et al., 2016); experimenting with growing salt-tolerant (tao) crops, and relocating crop cultivation inland (McLeod et al., 2018)		Yes, in Antigua and Vanuatu (Blair and Momtaz, 2018) and Jamaica (Popke et al., 2016) and in Pacific Island Countries on the whole (McLeod et al., 2018).		New technologies and education strengthening (Blair and Momtaz, 2018) (Popke et al., 2016)	
	Livestock husbandry (15.5.6)	Limited evidence	Limited, e.g., small-scale livestock husbandry in Jamaica (Guido et al., 2018)	Varying expenditure on farm inputs and investments (Guido et al., 2018)	No evidence to date. Limited examples of successful livestock husbandry only in Jamaica (Guido et al., 2018)		Investments in farm inputs (Guido et al., 2018)	

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
KR7. Economic decline and livelihood failure	Adaptive finance/education (15.5.6)	Limited evidence, medium agreement	Limited, e.g., in Puerto Rico, women engage in new commercial enterprises (e.g., coffee shops, and food products) that do not rely on traditional coffee supply chains or government assistance (Borges-Méndez and Caron, 2019).	Tourism income provides adaptation finance, investing in education and capacity building, and working with nature rather than against it (Loehr, 2019). Public-private partnerships (Khan and Amelie, 2015). Ecosystem-based Adaptation initiatives in the Caribbean (Mycoo, 2018; Loehr, 2019)	Reduces risk and avoids negative knock-on effects (Loehr, 2019).	Generates opportunities, e.g., for wetland tourism (Khan and Amelie, 2015)		
	Product/market diversification (15.5.6)	Medium evidence, high agreement	Widespread, e.g., in Vanuatu and Fiji, households and communities diversity crops within gardens, garden in different areas within their customary lands and store and preserve certain foodstuffs (Campbell, 2014; McMillen et al., 2014; Guido et al., 2018; Le Dé et al., 2018) and new markets (Borges-Méndez and Caron, 2019)	Availability of different crops and land (Campbell, 2014; McMillen et al., 2014; Guido et al., 2018; Le Dé et al., 2018) and new markets (Borges-Méndez and Caron, 2019)	Reduces vulnerability to tropical cyclones in Fiji and Vanuatu (Campbell, 2014; McMillen et al., 2014; Le Dé et al., 2018) as adaptation strategy in Jamaica (Guido et al., 2018), and new markets in Puerto Rico (Borges-Méndez and Caron, 2019)	Food security and nutrition (Le Dé et al., 2018) and income security (Borges-Méndez and Caron, 2019)		
	Adaptation in tourism policies (15.5.6)	Limited evidence, high agreement	Limited, e.g., in the British Virgin Islands, policies like adaptation taxes and levies imposed on tourism can provide funding for adaptation measures (Smith, 2017; Mycoo, 2018a).	Implementation of tourism regulations and policies that mainstream climate change adaptations (van der Veen et al., 2016; Mycoo, 2018a; Beeken et al., 2020; Thomas and Benjamin, 2020); taxes and levies imposed on tourism (e.g., British Virgin Islands' The Environmental Protection and Tourism Improvement Fund Act, 2017 (Smith, 2017; Mycoo, 2018a).	Limited evidence in reducing vulnerability (Smith, 2017; Mycoo, 2018a).			

Key risks	Risk-oriented adaptation options	Evidence and Agreement	Degree of implementation with illustrative small island examples	Key enablers	Reduces exposure and vulnerability: yes/no with illustrative examples	Overarching adaptation options supporting implementation and success	Co-benefits	Disbenefits
KR8. Loss of cultural resources and heritage	Integrating IKLK with Western science to provide integrated approaches to climate change (15.6.5)	Medium evidence, high agreement	Reported in the Pacific, including in Niue, Tonga, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands (Chand et al., 2014; Chambers et al., 2017; 2019); and in the Caribbean, e.g., suggested Caribbean Local and Traditional Knowledge Network to share information (Beckford, 2018).	Use of IKLK across islands in preparing for disasters and understanding environmental change (Chand et al., 2014; Johnston, 2015; Janif et al., 2016; Granderson, 2017; Kelman et al., 2017); social networks in sharing information and helping others (Turner, 2020); ecotherapy increasing people's awareness of the environment (Rubow and Bird, 2016).	Yes, can reduce vulnerability when IKLK supports robust adaptation. No, can increase vulnerability if IKLK no longer provides accurate information.	Supporting and integrating IKLK (Blair and Momtaz, 2018; Karlsson and McLean, 2020)	Can increase climate change information and its understanding in communities, and increase culturally appropriate climate adaptation	Reports from Vanuatu indicate that IKLK are at times inaccurate (e.g., seasonal calendars, biophysical weather indicators) due to climate change (Granderson, 2017)
	Hard protection (15.5.1)	Limited evidence, low agreement		Widespread in protecting cultural sites and villages, e.g., Samoa (Crichton and Esteban, 2018).		Reduces exposure in some places but not in others; increases vulnerability (Nunn et al., 2021).		

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