Nauru Climate Change Policy

Acknowledgements

The development of this Policy has brought together a significant volume of existing knowledge, legislation and insight from government, business and civil society of Nauru.

This policy incorporates the views of many national stakeholders, and the Government of the Republic of Nauru acknowledges the involvement and contribution of those members of the government and civil society who contributed to the stakeholder consultation process.

The development of the Nauru Climate Change Policy was supported by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) through funding provided by the European Union, from the Intra-ACP GCCA+ Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building (PACRES). We acknowledge the crucial support of these partners towards the development of this Policy, as well as their ongoing actions in support of addressing climate change impacts to Nauru.

Foreword

I am pleased to present the Republic of Nauru's National Climate Change Policy. This important document is a first for Nauru, as it provides an overarching framework that brings together existing policies to guide action on climate change mitigation, adaptation and advocacy in Nauru. Implementing this policy will require collaboration across government, State Owned Enterprises, non-government organisations, civil society organisations, faith based organisations, private sector organisations, and the people of Nauru, to address our climate vulnerabilities and increase our resilience to climate change. We are already experiencing the effects of climate change and have integrated climate change considerations into our decision making through the Republic of Nauru's Framework for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction (RONAdapt) and the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS). This new over-arching policy extends our climate change response across key sectors including Environment, Health, Infrastructure, Energy, Water, Education, Agriculture and Disaster Risk Management – which includes building resilience to climate change and disasters, which can be embedded in sustainable development.

The overriding priority of the Government of Nauru is to eradicate poverty and to improve the safety, security and quality of life of our citizens. Hence, Nauru's climate action is aligned with national efforts to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and will be integrated with our NSDS. Action on climate change will focus on protecting the wellbeing of our country, while bringing benefits to other aspects of our community such as improved drinking water supplies via renewable energy powered desalination.

Nauru's previous policy work on climate change focused on discrete national plans, such as RONAdapt 2015, the NSDS, the National Energy Policy Framework (NEPF 2009), and Nauru's Energy Road Map 2018-2020, & Environment Policy– which are all now captured under this overarching Policy. In addition, at the regional level, this Policy aligns to the *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific.* We are committed members of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and have ratified the Kyoto Protocol (August 2001) and the Paris Agreement (April 2016). While our international commitments and actions will continue, this Policy provides a single framework to bring together and track our existing efforts to address climate change in Nauru. This policy will spur new action to address the ever-increasing threats of climate change such as rising sea-levels, increasing temperatures and ocean acidification.

We are doing our part to address climate change: we emit among the least amount of greenhouses gases of any country, but our aim is to decrease our emissions further, such as through decreasing the fossil fuel reliance of our electricity grid through the development of solar and battery power storage. We are also seeking to further integrate climate action across future editions of our NSDS, and to enact new legislation to improve environmental management and climate change outcomes.

Climate change poses many threats, but we can plan and implement effective strategies as a nation to prosper, reduce poverty, increase employment, meet the SDGs and respond to climate change with increased mitigation, adaptation and advocacy.

I am grateful for the spirit and community of the people of Nauru, and I thank our regional supporters and experts in the field for understanding climate change and planning for our collective future. I now call upon the international community to support and realise the aspirations of this Policy.

Hon Rennier Gadabu MP

Minister for Climate Change and National Resilience

Acronyms and abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Title
ADB	Asian Development Bank
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
BoM	Australian Bureau of Meteorology
DCIE	Department of Commerce, Industry and Environment
DFAT	Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DM	Disaster management
DRM	Disaster risk management, including DRR and DM
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
NCCP	National Climate Change Policy
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NRC	Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation
NSDS	Nauru Sustainable Development Strategy 2005-2025
NWSHIP	National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Implementation Plan 2012
NWSHP	National Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Policy
PACRES	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change and Resilience Building
PCCC	Pacific Climate Change Centre
PIFS	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
RONAdapt	Republic of Nauru Framework for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction
RONPHOS	Republic of Nauru Phosphate Corporation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPC	Pacific Community
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
USP	University of the South Pacific
WHO	World Health Organization

Contents

1. Policy statement and purpose

Nauru's National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS, 2019-2030) sets out the development journey to a better quality of life for every Nauruan, however, climate change challenges these efforts to achieve sustainable development and will have impacts across Nauruan society. This National Climate Change Policy provides an overarching policy framework that supports the integration of climate change responses into key aspects of Nauru life, including the natural environment, energy generation and infrastructure.

This Policy recognises and incorporates existing polices and international commitments. We have engaged with stakeholders across Nauru to understand their experience of climate change, as well as their expectations of a national climate change policy. The views of members representing the interests of various government departments, community groups and the private sector have been considered.

As an early signatory to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Nauru has a lo˜ng history of addressing climate change, which is expanded upon in Section 2.2 of this Policy.

This policy sets out Nauru's future climate change objectives across a range of focus areas, including:

- Adaptation (including Environment, infrastructure, utilities, water, food security, disaster risk management, health);
- Advocacy and education;
- Mitigation; - Energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Climate science and projections; and
- Governance.

2. National context

2.1 General introduction

Planning for climate change mitigation and adaptation is important to ensure the survival and well-being of Nauru. Rising sea levels are already a major concern, which affects coastal communities, homes and infrastructure. Some action is already being taken, with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Green Cliamte Fund (GCF) ROC-Taiwan, currently facilititating the upgrade of a deep-water port for Nauru.This will increase trade for Nauru and is designed to withstand the long-term climate change impacts, but alongside construction of a new port-facility there is also an ongoing project to increase renewable energy through the proposed 6mw solar farm project that is supported by the ADB and GCF, further investment in climate adaptation is needed.

Nauru is currently pursuing more changes to integrate climate change to development activities of Nauru and to seek more climate finance, such as from the GCF, Adaptation Fund, ADB, Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other key development partners. This will enable Nauru to better respond to the on-going threat of climate change.

2.2 International and domestic climate change context

2.2.1 International commitments

For two decades Nauru has supported international agreements to limit the global impact of climate change. We were an early signatory to the UNFCCC (1992) and ratified the Kyoto Protocol (2001) and the Paris Agreement (2016). But we have also argued for greater global action, noting that the ambitions of the Kyoto Protocol were "inadequate to prevent the dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system"[1]. Almost two decades on, we stand by our earlier statements seeking greater action on climate change from the international community.

Nauru is one of the world's smallest countries, and one of the least responsible for the greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change with Nauru's greenhouse gas emissions estimated to comprise around 0.0002% of global emissions in 2014. Annex 1 summarises Nauru's major international climate change commitments. In 2020 we will submit our updated NDC, which will commit Nauru to increased ambition on climate action for the period 1 January 2021 through 31 December 2030.

2.2.2 Regional partnerships

To build our understanding of climate risk and resilience, Nauru collaborates with many regional partners within the Pacific, At the regional level, this Policy aligns to the *Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Address Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (FRDP) 2017–2030.* The FRDP was endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in September 2016.The Pacific also has regional environmental ties through the Apia, Noumea and Waigani Conventions, and through the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (for fisheries). Nauru engages on climate change issues through the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) and is a member of the SAMOA Pathway[2], which reaffirmed that small island developing States (SIDS) are in a unique position where "sea-level rise and other adverse impacts of climate change continue to pose a significant risk to SIDS and their efforts to achieve sustainable development and, for many, represent the gravest of threats to their survival and viability, including, for some, through the loss of territory."[3] Nauru, and our partners through the SAMOA Pathway will continue to work together and to increase resilience to climate change impacts and to lower our carbon footprint – by collective knowledge and resource sharing.

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[1] United Nations , - Treaty Collection - 7. a Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (2020) https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-a&chapter=27&lang=en

[2] SIDS ACCELERATED MODALITIES OF ACTION [S.A.M.O.A.] Pathway

[3]United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs - SIDS ACCELERATED MODALITIES OF ACTION [S.A.M.O.A.] Pathway (2014) https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/samoapathway.html

2.2.3 Domestic climate change policy

Domestically in Nauru, climate change is acknowledged as requiring an integrated and cross-disciplinary approach led by the Minister for Climate Change & National Resilience. Climate change operations at the department-level sit within the Climate Change Division of the Department for Climate Change & National Resilience. The recently enacted *Environment Management and Climate Change Act* further emphasises the importance we attach to combatting the impacts of climate change.

2.3 Nauru's environmental and economic setting

Nauru is a small country with a land area of only 21 square kilometres and a population of approximately 11,000[4]. The majority of Nauru's residents live on the low-lying coastal fringes of the island which is particularly vulnerable to rising sea levels and storm surges. Nauru is located in the central Pacific Ocean approximately 40 kilometres south of the equator, which generally provides some protection from the impacts of tropical cyclones, although associated storm surges can impact the country.

For much of the 20th century, Nauru had a thriving phosphate industry – but as mining declined, Nauru's former wealth from phosphate mining also diminished and brought many development and economic challenges. The decreased revenue has put pressure on power generation, drinking water and health services. This economic downturn has led to decrease in international trade. However, Nauru has a small domestic fisheries industry, which provide some revenue, but the majority of Nauru's economy is run through the public sector and Nauru is heavily dependent on foreign aid as well as revenue from international fishing licences in its Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

A key measure of the NSDS is to improve the fiscal situation of Nauru and foster economic growth, such as through developing the private sector and trade, optimising returns from commercial fisheries, expanding employment opportunities, advancing public health, enabling increased local food production, governance reforms and supporting a safe and prosperous future with sustainable development such as with green electricity and clean drinking water. Unfortunatety, in addition to the lack of trained technical capacity within both the private and public sectors, Nauru's small landmass and population, limit marketable resources, lack of major agriculture and manufacturing and isolation from major international markets make it economically vulnerable, and sustainable development is a persistent challenge, further confounded by climate change.

In spite of Nauru's challenges, we are working to leverage our strategic advantages to create new economic opportunities such as improving connectivity and trade routes, through Nauru Airlines and the new port facility which will improve opportunities to deliver value-added services for the shipping and fishing industries. As an independent state since 1968, Nauru occupies a special position of having a small area and population, but with an important international presence which can facilitate effective advocacy positions, since joining the UN in 1999.

Nauru's important fisheries stock exists across 320,000 km^2 of Nauru's EEZ, which provides some revenue for Nauru. As per the 1982 *Nauru Agreement Concerning Cooperation in the Management of Fisheries of Common Interest (Nauru Agreement)* the eight signatories collectively control 25-30% of the world's tuna supply. This is a sustainably managed tuna fishery[5] and by selling fishing licences, Nauru receives revenue – but the tuna fisheries are also threatened by climate change[6] through changes in distribution as well as overall biomass.

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[4] CIA – World Factbook - Nauru (2020) https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/print_nr.html

[5] Pacific Islands Oceanic Fisheries Management – Media Release (4 December 2018) - *Parties to Nauru Agreement prepare for Tuna Commission meeting* http://www.tunapacific.org/2018/12/04/parties-to-nauru-agreement-prepare-for-tuna-commission-meeting/

[6] Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency – Climate change and Pacific tuna fisheries https://www.ffa.int/system/files/OFMP%202%20Climate%20Change%20fact%20sheet_0.pdf

2.4 Projected climate change impacts for Nauru

Increases in global temperatures are causing interconnected changes to the weather and climate of Nauru, such as through the South Pacific Convergence Zone and the El Niño-Southern Oscillation. As a small island, the air temperatures are closely related to the sea-temperatures and both are projected to rise throughout the 21st century, under any emission scenario. Rising sea level is also already a major concern – since 1993 the sea level around Nauru has risen about 5mm per year – which has and will continue to affect coastal communities, homes and infrastructure. Nauru is projected to experience major climate-related changes[7] in the 21st century including increases to:

- Surface air temperature and sea-surface temperature;
- Annual and seasonal mean rainfall, which decreases the predicted drought rate;
- The intensity and frequency of days of extreme heat;
- The intensity and frequency of days of extreme rainfall;
- Ocean acidification; and
- Mean sea-level.

2.5 Existing climate change adaptation and mitigation measures

These physical climate change impacts are already affecting Nauru, and this is necessitating response. For example, responding to erosion or rising sea levels by implementing hard and nature-based solutions, such as changing the location of key infrastructure, building seawalls and planting coastal vegetation to reduce storn surge severity. Other responses are being made or planned to improve resilience (such as improving drinking water supplies to be resilient to drought and salt-water intrusion, improving disaster communication and response through Disaster Risk Management (DRM), and improving food security such as through development of the Nauru Food and Nutrition Security Strategic Plan. Nauru is also alleviating future climate change impacts primarily by further reducing emissions and pre-emptively planning for relocation of homes and critical infrastructure away from the vulnerable coastal areas as part of the Higher Ground Initiative.

2.6 Policy development process to address climate change

This overarching Policy provide a comprehensive and contemporary policy basis and mandate for climate action for Nauru. This Policy brings together existing documents including the RONAdapt 2015, the NSDS, the National Energy Policy Framework (NEPF 2009), Nauru's Energy Road Map 2018-2020 and the Nauru Integrated Environment Policy to describe Nauru's long-term mitigation and adaptation goals and the strategies needed to achieve them.

Nauru supported the Millennium Development Goals, which led to the millennium development priorities being articulated in Nauru's NSDS. The NSDS set out a10-year roadmap for Nauru's development and articulates the national vision, goals, strategies and priorities of Nauru, such as on the six national sustainable development priorities: productive land, healthy and productive people, water security, food security, energy security and a healthy environment.

2.7 Policy relationships

This Policy brings together the existing body of policy, legislation and knowledge to provide a clear vision of Nauru's planned action to address the impacts of climate change. The strategies, goals and plans outlined within Nauru's existing policies remain valid, with the Policy providing the overarching guidance document in relation to climate change: the linkages between existing national policies and plans are set out in Figure 1, while an overview of the Six key existing documents in relation to climate change is included at Annex 2.

[7] Climate Change in the Pacific: Scientific Assessment and New Research (2011)

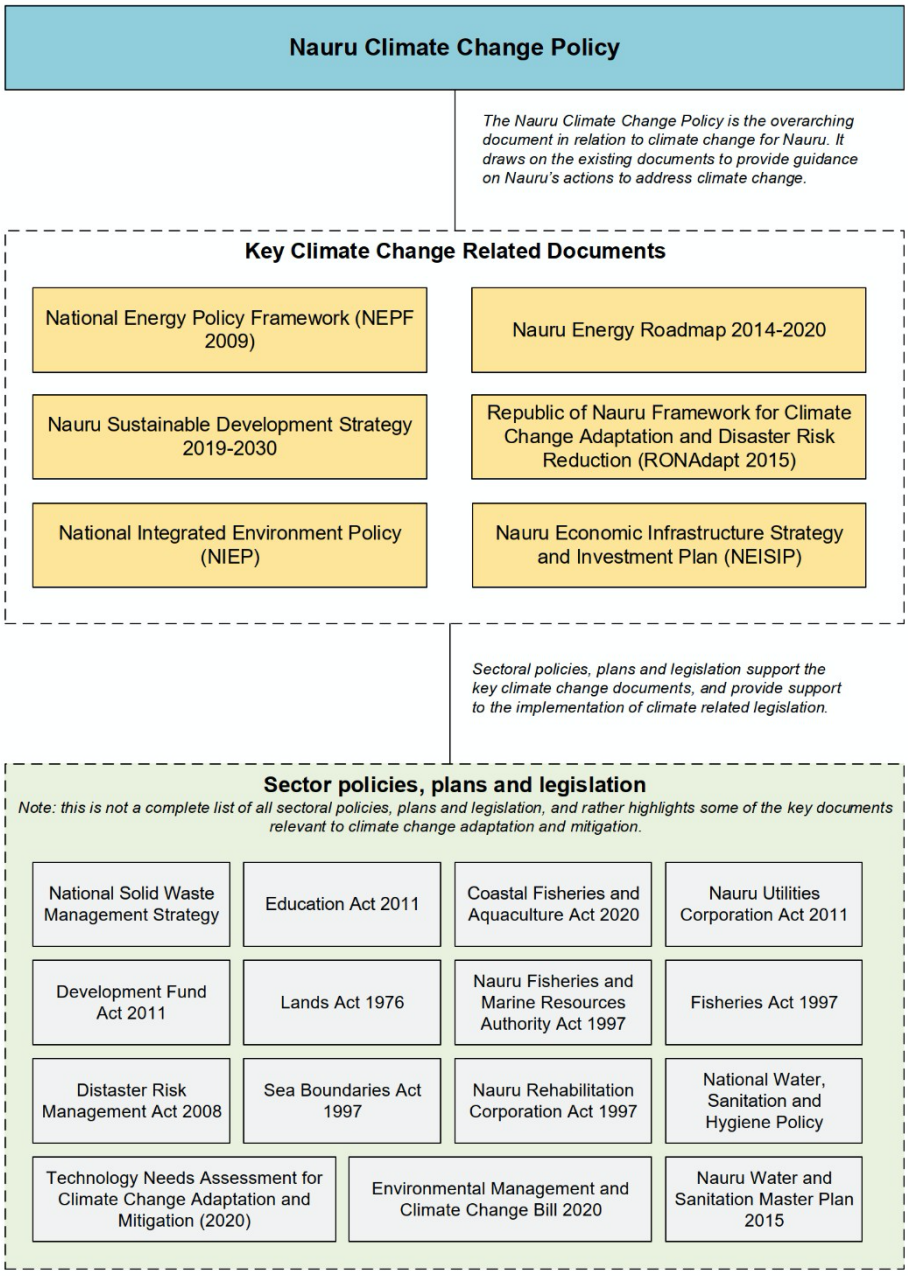

Figure 1: *Relationship between Nauru's Climate Change Policy and existing policies and plans*

The impacts of climate change on Nauru will be felt across all sectors, hence there are a wide range of stakeholders who will play a role in addressing the impacts of climate change. While the government of Nauru has ultimate responsibility, business and civil society too have a role in progressing the goals of this Policy and taking action to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

The government will provide leadership on climate change, to build the adaptive capacity of the country, to manage the risks to public assets and services, and to provide information on the impacts and risks of climate change to inform the public and guide responses. At the same time the private sector must also take responsibility for its own actions and manage its own climate risks.

DCCNR is responsible for the overall implementation of this Policy providing coordination and oversight. However, achieving the Policy vision will require participation from other ministries, utilities, community

organisation and the private sector to implement actions, and provide ongoing contributions to safeguarding Nauru's future.

Specific roles and responsibilities for implementing this policy are described in Section 5.4 below.

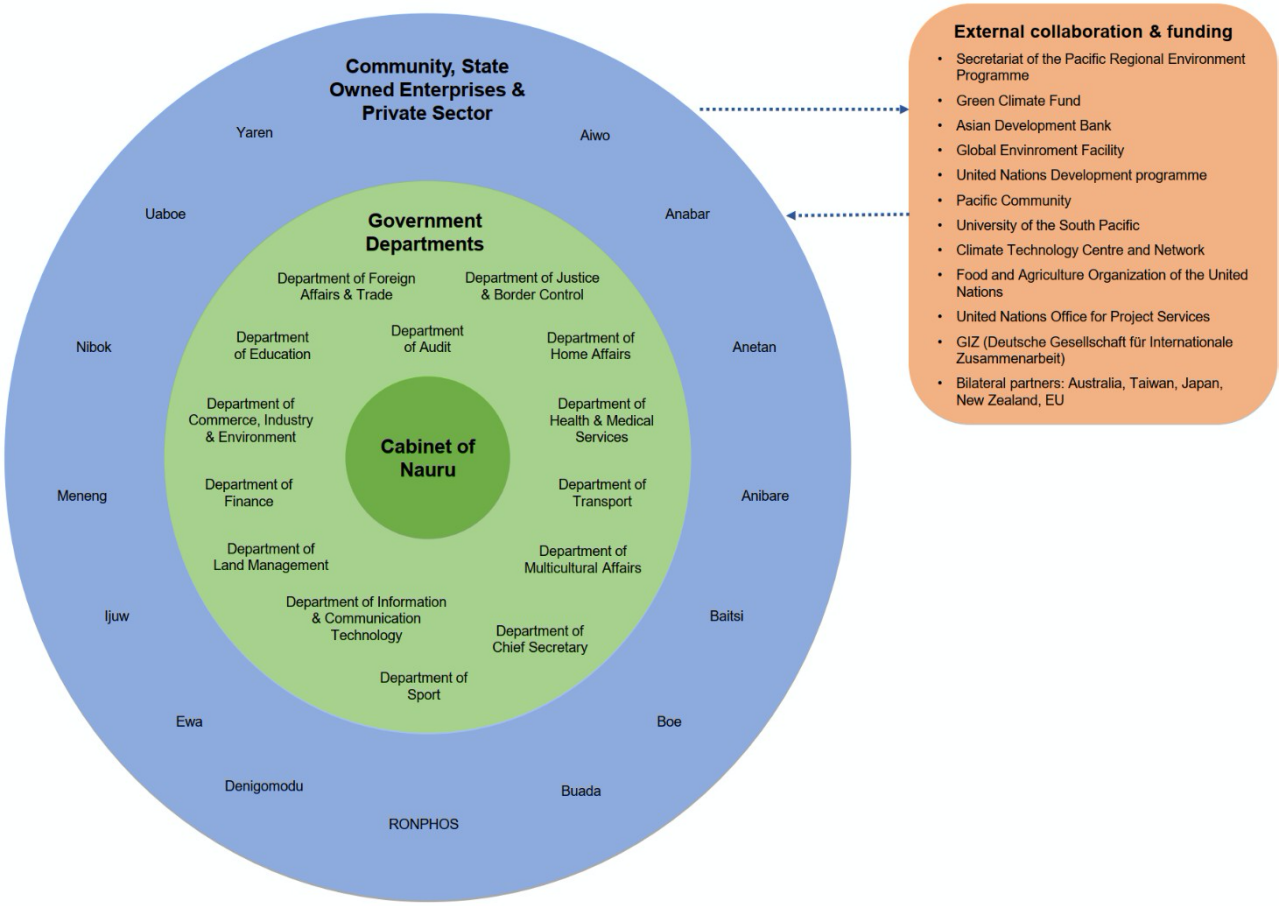

Figure 2: Climate change stakeholders

3. Nauru's climate policy

3.1 Vision

To ensure a safe, resilient and sustainable future for Nauru by responding to climate change and Leaving No One Behind

3.2 Strategy

To achieve the goals of this Policy, Nauru will require internal coordination and oversight to ensure strengthened governance, and to strengthen regional partnerships to better understand the emerging threats of climate change, and how to respond to these threats. Nauru will seek international assistance and funding to ensure sufficient resources are available for climate change mitigation and adaptation programs to address the greatest threats of climate change to Nauru.

The overarching strategy to address climate change is to:

- Improve resilience to climate change through adaptation and mitigation measures, such as for protecting infrastructure rising sea levels, including the Higher Ground Initiative;

- Increase uptake of renewable energy to improve grid security, reduce electricity costs and lower greenhouse gas emissions;
- Ensure climate change information is available to end-users in ways that are accessible and relevant; and
- Monitor and evaluate implementation of this policy.

4. Key focus areas, objectives and goals

The key focus areas, objectives and goals of this Policy are described in **Table 1**Table 1.

***Table 1**: Key Policy objectives*

Focus area	Outcome Statement	Goals
Adaptation	**Infrastructure:** for all Nauruans to have access to safe, resilient homes and other critical infrastructure - achieved through the Higher Ground and Smart Village Initiative – to ensure that Nauru's development meets the needs of current and future generation of Nauruans This will require an adjusted physical landscape on Nauru, which will include use of Topside for residence and key infrastructure, while coastal areas, including the port, are protected from storm surges and rising sea levels.	• Reduce coastal risks to key infrastructure. • Reduce flooding occurrence and intensity. • Ensure key infrastructure and housing can be safeguarded or relocated. • Prevent saltwater intrusion into Nauru's groundwater, or otherwise secure clean drinking water sources. • Integrated relevant findings of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage, to determine how Nauru can best mitigate the effects of loss and damage from climate change impacts. • Secure water for key services such as the hospital, where drought can affect Nauru's water supplies and increase the reliance on reverse osmosis units (which require maintenance and may need special parts which are not readily available). • Protect key coastal areas, through climate proofing critical and vulnerable infrastructure including households hospitals, roads, utilities schools and the airport –. • enable a secure port for fishing and other trade routes.
	Water Security: To improve the capacity of Nauru to protect water sources and to increase the supply of reliable, safe, affordable, secure, efficient and sustainable water to all households and businesses. This will include ensuring that there are adequate rainwater, groundwater and desalinated water supplies to meet domestic needs, while also incentivising water use efficiency at the household and business level to reduce overall demand.	• Establish NUC water office and laboratory to monitor the quality of water supplied to population. • Implement water supply components of the Water and Sanitation Master Plan. • Modelling of impacts of sea level rise and saltwater intrusion into groundwater. • Assess the condition of groundwater supplies. • Strengthen baseline information on the water sector. • Increase water supply and storage capacity. • Reduce water demand. • Protect ground water resources. • Improve water delivery systems to households
	Food Security: To increase food security for Nauru through improved management of fisheries and marine resources, and increased smart agricultural practices	• Improve water security for agricultural needs. • Increase household engagement with agriculture and livestock. • Improve grower skills and practices to increase productivity and make crops less vulnerable to extreme events such as drought. • Support a community based ecosystem approach to fisheries management. • Development of domestic food production. • Prepare and approve the Strategic Plan for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture. • Food and Nutrition Security Strategic Plan • Maintain ongoing agricultural technical trials. • Implement the Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Act. • Collect and analyse data on climate change impacts on fisheries and marine resources. • Develop milkfish and clam farming in support of the development and expansion of aquaculture. • Promote self-sufficient agriculture, to strengthen food security and improve livelihoods and health, thus contributing to Nauru's efforts to reduce vulnerability to future climate change

Mitigation	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in line with our commitments under the Paris Agreement. By securing energy generations within Nauru, this will decrease reliance on expensive fuel imports, which are at risk of supply chain disruptions. The current fuel imports are primarily diesel, petrol, jet fuel and fuel oil. Hence, most of this reduction will be from the replacement of diesel as electricity generation transitions to renewable energy, such as photovoltaic. Transport fuel (e.g shipping and aviation) will still be required for the foreseeable future. Decarbonisation of electiricity generation is important and will enable other aspects of the economy to be electrified (and use of the low-carbon grid).	• Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, primarily from stationary power generation, with the replacement of diesel generation with solar photovoltaic and battery storage. • Investigate other sources of renewable energy from oceans etc. • Investigate other emission reduction options, such as low-carbon transport options including vehicles, machinery, airplanes and ships. • Seek international finance to assist in the transition to renewable energy in Nauru. • 50% of grid electricity supplied from renewable energy • 30% improvement in energy efficiency from all sectors • Encourage Private sector investments • Develop Policies and Regulations
	Energy: to establish a reliable, affordable and safe energy supply, while minimising energy consumption and reducing reliance on fossil fuels through greater uptake of renewable energy.	• Establishing a grid capable of providing stable and affordable power • Renewable energy comprises half of Nauru's power generation • Achieving 30% energy savings
Disaster Risk Management	**Disaster Risk Management:** to enhance Nauru's capacity for planning and responding to vulnerabilities from climate change and disasters.	• Improve community preparedness and response systems • Fill knowledge gaps and ensure equitable access to information • Develop better awareness of weather events and deploy early warnings • Build the capacity of response agencies to better assist in emergencies
Advocacy and Information	**Advocacy and education:** to enable the long-term fulfilment of climate change actions by leveraging advocacy for international support for Nauru and by building internal capacity within Nauru, including by integrating climate change into school curriculum.	• Effective international advocacy contributing to increased global ambition to reduce emissions • International support through governance and finance to implement climate change actions in Nauru • Upskilling of the Nauru population starting with schools to enable more science-based approaches to climate change • Building the awareness and resource capabilities of Nauruan institutions to respond to climate change, •
	Climate change science and information: to ensure that Nauru is guided by current climate change science and projections when making decisions.	• Continue working with Pacific partners for knowledge sharing on climate matters. • Use precise Nauru projections for planning for specific responses. • Further integrated weather observations and early warning systems. • Increase access to information within Nauru for climate change and DRM, including long-term plans and upgrades of island communication services to enable formation of an Early Warning Systems (EWS) for disaster preparedness

4.1 Focus Area 1: Adaptation

Nauru is already impacted by climate change and we need to build our adaptive capacity to respond to and minimise the risks from future climate change, particularly for those who are vulnerable and may be more at risk to the impacts of climate change. RONAdapt provides Nauru with priorities relating to climate change adaptation for the short term and provides a general framework for longer term planning and programming of climate change adaption activities.

4.1.1 Focus Area 1.1: Infrastructure

The majority of Nauru's infrastructure is located on the coastal fringes of the island, the area likely to be most affected by sea level rise, storm surge and coastal erosion. This will put essential infrastructure such as homes, the hospital, schools, churches, the airport, water and power utilities, and other critical infrastructure at risk.

The centrepiece of Nauru's NSDS is the Higher Ground Initiative, which will dramatically increase the resilience of the country by migrating vulnerable homes and critical infrastructure to higher elevation, significantly expanding local food production, restoring degraded natural habitats and pioneering a new smart village promoting sustainable urbanism in small islands .

Outcome Statement

For all Nauruans to have access to safe, resilient homes and other critical infrastructure - achieved through the Higher Ground Initiative – to ensure that Nauru's development meets the needs of current and future generation of Nauruans and to enable a secure port for fisheries and other trade opportunities

This will require an adjusted physical landscape on Nauru, which may include use of Topside for residence and key infrastructure, while coastal areas, including the port upgrade, are managed to withstand storm surges and rising sea levels.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

The higher elevated areas of Nauru – up to 65m above sea level – are mostly the former phosphate mined areas,. The land will need to be restored and vastly altered as the coastal fringes of the island is highly susceptible to the impacts of climate change.". This will require the development and national acceptance of a Master Land Use Plan for relocation of homes and critical infrastructure to Topside as part of Higher Ground Initiative.

Relevant existing policies and strategies

- RONAdapt 2015
- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC
- Nauru Economic Infrastructure and Economic Strategic Plan
- Nauru Integrated Environment Policy

Goals

- Mitigate coastal risks to key infrastructure.
- Mitigate flooding occurrence and intensity.
- Ensure key infrastructure and housing can be safeguarded and relocated.
- Prevent saltwater intrusion into Nauru's groundwater,
- Implement strategies that will mitigate the effects of loss and damage from climate change impacts.
- Strengthen water security for domestic needs and other essential services, where related climate change impacts affect Nauru's water supplies
- Protect key coastal areas, including vulnerable infrastructure including households, hospitals, roads, and the airport to reduce the severity of tides and storm surges.
- Promote subsistence agriculture, to strengthen food security and improve livelihoods and health, thus contributing to Nauru's efforts to increase resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change.

4.1.2 Focus Area 1.2: Water Security

With Water scarcity being a major challenge for Nauru, securing a safe and reliable potable water supply for all citizens remains an ongoing priority. Nauru is a permeable island with extremely limited surface runoff and no rivers or reservoirs which makes water supply more susceptible to adverse climate events

such as prolonged droughts, or saltwater intrusion into groundwater due to sea-level rise. These factors severely undermine the ability to supply water for domestic needs and to which focussed climate change adaptation efforts are required.

Outcome Statement

To improve the capacity of Nauru to protect water sources and to increase the supply of reliable, safe, affordable, secure, efficient and sustainable water to all households and businesses. This will include ensuring that there are adequate rainwater, groundwater and desalinated water supplies to meet domestic needs, while also incentivising water use efficiency at the household and business level to reduce overall demand.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

Water supply in Nauru mainly relies on desalinated water, which is an expensive source,. Rainwater collection and use is limited by frequent droughts and insufficient capture & storage facilities, while the available groundwater has been contaminated. Water quality from rainwater and groundwater sources is difficult to maintain, however treated seawater is expensive to produce and is highly energy intensive.

The two key elements, under which there are a number of goals and activities, to address these issues are:

1. Better management of water resources, including filling information gaps and increasing access to baseline information about the water sector and reducing water demand through incentive programs and education.
2. Improved water supply and storage capacity and delivery across all source types.
3. Identify greener and cost effective ways of producing clean water

Relevant existing policies and strategies

- RONAdapt 2015
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC
- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Nauru Water and Sanitation Master Plan 2015
- Nauru Water Policy
- Nauru Integrated Environment Policy

Goals

- Support the establishment of the NUC water office and laboratory to monitor the quality of water supplied to population.
- Implement water supply components of the Water and Sanitation Master Plan.
- Modelling of impacts of sea level rise and saltwater intrusion into groundwater.
- Assess the condition of groundwater supplies.
- Increase access to baseline information about the water sector.
- Encourage water supply and storage capacity.
- Reduce water demand.
- Rehabilitate and protect ground water resources.
- Strengthen water delivery infrastructure
- Strengthen rainwater harvesting systems

4.1.3 Focus Area 1.3: Food Security

With Nauru highly dependent on imported foods, and geographically isolated, food insecurity is a major risk for our country. Food supplies are primarily imported resulting in high costs, and are limited in supply and variety. The lack of access to fresh and healthy foods results in poor diets and associated health consequences, including a high rate of non-communicable diseases. The Government has undertaken programmes in both agriculture and fisheries/aquaculture to trial methods to develop domestic food production, but require further development and support. As a result the development of domestic food production for food security is a key national development goal in Nauru's NSDS.

Agricultural production is relatively limited in Nauru at present, and is constrained by limited availability of suitable land and water, as well as limited expertise and resources in growing food and raising livestock. Hence, most agricultural activity is carried out by individual households on family land.

Climate change will make agricultural production increasingly difficult with prolonged droughts limiting the types of crops that can be grown, and extreme rainfall events leading to crop losses through water logging and soil erosion. Despite these constraints there is potential to increase agricultural production and productivity to strengthen food security, and as a result improve livelihoods and health while also reducing vulnerability to climate change.

In addition to agriculture, fisheries are a critically important resource for Nauru, contributing to food security and cultural practices (particularly in low income households) as well as providing an important source of foreign revenue for government. Climate change will affect fisheries through increasing sea surface temperature, sea levels, ocean acidification and changes to oceans currents. Despite Nauru's small size, geographic isolation and limited air connections implementing a sustainable management of fisheries and marine resources underpin livelihoods in Nauru and will contribute to building longer term resilience.

Outcome Statement

To increase food security for Nauru through improved management of fisheries and marine resources, and increased small-scale agriculture.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

The sectors of agriculture and fisheries require some study of adaptation. The Division of Agriculture under the DCIE has primary responsibility for supporting agricultural development from subsistence to small scale farming and will assist with identifying options to secure Nauru's agriculture. The Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resource Management Authority (NFMRA) is responsible for fisheries management and will need to further address climate impacts, such as through ocean acidification and the impact to the vitally important tuna fisheries.

The NSDS emphasises four strategic actions relating to increased local agricultural production namely: developing local food and agricultural production initiatives such as kitchen gardens, fruit tree planting and root cropping; promoting production of value-added forestry and agro-forestry products for domestic consumption; promoting viable piggeries and duck and poultry production (including for eggs) and agricultural businesses; and setting up a resource centre on agricultural and livestock production. Currently, efforts to scale up agricultural production are limited by land constraints and are expected to be an important part of the development of Higher Ground Initiative.

To accomplish this, there is the need to improve water security promote water-efficient irrigation techniques, improve livestock management, implement sustainable land management techniques and other innovative agricultural technologies that is applicable to Nauru. Strong partnerships between farmers , government and donors is required to build local capacity, and to strengthen policy and regulatory frameworks for the agriculture sector, as well as governance frameworks.

Improved management of fisheries and marine resources is the second component of improving food security. Priority actions to enhance this sector include improving the monitoring, control and surveillance of fish resources through data collection and analysis, strengthening community fisheries

programs, promoting aquaculture, and promoting and facilitating human resource development through fisheries education and training programs.

Relevant existing legislation and policies

- RONAdapt 2015
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC
- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Act 2020
- NFMRA Act
- Nauru Integrated Environment Policy

Goals

- Improve water security for agricultural and horticulture needs.
- Increase household engagement through agriculture education.
- Encourage farmer skills and practices to increase productivity and make crops and livestock less vulnerable to extreme events such as drought.
- Support a community based ecosystem approach to fisheries and agricultural management.
- Increase domestic food production
- Support the development of the Strategic Plan for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture.
- Encourage the scaling up agricultural technical trials to strengthen baseline data.
- Support the implementation of the Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Act.
- Collect and analyse data on climate change impacts on fisheries and marine resources.
- Support the development and expansion of aquaculture.

4.2 Focus Area 2: Mitigation

We recognise Nauru's GHG emissions is comparatively insignificant and do not contribute to consequential difference in average global temperature . However, as signatories to the Paris Agreement we are committed to a significant reduction in emissions as we transition to renewable energy, which is also beneficial for improved energy security.. We believe that if Nauru, as a developing nation and one of the most remote nations in the world can act decisively to reduce emissions as a part of the international community, then we hope that larger and more developed nations will be encouraged to reduce their own emissions.

Outcome Statement

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions, in line with our commitments under the Paris Agreement.

By securing energy generation within Nauru, this will decrease reliance on expensive fuel imports, which are at risk of supply chain disruptions and market price fluctuations. The current fuel imports are primarily diesel, petrol, jet fuel and fuel oil. Hence, most of this reduction will be from the replacement of diesel as electricity generation transitions to renewable energy, such as solar. Transport fuel (e.g. shipping and aviation) will still be required for the foreseeable future. Decarbonisation of electricity generation is important and will enable other aspects of the economy to be electrified (and use the low-carbon grid).

Strategies – how it will be achieved

The strategies to reduce emissions are primarily on electricity generation, as outlined in Section 4.1.2, and per the Nauru Energy Road Map (NERM) and the *National Energy Policy Framework* – such as through plans for establishing a reliable, affordable and safe energy supply, improve Energy Efficiency and increasing uptake of renewable energy.

Relevant existing legislation and policies

- RONAdapt 2015
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030
- Nauru Energy Roadmap 2018-2020
- National Energy Policy Framework (NEPF 2009)
- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC

Goals

- Support the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, primarily from stationary power generation, with the replacement of diesel generation with renewable energy
- Investigate other emission reduction options, such as low-carbon transport And identifying other renewable sources
- Seek international finance to assist in the transition to renewable energy in Nauru.

4.2.1 Focus Area 2.1: Energy

Nauru is currently reliant on imported fossil fuels for power generation and transport. It is therefore critical to safeguard Nauru's energy supply to establish energy security in the most sustainable and environmentally friendly way possible as outlined within the *Nauru Energy Road Map*, *National Energy Policy Framework* and *2021-2030 NDC*.

Outcomes Statement

To establish a reliable, affordable and safe electricity supply, while minimising electricity consumption and reducing reliance on fossil fuels through greater uptake of renewable energy.

The outcomes in relation to improved energy security are outlined with the *Nauru Energy Road Map* and taken from the policy statements of the *National Energy Policy Framework*. These are:

1. A reliable, affordable and safe power supply and services.
2. A reliable and safe supply of fossil fuels.
3. Universal access to reliable and affordable energy services.
4. Improved energy efficiency and conservation.
5. A significant contribution from renewable energy towards electricity supply
6. Financial sustainability of the energy sector.
7. Efficient, robust and well-resourced institutions for energy planning and implementation.
8. Improved private sector engagement

As a signatory to the Paris Agreement, Nauru is committed to contributing to international collective actions, such as by aspiring to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by carbon sinks, with sufficient international financial, technical and capacity building support. In line, with the Paris Agreement, Nauru aims to reduce its emissions to net zero in the latter half of this century.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

As outlined in RONAdapt, key actions on energy include reducing electricity demand for water, expanding renewable energy capacity, improved energy efficiency and reducing transport fuel use (while ensuring mobility). To achieve these individual actions, RONAdapt identifies key institutional

strengthening activities, such as developing an overarching energy sector regulation for Nauru (Energy Act)

Implementation of the *National Energy Policy Framework* will assist in achieving the energy objective. The keys actions to do so are outlined below, divided by each aspect of the objective.

1. Establishing a reliable, affordable and safe electricity supply
    - Develop a *Nauru Energy Act* to create an overarching legislative and governance framework for the energy sector in Nauru and an enabling environment for private sector investment
    - Create and finance an Energy Infrastructure Investment Fund to establish capital reserve funds dedicated to maintaining Nauru's energy infrastructure and to anticipated future costs associated with maintaining Nauru's renewable energy capacity
    - Undertake energy use and supply analysis that considers the impact of recent changes in consumption behaviour and the addition of larger-scale solar photovoltaic systems that can inform future energy systems planning
    - Support in-country capacity to operate and maintain solar photovoltaic and battery storage systems, particularly with a focus to increase gender representation within NUC and generally

    - Improved annual energy sector planning

2. Increasing uptake of renewable electricity
    - Install 6MW solar photovoltaic farm with 5MW/2.5MW battery capacity
    - Conduct technical assessment of non-solar sources of renewable energy such as ocean thermal energy conversion and waste-to-energy
    - Conduct technical assessment of low-carbon transport options

3. Improving energy efficiency and conservation
    - Promote energy efficient air conditioners and other appliances through the development of an Energy Efficiency Fund
    - Conduct technical assessments to identify effective energy efficiency options for Nauru
    - Undertake energy audits of government facilities, high-energy consumers i, residential sector to establish baseline data and implement the findings of the audit report.
    - Encourage energy efficient constructions to maximize energy savings and encourage changes in usage behaviour among government staff
    - Adopt an Appliance Labelling and Energy Standard Programme to encourage the import and uptake of low energy usage products
    - Induce behavioural change to encourage energy efficiency behaviour via education campaigns for the general public and within the government

Relevant existing legislation and policies

- RONAdapt 2015
- Nauru Energy Roadmap 2018-2020
- National Energy Policy Framework (NEPF 2009)
- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC

Goals

- Encourage the establishment of a grid capable of providing stable and affordable power.
- Renewable energy comprises half of Nauru's power generation.
- Significant improvement in energy efficiency and conservation
- Encourage private sector investment in energy

4.3 Focus Area 3: Disaster Risk Management

Nauru must be able to respond to natural disasters, and extreme events. RONAdapt represents the Government of Nauru's latest response to the risks to sustainable development posed by climate change and disasters. It does this though the identification of immediate priorities relating to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and providing a framework for longer planning and programming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction activities.

Outcome Statement

To enhance Nauru's capacity for planning and responding to vulnerabilities from climate change and disasters.

The outcomes in relation to improved Disaster Risk Management are outlined in RONAdapt. The four major outcomes of successfully implementing RONAdapt are:

1. Reduced vulnerability of Nauru to external stress, and improved capacity to cope with and respond to climate change and disasters.
2. Better mainstreaming and consideration of climate change and disasters risks across all sectors of the economy, into the activities of the government and communities, including into national and sectoral plans.
3. Improved coordination between stakeholders at the national level and between the government of Nauru and its development partners, ensuring future collaboration aligns with Nauru's priorities for building resilience and avoids duplication.
4. Enhanced capacity to plan and implement climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

The overarching policy goals of RONAdapt are intended to contribute to the achievement of the NSDS and to address DRM.

Specific matters on disaster risk management include:

- Developing early warning systems for extreme seasonable weather and climate events relevant to water supply, such as changes in the ENSO system
- Securing key health infrastructure services against extreme events, such as ensuring health supplies are maintained, critical patent relocations is planned, and training is conducted.
- Implementing a community outreach strategy to develop and maintain high levels of community awareness and preparedness for responding to extreme events
- Establishing a multi-hazard early warning system
- Building the capacity of response agencies (such as Fire, Police, Ambulance, Marine Search and Rescue).
- Reducing coastal risks to key infrastructure, such as by conducting coastal vulnerability assessment and mapping and creation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans
- Support the development and implementation of local flooding emergency plans and designing and constructing drainage infrastructure to reduce flood risks in critical locations.

Relevant existing legislation

- RONAdapt 2015
- Disaster Risk Management Act 2008
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC

Goals

- Support community preparedness and response systems.
- Fill knowledge gaps and ensure equitable access to information.
- Encourage better awareness of weather events and deploy early warnings.

- Provide support to build the capacity of response agencies to better assist in emergencies.
- Encourage the development and implementation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP), which integrates climate and disaster risks. This can then be integrated as a component of a wider Nauru Land Use Plan.

4.4 Focus Area 4: Advocacy and Information

4.4.1 Focus Area 4.1: Advocacy and education

As a small island nation, Nauru is continuously being affected by the impacts of climate change. As a consequence advocacy will remain to play an important role in ensuring Nauru has the support it needs to adapt to climate change, as well as mitigate our emission where possible. At the same time, it is important that we build the long-term capacity needed to respond successfully to climate challenges: education and awareness programs, particularly for children and at-risk groups, are a key component of our long-term advocacy strategy. Nauru will continue to engage actively with regional and international partners for advocacy, such as the Pacific Small Island Developing States, the Alliance of Small Island States and other like-minded groups.

Outcome Statement

To enable the long-term fulfilment of climate change actions by leveraging advocacy for international support for Nauru and by building internal capacity within Nauru, such as integrating climate change into school curriculum, community awareness and providing the necessary skills for Nauruans to better adapt to climate change

Increased international engagements leading to both reduced global emissions and an increase in international climate finance, such as through the Green Climate Fund or delivery of skills through international and regional agencies will enable Nauru to implement the climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

By building greater domestic capacity to actively and efficiently engage at the multilateral and international level, to advocate for ambitious global action and support to enable achievement of the climate change mitigation and adaptation goals required for Nauru.

Relevant existing Policies and Strategies

- RONAdapt 2015
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030
- Republic of Nauru Second National Communication to the UNFCCC
- National Sustainable Development Strategy

Goals

- Effective and durable international advocacy leading to increased global ambition to reduce emissions.
- Increase International support through governance and finance to implement climate change actions in Nauru.
- Upskilling of the Nauru population starting with schools to enable more science-based approaches to climate change.
- Building the resource capabilities of Nauru institutions to respond to climate change, such as weather monitoring and reporting, climate projections and the ability to forewarn and respond to disasters through effective disaster risk management to reduce risk of damage to people, property and biodiversity.

4.4.2 Focus Area 4.2: Climate Change Science and Information

To ensure that climate change adaptation, mitigation and advocacy actions are appropriately targeted, implemented and managed it is important to ensure that all actions are evidence based. This requires access to up-to-date climate science and projections to ensure that actions are relevant and continue to remain applicable. Having robust climate data will also assist Nauru in investment decision making.

Outcome Statement

For Nauru's climate change planning and action to be informed by robust climate change science and predictions to instil confidence that our efforts are best placed.

Strategies – how it will be achieved

Nauru will continue its constructive collaboration with many regional partners within the Pacific,

This Policy aligns to the FRDP[8]. This enables regional comparisons, hence when other national climate policies are reviewed, Nauru can gain insights and apply these to future iterations of this Policy.

The current climate change projections for Nauru were completed in 2011[9], and now require updating as part of a regional reassessment. The 2011 report was completed after the Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): options for this update are to complete it in the short term (based on AR5 data), or post-2022 when the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) will be published.

Beyond the Pacific, Nauru will continue to engage with other small-island nations to share experience and learn from their response to climate change, such through the Pacific Small Island Developing States and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

As identified in other Pacific climate change policies, the weather and data collection can be improved for Nauru and build upon recent advances. In late 2018, Nauru started weather observation and reporting and then joined the World Metrological Council in 2019. Nauru is a member of the Pacific Meteorological Council and a beneficiary of the Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative, which allows for more effective, people-centred early warnings through predictions provided by global and regional centres.

Relevant existing legislation

- RONAdapt 2015
- Republic of Nauru Intended Nationally Determined Contribution
- Republic of Nauru Updated Nationally Determined Contribution 2021-2030

Goals

- Continue working with Pacific partners for knowledge sharing on climate matters.
- Request a follow-up report to the regional 2011 climate study to fine-tune and update the projections.
- Use precise Nauru projections for planning for specific responses.
- Further integrate weather observations and early warning systems.
- Increase access to information within Nauru for climate change and DRM, including long-term plans and upgrades of island communication services to enable formation of an Early Warning Systems (EWS) for disaster preparedness.

[8] Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific: An Integrated Approach to Address Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management (FRDP) 2017–2030

[9] Australian Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO, 2011. Climate Change in the Pacific: Scientific Assessment and New Research. Volume 1: Regional Overview. Volume 2: Country Reports.

5. Policy implementation

5.1 Policy implementation

Responsibility for the implementation of this Policy is shared across several ministries and government departments, while also requiring support and participation from the private sector and the community in order to be effectively implemented. This policy will sit alongside other key national policies, such as the National Sustainable Development Strategy (NSDS) and will utilise existing implementation structures where possible.

The DCCR has primary responsibility for the coordination of Nauru's climate change activities. The DCCR's Climate Action Unit will provide operational oversight of the implementation of this Policy and support the integration of actions into strategies and programmes for relevant ministries. The role of the DCCR Climate Action Unit includes the following:

- Planning, policy advice and development;
- Access to climate finance
- Coordinating knowledge about climate change related activities, so that they can report to higher level coordination bodies and the Cabinet on progress and challenges, as needed;
- Implementing climate change related projects, in some cases where they are within the mandate of DCCR (for example, some water actions, agriculture, disaster management); and
- Compiling information about ongoing climate change related activities in Nauru, and sharing information across government and with the community, using robust information and knowledge management processes.

Specific government ministries and departments will have assigned responsibilities for the implementation of specific activities within this Policy, which are outlined in Section 5.4. Climate change likely to impact all aspects of life in Nauru, hence this is a shared responsibility across government, SOE's, private sector and civil society.

5.2 Policy governance

Driving effective actions to address climate change requires a coordinated approach across government, SOE's, the private sector and the community. This must include well defined responsibilities and timeframes for implementation. This Policy seeks to establish effective governance mechanisms to implement the actions needed to address climate change impacts through effective legislation, departmental leadership, skilled personnel and reliable monitoring and evaluation.

The desired outcomes of Policy governance is the effective integration of climate change matters across disciplines and ministries, where climate change is considered in all key investments and economic decisions related to the sustainable development of Nauru.

Despite long-standing commitments to climate change, Nauru has struggled to secure the financial and technical resources required for full and effective implementation of its climate change priorities. The barriers to access support for SIDS are well-established, hence with increased governance Nauru can address some of these concerns such as by increasing local institutional capacity, completing grant and funding applications and reporting requirements, seeking larger funds for more ambitious requests (the Higher Ground Initiative) instead of piece-meal applications.. By improved governance and funding arrangements, unimplemented climate change priorities will be able to be addressed

The strategic direction for delivering this National Climate Change Policy, will be through the Minister of Climate Change & National Resilience. The Minister will work with multiple Ministries ;but not limited to Infrastructure Development; National Emergency Services; and the Nauru Utilities Corporation. However, this Policy is now the overarching policy of subsidiary policies (such as and not limited to the Nauru Energy Roadmap, RONAdapt, NEPF and NDCs Water Policy NIEP Agriculture Strategic Plan), hence the governance of those subsidiaries policies now requires inter-departmental co-ordination to ensure on-going consistency and tracking.

5.3 Policy Funding

Therefore, we will be attempting to secure additional finance, to implement the actions outlined in this policy and other subsidiary policies, such as the Higher Ground Initiatives, which will be very costly but of the utmost importance for Nauru. We will continue to maintain and strengthen our engagement with existing and new multilateral and bilateral development partners to support our climate change related priorities.

5.4 Responsibilities

The DCCNR is responsible for tracking overall progress of Nauru in implementing this Policy. With the DCCNR providing the required oversight and guidance, progress towards the goals and outcomes for each focus area is more specific are as follows:

- Focus Area 1: Adaptation
  - Focus Area 1.1: Infrastructure -
  - Focus Area 1.1: Water Security -
  - Focus Area 1.2: Food Security -
- Focus Area 2: Mitigation –
  - Focus Area 2.1 – Energy -
- Focus Area 3: Disaster Risk Management -
- Focus Area 4: Advocacy and Information –
  - Focus Area 4.1: Advocacy and Education -
  - Focus Area 4.1: Climate Change Science and Information -

Technical Advice

DCCNR convenes technical working groups (TWG) to play a technical advisory role, as needed. TWGs are comprised of technical officers from different government departments; for instance, for water issues the TWG includes the Water Unit, Climate Action Unit, Disaster Risk Management Unit, Nauru Utilities Corporation, Nauru Rehabilitation Corporation, Planning and Aid Division, Bureau of Statistics, and Ministry of Health (Public Health).

During the implementation of this Policy, the role of the TWG will be to provide timely and regular update, technical advice and recommendations to the DCCNR. The TWG also serves as a platform for coordination, particularly for information exchange between different departments.

5.5 Policy monitoring, evaluation and review

Policy monitoring and evaluation

Policy monitoring, evaluation and review are critical to ensure the effective implementation of this Policy. Additionally, these activities form an essential part of funding arrangements and also help to improve the design and delivery of future climate change related policies, plans and activities.

The monitoring and evaluation process for this Policy draws largely on the process outlined in RONAdapt for monitoring and evaluation, reflecting the desire for tracking and learning while also recognising the limited institutional, personnel and financial resources available in Nauru to dedicate to the monitoring and evaluation of this Policy.

Rather than collecting data on a set of detailed indicators for each of the many individual priority actions described within this Policy, the monitoring and evaluation framework consists instead of a less-resource intensive approach. Ideally, many of the activities and outcomes will be tracked through the monitoring and evaluation of the NSDS, RONAdapt, Nauru Energy Roadmap and NEPF, given that this Policy is the overarching Policy document for these documents. Key responsibilities are as follows:

- DCCNR is responsible for collating information and data on progress and implementing Policy priorities. This includes compiling information from different agencies, utilities and the community, as needed.
- Those responsible for the achievement of particular objectives in Section 5.4 will report regularly to DCCNR on progress with priority activities in this Policy , including a formal annual status update.

Tracking

As part of the tracking of this Policy, DCCNR will use the TWG to compile reports from different departments and organisations and to make an overall assessment of progress. DCCNR will prepare a brief annual report for the government on Policy progress.

Many of the priority actions in this Policy are also core priorities in sectoral policies and plans, and in these cases, there is usually a component of monitoring and evaluation which can complement reporting on this Policy. Some of the relevant sectoral plans have already identified monitoring indicators, which can also serve the function of monitoring progress of Policy implementation to reduce duplication of effort.

Evaluating impact

Detailed impact evaluation from individual priority actions is resource intensive and at this point in time is beyond Nauru's capacity to implement effectively. Instead, evaluation will consist of a number of survey exercises "before and after", designed so that the government is able to qualitatively, if not quantitatively, assess general trends or changes in the country over time. This will include:

- Assessments of institutional capacity; and
- Community-based vulnerability surveys.

Nauru proposes to develop, with support from its regional partners, suitable evaluation approaches effective in improving resilience to climate change and potential disaster events. The DCCNR is responsible for advancing and implementing evaluation activities.

Policy review

This Policy shall be reviewed, and updated as necessary, every five years to assess the Policy's effectiveness, relevance, and ensure continued alignment with other Nauruan climate change related documents. This review will be conducted by the DCCNR in consultation with other key stakeholders, with the review report to be submitted to Cabinet for approval. Recommendations from the review will be incorporated into later revisions of the Policy.

Annex 1: Nauru's major international climate change commitments

UNFCCC	Kyoto Protocol	Paris Agreement
The overarching international convention to address climate change, with annual meetings (Conferences of Parties).	An agreement signed by some, but not all, countries, intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the first commitment period (2008-2012) and the second (2012-2020).	A near universally ratified agreement which forms a core part of UN SDG 13 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change, which also created the GCF.
Nauru's commitment to the UNFCCC includes becoming a signatory on 8 June 1992 and then ratifying the Convention on 11 November 1993.	Nauru ratified the Kyoto Protocol on 16 August 2001.	Nauru signed and ratified the Paris Agreement on 22 April 2016.
Nauru's major submissions under the UNFCCC, include the: • 1st National Communication (30 October 1999) • 2nd National Communication (1 April 2015) • Intended Nationally Determined Contribution (iNDC) (17 November 2015)		

Annex 2: Overview of existing Nauruan climate-related policies

Nauru Sustainable Development Strategy 2005-2025

The NSDS articulates Nauru's national vision, goals, strategies and priority in relation to development. The NSDS vision emphasizes the desired outcome of sustainable improvements in the quality of life experienced by Nauruans and signals that partnerships at all levels will be a key vehicle to achieving this.

Nauru Energy Roadmap 2014-2020

The Nauru Energy Roadmap provides a practical implementation plan to reach the goals laid out in the NEPF 2009 and the NSDS to meet Nauru's energy vision to "Provide a reliable, affordable, secure and sustainable energy supply to meet the socio-economic development needs of Nauru".

Republic of Nauru Framework for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction (RONAdapt 2015)

RONAdapt represents the Government of Nauru's response to the risks to sustainable development posed by climate change and disasters, firstly though the identification of immediate priorities relating to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, and secondly through providing a framework for longer planning and programming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction activities.

National Energy Policy Framework (NEPF 2009)

The NEPF provides a guideline for the development of the Energy sector in Nauru for the immediate future, and mid and long term. The NEPF outlines the policy issues and strategies to address these in relation to the energy sector to meet Nauru's energy vision, while also emphasising the need for partnerships for policy implementation.

Nauru Integrated Environment Policy (NIEP)

The Nauru NIEP embodies the firm commitment by the Nauru Government to pursuing sustainable development and supporting regional and environment conventions which aim to integrate environment conservation and proper governance of development efforts.

Nauru Economic Infrastructure Strategy and Investment Plan (NEISIP)

The NEISIP aims at improving coordination in planning and financing of infrastructure development and maintenance between national stakeholders and international development partners and to strengthen the capacity of the Government to plan and manage the development of its economic infrastructure.

Water Policy

The Water Policy provides a framework for Government leadership and coordinated and integrated action in the supply of safe, adequate as well as technically and environmentally sustainable water services and the promotion of appropriate sanitation services and hygiene practices to the people of the Republic of Nauru. It also provides direction for the protection, conservation, sustainable use and efficient management of Nauru's water resources. It is directed at improving the welfare, health and livelihood of Nauruans and is the vision of the Government of Nauru (GoN) for the water and sanitation sector.

Strategic Plan for the Sustainable Development of Agriculture in Nauru

This Strategic Plan for 2007-2017 will provide the agriculture industry with the framework to develop agriculture in Nauru. This plan is linked to the Goals and Priorities of the NSDS and provides a framework and a range of actions requiring commitment and a coordinated joint effort within Government, and with the private sector and civil society.

Nauru Disaster Risk Management Plan

The Nauru Disaster Risk Management Plan provides the overarching framework to support national disaster risk reduction and disaster management planning for the mitigation of preparedness for, responses to and recovery from the impact of hazards that have the potential to become national disasters.