Meeting the climate challenge: Briefing on the Small Island States Resilience Initiative (SISRI)
Small States Forum 2013 – Chairman’s Summing Up:

- “We called upon the World Bank to explore how climate change funds can be leveraged more effectively for sustainable development in small states.”

SAMOA Pathway, September 2014 (Article 44)

- “We call for support for the efforts of Small Island Developing States:
  - To build resilience to the impacts of climate change and to improve their adaptive capacity through the design and implementation of climate change adaptation measures;
  - To address remaining gaps in capacity for gaining access to and managing climate change”
Small Island States Resilience Initiative

A global program established in the World Bank in response to calls from small island states.

Launched at the Third UN Conference on SIDS (October 2014).

- Based on analysis and experience
- A framework with three building blocks
- Established a dedicated team to support Small Island States
- Identified a need for practical knowledge sharing amongst practitioners in Small Island States across all regions
- Identified need for measuring progress towards enhanced resilience
Analysis shows

Considerable Financing for Resilience

At least US$800 million a year but funding is fragmented
The current World Bank portfolio of climate and disaster resilience assistance to Small Island States is **US$200 million/year**, commitments in 24 countries.
Framework to Support Effective Implementation

Targeted assistance to address the ‘Building Blocks’ of resilience

Institutional
(e.g. NAP process, resilient development plan, national resilience programs)
- Institutional Strengthening
- Mainstreaming
- Awareness

Operational
(e.g. preparedness for direct access, strengthened national program implementation)
- Program Management & Monitoring and Evaluation
- Safeguards
- Fiduciary (Procurement and Financial Management)

Technical
Activities leading to strengthened resilience
- Risk Identification
- Risk Reduction
- Preparedness and Early Warning
- Financial and Social Protection
- Resilient Reconstruction after Disasters

- Managed Population Retreat
- Coastal Protection
- Community based Landslide Management
- Safer Infrastructure
- Risk-based Spatial Planning (Ridge to Reef)
Consolidating Investments and Capacity: Example of the Caribbean

- **1970-99**: Risk Reduction
  - $19M
  - 3 countries

- **2000-2009**: Disaster Reconstruction
  - Multiple small projects
  - $47 M
  - 3 countries

- **2010-2015**: $30-70 million program per country
  - 8 countries
  - $138 M
  - 4 countries

➡️ By combining sources of financing under a single national program and using a central coordinating agency, countries have been able to vastly increase the amount of resilience funding they manage.
Dedicated World Bank Team Specialized in Small Island States

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A Global Practitioners Network for Resilience in Small Island States

**SISRI Workshop**, 50 practitioners from Ministries of Finance, Planning, Environment and Project Management Units of 20 countries sharing experiences.
Enhancing Coastal Resilience - combining hard infrastructure and ecosystem based approaches

(St Vincent & Grenadines)

Boulder Revetment facilitating land reclamation

Submerged Breakwaters

Artificial Coral Reef

Sand Replenishment and Dunes

Source: Presentation by Mr. Brent Bailey, St Vincent & Grenadines, to SISRI Workshop (May 2016)
Reducing Fragmentation – An Integrated and Risk-based Spatial Planning Approach
(Samoa)

Source: Presentation by Ms. Litara Taulealo, Samoa, to SISRI Workshop (May 2016)
Build resilience of the road sector and reducing fragmentation
(Belize)

Priority areas for flood vulnerability reduction investments

• Leveraged additional investment:
• Developed roads conditions database
• Increased awareness of disasters and climate change impacts:
• Increased collaboration

Source: Presentation by Mr. Errol Gentle, Belize, to SISRI Workshop (May 2016)
A knowledge base on ‘what works’ in island contexts

Published Knowledge Notes:
1. Policy and institutional issues (SISRI overview)
2. Managed population retreat from at-risk areas
3. Resilience through social protection

Under preparation:
• Financial protection
• Resilient infrastructure
• Coastal protection toolkit
• Addressing project management bottlenecks
In Summary…

1. **We are building:**
   - A specialized global SISRI team to support on core Building Blocks
   - A Practitioners Network for sharing knowledge
   - Working towards measuring Enhanced Resilience

2. Testing Innovative financial instruments and approaches to reduce fragmentation and increase effective implementation

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