



Climate Adaptation in the CNMI

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) &
Bureau of Environmental Coastal Quality (BECQ)

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CNMI-Geographic setting:

- Located approximately 3,800 miles southwest of Hawaii, 130 Miles from Guam
- 6,000 Miles Southwest of the West Coast of the United States Mainland
- CNMI is 9 to 10 time zones and a day away from Washington D.C. depending on daylight savings time.
- CNMI consists of 3-Islands (Saipan, Tinian and Rota)
- CNMI has more than 53,000 population based on the 2010 US Census Data (Saipan-48,000, Tinian-3,000 and Rota-2,000 more or less)
- CNMI gets an average tourists of 450,000 a year mostly from Asian countries



Why adapt?

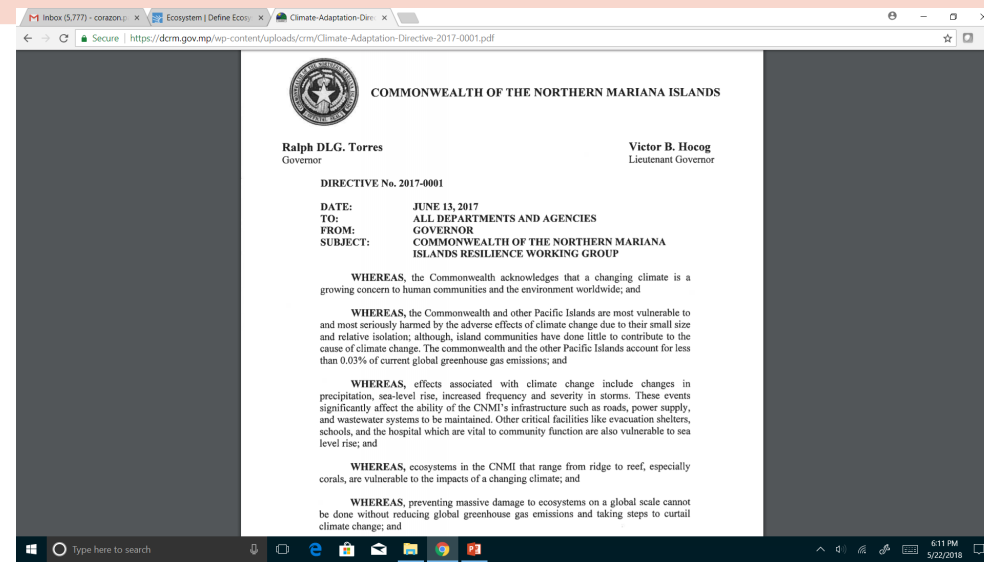
- CNMI relies on clean and healthy environment for our livelihood, survival and way of life
- Community, Infrastructure and ecosystem may be adversely affected through small rise in sea level and changes in rainfall
- Preventive planning can protect and enhance the well-being of people, and the built environment of the CNMI.



Timeline



Date	Event
2011	Climate Change Work Group (CCWG) created.
2012-2013	Community workshops and meetings.
2014	The late Governor Inos issued a Directive Order in support of the CCWG.
2015	Tinian and Rota Vulnerability Assessments completed.
2016	Climate Change Work Group renamed the Resilience Work Group (RWG)
2017	Governor Torres issued a Directive Order in support of the efforts of the RWG.
2018	Quarterly meetings and Adaptation Plan development.



What is the Resilience Work Group for CNMI?



- The Department of Interior-Office of Insular Areas and the CNMI identified the need to utilize technical assistance program funding to develop an adaptation plan for the CNMI.
- Governor's Office and BECQ (Bureau of Environmental & Coastal Quality) have been tasked to spearhead this effort .
- The Resilience Work Group came about as a byproduct of the Climate Change Working Group.



What is the objective?

- To develop a long-term adaptation plan for a changing climate.
- Development process should involve participants from relevant sectors of government, the private sector, community members, and appropriate federal agency partners.
- The whole purpose behind the Resilience Working Group is to shift the focus beyond vulnerability and start the process toward adaptation.





How will this be accomplished?

- Incorporate the recommendations made in the vulnerability assessments for the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.
- Consider climate impacts in future project development.
- Sectors of the plan will highlight
 - Natural Environment
 - Infrastructure
 - **Public Health /Healthcare System**
 - Economic Resources
 - Communities and Cultural Resources



Resilience Working Group - Meeting



COMMUNITY OUTREACH – ROTA CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH



Thank you!