

Preface

Globalization and global warming are affecting people's lives on this planet in many significant ways. Because of their small size and delicate ecology, islands are especially affected by these fundamental climate changes taking place globally. For example, substantial existing scientific evidence predicts a rise in sea levels due to global warming. Low-lying lands are particularly vulnerable to a rise in sea level, and atolls in the Pacific are especially at risk because of a total lack of high ground. To be prepared for possible disasters, it is particularly important to learn the specific details of the threat facing a particular island or atoll and the perception of people regarding their predicament.

We conducted interdisciplinary research in the Weno, Piis, and Romanum Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, in August 2011. This is a research report that examines the possible effects of globalization and global warming on the life and the environment on the Chuuk Atoll.

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