

# HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

- Enhance resilience of existing human settlements to climatic disasters and sea level rise.
- Avoid developing new settlements in areas highly vulnerable to climate change impacts.

Homes and developable lands (especially those in the coastal zone) at greater risk of damage from floods, stronger storm surges, and sea level rise.

- Improve drainage in human settlements, especially in flood prone areas – improve road drainage design and construction; improve land use planning; minimise land clearing and creation of impervious surfaces; utilise pervious concrete or porous pavement; and clean, prune and monitor ghuts instead of lining with concrete. (PA)

- Start serious reforestation programme to reduce stormwater runoff and erosion. (PA)

- Enhance local weather monitoring and modeling to provide early flood warning systems. (PA)

- Start flood prevention programmes in low-lying areas, including evacuation and recovery plans. (PA)

- Encourage homeowners to purchase adequate flood insurance. (PA)

- Improve management of and increase the Disaster Relief Fund. (PA)

- Increase minimum elevation requirement above the high water mark for reclamations. (PA)

- Consider sea level rise and stronger storm surges in distribution of Anegada crown lands. (PA)

- Use “soft” measures (e.g. mangroves) to protect



existing vulnerable coastal settlements. (PA)

- Where feasible, in highly vulnerable areas, establish “no build areas” for settlements. (PA)

- If “no build area” is unfeasible, mandate proper elevation of buildings’ foundations and other safeguards in vulnerable areas. (AA)

- If necessary, invest in “hard” engineering structures (e.g. sea walls) to help protect existing vulnerable settlements. (LRA)

- Develop a compensation system for persons that lose land as a result of sea level rise. (LRA)

- Relocation to “safe islands” and “safe areas.” (LRA)

Increased damage to homes from more severe hurricane events.



Photo credit: Department of Disaster Management

- Ensure “climate-proof” structures by improving construction standards - overhaul outdated building regulations, retrofit existing structures, and improve surveillance and enforcement of planning and building laws/regulations and approval conditions. (PA)

- Encourage adequate property insurance against hurricanes. (PA)

- Enhance community hurricane preparedness, including evacuation and recovery plans. (PA)

- Improve management of and increase the Disaster Relief Fund. (PA)