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**Climate Change and the intersection with Development
and Security:**
As evidenced by global, regional and local responses in
Kiribati

A thesis presented in partial fulfilment of requirements for the degree of

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Abstract

This thesis will analyse the evolution and the impact of global, regional and local responses to climate change in Pacific Small Island Developing States. This examination will take place through the lens of the United Nations and Pacific regional powers' involvement in Kiribati and within the greater context of the security-development nexus. There are arguably three major actors in the policy realm – intergovernmental organizations /non-governmental organizations, regional powers and local governments. By analysing the United Nations (as the intergovernmental organization), New Zealand (as one of the regional powers) and Kiribati (as the local government of the affected country) we can gain a better understanding of how these three entities engage in dialogue and facilitate change on the ground.

Kiribati is an exemplar for the security-development interrelationship in the face of climate change. This status is manifest by virtue of the Kiribati high level of responsiveness to international initiatives, direct overtures to regional powers (in regards to increased aid for adaptation, mitigation and relocation measures), and implementation of numerous national policies related to issues arising from climate change. This thesis details the current policy landscape with respect to climate change and Pacific Small Island Developing States and will examine the evolution of international, regional and national policy responses in the climate change context. The objective is to provide an empirical basis for understanding policy responses with respect to climate change in Pacific Small Island Developing States.

In service of this objective, this thesis will analyse existing policy, proposed policy and hypothetical/academic policy using discourse analysis and document content analysis. An understanding of the constitution and evolution of these discursive categories (as evidenced by thematic debate, policy discourse, and media coverage) are utilised in an attempt to provide insight on the complexities of climate change governance and how actors can be best equipped to respond.

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List of Abbreviations

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ALGAS	Asia Least Cost Greenhouse Gas Abatement Strategy
ALM	Adaptation Learning Mechanism
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
AusAID	Australian Agency for International Development
BPoA	Barbados Programme of Action
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
CCST	Climate Change Study Team
CIC	Center on International Cooperation
CoP	Conferences of the Parties
CROP	Council of Regional Organisations in the Pacific
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DFID	Department for Foreign and International Development
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GoK	Government of Kiribati
HDR	Human Development Report
IGO	Intergovernmental Organisation
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KANGO	Kiribati Association of NGOs
KAP	Kiribati Adaptation Programme
LA21	Local Agenda 21
LDC	Least Developed Country
MCTTD	Ministry of Communications, Transport and Tourism Development
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
MELAD	Ministry of Environment Lands and Agriculture Development
MFMRD	Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources Development
MOP	Ministry Operational Plans
MUHEC	Massey University Human Ethics Committee
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NASC	National Adaptation Steering Committee
NCSA	National Capacity Self-Assessment
NDS	National Development Strategies
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
NIS	Climate Change National Implementation Strategy
NZAID	New Zealand Agency for International Development
PACC	Pacific Adaptation to Climate Change
PICCAP	Pacific Islands Climate Change Assistance Programme
PIF	Pacific Islands Forum
PIFACC	Pacific Islands Framework for Action on Climate Change
PIGGAREP	Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project
PSIDS	Pacific Small Island Developing States
SBI	Subsidiary Body for Implementation
SBSTA	Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice
SC	Security Council
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SPC	South Pacific Commission
SPREP	South Pacific Regional Environment Programme
UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UN	United Nations

UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
WB	The World Bank
WMO	World Meteorological Organization