

ABSTRACT

This Thesis presents a case study from the Republic of Kiribati to explore the response of the state towards Climate Change threat effect. Climate change is one of the greatest challenges for the world today. The intensity and frequency of climate induced disasters have increased in recent years. Low-lying and coastal countries like Kiribati are the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. These countries are already experiencing disasters such as floods, cyclones, tsunamis, etc. with millions of population displacements over the past years. In addition to increased climatic variability, however, Kiribati already faces some of the most extreme social, economic, and environmental challenges in the world, including high rates of overcrowding, poverty, and youth unemployment. In addressing climate change threats, the World Bank, together with the Government of Kiribati initialized an adaptation program (KAP) which aims to reduce Kiribati's vulnerability to climate change. Under the UNFCCC Kiribati has National Adaptation Programs of Action for urgency action planning. The Government of Kiribati has taken the position that it would be irresponsible not to acknowledge the fact that the islands constituting the Republic of Kiribati might not be able to sustain life in the future, and has thereby included relocation as the second part of its adaptation strategy. The "migrating with dignity" strategy recently introduced by the President of Kiribati, Anote Tong to prevent the mass migration and "climate refugee" status.

Keywords: *Kiribati, Climate Change, Kiribati Adaptation Program, Migration with Dignity, National Adaptation Program of Action, Sea Level Rise*