

Fast Facts from the UN - Impact of Climate Change on World Societies



United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres in Tonga/Kiara Worth

“Sea levels are rising at a rate not seen in at least 3,000 years. If we don’t reverse these climate change trends, we will see this tragedy in other coastal areas globally.”

[United Nations](#) Secretary-General [@antonio-guterres](#) has issued a stark warning during his visit to Pacific island nations.

“The world can no longer wait to take bold and resolute international climate action,” he stressed during his visit to Samoa, highlighting that high and rising sea levels are already causing severe damage and disrupting people’s lives in coastal communities in the Pacific region and other places around the world.



A damaged sea wall in Tonga/Kiara Worth

While visiting Tonga, the [Secretary-General](#) had a [front row seat](#) to how people in the Pacific island nation are enduring the devastating impacts of the climate crisis on a regular basis.

“The people of the Pacific islands are resilient and determined, but they need our help,” he urged.

“Rising seas are a crisis entirely of humanity’s making – a crisis that will soon swell to an almost unimaginable scale,” said the Secretary-General, calling for drastic global emissions cuts, the phase out of fossil fuels and a boost to climate adaptation investments.

“The world must look to the Pacific and listen to the science. If we save the Pacific, we also save ourselves.”



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You can learn [more about climate change](#) and get ideas about how you can Act Now to help safeguard our planet [here](#).

You can also gain further insights and perspectives about the United Nations and its work by following the [UN's page](#).