Met Office

Sea-level rise impacts and adaptation

Why is sea-level rise important?

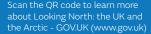
Sea-level rise is one of the most urgent climate threats, causing flood inundation, coastal erosion, shoreline retreat and saltwater intrusion. These impacts affect global shorelines, coastal infrastructure, and communities. About 10% of the world's population, roughly 770 million people, live in coastal areas less than 5 meters above the high tide line. A significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and effective adaptation action is needed to limit the risk from rising sea levels.

What is adaptation?

Adaptation is action taken to reduce the impacts experienced from climate change. Adaptation can take many forms across communities, regions, and countries; there is no "one-size-fits-all" solution. Adaptation can include building flood defences, redesigning communication systems, and restoring coastal habitats. Adaptation is a critical component of long-term responses to climate change to protect people, livelihoods, and ecosystems.









Scan the QR code to learn more about IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)



Scan the QR code to learn more about UKCP18 sea-level projections