

American Samoa's Climate Change Initiatives



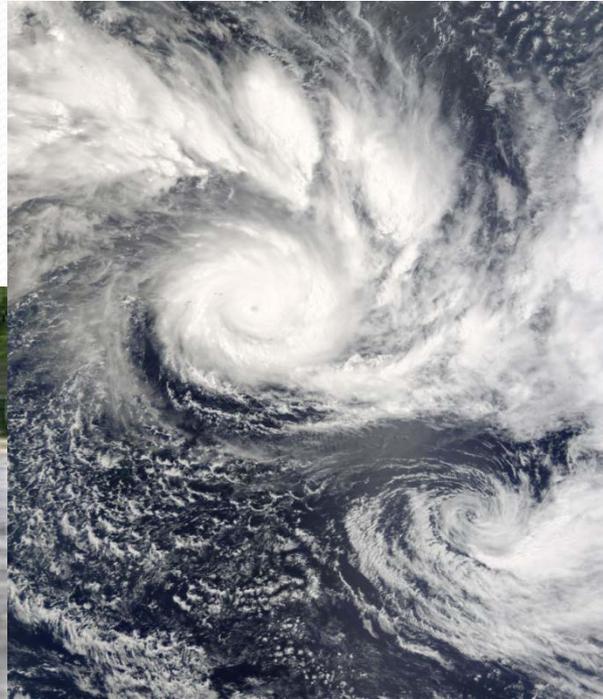
Lolo M. Moliga
Governor
American Samoa

Climate Change in American Samoa



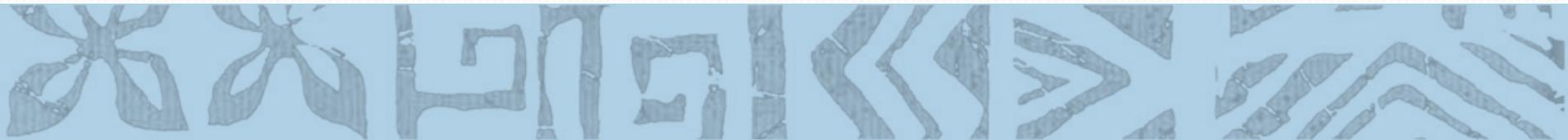
Major Climate Change Impacts

- Increased surface air and sea surface temperatures
- Changes in precipitation
 - Increased flooding
- Increased frequency and intensity cyclones
- Sea Level Rise
- Ocean Acidification



Impacts to American Samoa

- Loss of *coastal lands*
- *Coral reef* ecosystem degradation
- Decreases in local *food production*
- Economic damages to *infrastructure and livelihoods*
- Increased *health risks*

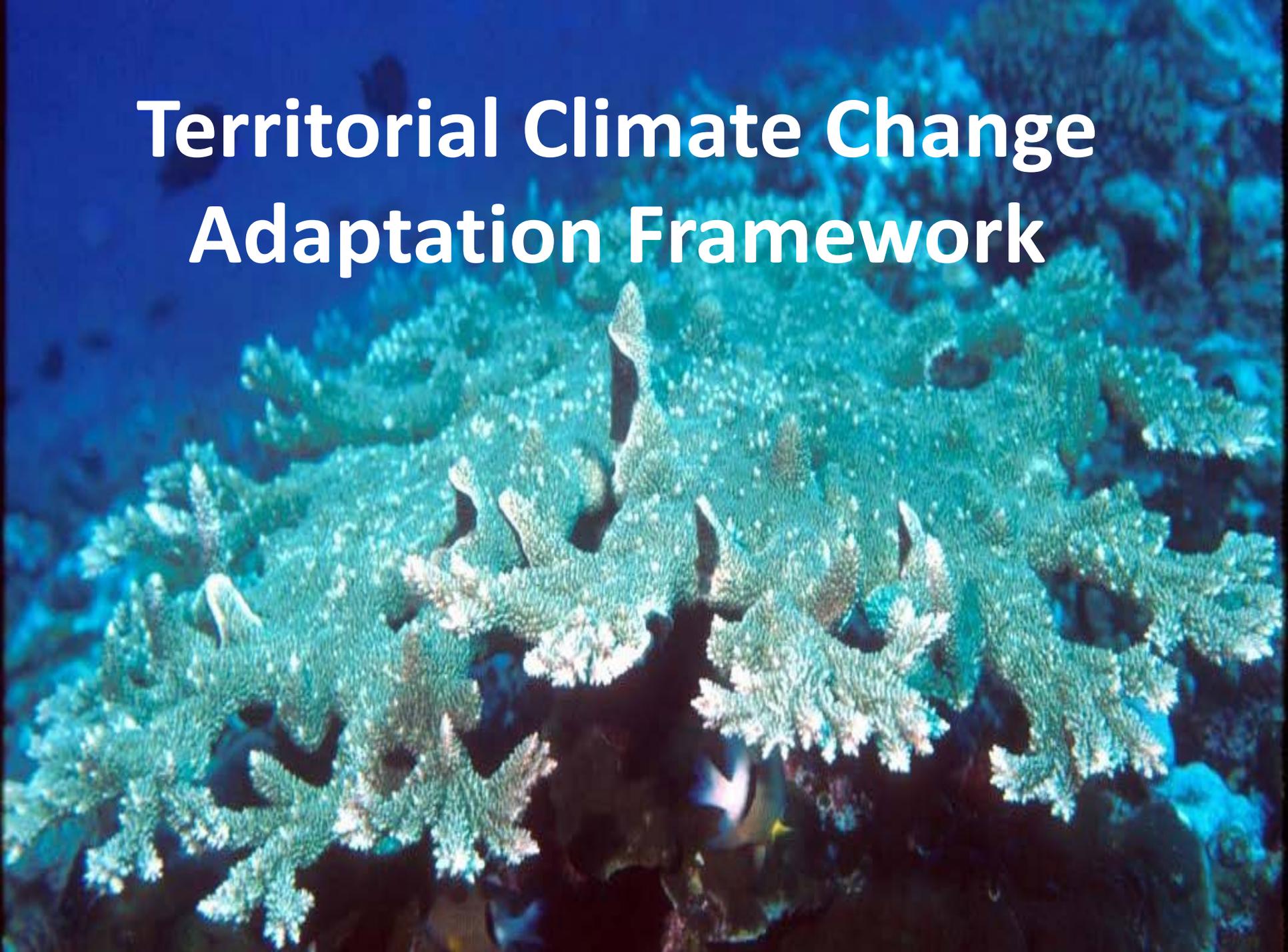


Approaches to Climate Change

- *Understand* vulnerabilities to climate hazards
- *Mitigate* pollution and other environmental challenges
- *Prepare* by identifying climate impacts and improving overall resilience



Territorial Climate Change Adaptation Framework



Adaptation Framework

- Developed through participation of seven subcommittees, which included:
 - Natural resource managers
 - Scientists
 - Issue Area Experts
- Addresses threats, risks, data gaps, current and future potential projects
- Intended to steer management strategies

Seven Focus Areas

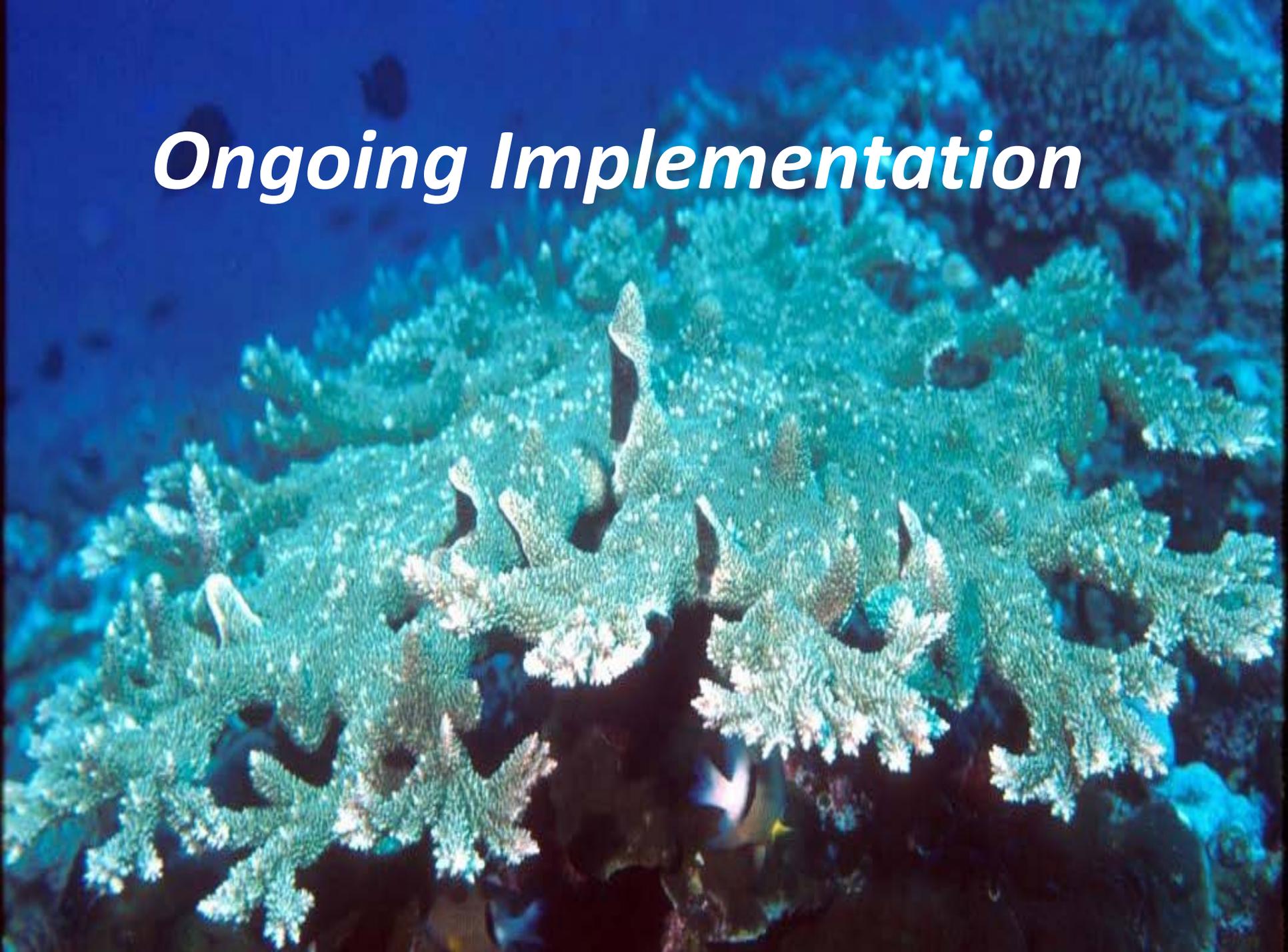
- Forestry, Water and Agriculture
 - Coral Reef and Mangroves
 - Education and Outreach
 - Human Health
 - Coastal Hazards
 - Development
 - Energy



Main Priorities

- Support local research and improve local scientific capacity
- Enforce local regulations to improve resilience
- Introduce sustainable practices
- **Improve collaboration among agencies**
- **Improve education and outreach**
- **Improve overall resilience**

Ongoing Implementation



Renewable Energy Committee

- Expanding **Solar** Energy Installation
- Investigating the option for **Geothermal** energy throughout the territory.
- Transforming a major concern into an asset with a **Trash to Energy Plant**



Cutting Edge Science to promote Appropriate Adaptation

- Stanford University has determined that many corals in Ofu are resilient to extreme ocean temperatures



Community Based Resilience

- Leone Restoration Project
- Amouli Community Based Climate Resilience Plan



Fa'afetai!

