

# CORVI: The Climate and Ocean Risk Vulnerability Initiative

Aruba, has a population of over 106,000 and is part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. A substantial share of the island's residential areas, vital infrastructure, and tourism assets are located in coastal areas near sea level. According to the IMF even a modest rise in the sea level will greatly affect the economy. Annually, close to 2 million tourists visit Aruba. In 2023, the tourism industry accounted for well over 75% of Aruba's GDP and nearly 85% of employment.

Aruba faces growing risks from climate change, including sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and warming, as well as heat stress. The compounding and cascading risks threaten Aruba's coastline and its coastal and marine ecosystems, such as coral reefs and mangroves, which protect the coastline and attract tourists. The threats are compounded by challenges with waste management and ocean plastic pollution. Aruba is already exposed to extended and stronger heatwaves and faces longer seasonal dry periods, putting greater stress on community health along with its already limited freshwater resources and agriculture.

To enable decision makers and stakeholders to make smart, informed, and tailored investments to **build climate resilience** in their communities and across industries, the Stimson Center developed **CORVI: The Climate and Ocean Risk Vulnerability Initiative**. CORVI is a science-driven, stakeholder-led process that compares a diverse range of factors to produce a **coastal and island-wide risk assessment**.

<https://www.stimson.org/project/corvi/>

## CORVI Beneficiaries

Leaders need to better understand and identify the impacts of climate change and integrate these climate vulnerabilities into their decision making to prioritize and take responsible climate action.

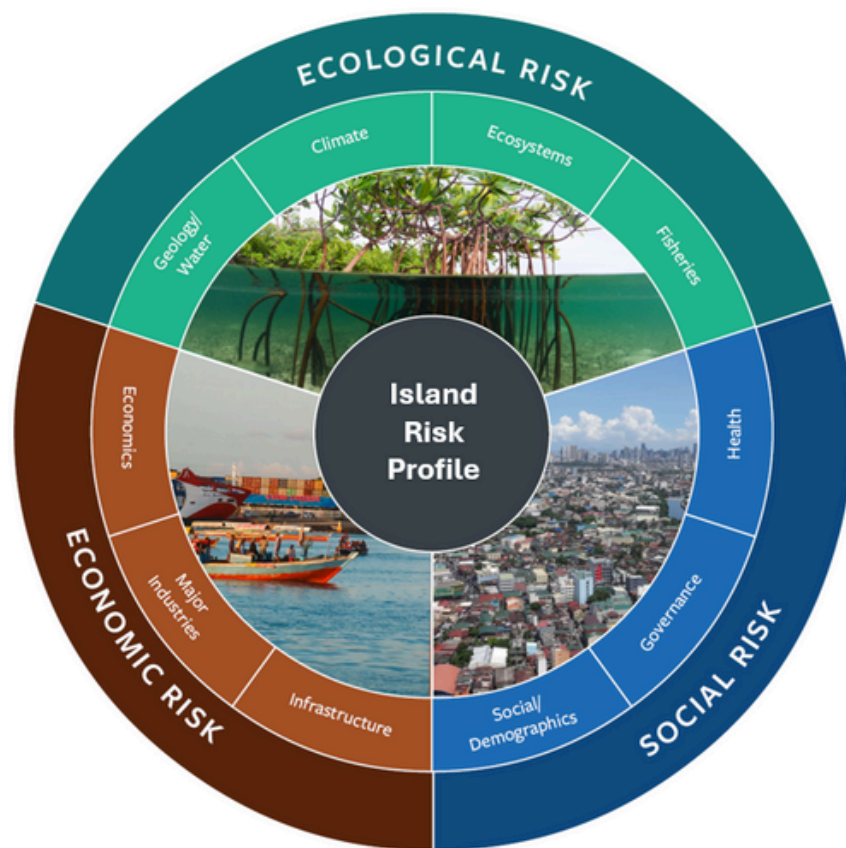
- For **GOVERNMENTS and NGOs**, CORVI is a tool to quantify the specific threats posed by climate change when integrated with social, economic, and political considerations. With CORVI, governments can better prioritize action, devise innovative policy solutions, and attract funding to build climate resilience.
- For **PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTORS**, CORVI provides a detailed assessment of climate vulnerabilities to improve investment decisions that drive funding to targeted actions for effective resilience building.
- **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS** can use CORVI to understand the financial and non-financial factors which contribute to the climate vulnerability, and demonstrate the need for increased climate resilience.



# CORVI: A Decision Tool for the Future

To provide a holistic and tailored assessment of current and future climate impacts, CORVI compares a diverse set of threats to produce a comprehensive climate risk assessment. The assessment is comprised of 10 risk categories, grouped under ecological, economic, and social risk. The categories are made up of close to 100 indicators, covering a range of issues, including the vulnerability of residential communities, especially vulnerable groups, infrastructure, the health of marine ecosystems, economic vulnerability to climate impacts, and ongoing urbanization dynamics.

To overcome data gaps, CORVI combines empirical and survey data from local experts using structured expert judgement to provide a more complete picture on how climate-related risks are impacting Aruba. Every indicator and category is scored from 1-10, and is relative to other selected cities in the Caribbean, providing a simple reference for decision-makers looking to categorize and pinpoint risk in addition to identifying and formulating climate resilience policy actions.



Now active in 16 countries across the globe, CORVI is designed to support smart future investment in coastal climate resilience by providing an integrated and comprehensive understanding of risk and vulnerability. The information CORVI provides can be used to prioritize action, inform resilience planning, identify bankable projects, bridge the valley of death between planning and projects, and aid in the design of integrated policy solutions. Decision makers have used past CORVIs to improve national adaptation plans, access climate finance, inform city planning processes, and assist with private sector project design.

## About the Stimson Center

The Stimson Center is a nonpartisan policy research center working to protect people, preserve the planet, and promote security and prosperity. Please contact Sally Yozell for more details ([syozell@stimson.org](mailto:syozell@stimson.org)).