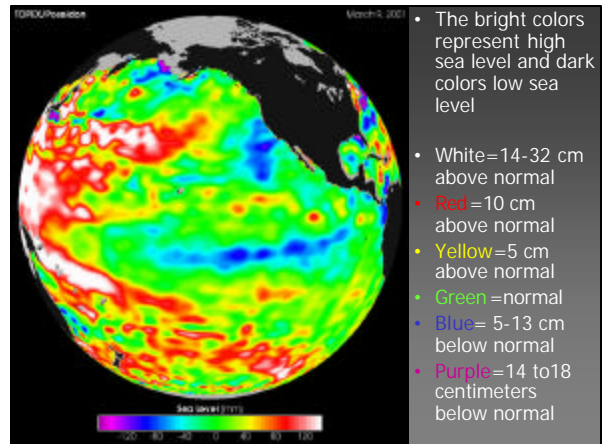
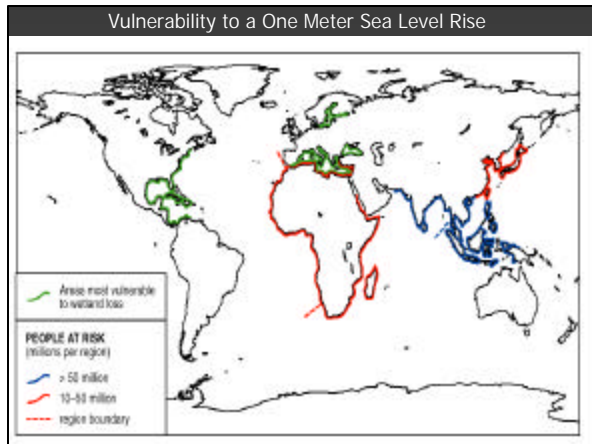


Coastlines and Sea Level

- Sea level rise is an international problem
- The polar ice caps and various glaciers are melting at an alarming rate
- Thermal expansion increases the rising rate
- An adaptation plan must be developed
- The sea level rise can also be attributed to sinking land from oil and water extraction from the earth
- Every country in the world will be affected directly or as a result of the consequences
- It is predicted that sea level could rise as much as 1 meter over the next century



Agricultural Loss

- As sea level rises it inundates low-lying coastal agricultural land such as fertile river deltas
- By the year 2060 it is estimated that cereal production will be reduced by 9-11% worldwide
- As ocean water intrudes inland and up rivers it will salinize fresh water used for drinking and irrigation

Forest Inundation

- Low coastal forests are vulnerable to saline water inundation
- Deep roots are affected by water table salinization
- Sea level rise kill fresh water vegetation
- 1.5 mm sea level rise turns two meters of forest into marsh each year in Florida
- Reduces amount of trees for
 - Food production
 - CO2 sink

Environmental Refugees

- Displaced from home due to sea level rise and famine from agricultural loss
- By the 2050's 150 million or 1.5% of the total world population are predicted to be displaced
- China and India are both predicted to have at least 30 million environmental refugees each
- Unwanted refugees may cause unrest or wars

Economic Impact

- 300 billion US dollars predicted as the economic loss for a 1 meter rise
- Developed nations currently spend 8 billion US dollars to aid only 10 million foreign refugees

Relativity to Kyoto Protocol

- The topic of sea level rise is currently not listed in the Kyoto Protocol
- Every nation will be affected by a rising sea level
- It is important that the issue is further researched for a viable plan to protect the fertile coasts and the inhabitants

Sources

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 - <http://www.cnn.com/NATURE/9910/20/trees.enn/index.html>