

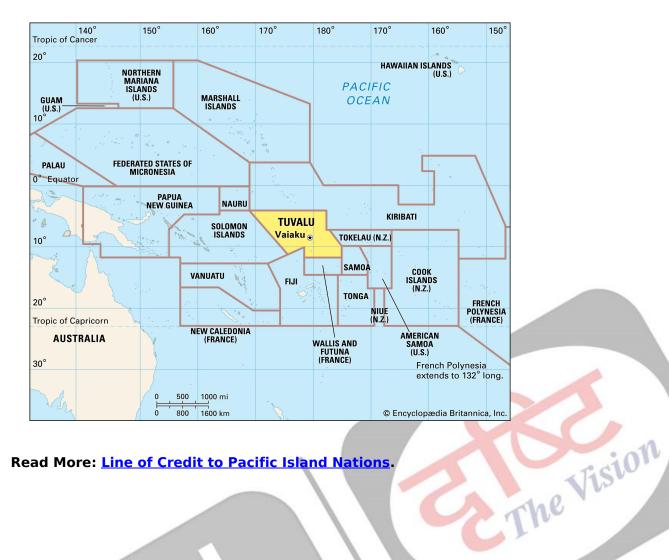
Tuvalu's Fight Against Rising Sea Levels

Source: TH

In recent times, Tuvalu, a <u>Pacific island nation</u> with 11,000 residents, faces severe **existential** threats from <u>rising sea levels</u>.

- NASA projects that by 2050, half of its main atoll, Funafuti, will be submerged by daily tides.
- Saltwater has contaminated groundwater, damaging crops and forcing reliance on rainwater tanks and a central raised garden for food.
 - Tuvalu is building seawalls and expanding artificial land to delay the impacts until
 2100
- A 2023 climate and security treaty with Australia offers migration pathways for 280 Tuvaluans annually.
- Tuvalu seeks <u>UN</u>-backed recognition of its maritime boundaries and statehood, even if submerged, amid concerns over illegal fishing and revenue loss.
 - It seeks legal assurance from the <u>UN</u> and the Pacific Islands Forum.
- Tuvalu:
 - It lies in the west-central Pacific, halfway between Hawaii and Australia.
 - Its capital is Funafuti, and neighbours include Kiribati and Nauru to the north and Fiji as
 its nearest neighbour to the south.
 - It consists of 3 main islands (Nanumanga, Niutao, and Niulakita) and features 6 coral atolls (like Funafuti, Nanumea, Nui) along with over 100 small islets.

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