



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Climate Change and Energy
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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15 July 2014

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0604-14

Thank you for your email of 17 June 2014 asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

When working in Whitehall in about 2005-6, just after the FCO first established a Climate Change Department (before its transfer to Department for Energy) I heard of a study into the potential effects on UK immigration of those entitled to claim UK citizenship when global warming causes loss of their homelands through sea level rise.

Considering the public interest in global warming and national resources, I request a copy of that report and any subsequent updates covering immigration forecasts related to global warming, please.

I have interpreted your request as looking for a specific report on this subject published in or before 2005-06, and any subsequent updates to this report that have been published after that date. I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, we have not been able to locate any Foreign and Commonwealth Office documents that meet the parameters of your request. Although not matching your description completely, there are a few reports produced by other Government Departments that may be of assistance.

The 2004 Foresight report published by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills looked at coastal flooding and flood defences. Details of the report can be found at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20121212135622/http://www.bis.gov.uk/foresight/our-work/projects/published-projects/flood-and-coastal-defence>

In 2011, the Government Office for Science published two Foresight reports. One was looking at the international dimensions of climate change and one which was looking at migration based on environmental impacts. Both reports may be of interest, but neither is specifically about migration to the UK or impact on UK citizens. The reports can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-dimensions-of-climate-change> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migration-and-global-environmental-change-future-challenges-and-opportunities>

Finally, the Stern report on the Economics of Climate Change was released in October 2006 and includes some elements examining potential global migration impacts of climate change. The Stern report can be found at:
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130129110402/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/stern_review_report.htm

If you are able to provide any further information regarding the specific report to which you refer, we may have more success in locating relevant documents.

Yours sincerely,

Open Government Liaison Officer
Climate Change and Energy



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