

## Adaptation measures for climate change scenarios in the Brazilian semiarid region regarding water security

National audit abstract		The national audit objectives To assess to what extent governmental actions regarding
Country	Brazil	
The Name of the Audit	Adaptation measures for climate change scenarios in the Brazilian semiarid region regarding water security	
Publication Information	October 2009; Brazilian Court of Audit, Judgment N° 2.462/2009 – Plenary; available in Portuguese at <a href="http://www.tcu.gov.br">www.tcu.gov.br</a>	water security in the Brazilian semiarid region take into account climate change scenarios. The Brazilian semiarid region covers an area of approximately 900,000 km <sup>2</sup> , 10 states, and is inhabited by roughly 22 million people. The topic choice was due mainly to the fact that the region is highly vulnerable to climate change effects.
<p><b>The scope of the audit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment by governmental institutions on vulnerabilities, impacts, and risks for the water security of the Brazilian semiarid region; government public policies or similar actions to guarantee water security in the semiarid region, in response to possible effects of climate change; preparedness of public institutions responsible for water resource management in the states of the semiarid region to incorporate the guidelines pointed out by the federal government to adapt to climate change effects.</li> <li>• Audit period covered or end date of audit process: 2008.</li> <li>• Audited federal entities: Civil Cabinet of the Presidency, National Water Agency, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Social Development and Fight against Hunger, Ministry of National Integration, Ministry of Mines and Energy, and National Health Foundation.</li> <li>• Audited state entities: Department of Water Resources of the States of Bahia, Ceara, and Piaui.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Conclusions of the audit findings and key recommendations</b></p> <p>Responsibilities regarding climate change are dispersed among several public institutions. The lack of a clear definition of roles and responsibilities can compromise management and results. Additionally, there are no climate change risk assessments for the semiarid region produced by the government. Furthermore, development policies related to water management and distribution are not yet taking into account potential effects of climate change. Also, studies conducted by the government that propose guidelines for the implementation of policies for the water sector are not considering climate change impacts.</p>		
<p>The SAI recommended that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the institution responsible for the implementation of the National Plan on Climate Change promote institutional and political coordination between the different sectors of the federal government in order to produce a national climate change risk assessment and to encourage technical research development of climate change impacts on the Brazilian semiarid water resources; and</li> <li>• the institution responsible for the implementation of environmental policies adopt measures to install the Alert System of Drought and Desertification to foster the development of climate change scenario modelling for the Brazilian semiarid region and to encourage the responsible institutions to plan and implement water resources policies that consider potential climate change impacts.</li> </ul>		