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## Coastal Squeeze, Climigration, Equity, Oh My! An Agenda for Engaged and Applied Research on Social Equity and Coastal Resilience

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# **Coastal Squeeze, Climigration, Equity, Oh My! An Agenda for Engaged and Applied Research on Social Equity and Coastal Resilience**

Workshop website:

<https://sites.wp.odu.edu/workshop>



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- Nicole Hutton, Dept. of Political Science and Geography, and Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience
- Jennifer Whytlaw, Dept. of Political Science and Geography
- Marina Saitgalina, School of Public Service
- Joshua Behr, Virginia Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Center, and Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience



Coastal  
Communities



Beliefs  
Power  
Equity

Resilience

**EQUITABLE COASTAL RESILIENCE**

***“It is a moral duty, and it improves economic productivity, social cohesion, health and peace”***

Source: Pelling, M., & Garschagen, M. (2019). Put equity first in climate adaptation. *Nature*, 569, 327-329

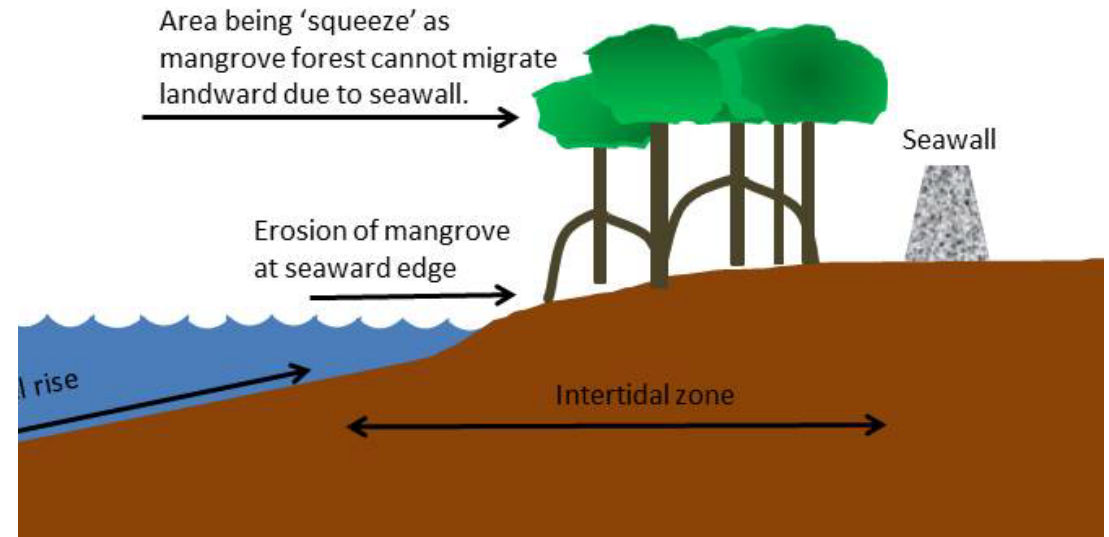
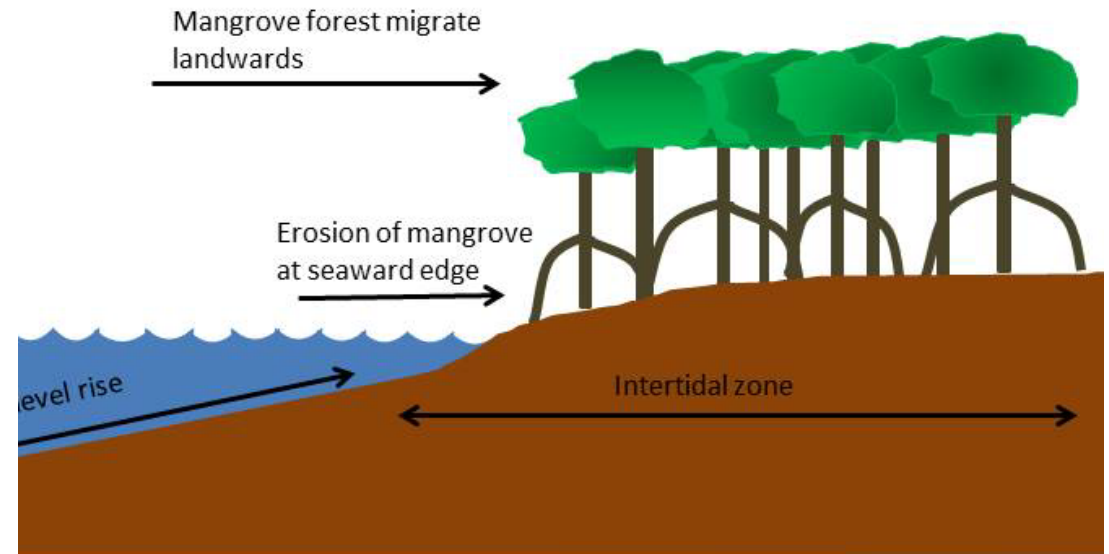


# Coastal Squeeze

The loss of natural habitats or a deterioration in their quality caused by man-made structures or human activity on the coast.

- Prevents these habitats from migrating inwards.

A coastal settlement that is prevented from expanding due to the sea on one side and development inland.



An aerial photograph showing a row of multi-story houses along a beach. The ocean waves are crashing against the shore, creating white foam. The houses are in various colors, including light blue, yellow, and white. The scene illustrates the vulnerability of coastal communities to sea level rise and storm surges.

# Climigration

“Permanent population displacement that occurs when community relocation is required to protect residents from climate-induced biophysical changes that alter ecosystems, damage or destroy public infrastructure and repeatedly endanger human lives”

Source: Matthews, T., & Potts, R. (2018). Planning for climigration: A framework for effective action. *Climatic Change*, 148(4), 607-621.

# **Driving Questions**

- 1. What are key equity concerns related to coastal resilience issues such as coastal squeeze and climigration?**
- 2. How can engaged and applied research address these equity issues?**



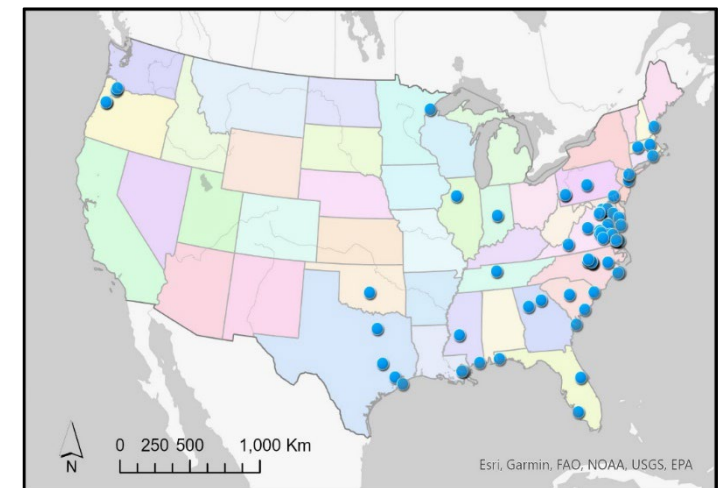
# Making Waves in Equitable Coastal Resilience: A National Workshop on Social Equity and Coastal Resilience

November 1, 2, and 10, 2022

Virtual workshop that brought together 113 researchers, practitioners, community organizations to develop a framework for applied and engaged research in coastal resilience and social equity.

## Outcomes:

- Research agenda
- Recommendations for research-practice collaborations and implementable, on-the-ground projects/ programs





# Four Major Themes



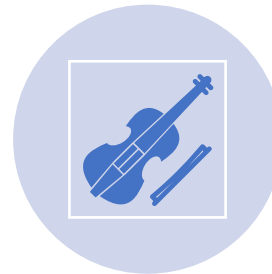
**Definition**



**Measurement**



**Learning from  
examples**



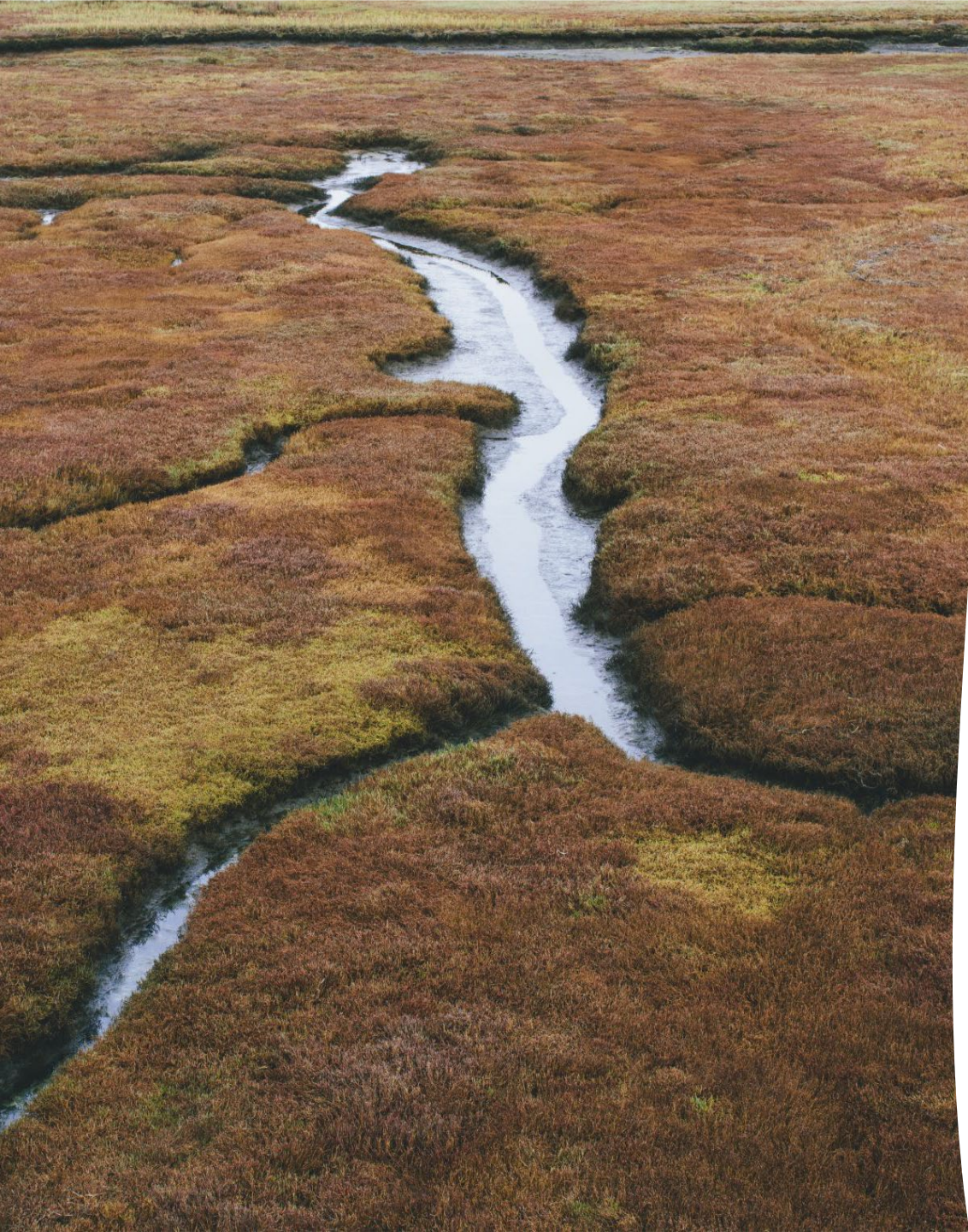
**Specific equity  
considerations**

# Definition

- What does equity mean in the context of coastal squeeze?
- What does equity mean in the context of climigration?
- Who decides the definition?
- What does success in advancing social equity in coastal resilience issues like coastal squeeze and climigration look like?







# Measurement

- How do we track equity across time and space, recognizing the need for comparison while acknowledging the local context?
- How do we know that we are making a difference in advancing equity while building coastal resilience?
- How are we being intentional in identifying relevant data, integrating data, and conducting analysis to ensure the community is considered?
- What data do we need to capture demographic shifts



# Learning from Examples of Coastal Squeeze and Climigration



- Where is coastal squeeze happening now and in the future?
- Where and how are we seeing examples of coastal squeeze and resulting climigration?
- How can we use these examples and cases to understand equity implications of coastal squeeze and climigration?



- How is coastal squeeze impacting specific communities (e.g., lower income, minority) and contributing to climigration?
- How do we understand decision making about migration and relocation in a way that goes beyond dollars and cents?
- What roles do pre-existing disparities and inequalities play in determining who stays and who moves, and who moves where?
- How do we address the implications of labeling a community (e.g., marginalized, vulnerable, underserved, etc.)?

# Specific Equity Considerations

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a lush, green forest. Several colorful kayakers are visible on the water, moving downstream. The water is dark, and the surrounding vegetation is dense and vibrant green. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.



# Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

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**Questions? More information?**

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