Project Title: **Enabling Effective and Equitable Coastal Adaptation in New Jersey and New York Atlantic Coastal Communities Shores**

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Climate adaptation and resilience planning and practice is a significant issue for coastal communities in the New York Metropolitan Region. Dynamic climate conditions and increased flooding potential has forced municipal governments and residents to reconsider how best to manage such risks. Hurricane Sandy in 2012 and increasingly frequent mean monthly high tide flooding in extremely low-lying communities has further accelerated the concerns. Two specific issues associated with current adaptation efforts are understanding and promoting how they can put into practice in a way that ensures that they are effective and equitable. The objective of this research is to document the conditions that enable (or not) effective and equitable coastal adaptation strategies and practices in shore communities of New Jersey and New York. Three broad categories of enabling conditions have been identified in the research literature including: governance, finance, and knowledge. Within each category, there are a spectrum of indicators to evaluate and assess. The research methods in the project will be to 1) specify operational definitions of climate adaptation effectiveness and equity; 2) gather documents and other secondary data on climate adaptation in six shore communities – three in each state (Keansburg, Monmouth Beach, Point Pleasant Beach in New Jersey and Long Beach, Amityville, and West Hampton Beach in New York); 3) conduct targeted interviews with municipal representatives and local NGO/CBO representatives of the communities. The results of the study will be a comprehensive assessment of the presence and significance of climate adaptation enabling conditions in a dynamic risk environment.