

## The Adaptation and Response Working Group (ARWG) Policy Options

[www.mde.state.md.us/Air/climatechange/index.asp](http://www.mde.state.md.us/Air/climatechange/index.asp)

### Cross Cutting

- **Public Awareness, Outreach, Training & Capacity Building (ARWG-1):** *Utilize new and existing educational, outreach, training and capacity building programs to disseminate information and resources related to climate change and sea level rise. LEAD: Department of Natural Resources (DNR)*
- **Local Government Planning Guidance (ARWG-2):** *Develop state-wide sea level rise planning guidance to advise adaptation and response planning at the local level. LEAD: DNR*
- **Future Adaptation Strategy Development (ARWG-3):** *Pursue the development of adaptation strategies to reduce climate change vulnerability among affected sectors, including agriculture, forestry, water resources, aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, and human health. LEAD: University of MD*



### Future Built Environment & Infrastructure (FBEI)

- **Integrated Planning (FBEI-1):** *Require the integration of coastal erosion, coastal storm and sea level rise adaptation and response planning strategies into existing state and local policies and programs. LEAD: DNR*
- **Adaptation-Stat (FBEI-2):** *Develop and implement a system of performance measures to track Maryland's success at reducing its vulnerability to climate change and sea level rise. LEAD: DNR*
- **Climate Change Insurance Advisory Committee (FBEI-5):** *Establish an independent Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee to advise the State of the risks that climate change poses to the availability and affordability of insurance. LEAD: Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA)*
- **GIS Mapping, Modeling and Monitoring (FBEI-6):** *Update and maintain state-wide sea level rise mapping, modeling, and monitoring products. LEAD: DNR*
- **Green Economic Development Initiative (FBEI-8):** *Recruit, foster, and promote market opportunities related to climate change adaptation and response. LEAD: Dept. of Business and Economic Development (DBED)*

### Existing Built Environment & Infrastructure (EBEI)

- **Integrated Observation Systems (EBEI-2):** *Strengthen federal, state, local, and regional observation systems to improve the detection of biological, physical, and chemical responses to climate change and sea level rise. LEAD: DNR*
- **Adaptation of Vulnerable Coastal Infrastructure (EBEI-3):** *Develop and implement State and local adaptation policies (i.e., protect, retreat, abandon) for vulnerable public and private sector infrastructure. LEADS: MDOT/ DNR*
- **Building Code Revisions & Infrastructure Design Standards (EBEI-8):** *Strengthen building codes and construction techniques for new infrastructure and buildings in vulnerable coastal areas. LEAD: DHCD*
- **Disclosure (EBEI-10):** *Develop a Maryland Sea Level Rise Disclosure and Advisory Statement to inform prospective coastal property purchasers of the potential impacts that climate change and sea level rise may pose to a particular piece of property. LEAD: DHCD*

### Resources and Resource-Based Industry (RRI)

- **Natural Resource Protection Areas (RRI-1):** *Identify high priority protection areas and strategically and cost-effectively direct protection and restoration actions. LEAD: DNR*
- **Forest and Wetland Protection (RRI-2):** *Develop and implement a package of appropriate regulations, financial incentives, educational, outreach, and enforcement approaches to retain and expand forests and wetlands in areas suitable for long-term survival. LEAD: DNR*
- **Shoreline and Buffer Area Management (RRI-3):** *Promote and support sustainable shoreline and buffer area management practices. LEAD: DNR*
- **Resource-Based Industry Economic Initiative (RRI-4):** *Develop and implement long-range plans to minimize the economic impacts of sea level rise to natural resource-based industries. LEAD: DNR*

### Human Health Safety & Welfare (HHSW)

- **Health Impact Assessments (HHSW-1):** *Conduct Health Impact Assessments to evaluate the public health consequences of climate change and sea level rise-related projects and/or policies. LEAD: Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH)*
- **Interagency Coordination (HHSW-2):** *Strengthen coordination and management across Agencies responsible for human health and safety. LEAD: DHMH*
- **Vector-borne Surveillance and Control (HHSW-9):** *Develop a coordinated plan to assure adequacy of Vector-borne Surveillance and Control Programs. LEAD: DHMH*

For more information contact Renee Fizer, Air Quality Planning Program,  
at 410-537-3240 or [rfizer@mde.state.md.us](mailto:rfizer@mde.state.md.us)