The background is a composite image. At the top, there are green, elongated leaves. Below them, a winding road with yellow lines curves across the scene. In the foreground, there are several water droplets falling into a pool of water, creating ripples. A map of a region is shown as a puzzle, with several pieces missing, overlaid on the road and water.

# Introduction to Adaptation Planning for Climate Change

Adrienne Harrison



**NOAA Coastal Services Center**  
LINKING PEOPLE, INFORMATION, AND TECHNOLOGY

# Climate Mitigation and Adaptation



## Climate Change Mitigation

Reduce greenhouse gas  
emissions



## Climate Change Adaptation

Reduce vulnerability of  
natural and human systems  
  
Maximize potential benefits



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# Hazard Mitigation and Adaptation



## Hazard Mitigation

Reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property from a hazard event

Emergency management



## Climate Change Adaptation

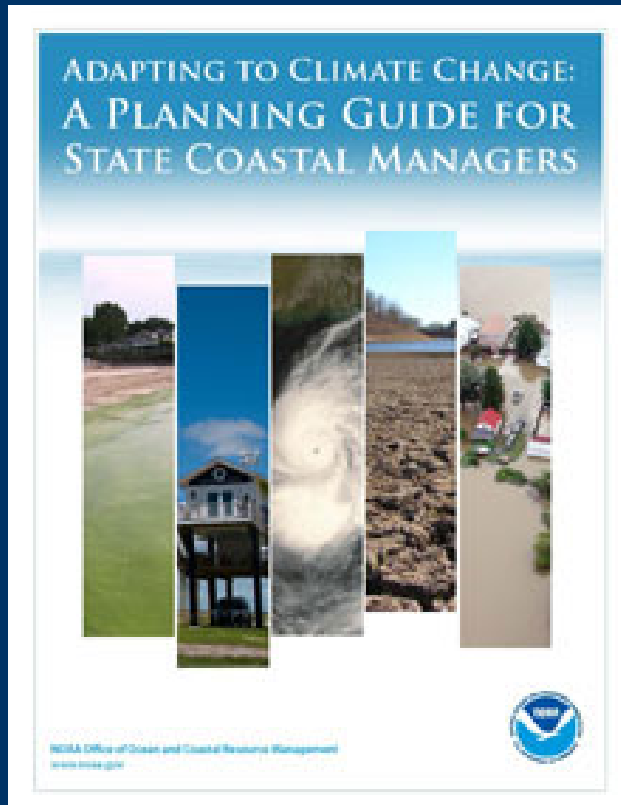
Reduce vulnerability of natural and human systems

Maximize potential benefits



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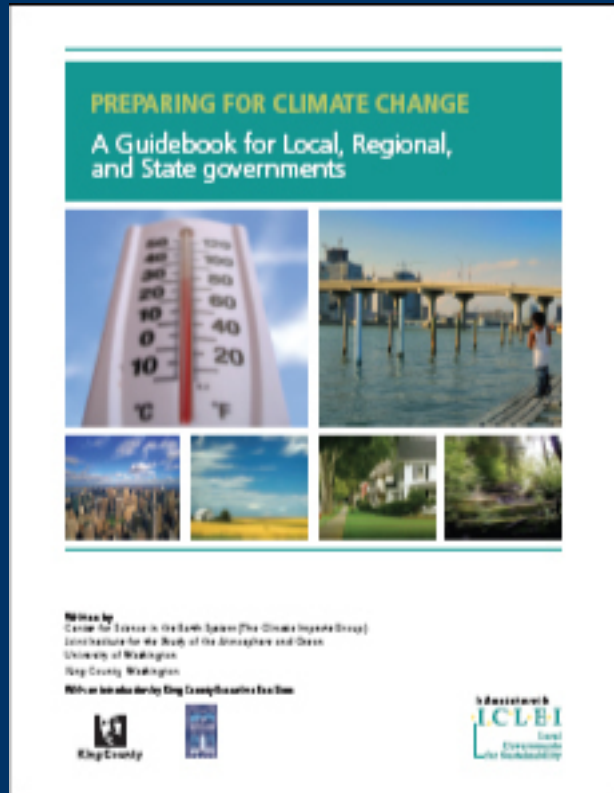
# Adapting to Climate Change: A Planning Guide for State Coastal Managers



- 1. Establish the Planning Process**
- 2. Assess Vulnerability**
- 3. Create an Adaptation Strategy**
- 4. Design a Plan Implementation and Maintenance Process**

Drawn from Adapting to Climate Change: A Planning Guide for State Coastal Managers, by the NOAA Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management – 2010

# *Preparing for Climate Change:* A Guidebook for Local, Regional & State Governments



1. Listen to the Science
2. Build support and a Team
3. Assessment – risk, vulnerability, adaptive capacity
4. Set goals and develop your plan
5. Implement your plan
6. Measure progress

Drawn from *Preparing for Climate Change: A Guidebook for Local, Regional and State Governments*, by the Climate Impacts Group and King County, and published by ICLEI – September 2007

# Risk and Vulnerability Assessment

1. Identify Climate Change Impacts and Consequences
2. Assess Physical Characteristics and Exposure
3. Consider Adaptive Capacities
4. Develop Scenarios and Simulate Change
5. Summarize Vulnerability and Identify Focus Areas



# Implement Your Plan

- Incorporate Climate Change into Existing Planning Activities (Comprehensive Plans, Wastewater Treatment, Transportation Infrastructure, Emergency Management)
- Implement new actions (create new policy, identify funding and other resources, create a timeline, celebrate success)



# Take Home Messages



- Adaptation planning is a comprehensive process
- Easier to start if you can link to ongoing work and make it routine
- Use guides and resources



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