

CoPe Workshop Questions

The workshop will be designed around the following three questions.

- (1) How should non-local natural resource managers and energy regulators balance critical social, economic, and cultural needs of coastal communities in an era marked by climate change, including sea level rise, and proposals to industrialize the ocean through renewable energy development, primarily offshore wind power? Sub-topics include:
 - a. The combined effects of industrialization of the ocean and the changing environment on coastal economies and sense of place
 - b. The effects of industrialization of the ocean and efforts to manage coastal risks on job opportunities, local community economic development and social structures
 - c. The social and cultural effects of ocean industrialization and the changing environment on potentially underserved communities (including older adults, those of low-income, and other marginalized populations such as communities of color).

- (2) How can society improve collaborations between the research (science) community and small coastal towns and rural communities, including those that are underserved, so that scientific research and data can be more effectively leveraged (“useable science”) to (i) support local capacity to implement resiliency projects and adapt to coastal change, and (ii) define and leverage potential benefits of development and adaptation, particularly for those communities that are already in transition? Subtopics include:
 - a. Links (such as (equity, lessons learned, community capacity building) between underserved urban and rural communities
 - b. Opportunities for adaptive management and distributive justice

- (3) Which risk communication strategies are likely to be most effective at reaching vulnerable populations on the coast (including underserved communities) and how should the tradeoffs, uncertainties or potential opportunities associated with climate change and offshore wind power development be communicated? Sub-topics include:
 - a. Appreciation for the nature of a given challenge and the environmental, political, and social dynamics that may inhibit knowledge exchanges.
 - b. Bridging the gap between decisionmakers, agencies, and communities, and how to incorporate more effectively host community voices.
 - c. Incorporation of communities’ current and past experiences with trust, underlying conditions, and existing stressors into communication strategies.