



## Job Aid: Sample Indicators and Metrics of Adaptation Success and Progress: Social Aspects

This list constitutes a sample of possible indicators and metrics that point to climate adaptation success and/or progress. It is derived from work with communities in Maine, New York, New Jersey, California and Alaska. For a larger list of indicators and possible metrics brainstormed by these communities, look for a searchable Excel spreadsheet in the Resources section of [www.resiliencemetrics.org](http://www.resiliencemetrics.org), called "SAIM Project\_Indicator Brainstorm\_all.xlsx" (status January 2020). Indicators can be searched by adaptation strategy, location, sector, or the six dimensions of adaptation success described at [www.resiliencemetrics.org](http://www.resiliencemetrics.org). This list is not refined, ranked or vetted by any scientific or governance entity although some indicators are in use. The list is solely offered to support other users' creative thinking and brainstorming of indicators/metrics that suit their unique situations.

Adaptation Strategy	Indicators	Metrics	Process	Capacity	Barriers	Decision-making	Action	Outcome
Build capacity of stakeholders to carry out specific adaptation-related tasks	Adaptive capacity	Degree of learning (self-assessed, post training survey); intention to use learned knowledge/skills (expressed; post-training survey); frequency of training commensurate with rate of staff turn-over		x				
Improve pace and completeness of disaster recovery	Availability of sufficient emergency shelters	# and type of shelters used/not needed for speedy recovery (e.g., use of schools can delay recovery); # of shelter spaces			x		x	
Raise awareness about flood risks and response options	Awareness of flood response options	% of HH that received information on how to build resilience; attendance of public meetings on adaptation planning; # of surveyed residents who are aware of risks and response options		x			x	
Increase community disaster preparedness	Community preparedness	# of participants in emergency preparedness trainings		x			x	
Maintain adaptation efforts (even after/in absence of another extreme event)	Complacency (or absence of)	Stable/declining # of actively maintained flood insurance policies; declining outreach efforts; downgraded priority of adaptation actions (rankings on agenda of city council)			x		x	
Develop adaptation strategies for Reserve/ecosystems that are sensitive to cultural preservation needs/access by Native Americans	Culture-sensitive adaptation planning	Cultural group interested in working with ecological group (yes // no // emerging); significant archeological sites are being protected; # of adaptation design meetings attended by Cultural Resources specialist; cultural resources stewardship program developed (yes // no // in progress)	x	x		x	x	



This job aid was created to serve as a reference for individuals interested in indicators and metrics to help communities define and track progress on their climate adaptation goals. Additional background and resources are available on the website: [www.ResilienceMetrics.org](http://www.ResilienceMetrics.org). This website was developed in partnership with the National Estuarine Research Reserve System with funding from NOAA.



Adaptation Strategy	Indicators	Metrics	Process	Capacity	Barriers	Decision-making	Action	Outcome
Increase understanding, appreciation and support for estuary protection and enhancement	Engaged, inspired, and passionate constituency	% Reserve visitors supporting estuary protection and enhancement (surveyed); increase in understanding of why/how of adaptation (surveyed); buy-in to vision (surveyed)	x	x	x			
Increase understanding about changing flood risk among decision-makers at all levels	Flood literacy	# of elected officials with improved understanding of climate change risks (observed or surveyed or self-reported)		x	x	x		
Focus adaptation efforts on the most vulnerable/disadvantaged	Improvements for disadvantaged	# of watermain fixed/year; # of trees planted; # of affordable housing unit (increasing over time); \$ of investment in economic opportunities; # of students in free after school programs; # of low-elevation houses elevated		x	x		x	x
Monitor and plan for expected population increase	Land use	Map/% of land use types, distribution, change in acreage over time; # of applications for development permits; # of fishing/hunting licenses						x
Improve community resilience	Mental health support capacity	MOUs with mental health service providers; # of government staff attending training on mental health needs during/after emergency		x			x	
Improve or maintain public health	Morbidity and mortality	# of disaster-related injuries or deaths (none, declining); # of environmental illnesses, deaths						x
Improve public understanding of risk and response strategies	Outreach effectiveness	# of household disaster preparedness plans in place/practiced following educational programming; # of emergency calls during extreme event; # of people going to shelters; # of times, HH received information about HH and community-based adaptation		x				
Include students in reserve-based climate change research projects	Participation	# of students participating in participatory action research	x	x			x	