











Coastal change

Sea level rise will speed up coastal erosion and change the coast. Erosion can be limited for example by protecting dunes with planting and preventing access by livestock. Long term planning for inevitable change can limit the impacts on people and ecosystems, in some cases this may be leaving some parts of the coast unprotected.

▶ Relocate infrastructure

Sea level rise will increase coastal flooding and speed up coastal erosion, damaging coastal defences and infrastructure. It may be a better long-term option to relocate infrastructure, such as road and rail networks, away from particularly vulnerable coastal locations.

Resilient harbour

Sea level rise will increase exposure to storm surge flooding, as well as undermining coastal defences. Harbour infrastructure and buildings will need strengthened defences. Response and recovery operations will need to be planned. There may be opportunities to combine harbour defences with renewable energy projects.

▶ Fisheries

Warming seas will change where different species lives and feed. As warm water species, like red mullet and sea bass, could begin to replace cold water species, like cod, fisheries will need to travel further or change target species. This may alter the equipment needed or how the fish is supplied to consumers.

Building at the coast

Sea level rise will increase coastal flooding and erosion. Managing coastal systems carefully can limit erosion but at some locations buildings cannot be protected. Careful planning for change can ensure suitable use of coastal sites.

Changing the coast

Sea level rise is driving change at the coast, putting pressure on the coastal environment. Some types of land use, such as plantation forestry, may need to move elsewhere to allow natural coastal processes, such as dune formation, to occur.