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Decision Maker and Stakeholder Preferences for Adaptation Actions and Finance: Case Studies in Brazil, USA and UK



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Coastal Vulnerability Research Initiative 2014-2017

Funders and Research Team

USA



UK



BRAZIL



The METROPOLE Research Team

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(Red = Survey Team)



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METROPOLE Advisory Board

Eternal gratitude for their brilliant ideas, advice, contacts and collaborative spirit

Climate UK – Kristen Guida

Eastern Solent UK Coastal Partnership – Gavin Holder

National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration – Heidi Stiller

APA Florida – Henry Bittaker

State of Florida Dept. of Community Resiliency – Julie Denis

Broward County, FL, USA – Jason Liechty

Municipal of Santos, BR – Eduardo Kimoto Hosokawa

And many others



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METROPOLE Collaborating Communities



Brazil: Santos, Sao Paolo

USA: Dania Beach, City of Hollywood,
& Ft. Lauderdale, FL

UK: Selsey, West Sussex

Criteria: Small, medium or large.

On the Coast. At risk.

WILLING!!!



Selsey, UK



Santos,



Fort
Lauderdale,
FL
USA



Participating Communities



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METROPOLE Research Objectives

Stakeholder engagement workshops, co-produce regionally accepted SLR forecasts, vulnerability assessment for infrastructure, model costs/benefits of defined adaptation options using the COAST tool and approach (created by Merrill et al)

Implement surveys and interviews to analyze:

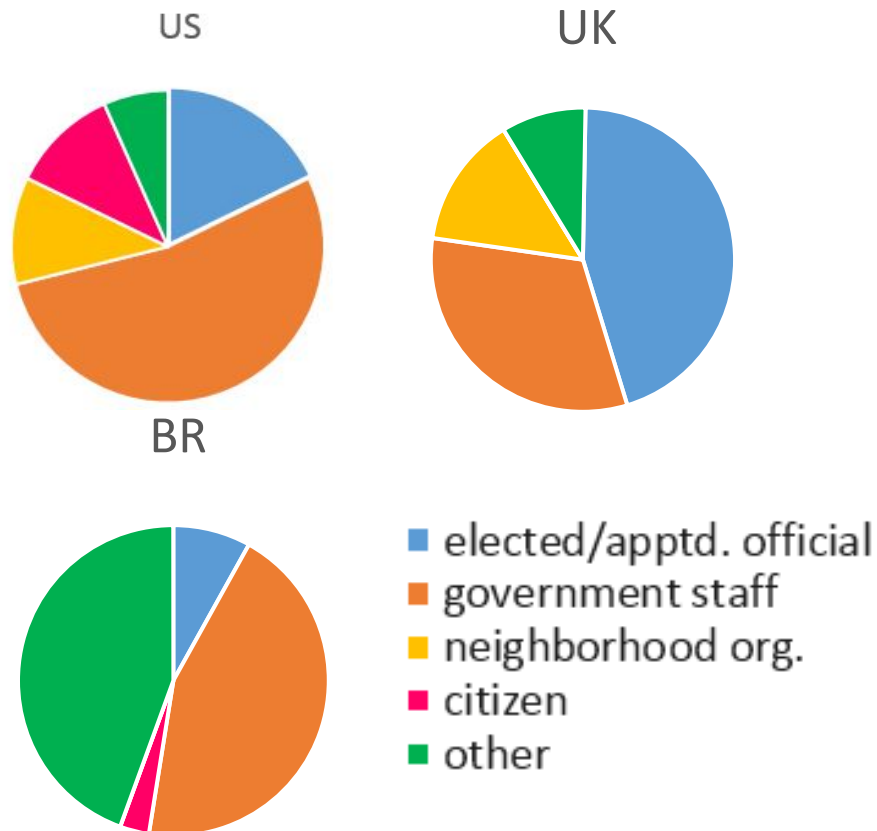
1. How **values of decision makers influence** receptivity to scientific/economic data and scenarios, and build flexible governance approaches;
2. How *informed stakeholders* perceive and respond to locally-specific climate risks, economic impacts and adaption options presented in visualizations;
3. **Decision making tradeoffs about costs, risk and public good for defined adaptation options, and willingness to support actions;**
4. Regional adaptive capacity – institutional factors that support ability to adapt and to mobilize toward change.
(Thursday 8:45-1030 SC 9.12 Local Governance of Adaptation in Urbanizing Cities – Paterson/Pelling.)



Participant – Self Defined Roles and Demographics

Local Decision Makers and Influencers = First Line of Stakeholders

Educated (86%-94% have degree) Majority HH Income is above median in US/BR,
 Mix of political affiliations. NEP moderate to strong bias toward pro-enviro values, slightly lower in the UK



US	UK	BR
53% Male 47% Female	59% Male 41% Female	61% Male 39% Female
48% 55+ 30% 35-54 12% 35-25	68% 55+ 27% 35-54 5% 35-25	22% 55+ 47% 35-54 31% 35-25
87% White 11% Black 2% Hispanic	91% White 9% no answer	83% White 14% Parada* 3% Indian, Native American



Project Timeline and Process

- COAST workshops conducted Jan-Dec 2015
- Final survey data entered/coded/scrubbed Jan-April 2016
- Analysis Jan-July 2016
- Presentations to municipal contacts – summer 2016
- Co-analysis of survey and ACI with American Planning Association-Florida workgroup summer 2016
- Support development of guides and professional education webinars



Survey Design & Implementation

Categories of Questions

1. Experience with coastal hazards
2. **Planning Priorities for Local Government -- which adaptation options & when**
3. Perceptions about Barriers – why others won't support adaptation
4. Agreement – should adaptation be priority for Local Gov. even if taxes/fees increase?
5. **Acceptability of specific local public finance mechanisms**
6. New Environmental Paradigm (NEP) value study
7. Demographics

Implemented

Pre Workshop 1 & Post Workshop 2

New participants -- beginning/end of #2

Workshops	US	UK	BR
#1	50	22	36
#2 Returning	12	9	12
#2 New Participants	18	2	9

Validated surveys

* Q#3 derived from I. Lorenzoni



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What Should Your Government Do.....

Adaption Planning Actions and When

Q4. There are a variety of programs and actions a city or county could implement to reduce the potential for physical and economic damage caused by climate-related hazards. Which planning activities or programs do you think your local government(s) should implement, and when?

Categories (14-16 Options)

1. Land-use policy changes
2. Nature-based options
3. Green flood reduction tech
4. Infrastructure – raise/build sea wall, pumps, canals, levees
5. Buy outs – residents or business

Decide When or IF for Each Option

Now, 10, 25, 100 Years

Never, Unsure



Similar Patterns Across the Countries

+++ Highest support *NOW* Restrict New Development and Conserve Existing Wetlands

++ Strong support *NOW* ... Restrict REBUILDING, Increase Wetlands, Use green tech to reduce floods/stormwater

+ Strong support for Renourish/build dunes, *except in BR*

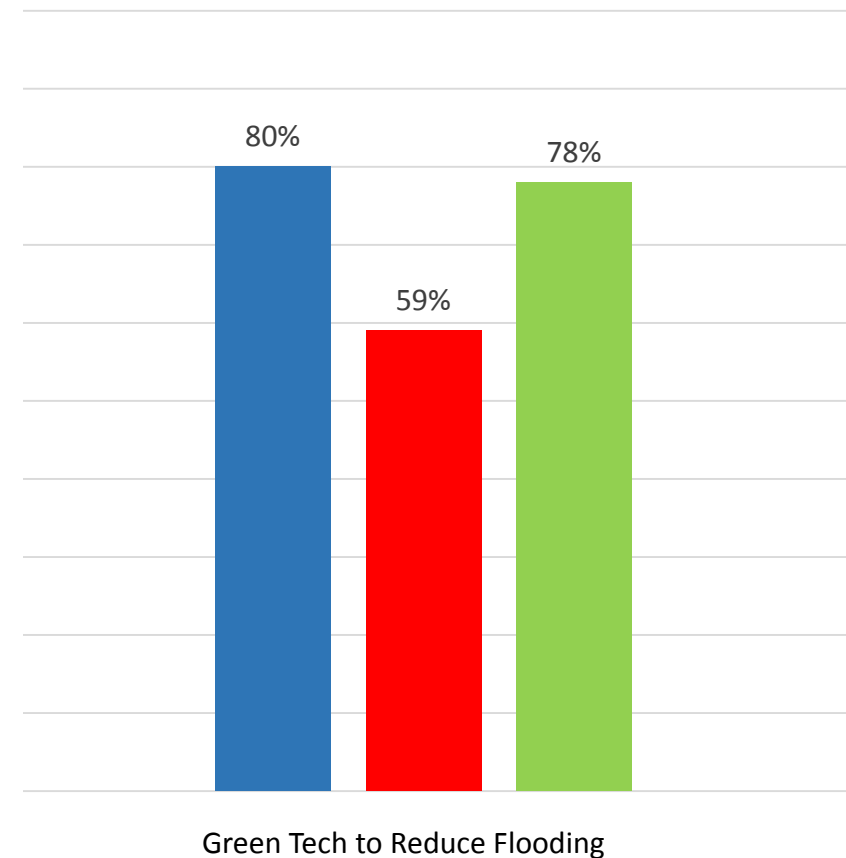
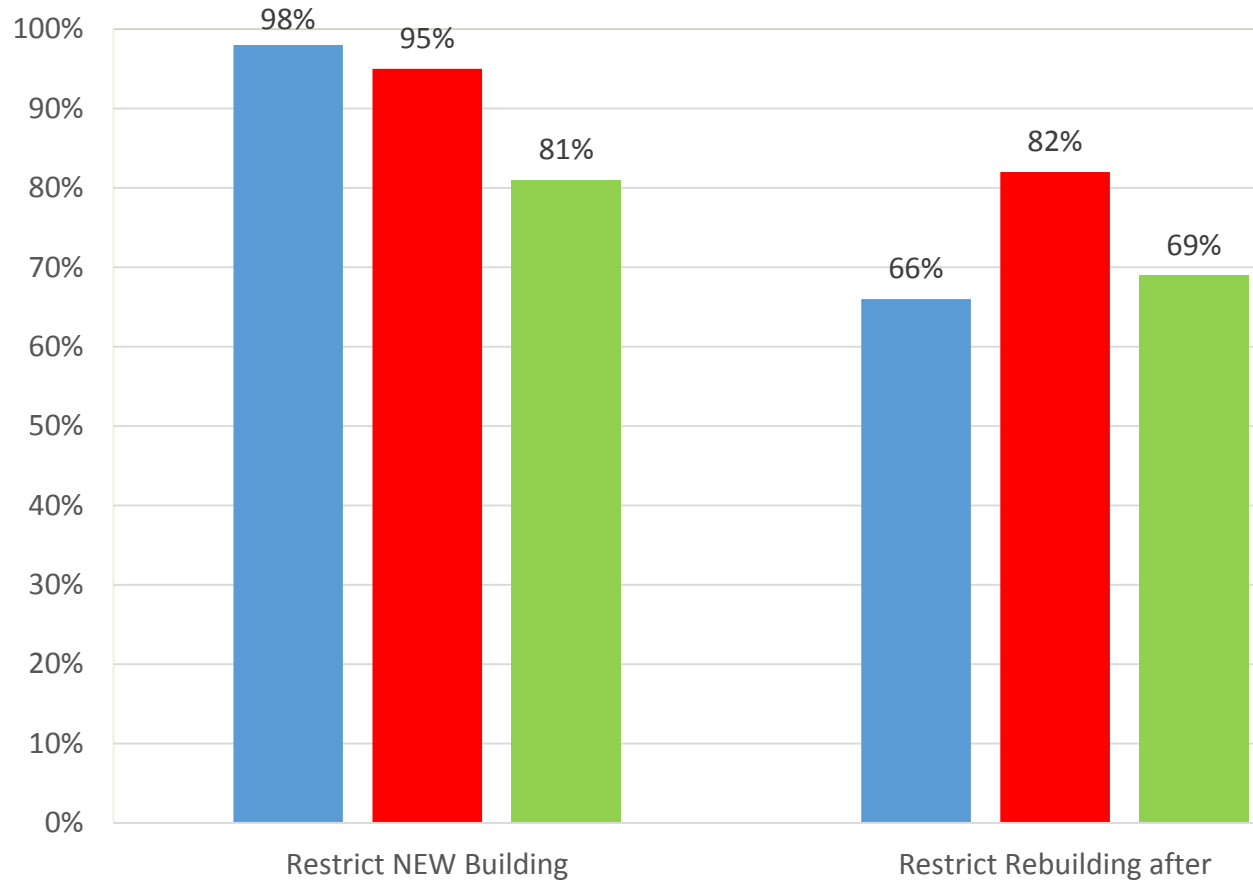
+/- Mixed views for structural solutions and buy-out policies for vulnerable residents/businesses

low NOW and spans all times ...never and unsure



Land-Use Policies % Now

Green Tech % NOW

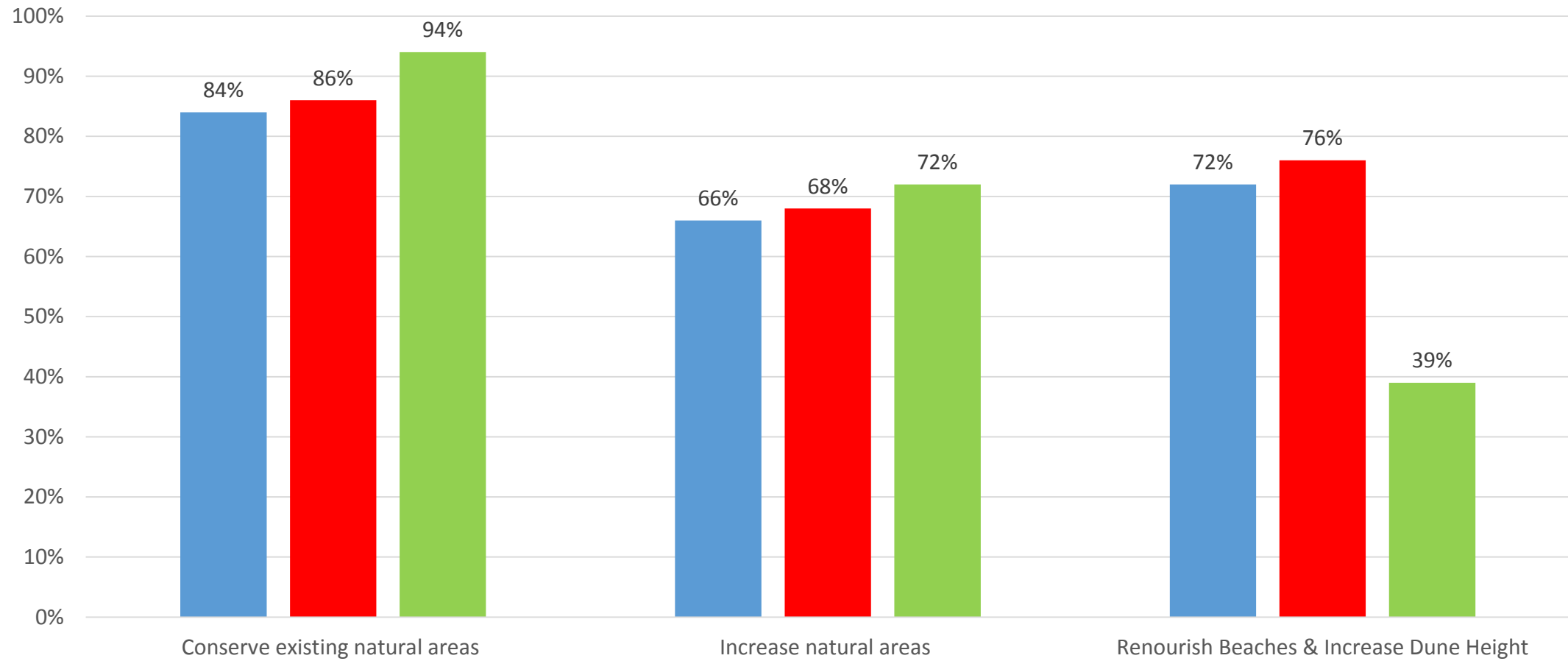


■ US ■ UK ■ BR



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Nature-based Options % NOW



■ US ■ UK ■ BR



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Hard Infrastructure Adaption Options

Each country spans mixed timeframes

Workshops increased *awareness* of local risks, conditions and needs

Pre/Post responses shift for each option --- reflects new understanding

Pre Workshop 1: Build or Increase Height of Seawalls

	now	10 years	25 years	100 years	never	unsure
US	50%	20%	8%	---	8%	10% (*no ans: 4%)
UK	18%	36%	14%	5%	5%	--- (*no ans: 23%)
BR	42%	19%	11%	5%	8%	8%

Sea Wall Example: Post Workshop 2 Responses

US time urgency decreases – wall not a viable option
 UK time urgency **INCREASES** – need to increase height
 BR time urgency decreases NOW, shifts to 10 years....



Adaptation Options – Take Aways

Small data sets but very interesting common patterns

Prioritized “Now” Options

- Similar preferences in each country
- Appeal to different values (nature or perception of effective/low cost)
- Can offer multiple benefits
- Hard infrastructure -- Post Workshop 2
 - Shifts in time (priority) reflects new awareness of local conditions
 - Concerns about incomplete risk/cost picture
- Buy-outs
 - Need to complete our analysis



Acceptability of Public Finance Mechanisms

Q6. (Paraphrased)...Consider possible finance actions a local government could take and rate the level of Acceptability (1= Not Acceptable to 5 = Totally Acceptable)

Standard categories for each country – customized to local finance and policy frameworks...

Selsey UK Version

A. Create a new town-wide defence fund which is generated by either a 5% increase on Council Tax Bills or a flat fee across all properties

B. Create a new special resilience “district” encompassing highly vulnerable properties and apply a 5% increase on Council Tax Bills or a flat fee to that area

C. Issue a bond (long-term borrowing) to finance public infrastructure flood improvements

D. Create a low-interest loan program for residents and businesses to flood proof properties

E. Initiate public-private partnerships to attract development to the area that will contribute to coastal defence through a community infrastructure levy



Acceptability of Funding Sources At a Glance

POST WORKSHOP 2, Order of Rating, Returning Participants

More Acceptable



US

UK

BR

US	UK	BR
Special resilience district	Special resilience district	Special resilience district
Low-interest loans for flood proofing	Town-wide defense fund	Issue bonds
Issue bonds	Public-private partnership	Low-interest loans for flood proofing
County-wide resilience fund based on property taxes	Low-interest loans for flood proofing	County-wide resilience fund based on property taxes
Surcharge on water bill	Issue bonds	Surcharge on water bill
		Raise sales tax

Less Acceptable



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Acceptability of Funding Take-Aways

Highly “acceptable” financing mechanisms will have alignment between fiscal benefits and burdens

Need to understand links/implications between values, options and finance policy

- Strong support for “Restricting rebuilding after damage” BUT *mixed support* for “buy-outs of vulnerable properties”

U.S. insights (BR/UK analysis in progress)

- ***RANK ORDER of Finance Options is the same for all political affiliations***
- Ratings are higher for Democrats and Independents, than Republicans
- Are ratings high enough to win support? Highest UK = Special Resilience District:
Totally: 38% Highly 43:% Moderately: 5%, Somewhat: 5%



Basic Planning Recommendations

Know which funding mechanism (and their limits) can support which adaptation options

- Decision makers and stakeholders need a sense of budget scale tied to time

Effective adaptation plan and options will include:

- nature-based actions and green design/technologies
- incremental and/or phased strategies that offer multiple and diverse benefits
- prioritized list of strategies required to implement... change policy, revise finance, design steps and construction



Questions

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