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## **Global Change and Baltic Coastal Zones**

### **Chapter 15: Emerging Climate Change Coastal Adaptation Strategies and Case Studies around the World**

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#### **Abstract**

Presently about 40% of the world's population lives within 100 km of a coastline. Climate Change and sea level rise being a relatively new policy challenge, experience as to the choice and design of appropriate response measures is scarce and fragmented in coastal areas. Increasing the availability and transfer of pertinent knowledge across national boundaries can assist in furthering coastal safety. This chapter focuses on the management of adaptation activities encompassed by the RADOST (Regional Adaptation Strategies for the German Baltic Sea Coast) project and its international partner regions. Attention is given to the operationalization of regional adaptation measures, ways to increase resilience, as well as to regional adaptive governance and learning processes.

Success factors to increase the resilience of coastal areas include cooperation of a broad range of organizations and the engagement of stakeholders; carefully planning of a sequence of policies and measures over time; designating risk areas; revising principles for natural resources management along the coasts; awareness raising about preferred development practices; and integrating climate concerns with other social, economic and environmental objectives. This requires maintaining connections to existing policy and decision-making processes and building or strengthening partnerships among the relevant sectors of the local or regional communities.