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Questions from Offerors by: August 2, 2021 at 5:00 pm (Maputo Time)

Opportunity Number: BAA-720-656-07-2021

BAA Opportunity Title: Mozambique Resilient Coastal Communities BAA

Expressions of Interest Due: August 30, 2021 at 5:00 pm (Maputo Time)

Submit Questions and Expression of Interest to: amanhica@usaid.gov

The USAID/Mozambique Broad Agency Announcement for Resilient Coastal Communities

1. OVERVIEW

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Mission in Mozambique, USAID/Mozambique, is issuing this Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) to invite participants to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI), co-create, co-design, co-invest, and collaborate to pilot new and innovative approaches that provide actionable solutions to the most pressing obstacles and challenges to improve the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems, particularly engaging young people to increase their productive participation in sustainably managing natural resources while building sustainable food and fisheries systems, and building climate resilient, diversified, and economically viable livelihoods.

The intent of the BAA is to create high-quality, effective partnerships to pilot new and innovative ways to improve the resilience of coastal communities living in rich land and marine ecosystems that are vulnerable to climatic shocks and environmental degradation. Working with the public and private sector, civil society, and religious stakeholders, this activity will develop and pilot projects that will create a significant number of jobs and sustainable economic opportunities for youth and women, while having positive impacts on the long-term health and productivity of critical ecosystems, particularly the extraordinarily diverse marine ecosystems that are vital to food security.

As detailed below, USAID will invite selected organizations to co-create, test, develop, and scale-up solutions to the Problem and Challenge Statements, including resource providers (e.g., 'donors') that have ideas, expertise, and/or funding to add to potential solutions. USAID envisions using Feed the Future, Biodiversity, and Climate Change Adaptation funding, and possibly other resources in the future, to fund these solutions.

Under this BAA, USAID/Mozambique seeks partners that are committed to shared responsibility, shared risk, and shared resourcing (e.g., local private sector) or co-investment (e.g., other 'donors'). Shared resourcing requires that partners provide both financing and other

resources (e.g., technical expertise, in-kind provisions, etc.) that are directed towards solutions to the Problem and Challenge Statements. Co-investing does not require equal shared resources (such as 1:1 leverage), rather it requires financial contributions that are appropriate to the specific project's objectives, considering the comparative advantages brought by the participation of each party.

A. Federal Agency Name:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) administered by the Mission in Mozambique.

B. Authority:

This BAA is issued under Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 35

C. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:

98.001 USAID Foreign Assistance Programs for Overseas

D. BAA Opportunity Title:

Mozambique Resilient Coastal Communities BAA

2. PROBLEM and CHALLENGE STATEMENTS

2.1 PROBLEM:

The resilience of coastal communities is intertwined with the health of their terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Communities south of Pemba and north of Maganja da Costa face significant problems. The escalating threats to the natural systems upon which they depend include unsustainable natural resource extraction (including, but not limited to fisheries and mining), agricultural expansion, and overall poor management of these natural resources. The drivers to these threats are many, such as reduced economic opportunities, insufficient employment, limited capital, inadequate inputs, limited education, extremist influences, poor mining practices, and climate change. The youth in these coastal communities are particularly at risk, and will help shape the future of these communities and the natural systems. There is both an urgent need and a great opportunity to increase youth's leadership and participation in sustainable natural resource management, food systems, livelihoods, the local and regional economy, and society in general.

Data and initial field research shows the following as some of the many problems faced by local communities:

- Significant increases in the number of fishers along the coast from Pemba to Maganja da Costa. While some innovations, such as no-catch zones and periodic closed fishing periods provide evidence of success, the sustainability of these efforts remains a challenge.
- Even with innovations, the overall number of current fishers using existing practices appears to be unsustainable.

- With livelihood challenges, populations are increasingly drawing on natural resources in at least three negative ways: using poor agricultural lands and depleting the soil quality of marginal coastal lands; removing coastal forests and mangroves; and, destroying coral and marine ecosystems through harmful fishing practices (especially widespread use of fishing nets for coastal dredging).
- Internally displaced people moving into the region, particularly in Nampula, are putting additional pressure on land and marine resources.
- The number of jobs has reduced drastically in coastal areas, particularly in coastal Nampula and Pebane in Zambezia. Over the past few years, several cashew and other processing factories have closed from Memba to Moma, laying off roughly 12,000 employees.
- The area south of Pemba and north of Maganja da Costa is lined with mining concessions, particularly (but not limited) to heavy sands. The benefits of this mining for communities appears to be highly variable depending on the operator.
- Perceived sense of disempowerment and inequality, particularly for the youth. There is a lack of opportunities/forums for youth to participate in civic life and to have influence over their future.
- Need for greater access to financial services.
- Large number of local institutions, such as mosques and civil society organizations, have the potential to further engage on development challenges.
- Youth lack good skills, access to resources, and information on improved livelihood opportunities (if/when they exist).
- Increased frequency and intensity of climate shocks, such as flooding and droughts, and slower onset climate stresses, such as increased temperatures and ocean warming, making new and existing challenges worse.

Additional situation analysis information based on preliminary research is provided in **Attachment A**. Note that the information provided is intended to stimulate further analysis.

2.2 CHALLENGE:

Innovative approaches will be critical to improve the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems, particularly for engaging young people to increase their productive participation in sustainable natural resource management, food systems, livelihoods, and society. Proposed solutions and activities should be replicable, scalable, sustainable, and account for the need to eventually transfer related infrastructure, operations, and management to the Mozambique government, communities, private sector, or other local stakeholders. Flexibility in modifying solutions and activities to respond to changes in the country context, as well as align with USAID/Mozambique and Government of Mozambique development objectives and other donor activities, is key to the success of the innovation transfer process.

USAID/Mozambique is seeking to develop and test new and innovative approaches that will accelerate progress towards actionable solutions for individuals, enterprises, and communities in coastal regions south of Pemba and north of Maganja da Costa to improve resilience and healthy ecosystems. Particular areas of focus include:

1. Conserve coastal and marine ecosystems (e.g., mangroves, seagrasses, coral reefs) and important fish habitats to support improved climate resilience, fisheries management, food security, sustainable livelihoods, and the conservation of high biodiversity areas;
2. Expand diversified, equitable economic growth in the face of climate change to create real, significant employment and livelihood opportunities, particularly for youth and women, to benefit the entire community.
3. Support youth, as leaders and change agents, to collaborate with government, civil society, and the private sector to sustainably manage natural resources and more equitably adapt, mitigate and respond to shocks and stresses.

These challenges should be addressed through a combination of strategic approaches that:

- Build on local capacity, working across a mix of public, private, civil society, and religious institution stakeholders, and focused on scalability and sustainability.
- Increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change, potentially through demand driven climate information and services.
- Recognize the movement, particularly of youth, between Cabo Delgado and the rest of Northern Mozambique, with a focus on reducing vulnerability to recruitment into extremist activities.
- At least part of the coastal and marine ecosystems activities should focus on reducing threats to the ecosystem in high biodiversity areas.
- Learn from the success or challenges from other development investments.
- Leverage the private sector and other sources of investment for employment and income generation through sustainable livelihood approaches.

3. THE BAA PROCESS

The resources made available under this BAA will depend on the concepts received and the availability of funds from USAID and other resource partners. Some award types may not include any funding. Under this BAA, activities will be co-created, co-developed, and finally awarded to potential partners in four stages, including: (1) submission of an initial Expression of Interest (EOI) by potential partners, (2) development of an activity concept paper through initial co-creation and then co-development with USAID, (3) a USAID-led review and selection of activity Concept Papers, and (4) the final award of contract(s) or other agreement(s) to partners. Unless provided otherwise, organizations are responsible for all costs incurred by the organization to prepare its EOI and to participate in co-creation and/or co-development. The steps are detailed as follows:

3.1 STAGE 1 - SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOIs)

Please submit an EOI in English that addresses the criteria below, in the format required in Section 7. Each organization is limited to one EOI submission. Local organizations are highly encouraged to participate.

USAID will review the EOIs and may choose to conduct interviews to clarify elements of any of the received EOIs as deemed useful by USAID. USAID will then select those organizations that USAID determines to have addressed the evaluation criteria/eligibility stated below, to an extent that demonstrates that the organization will make a significant contribution to the co-creation. Not all organizations that submit an EOI will necessarily be invited to proceed to Stage 2. Due to the number of EOIs expected to be received, USAID may be unable to provide details on why EOIs were not selected.

Required Content for the Expressions of Interest:

1. EOIs must indicate the research or development idea(s) that will provide potential solutions to the Problem and Challenge Statements. Ideas must be presented in a way that demonstrates a connection between the Problem and Challenge Statements and prospective partners' efforts to increase knowledge and understanding of potential solutions; innovations, improvements in technology, materials, processes, methods, devices, or techniques; advance the state of the art, or use scientific and technical knowledge in the design, development, testing, or evaluation of a potential new product or service (or of an improvement in an existing product or service). While possible, the emphasis should be placed on implementing tested and proven approaches that show potential to rapidly improve sustainable management and create economic opportunity.
2. EOIs must demonstrate the potential to have a significant impact that ultimately could achieve even greater impact at scale.
3. EOIs must indicate the background and expertise of the organization and the managerial and technical staff or team engaged in the endeavor.
4. EOIs must describe any co-investment resources that will be contributed to the solution, including those from the submitting organization and those from other third-party businesses, donors, foundations, or other organizations. Such resources may include cash and other resources, both tangible and intangible, such as in-kind contributions, expertise, intellectual property, brand value, high-value coordination, and access to key people, places, and information. Letters of commitment are welcome as annexes.
5. EOIs are required to propose up to two relevant individuals that will participate in the co-creation and co-development process. CVs must be included as annexes.

3.2 STAGE 2 - CO-CREATION AND CO-DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONCEPT PAPER

Organizations selected to participate in Stage 2, including the co-creation workshop(s), will be contacted directly and provided with logistical details including date, time, and location. During Stage 2, selected organizations, based on the EOI submissions, will co-create potential solutions to the Problem and Challenge Statements by brainstorming and innovating solutions and resources, potentially leading to concept papers that USAID or other resource partners will consider for funding.

Submission requirements for the Concept Papers will be defined at a later date and communicated directly to those organizations that have been invited to participate in Stage 2.

During this phase, the initial idea presented during the EOI (or a new one) will be refined and submitted to the Peer Review Board for review and comments.

Co-Creation

In addition to the selected organizations continuing from Stage 1, the co-creation phase will include USAID and other stakeholders that may be able to contribute resources or add to the discussion. Co-creation may take the form of a workshop, conference, meeting, or other methods, including the possibility of oral presentations of concepts, at the discretion of USAID. At this time USAID anticipates having one co-creation workshop to be held within the area of proposed activity. The method of co-creation for this BAA will be determined at a later date, and communicated directly to those organizations invited to participate. An invitation to co-create is not a guarantee of funding nor is it a guarantee of moving forward to Stage 3. For more information on co-creation and its design approaches, see <https://usaidlearninglab.org/library/co-creation-discussion-note-ads-201>. Organizations are responsible for all costs incurred by the organization to prepare its EOI and participate in the co-creation.

3.3 STAGE 3 - REVIEW BY THE PEER REVIEW BOARD

Co-Development

Once the co-creation phase is complete, USAID will invite the participants to develop a more detailed Concept Paper in the co-development phase. The Concept Papers will be reviewed by the Review Board, which will be comprised of experts from USAID/Mozambique, the Government of Mozambique, and/or outside parties. The specific composition of the Review Board will be determined at a later date. The Review Board will use its technical expertise to review Concept Papers and recommend whether to move forward with the project, as well as any revisions/additions to the project. Not all organizations that present a Concept Paper to the Review Board will necessarily be invited to move to Stage 4. There is no predetermined number of times the board will review each concept, nor is the board obligated to recommend an award for each concept submission.

Evaluation Criteria:

Concept Papers will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Approach: Likelihood the approach will address the challenges (provided on pages 3&4) within the existing context, based on the evidence and logic provided.
2. Partnership Expectations and Value: Strengths of the organization or consortium as a partner, including ability to make a unique contribution to the challenge issued and leverage additional resources.
3. Impact: The likelihood of generating substantial, scalable and sustainable impact on the issues discussed in the Problem and Challenge Statements.
4. Institutional Capacity: USAID will consider the institution's ability to implement the proposed approach, based on past experience, local knowledge and expertise,

relationships with key actors, and depth of contextual understanding relevant to the challenges, as well as the capacity of the people proposed to be engaged in the co-creation process.

3.4 STAGE 4 - AWARD DETERMINATION

USAID will use the Review Board's recommendations and consider other information, such as resource availability and Agency priorities, to decide whether to award a contract or other agreement based on a Concept Paper and using the above-stated evaluation criteria. For Concept Papers that demonstrate a valid approach to address the Problem and Challenge Statements, the Contracting/Agreement Officer will assess the organization's capacity and identify the anticipated instrument type.

Request for Additional Information. USAID may request additional information concerning the organization's technical approach, capacity, management and organization, past experience, partnership proposal, and budget, as well as representations and certifications, as needed.

Final Review and Negotiation. The USAID Contracting/Agreement Officer will engage in final review and negotiation of an award instrument with an apparently successful partner. If the organization and USAID cannot arrive at a mutually agreeable arrangement, award type, and cost/price, USAID reserves the right to not move forward with an award at no cost to the Government.

Award. Awards under this BAA will be made to the Apparently Successful Partners on the basis of their ability to achieve solutions to the Problem and Challenge Statements, based on the evaluation criteria as provided herein. The standard clauses or provisions for awards are generally prescribed by law and regulation and may vary by award type/amount. Information regarding clauses and provisions will be offered to the Apparently Successful Applicant when the award type is identified.

4. ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

A. EOIs will not be evaluated against other EOIs, but solely based upon whether USAID believes that the organization will be a valuable contributor to the co-creation process. USAID may limit the number of initial submissions selected to move forward based on efficiencies.

B. Concept Papers are not evaluated against other Concept Papers, but solely based on USAID's determination as to whether the Concept Paper will successfully address the Problem and Challenges set forth herein. USAID may limit the number of Concept Papers selected to move forward based on resource availability.

C. Decisions regarding USAID's pursuit of a particular activity, technology or relationship will be based on all available information, evidence, data, and resulting analysis.

D. Eligibility Information. Public, private, for-profit, and nonprofit organizations, as well as institutions of higher education, public international organizations, non-governmental

organizations, U.S. and non-U.S. governmental organizations, multilateral and international donor organizations are eligible under this BAA. All organizations must be determined to be responsive to the BAA and sufficiently capable to perform or participate in the final award type. However, if an award results from any phase of this process, the prospective organization must be eligible in accordance with 22 CFR 228 and ADS 310. The default authorized geographic code for all US-funded contracts is 937 (See ADS 310).

E. Funding availability and amounts will depend on the ideas generated during the collaboration process as well as the funding capacity of participating organizations, which are not necessarily limited to USAID.

5. SPECIFIC RIGHTS RESERVED FOR THE GOVERNMENT UNDER THIS BAA

The Government reserves specific rights, in addition to rights described elsewhere in this document or by law or regulation, including:

1. The right to make multiple awards, a single award, or no awards.
2. The right to accept Concept Papers in their entirety or to select only portions of Concept Papers for award or co-investment.
3. The right to select an instrument type that is appropriate for the specific Concept Paper selected for award. Instrument types include, but are not limited to, contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, public-private partnerships, and memorandums of understanding. In addition, USAID may craft a new instrument type to meet the needs of a specific relationship.
4. The right to co-create projects with one or more organizations under the BAA, when it is in the best interest of USAID.
5. The right to request any additional, necessary documentation after initial review. Such additional information may include, but is not limited to, a further detailed Concept Paper, budget, and representations and certifications.
6. The right to fund or co-invest in Concept Papers in phases, with options for continued work at the end of one or more of the phases.
7. The right to award instruments under this BAA that do not commit monetary resources.
8. The right to remove organizations from the BAA process if USAID determines it is no longer in the best interests of the Government to proceed with the organization.

6. INFORMATION PROTECTION

USAID's goal under this BAA is to invite participants to co-create, co-design, co-invest, and collaborate on innovative interventions that provide actionable solutions to the most pressing obstacles and challenges to improve resilience of coastal communities and their ecosystems,

particularly engaging young people to increase their productive participation in sustainable natural resource management, food systems, livelihoods, and society. Understanding the sensitive nature of organizations' information, USAID will work with organizations to protect intellectual property.

However, EOIs should be free of any intellectual property that the organization wishes to protect from disclosure, as the EOIs will be shared with USAID partners as part of the selection process. Therefore, organizations making submissions under this BAA grant to USAID a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to use, disclose, reproduce, and prepare derivative works, and to have or permit others to do so to any information contained in the EOIs submitted under the BAA. In the event an organization is invited to advance beyond co-creation or to otherwise further engage with USAID regarding its submission, the organization will have the opportunity to negotiate further intellectual property protection for its intellectual property as appropriate under federal contracting law. Organizations must ensure that any submissions under this BAA are free of any third party proprietary data rights that would impact the license granted to USAID herein.

7. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Expression of Interest (EOI) submissions must:

- A. Be in English, no more than **6 pages in length** including cover letters, and **no smaller than 12 point font, with no more than 10 pages of supporting annexes**;
- B. Be submitted electronically to **Antonieta Manhica** at amanhica@usaid.gov and cc ;
- C. Contain a header with the following information (included in the page count):
 - 1) Organization Name/Group and Contact Information;
 - 2) Response Title;
 - 3) BAA or Addendum, if applicable Name/Number;
 - 4) Optional graphic that fits on an 8.5"x11" or A4 piece of paper (included in the page limit);
- D. Be in .pdf or .docx format.

8. OBTAINING THE BAA AND ADDENDA

This BAA and any Addenda, if applicable can be downloaded from <http://www.grants.gov> and <http://www.fbo.gov>. Issuance of this BAA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of USAID, nor does it commit USAID or any of its funding Partners to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of EOIs and Concept Papers. Further, USAID reserves the right to reject any or all EOIs and Concept Papers received.

9. REFERENCES

The following is a list of attachments to this BAA solicitation that provide useful reference material and background information related to resilience of coastal communities in the region south of Pemba to Maganja da Costa.

- Attachment A: USAID Situation Analysis

Attachment A: USAID Situation Analysis

The following Situation Analysis is based on initial information available. This analysis will be strengthened and improved during subsequent stages.

This situation model in *Attachment 1, titled “Mozambique Resilient Coastal Communities Initial Context Analysis of July 2020*, describes significant biodiversity, livelihood, and vulnerability challenges (green and brown) in the coastal region between Pemba and Maganja da Costa, which could form the focus for a future USAID program in Mozambique. The analysis hypothesizes how effective conservation and management of these biodiversity focal interests is expected to provide benefits to human well-being (brown) by addressing key threats to the biodiversity assets (pink) as well as the underlying drivers (orange).

Mozambique is rich in coastal natural resources, including forests, arable land, heavy sands and other elements, significant offshore oil reserves, as well as freshwater, wetland, and marine ecosystems that are of recognized national, regional, and international importance due to their extraordinary biological diversity (Ramsar Sites Information Service, 2019). The mangrove forests, coral reefs, seagrass meadows, sandy and rocky shores, and estuaries found along the coastline, provide food, protection and breeding grounds for many commercially important fishes, shrimp, oysters, clams, and crabs, as well as Red-listed marine and coastal species (Pereira, et al., 2014; Mozambique Marine and Coastal Resource Market Assessment: A Reference Guide. April 2021).

Mozambique’s coastal resources support a range of sectors, including fisheries, agriculture, tourism, mining, and forestry. Yet, despite these rich natural resources, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that nutritional security in Mozambique has been falling for over a decade, and that approximately 8.8 million Mozambicans, nearly one-third of the total population, were undernourished in the period 2015-2017 (FAO, 2018). The declining food security along the coast is exacerbated by declining access to diverse livelihoods in coastal communities due to economic contractions in key coastal industries (e.g., agribusiness; fish processing) and growth of industries that do not directly benefit local communities in the form of sustainable, high-employing jobs (e.g., mining).

The lack of suitable livelihood alternatives is driving households and communities to three broad environmentally damaging impacts: expansion of farming on marginal lands, deforestation of forests and mangroves, and unsustainable fishing practices with detrimental impacts on coastal and marine ecosystems.

- Farming and continued degradation of marginal lands. With population growth and lack of alternative livelihoods, farmers are expanding production into fragile, generally sandy,

soils. Additionally, farmers use low inputs that are increasingly depleting the soil and are producing low value crops. The choice of crops to farm is also an area of concern.

Cassava places heavy demand on soils but is a relatively common crop in the region. In contrast, there has been insufficient investment in cashew, which is a perennial crop that is well suited for coastal areas and is resilient to climate stressors, including drought. In fact, approximately twelve cashew factories along the coast have gone out of business in the past three years, representing roughly 12k people out of work and these ex-laborers must return to farming and fishing activities for their livelihoods. Coconut is also a potentially beneficial income-earning perennial crop, however recent crops have been devastated by the 'lethal yellow' disease.

- Mangroves and coastal forests are being cut down to make way for salt production pans, urban and infrastructure development, small-scale subsistence agriculture, or simply harvested for construction materials, fuelwood, and charcoal production. Mangrove forests in particular are critical for coastal resilience and livelihoods. Due to their unique root structures, they stabilize the coastlines, prevent erosion from waves and storms, and trap sediment flowing down rivers and off the land thus protecting coral reefs and seagrass meadows from being smothered after large storms - all of which (mangroves included) are vital nurseries for a diverse array of economically and ecologically important species, including coral reef fish, crabs, clams, shrimp, and sea turtles.
- Mozambique has extraordinary potential in fish production, but at the moment most fisheries, particularly near the shore, are overexploited in Mozambique and facing declining production (Pereira, et al., 2014). These declines are broadly attributable to destructive fishing, overfishing, and illegal fishing.

Mozambique has relatively high population growth and like many African nations has an extremely young population, with approximately three-fourths of the population under thirty. The economy, however, is not keeping up with the population growth. The youth in particular are faced with few job prospects, low food security, and little hope of a bright future in the face of climate change, making them vulnerable to being drawn into violent extremism, which is on the rise in Mozambique. There is an opportunity to strengthen engagement between government, civil society and the private sector to reduce community vulnerabilities. The region supports a large and active number of mosques and other community organizations that could be engaged to help empower youth in creating a more hopeful and resilient future. Increased self-employment opportunities related to agriculture and marine sectors, as well as the creation of job opportunities through an increase in coastal enterprises are vital in order to provide economic opportunities for the growing youth population. Access to these alternative livelihoods, paired with greater opportunities and forums for youth participation in civic life could improve their future prospects and restore their aspirations and hope.

Yet, this opportunity will be difficult to realize given the challenging political and economic climate in Mozambique. At a fundamental level, economic growth is stymied by a lack of adequate infrastructure and access to capital. While the expansion of banks to districts has been positive, access to financial services remains limited. Savings and credit groups, however, appear to have broad acceptance in local communities. Additionally, there are many large, international corporations that have vested interests in extractive industries. The coastal area from Pemba to Chinde, Zambezia is lined with heavy sands concessions (see [here](#)), with at least 59 concessions, with varying benefits to communities. The links between these companies and local communities appear to vary greatly, with at least one heavy sands mine creating significant local jobs, investing resources to support the local communities, and working to achieve global good mining practices. Other investments along the coast appear to have more tenuous relations with local communities, with weaker benefits accrued by the local communities and less evidence of strong environmental practice oversight that negatively affects biodiversity. The ability of coastal communities, particularly the youth, to address these challenges is further limited by lack of good information due to low literacy and electricity, as well as limited availability of social services.

All of these drivers, whether challenging or possible opportunities, are exacerbated by climate change. Mozambique is recognized as one of the most vulnerable countries in Africa to climate change impacts due to its geographic location, its reliance on climate sensitive sectors, such as rain fed agriculture, and the lack of capacity to respond or prepare for climate events (IPCC, 2007). The impacts of increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere on the economically and ecologically important coastal and marine systems of Mozambique include changes in temperature (on land and in the oceans), ocean warming and acidification, shifting weather patterns and oceanic currents, sea level rise, saline intrusion, as well as more frequent and severe storms and floods. Extreme weather events, such as cyclones, floods, and drought, often disrupt livelihoods, particularly for fishers and farmers, and exacerbate already existing challenges, such as increasing risk of infectious disease outbreak. Furthermore, ocean warming, acidification, and changing currents, can have direct negative impacts on coastal ocean ecosystems and their associated fisheries. These climate change-induced impacts threaten economic gains, and decrease the overall resilience of local communities.

The situation model hypothesizes that improved governance and natural resource management, particularly of fisheries and coastal ecosystems, as well as development of significant livelihood opportunities outside of fishing, are needed to increase food and nutrition security, strengthen community resilience to climate change and other shocks, and reduce vulnerability to extremist influences. Increased livelihood opportunities in tandem with participatory conservation and management of these biodiversity focal interests can improve the resilience of coastal communities and ecosystems and engage young people in building sustainable food and fisheries systems and developing climate resilient, diversified, and economically viable livelihoods.

