

## **New Online Resources Available to Inspire Communities to Reduce Current and Future Risks**

FEMA launched a new interactive story map to help coastal communities understand their unique risks and to use data from coastal studies to become more resilient.

“[Thinking Beyond Flood Maps](#)” presents ideas to inspire coastal communities to use FEMA flood mapping data for more than just floodplain management ordinances or explaining flood insurance purchase requirements. Case studies from four coastal communities show how they have used the data to enhance resilience from floods.

The four case studies featured in the story map are:

- Pinellas County, Florida launched an outreach and education program for residents about flood hazards. Pinellas County also started a training program to help real estate agents answer flood-related questions from potential home buyers.
- Communities along coastal Maryland participate in the Coast Smart Construction Program and other initiatives to reduce the impacts of rising sea levels and flooding in coastal areas.
- Aberdeen, Washington implemented the Risk Visualization Viewer, an interactive map developed by the state and FEMA to help users identify potential tsunami flooding.
- New York City is using FEMA data to develop Future Flood Risk Maps to identify areas vulnerable to floods to support the city’s resilient design and planning efforts.

All of FEMA’s story maps on flood risk and mitigation can be found at [www.fema.gov/flood-maps/tools-resources/risk-map/story-maps](http://www.fema.gov/flood-maps/tools-resources/risk-map/story-maps).

In addition to the story map, FEMA recently launched these new resources:

- [Planning for Future Conditions](#). This brief guide for local officials and community planners explains why it is important to consider future risks in hazard mitigation plans and other risk reduction strategies. It offers tips for addressing changing risks and provides links to resources that can help communities learn more and take action.
- [Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions: A Guide for Local Communities](#). This resource helps local communities, states, territories and tribes make the business case for nature-based solutions. It also offers guidance for planning and implementation, including public and private funding for projects. The guide was developed in partnership with resilience experts from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

# Thinking Beyond Flood Maps

Using FEMA Coastal Data to Reduce Risk and Build Resilience

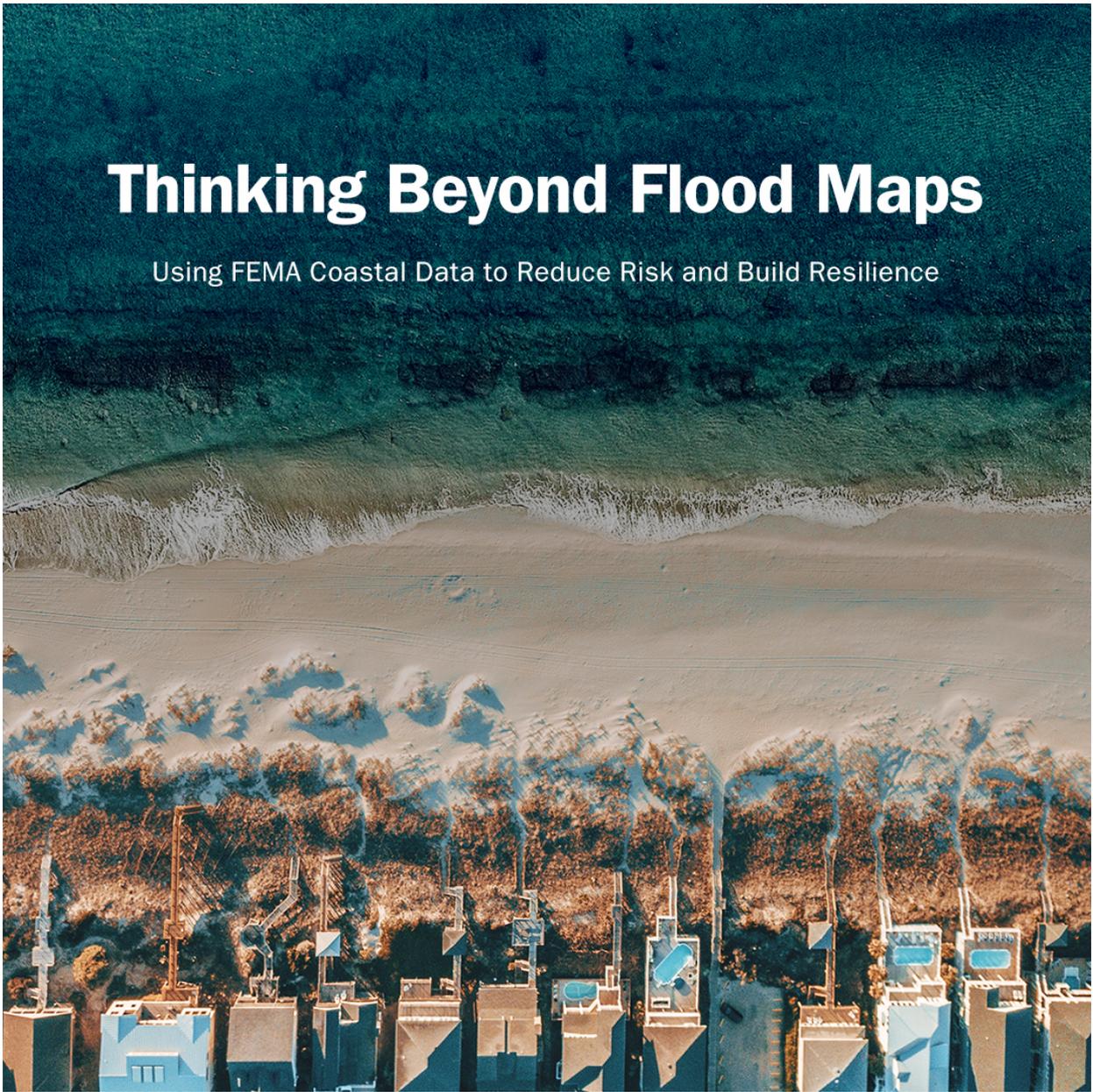
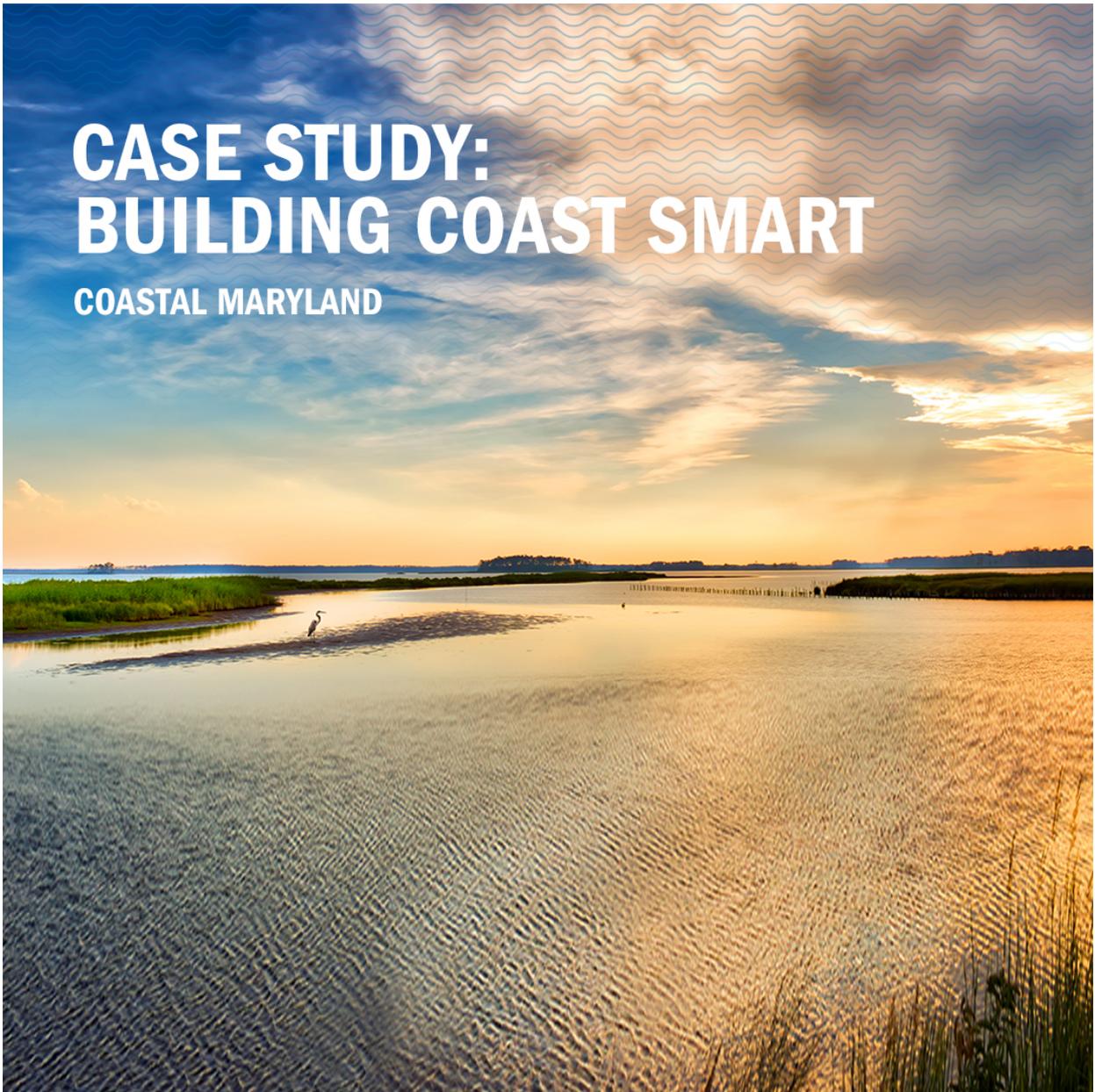


Figure 1. Landing page of the Thinking Beyond Flood Maps story map.

# CASE STUDY: BUILDING COAST SMART

## COASTAL MARYLAND



*Figure 2. The story map highlights Maryland's work to build resilience through stronger codes and standards.*