

## Webinar

# Blue financing for urban coastal resilience: Investing in flood-ready, climate-secure cities

Coastal cities are at the [frontlines](#) of climate change impacts, impacting over [680 million people](#) live in low-lying coastal zones that are exposed to sea-level rise, storm surges and coastal flooding. Urban coastal centres already face recurrent economic losses due to extreme weather events, infrastructure damage and service disruptions. In India, floods alone account for nearly [67%](#) of all climate-related losses, disproportionately affecting densely populated coastal cities. Despite the scale and immediacy of these risks, financing coastal and urban resilience remains fragmented and inadequate. India has received approximately [US \\$1.16 billion](#) across all climate projects, a figure misaligned with the country's adaptation needs. At the subnational level, states struggle to fully [quantify](#) their adaptation spending, while municipal bodies remain heavily [dependent](#) on state and central transfers, with limited revenue-earning capacity. Limited own-source revenue and weak access to capital markets continue to restrict municipal investment in climate-resilient infrastructure.

Against this backdrop, the blue economy is emerging as a critical yet underutilised lever for financing coastal resilience. Contributing over [4% of GDP](#) and is identified as one of the ten core growth areas in the vision of New India 2030. India's Blue Economy Vision 2047 outlines over [INR 80 lakh crore](#) in targeted investments, positioning the blue economy as both a growth engine. Flagship initiatives such as the Deep Ocean Mission are expected to generate economic opportunities worth approximately [US \\$100 billion](#) by 2030. Policy momentum around blue finance has also strengthened in recent years. The [Draft National Blue Economy Policy \(2021\)](#), Ministry of Earth Sciences' 2025 [white paper](#) further underscore the need to scale financing for deep-sea fisheries, coastal infrastructure and marine conservation, reinforcing the strategic importance of blue investments within India's development trajectory.

Yet, significant [challenges](#) continue to constrain the scale-up of blue finance. Blue investments are often perceived as high risk due to regulatory uncertainty, limited historical data, weak project pipelines and the absence of standardised frameworks for blue financial instruments. The lack of investment-ready projects and credible risk mitigation structures further dampens investor confidence, particularly for urban coastal resilience projects that sit at the intersection of infrastructure, ecosystems and public service delivery. Addressing these challenges requires coordinated, multi-stakeholder approaches that align public finance, development finance and private capital around clearly defined blue investment opportunities.

In response to these challenges, and **under the aegis of Mumbai Climate Week 2026, auctusESG in partnership with the Blue Bond Accelerator and the Ocean Centres India** (hosted by the United Nations Global Compact and supported by the Lloyd's Register Foundation) seek to organise a webinar on **Thursday, 19th February 2026 from 3-4.30pm IST** titled '**Blue financing for urban coastal resilience: Investing in flood-ready, climate-secure cities**'. The webinar seeks to bring together financial institutions, multilateral and development

finance organisations, blue infrastructure developers, urban planners, city officials working in coastal resilience to examine financing barriers, highlight scalable investment models and mechanisms, identify collaborative pathways, and strengthen pipelines for blue finance.

**Date:** 19th February 2026

**Time:** 3-4.30pm IST

**Format:** Webinar

**Mode:** Virtual

### Indicative agenda

Agenda items	Duration	Tentative speakers and discussants
Introduction	2 minutes	In-house emcee
Keynote address	5 minutes	TBD
Welcome address	5 minutes	TBD
Panel discussion	70 minutes	<b>Moderator:</b> <i>Namita Vikas, Founder &amp; Managing Director, auctusESG</i>
		<b>Speakers (3-4)</b>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financial institutions, multilateral and development finance organisations, blue infrastructure developers, urban planners, city officials</li> </ul>
Audience Q/A	5 minutes	In-house emcee
Closing	2 minutes	In-house emcee