**Discussion Guides**

**MVP 2.0 Climate Resilience Trainings**

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Welcome to the MVP 2.0 Climate Resilience Trainings! Each of the three sessions will take about one hour; it is recommended that you complete the trainings over three sessions. For each session, you will watch a video and then discuss what you learned with your Core Team, using the discussion guides below. Your primary vendor will help facilitate these discussions. Make sure to take notes and document your Core Team’s answers in the boxes below. Once you have completed all three sessions, email your Core Team’s completed discussion guides to your MVP Regional Coordinator.

| **Session 1: Previewing the MVP 2.0 Process** |
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As a Core Team, watch the first Climate Resilience Training video (Part 1: Previewing the MVP 2.0 Process). After watching the video, discuss the questions below. Your primary vendor will help facilitate the discussion. Make sure to take notes and document your Core Team’s answers in the boxes below. It is estimated that this first session will take approximately one hour to complete.

**Start with a brief round of introductions.**

**Before diving into the discussion, consider drafting group agreements for how you plan to work together. See the example group agreements as a starting point.**

| **Example group agreements*** **Participate as peers** - Everyone comes to the group with different backgrounds and experiences. All are valued. We all speak as individuals, not as representatives.
* **Share the air** - If I tend to be quiet, I’m encouraged to speak. If I tend to be vocal, I’ll make sure to step back to let others speak, too.
* **Create safe spaces** - Let’s create a safe space to share, to learn, to say “I don’t know,” and to have honest dialogue. Keep “who says what” confidential unless given permission to share with others.
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**1a.** **What questions do you have about the MVP 2.0 process? These could be clarifying questions or bigger things you are wondering about how the process may play out. Discuss and clarify any questions as much as possible with the insight of your vendor and other Core Team members.**

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**1b.** **What drew you to participate on this Core Team? After learning about the process, where are you excited to contribute? What knowledge, experience, or relationships do you bring? Make sure to hear from everyone on the Core Team.**

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**1c.** **Where do you have reservations? Are there aspects of the process that you are worried about? Make sure to hear from everyone on the Core Team.**

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**1d.** **What is your vision for this process? What would be a sign that this process has been successful? Make sure to hear from everyone on the Core Team. Try to focus on the process itself, and not specific project outcomes. It will be important to listen to what the community needs before knowing which project/s are best to pursue.**

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**1e. Take a moment to touch base on logistics. How often and in what format do you want to meet as a Core Team as you work through the MVP 2.0 process? What will make those meetings feel most meaningful and effective?**

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| **Session 2: Understanding Local Climate Vulnerability** |
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As a Core Team, watch the second Climate Resilience Training video (Part 2: Understanding Local Climate Vulnerability). The training mentions several tools and references that can assist your Core Team in understanding local climate vulnerability. They can be accessed at the following links:

| **Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment:** <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-climate-change-assessment>**Resilient Mass website:** <https://resilientma.mass.gov/home.html> * Guides for Equitable and Actionable Resilience (GEAR): <https://resilientma.mass.gov/gear>
* Resilient Mass Maps and Data Center (includes Resilient MA Map Viewer & Climate Change Projections Dashboard): <https://resilientma-mapcenter-mass-eoeea.hub.arcgis.com/>
* Climate Resilience Design Standards Tool: <https://resilientma.mass.gov/rmat_home/designstandards/>

**Massachusetts EEA YouTube Channel:** [www.youtube.com/@MassEEA](http://www.youtube.com/%40MassEEA) * Massachusetts Coast Flood Risk Model (MC-FRM) Training Series: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fwJIHgixA1A&list=PLzQVK6KiTOqxwgQQ5otdUffrD4Cx6ybgh>
* Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Videos Playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ozNokoMeApQ&list=PLzQVK6KiTOqzGoVpAXnLSNfD-FsdE4n00>
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After watching the video, discuss the questions below to practice applying these tools and resources to your planning efforts. Your primary vendor will help facilitate the discussion. Make sure to take notes and document your Core Team’s answers in the boxes below. It is estimated that this second session will take approximately one hour to complete.

**Practice Exercise 1**: This mini-exercise is intended to provide your Core Team with initial exposure to the GEAR tool. You will spend more time in the GEAR tool in subsequent phases of the MVP 2.0 process. Plan to spend about 15 minutes on this exercise including using the tool and the discussion.An in-depth “How To” video is available on the GEAR tool home page if you’d like to continue with further learning later.

**Navigate to the GEAR tool and open a guide that seems relevant to the hazards you are experiencing in your community (e.g., Infrastructure x Inland Flooding). Look through the “Questions to Answer” in the guide. As a Core Team, answer one question using the GEAR map data layers mentioned in the guide. Note any questions that come up about using the GEAR tool.**

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**Practice Exercise 2**: This mini-exercise is intended to warm up your Core Team for Step 4: Uncovering Social Resilience, where you will use a combination of data explored in GEAR, and information you learn from the community to identify factors that contribute to vulnerability and resilience for people in the community and use that information to inform your approach to building resilience. Plan to spend about 10 minutes on this exercise including using the tool and the discussion.

**As the training mentions, not all information that’s important for understanding climate resilience can be found on a map or through climate projections. Looking again at the “Questions to Answer” in the same GEAR guide, identify some stakeholder groups or community members your Core Team would need to talk to to more fully answer the questions. These groups may bring personal lived experience, technical subject matter expertise, or both.**

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**Practice Exercise 3**:This mini-exercise is to provide your Core Team with exposure to some of the data and tools related to climate hazards and projections. You will reference these tools at multiple phases of your MVP 2.0 Process and beyond. Plan to spend about 20 minutes on Parts A through C of this exercise.

**Part A: Navigate to the Massachusetts Climate Change Assessment and open Volume III - Regional Reports for more localized information. Each Regional Report discusses “Most Urgent Impacts by Sector” (human, infrastructure, natural environment, governance, and economy). Pick a sector and review the urgent impacts. Which of these stand out to you? Why?**

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**Part B: Navigate to the Climate Change Projections Dashboard. Filter the data by your watershed or town and a target decade. The dashboard allows you to explore projections seasonally, using the “annual” projections for this exercise. Fill in the table noting how certain climate hazards are projected to change over time.**

| **Climate Projection** | **2030** | **2050** | **2070** |
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| **Days below 32 degrees F** |  |  |  |
| **Days above 90 degrees F** |  |  |  |
| **Total precipitation (percent change)**  |  |  |  |

**Part C: Navigate to the Resilient MA Map Viewer. Turn on the layer for your region’s land surface temperature by selecting “Land Cover” then “Land Surface Temperature” then selecting the Land Surface Temperature Layer for your planning commission region. You can click on the “ⓘ” icon to learn about the map layer. Are there any notable high land surface temperature areas in your community?**

(Note: If you are a coastal community, you may alternatively choose to look at coastal flooding by selecting “Coastal Flood Hazards” then “Massachusetts Coast Flood Risk Model” then “2070 Coastal Flooding: 1% Annual Exceedance Probability.” Where are the areas of highest flood risk in your community?)

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| **Session 3: Building Community Climate Resilience** |
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As a Core Team, watch the third Climate Resilience Training video (Part 3: Building Community Climate Resilience: Key Considerations and Examples). The video includes case studies and references to tools which help you turn ideas into actionable resilience projects. The referenced tools can be accessed at the links below, for future reference.

| * **MVP 2.0 Engagement Plan:** <https://www.mass.gov/doc/tool-1-engagement-plan/download>
* **MVP 2.0 Example Seed Projects:** <https://www.mass.gov/doc/mvp-20-seed-project-examples/download>
* **Guides for Equitable and Actionable Resilience (GEAR):** <https://resilientma.mass.gov/gear> (within any guide, scroll to the “Actions to Consider” and “Explore MVP Case Studies” sections)
* **MVP Nature-Based Solutions Toolkit:** <https://resilientma.mass.gov/mvp/content.html?toolkit=nature_based>
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After watching the video, discuss the questions below. Your primary vendor will help facilitate the discussion. Make sure to take notes and document your Core Team’s answers in the boxes below.It is estimated that this third session will take approximately one hour to complete.

**3a.** **The case studies highlighted different types of projects — for example, Andover was assessing design solutions to prevent flooding, Mashpee developed new regulations to protect water quality, while Springfield focused on better communication and economic opportunities for its residents. What parts of those projects felt particularly exciting or meaningful to you? Why is that? What did those stories make you think about, in the context of your own community? Is this type of work already underway in your community?**

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**3b.** **The MVP 2.0 process focuses on input from the broader community and specifically people who will be most impacted by climate change; therefore, inclusive and equitable engagement will be key. What stood out to you in how these municipalities engaged and collaborated with community members? Why is that? What did those stories make you think about, in the context of your own community?**

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**3c.** **Many of the case studies didn’t just protect against a climate hazard but went further to transform ways of doing things in their community to build social resilience, restore environmental resources, and address root causes of vulnerability. Where do you see opportunities in your community to tackle climate vulnerability while also creating a stronger and healthier community in other ways at the same time?**

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**3d.** **Just like the case study interviewees, take a moment to imagine your community in 50 years. What does it look like, who's there, what makes it a thriving place?**

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