# SCALING BLUE FINANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE OCEAN **ECONOMIES IN THE NORTHEAST U.S.: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW** OF GLOBAL MODELS AND REGIONAL APPLICATIONS



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"Blue bonds can catalyze climate-resilient, equitable blue economic growth in the Northeast U.S. if adapted to its multi-level governance and regional priorities."

#### **ABSTRACT**

This study analyzes five global blue bond issuances (Seychelles, NIB, Indonesia, Ecuador, Bank of China) using a 10-criteria framework (e.g., financial structure, governance, environmental impact, scalability). Findings show blue bonds can catalyze investment, public-private partnerships, and measurable ecological outcomes, especially when aligned with nature-based solutions and regional priorities. Recommendations include piloting resilience-linked bonds, standardizing KPIs, and establishing multistate governance to avoid "bluewashing" and ensure equity.



With the Northeast facing \$70B+ in storm damage and leading the U.S. in offshore wind, blue bonds offer a timely financial tool for climate adaptation and economic growth

#### WHAT ARE BLUE BONDS?

#### **DEFINITION**

#### **HOW THEY WORK?**

Returns



#### **METHODOLOGY**

Research Systematic comparative analysis of five Design global blue bond issuances Seychelles, NIB, Bank of China, Indonesia, **Case Studies** Ecuador 10 criteria including financial structure, **Evaluation** governance, environmental impact, Criteria scalability etc Official reports, peer-reviewed literature. **Data Sources** international institution disclosures

Extract transferable lessons for the

#### **GLOBAL CASE STUDIES**

Northeast U.S.

## Seychelles

Objective

- First sovereign blue bond
- Funded 400,000 km<sup>2</sup> MPAs

#### **Nordic Investment** Bank

- Regional collaboration
- Baltic Sea cleanup

#### Indonesia

**Ecuador** 

· Mangrove restoration

Debt-for-nature swap

• \$1B for conservation

Fisheries

**TOP 3 REGIONAL OPPORTUNITIES** 

# Offshore wind financing

- Marine spatial planning
- Grid infrastructure



#### Nature-based coastal resilience

- · Oyster reefs in NYC
- Wetlands in NJ

#### Sustainable fisheries transition

- Maine lobster
- Shellfish aquaculture

#### **KEY CHALLENGES & SOLUTIONS**

#### **CHALLENGES**

#### **SOLUTIONS**

Fragmented governance (federal/state/local)

Regional blue bond task force Standardized KPIs

Risk of 'bluewashing'

(Coastal Protection Index) Blended finance + pilot projects

Market immaturity

## **IMPACT METRICS (REGIONALLY TAILORED)**



**Coastal Protection Index** 

Flood risk reduction



**Sustainable Fisheries Yield** 

% sustainably managed



**Marine Biodiversity Index** 

**Ecosystem health** 



**Carbon Sequestration** (via seagrass/mangroves)

Tons CO₂ captured

### **PATH FORWARD**

Launch pilot projects (e.g., Boston, NYC, Portland) **Develop regional** framework Align with NOAA/state climate plans

#### REFERENCES

#### CONTACT



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