



Grey or green?

Option cards and decision matrix

Group: _____

Build a concrete seawall

Cost: About USD 19,800 per metre for breakwaters, as a global median

For: Works from day one. Blocks waves at one spot.

Against: Expensive to build and repair. Can make erosion worse next to it. No fish, no carbon.

Restore the coral reef

Cost: About USD 1,300 per metre, as a global median

For: Cheap per metre. Reduces waves before they reach shore. Helps fisheries and tourism.

Against: Takes years. Can be damaged by heatwaves and storms.

Replant mangroves in old fishponds

Cost: Low cost, mostly labour and seedlings

For: Cuts wave height, traps sediment, stores carbon, shelters baby fish.

Against: Takes years to grow. Fails if planted in the wrong place.

Early warning and an evacuation centre

Cost: Moderate cost for a safe building and a warning system

For: Saves lives, whatever the size of the surge.

Against: Does not protect homes, boats or crops.

Decision matrix

Score 1 (poor) to 5 (good)	Build a concrete seawall	Restore the coral reef	Replant mangroves in old fishponds	Early warning and an evacuation centre
Cost				
Protection from waves				
Protection of lives				
Time until it works				
Extra benefits				
Risks				
Total				

Our plan, and why

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