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Meeting the climate change challenge: Pressing issues in southern China and SE Asian coastal ecosystems

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1 Meeting the climate change challenge: pressing issues in southern China and SE
2 Asian coastal ecosystems

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15 HIGHLIGHTS

16 ● This paper summarizes the Breakout session 'Impacts of Climate Change' at the
17 Biodiversity, Ecology and Conservation of Marine Ecosystems conference (Hong
18 Kong, June 2015).

19 ● Coastal ecosystems of southern China and SE Asia are under more intense and
20 immediate threats than many other parts of the globe, due to a combination of global
21 climate change and anthropogenic threats resulting from coastal development.

22 ● Three of the most pressing issues facing this region are threats to biodiversity and
23 ecosystem functioning; habitat loss and shoreline development; and food security and
24 aquaculture.

25 ● Whilst extreme, the issues the region faces are not unique; solutions require rapid
26 collaborative efforts to document ongoing changes, predict future threats, and manage
27 the responses of these systems to multiple stressors.

28

29 *Keywords:*

30 Aquaculture

31 Biodiversity

32 Ecosystem functioning

33 Habitat loss

34 Shoreline development

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