

The Resilience Dialogues

The Resilience Dialogues partners with communities to explore their risks from climate variability and change. Through a series of facilitated online dialogues, subject matter experts and communities around the country work together to take steps toward resilience.

Communities of all types—towns, cities, tribal nations, regional compacts, and more—face risks from climate variability and change, including changing patterns of extreme weather events, shifting growing seasons, more river and coastal flooding, less available water, and greater exposure to wildfires. They want and need to learn how to reduce these risks and build community resilience—to prepare for and recover from these stresses, minimize disruptions to daily life, and even reorganize to thrive in the face of changing conditions. A wealth of scientific information, data, and tools exists that could help manage these risks and integrate climate variability and change into a broad range of planning, engagement, and decision-making activities. However, many communities are often uncertain how to begin, what this information means for them, and where to turn for trustworthy advice. Smaller, isolated, or historically underserved communities especially want personalized technical assistance and to connect with experts who could help them understand their vulnerabilities and what future resilience might look like where they live.

To help meet this growing need, the Resilience Dialogues uses a professionally facilitated, online process to connect community leaders to a network of vetted national experts and helps them work together to understand risks and lay the groundwork for long-term resilience. These online discussions can clarify local risks and opportunities, share strategies that have worked in other communities, identify the most relevant and useful data, tools, and networks, and build shared commitment to future plans and actions.

The Resilience Dialogues is flexible enough to assist:

- **Local governments** assessing vulnerability in their communities while promoting economic growth
- **Community organizations** seeking to engage diverse voices in resilience planning
- **County managers** looking for in-depth consultation on a focused topic
- **Urban planners** seeking appropriate resources to plan for resilience
- **Private sector stakeholders** working to safeguard long-term infrastructure investments
- **Public health professionals** examining health risks from weather and climate extremes

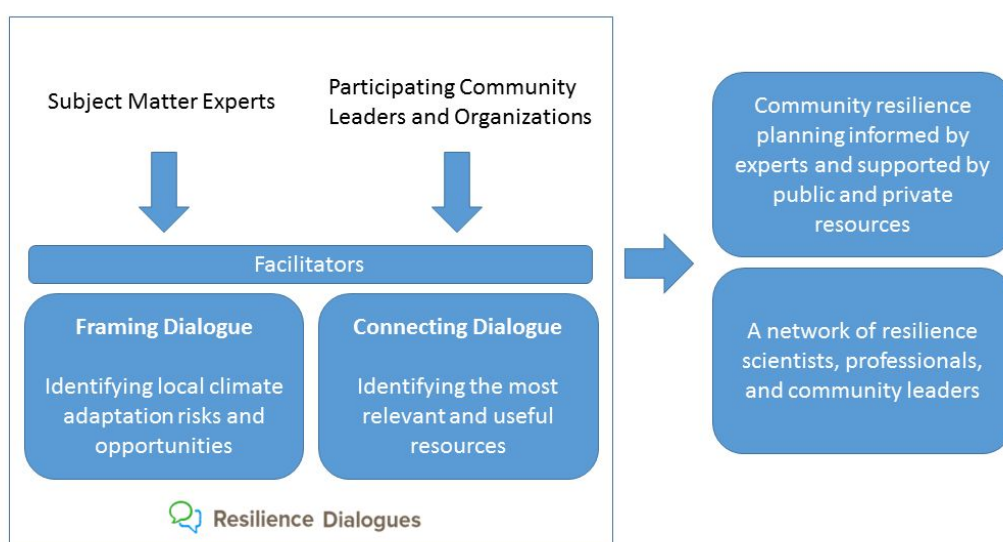
Regardless of how the conversation starts, the Resilience Dialogues process ultimately aims to include the full fabric of the community.

Leveraging the Public and Private Sectors

The Resilience Dialogues is a public-private collaboration—it can connect communities with the most appropriate resources, whether from Federal agencies, regional networks, or the private sector. The Resilience Dialogues builds on recent Federal efforts, such as the Partnership for Resilience & Preparedness, the Climate Data Initiative, the Climate Resilience Toolkit, and the National Climate Assessment. It also leverages nonprofit programs, including the Thriving Earth Exchange and the Community and Regional Resilience Institute.

How It Works

In 2017, 10 communities will participate in the Resilience Dialogues beta. In 2018, an expanded Resilience Dialogues will be available to more communities.



Collaborators

The Resilience Dialogues is co-managed by the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) and the American Geophysical Union's Thriving Earth Exchange. It is overseen by a leadership team consisting of representatives from the American Meteorological Society, American Society of Adaptation Professionals, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Institute for Sustainable Communities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Climate CoLab, Meridian Institute, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Department of the Interior, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Support for the Resilience Dialogues is provided by The Kresge Foundation.

Get Involved

The Resilience Dialogues welcomes collaborators committed to building community resilience, including organizations that can help us engage with communities, professional networks, and subject-matter experts. Visit <http://resiliencedialogues.org/get-involved> to find out more.