

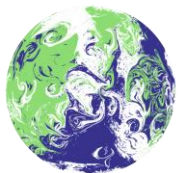


EESI
Environmental and
Energy Study Institute

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
ADAPTATION PROFESSIONALS

Materials will be available at:
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**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



British Embassy
Washington

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

**Climate Adaptation and Resilience: The Road to
COP26**

Raising Global Ambition to Address Climate Impacts

Monday, April 19, 2021

About EESI...



2



NON-PROFIT

Founded in 1984 by bipartisan Congressional caucus as independent (i.e., not federally-funded) non-profit organization



NON-PARTISAN

Source of non-partisan information on environmental, energy, and climate policies



DIRECT ASSISTANCE

In addition to full portfolio of federal policy work, EESI provides direct assistance to utilities to develop “on-bill financing” programs



SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES

Focused on win-win solutions to make our energy, buildings, and transportation sectors sustainable, resilient, and more equitable

...About EESI



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BRIEFING WEBCASTS

Live and archived video recordings of public briefings and written summaries



CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

Bi-weekly newsletter with all you need to know including a legislation tracker



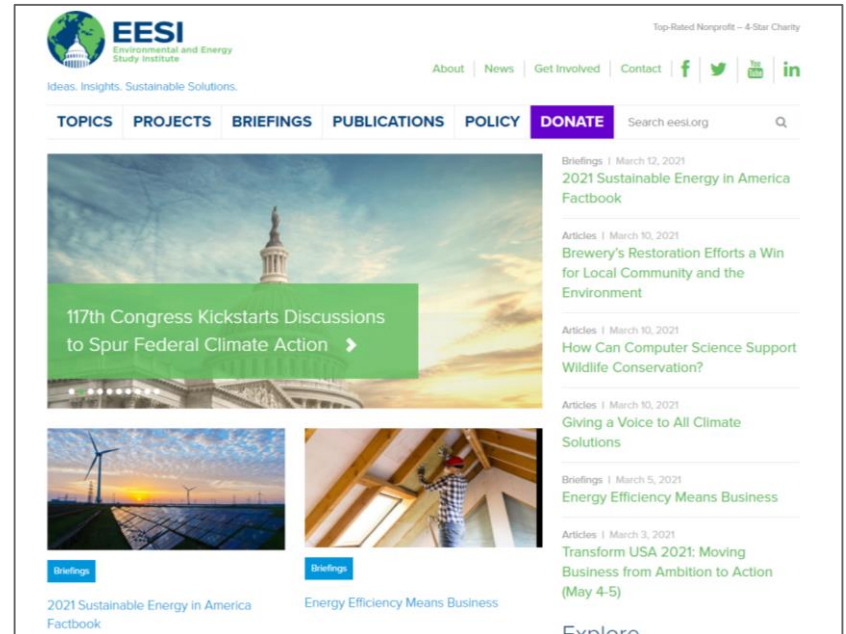
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FACT SHEETS

Timely, objective coverage of climate and clean energy topics



A Resilient Future for Coastal Communities

Coastal Resilience Briefing Series...



The map shows the United States with several callout boxes pointing to specific geographic areas, each associated with a topic from the Coastal Resilience Briefing Series:

- Alaska:** Coastal Resilience in Alaska
- West Coast:** Resilience along the West Coast
- Hawaii:** Financing Climate Mitigation and Resilience: Lessons from Hawaii
- Great Lakes Region:** Coastal Resilience in the Great Lakes Region
- Northeast:** Improving Coastal Resilience in the Northeast
- Southeast:** Coastal Resilience in the Southeast
- Louisiana:** Community-Centered Resilience: Lessons from Louisiana
- Gulf Coast:** Nature-based Resilience for Gulf Coast Communities
- Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands:** Puerto Rico the U.S. Virgin Islands Miniseries

Climate Adaptation Data Week

- *Localizing Sea Level Rise Projections for Decision-Makers*
- *Assessing National Park Asset Flood Risk: Retreat, Adapt, Fortify?*
- *Cultural Heritage and Climate Change*
- *Bridging the Gap Between Science and Decision-Making*
- *Weather and Social Data to Inform Participatory Planning Initiatives*

Puerto Rico the U.S. Virgin Islands Miniseries

- *Federal Support and Local Action*
- *Resilient Housing and Communities*
- *Sustainable, Democratic Energy and Public Health*

A Resilient Future for Coastal Communities ...Coastal Resilience Briefing Series



A RESILIENT FUTURE FOR COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Federal Policy
Recommendations from
Solutions in Practice



Six Guiding Principles



**30 Policy
Recommendations
(with Examples) Across
Six Themes**



Eight Policy Levers



**Organized by Category
and Policy Lever**



**Definitions, References,
and Program Catalog**

A Resilient Future for Coastal Communities

Federal Policy Guiding Principles



6

- Federal policies and programs must be designed and implemented **based on the climate of the future** rather than the climate of the present or past.
- **Climate justice and equity** must be fully embedded into new policies and programs and incorporated into ongoing efforts.
- The federal government should take a leadership role in **connecting science with practice**, and support and expand collaborations with state, local, and tribal efforts.
- The federal government should take a leadership role to ensure that **intra- and inter-agency coordination** helps states, local governments, and tribes to access available coastal resilience resources.
- Federal investments in coastal communities must be leveraged to **create local jobs and help develop a workforce** trained in adaptation and resilience.
- Climate adaptation and resilience work should complement and, when possible, contribute to a **decarbonized, clean energy economy**.

Raising the Ambition

of Federal

Climate Change

Adaptation

and Climate

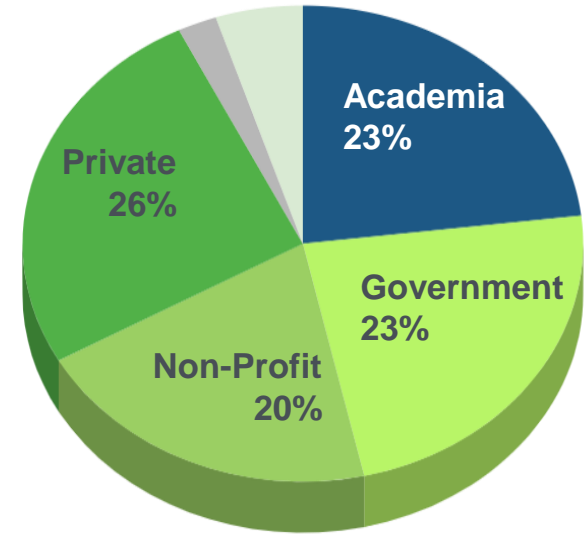
Resilience Policy

Rachel Jacobson

American Society of Adaptation Professionals

Adaptation Professional

Someone who integrates projections about future climate conditions into their day to day work.



Putting people and communities on the front lines of climate change first, always.

- Those who **experience the consequences of climate change first and worst.**
- People who are **highly exposed** to climate risks and have **fewer resources**, capacity, safety nets, or political power to respond to those risks because of discrimination.
- Including, but not limited to: **Black people, Indigeonous Peoples, people of color, people with low incomes** and from low income backgrounds, immigrants, those at risk of displacement, old and young people, people experiencing homelessness, outdoor workers, incarcerated people, renters, people with disabilities, and chronically ill or hospitalized people.

Federal policy changes needed

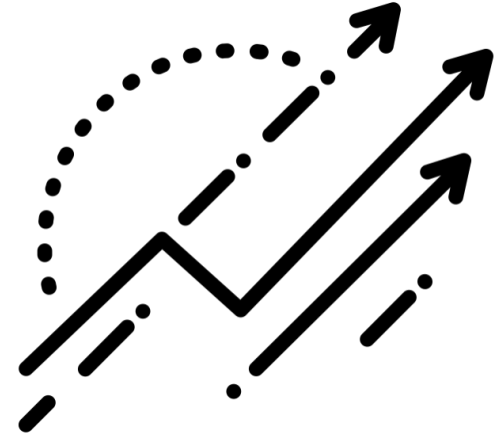
Fund



Reform

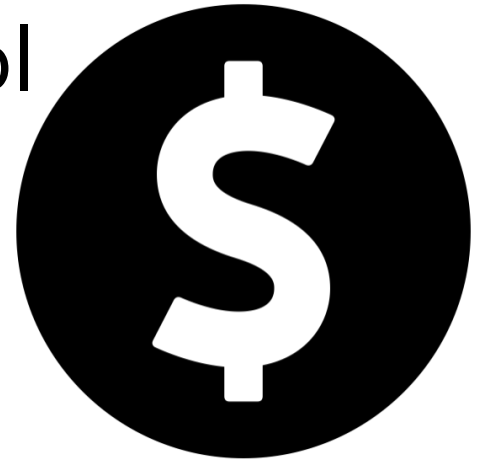


Transform



Fund the actions we know we need

- More federal dollars for adaptation & resilience
- Put impacted people in control of how money is spent
- Cut red tape for funding to ensure equitable access



Reform existing policies to avoid maladaptation

Maladaptation

“...actions that may lead to increased risk of adverse climate-related outcomes, increased vulnerability to climate change, or diminished welfare, now or in the future”

(IPCC Fifth Assessment Report, WGII)

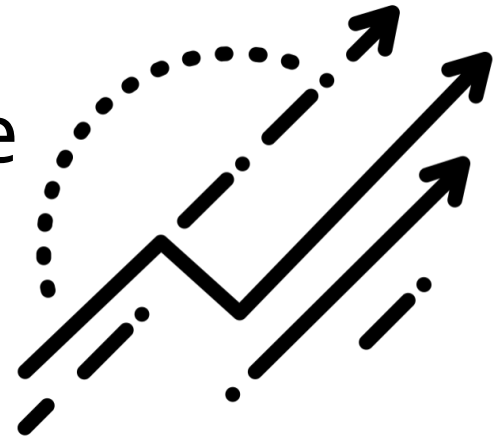
→ require use of forward-looking climate information

→ Ask: where are benefits and risks going?



Transform

- Accept emerging new realities
- Envision where we want to go
- Enact new policies to get there



Federal policy changes needed

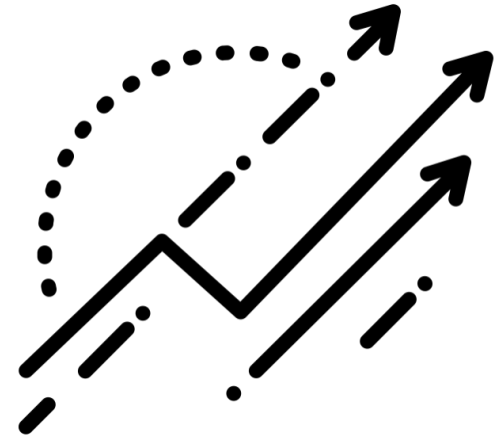
Fund



Reform



Transform



Where to start? ASAP Policy Priorities for 2021

- Create Federal standards for climate data and mandate use of future climate projections in agency decisions.
- Treat climate change as a crisis and prioritize justice and equity in crisis response
- Overlay climate resilience needs on all infrastructure decisions
- Preserve and manage natural systems for climate resilience
- Define, develop, and train the climate change adaptation and climate resilience workforce

Thank you

Rachel Jacobson
rjacobson@adaptpros.org

Resources

Federal Policy Agendas

2021 ASAP Policy Priorities

Resources related to the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis Action Plan

- ASAP Member policy recommendations for the Committee
- Tribal review of the plan led by Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

Resilience-21 First 100 Days Agenda

Forward-Looking Climate Information

GAO: improved federal coordination to facilitate use of forward-looking climate information

Atlas-14

Climate Migration and Managed Retreat

- Georgetown Climate Center Managed Retreat Toolkit
- Policy guidelines to advance community-led solutions to climate-forced displacement in the US by The Legal Justice Coalition (facilitated by UUSC and the Lowlander Center) and the Rising Voices Community Relocation & Site Expansion Working Group.
- Long wait times for post-flood buyouts leave homeowners underwater, Anna Weber and Robe Moore (Natural Resources Defense Council)
- GAO report on a climate migration pilot program



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