

1.0.0

SERIES 1

Establishing Resilience Principles



Contents of Set

- 1.0.0: Guide
- 1.0.1: Activity 1
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TRAINING.I-S-E-T.ORG

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GETTING STARTED

About Resilience

The Climate Resilience Framework (CRF), developed by ISET and Arup, focuses on resilience as a goal that is not merely responsive to predicted climate impacts, but that also fosters proactive and systemic approaches to preparing for unexpected and indirect effects of global change (Moench, Tyler, Lage 2011). These concepts are further discussed in Catalyzing Urban Climate Resilience, which is free for download at www.i-s-e-t.org/publications.

Our Approach

These materials have been intentionally designed with a handful of key features in order to support a process of resilience planning. To be effective in a resilience planning process everyone involved must first develop an understanding of what resilience is, and how resilience can be experienced in your own community. In addition, as

the process unfolds we suggest that the facilitator and city team intentionally foster working relationships. To support this working and learning environment, we have designed these materials around key concepts that support resilience: iteration, support and reliance on collaboration, personal and group reflection, and the creative engagement of all parties involved.

The Key Characteristics of Our Approach are Iteration, Collaboration, Reflexive and Creative Engagement

ITERATION

The concept of iteration is important to the whole process of resilience planning. Characteristics of resilient systems include; flexibility, substitutability, diversity, redundancy, modularity and safe failure (Moench, Tyler, Lage 2011). These elements of resilience are also important to the learning process.

The Training Materials are designed to pull together and build on the knowledge and expertise that is already present in this group of participants and in the wider community. When we introduce new knowledge we want to do so in a way that allows for real engagement and the opportunity to own and integrate the ideas, and that allows the concept taught to be adapted to fit local reality. To do this successfully requires, amongst other things, repetition and revision. This allows the time and opportunity to look at familiar issues in different ways. Because we value resilient learning experiences we invest time and creativity into the shared learning experience. This also means that the learning process is open, inclusive and mutual; people in leadership have to be as willing (or more) to learn, adapt and grow.

COLLABORATION

A key learning from the ACCCRN experience is that the ability to coordinate and communicate across organizations as well as recognizing the value of diverse perspectives and input is more valuable to the resilience planning process than technical expertise. The design of these workshops takes this into account and supports collaboration skill development by; primarily focusing on collaborative and group work (rather than individual learning), being inclusive of different learning styles & engagement preferences as well as offering the opportunity and the time for critical thinking, creativity

and active listening so that different and diverse perspectives can be brought forth. However, collaboration cannot be accomplished by reading words on paper alone, so the while the design of these materials creates a space for developing collaborative skills, what makes the actual difference to skill development is the commitment you and your working group bring to this approach.

REFLEXIVE

To support the collaborative experience of iterative process a personal process of reflection is essential. This involves questioning ourselves, identifying and challenging our own assumptions, and challenging ourselves to look again for things we might have left out or missed. This is the practice that keeps us open to considering different perspectives. If each of us commits to being willing to challenge ourselves and grow, then our collective potential is exponentially greater!

CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT

Both the new science of complexity theory (or working with complex adaptive systems) and ancient wisdom traditions indicate that action and perception are linked. From these traditions we know that the only way to sustain change in how we live and act in the world is to change our way of being and engaging. We need to awaken our creative thinking. We need to learn to express ourselves differently and engage in the richness of communication not based on language alone. We want this workshop to be fun, to challenge ourselves to think outside of the

box and to build good relationships. Part of how we will do that is to use activities that utilize creative skills or practice engaging our minds in different ways.

Introduction to Series 1

Series 1 is designed to support a local leadership team and partners in starting the Climate Resilience Framework.

Set 1.1 introduces the Climate Resilience Framework, a conceptual framework ISET has developed and piloted for engaging cities and working with them over an extended period of time (10–24 months, or more). The Framework begins with the introduction of climate change and resilience concepts, continues through the design and completion of a climate vulnerability assessment and development of a climate resilience strategy, through initial implementation of resilience building actions, and closes with the development of indicators to monitor progress and outcomes of those actions.

Set 1.3 introduces the key engagement tool we use in this work, the Shared Learning Dialogue. Sets 1.4 and 1.5 engage city participants in thinking about the initial steps required to start your resilience planning process. Each of these sets include a short introduction and accompanying activities.

The activities introduced during Series 1 training session, and the bulk of the work outlined herein will need to be completed over the following several months. The details of this follow-up are given in set 1.6, along with a collection of lessons we have learned in piloting this process through the Asian Cities Climate Change Resilience Network (ACCCRN). The amount of time the follow-up takes will be entirely dependent on your city, your stakeholders and own adaptation of this process.

The accompanying Series 1 facilitator notes outline both facilitation recommendations for leading participants through Series 1, as well as suggestions for how to support participants with these follow-up tasks. Completion of Series 1 follow-up tasks will lay a solid foundation for beginning *Series 2: Understanding Vulnerability & Risk*. If portions of the work outlined in Series 1 have already been completed by your community, those particular sets can be omitted. However, we recommend that the resilience team and facilitator review all the sets to support their comprehensive understanding of this process. Each activity is designed to demonstrate different analytical techniques and methods, and engage diverse learning styles.