

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of Science and Technology Policy

FACT SHEET: Launching the Resilience Dialogues

Communities are eager to prepare for increasing climate variability and a changing climate. They face challenges, however, in identifying, accessing, and integrating the relevant scientific knowledge and practical expertise that they need to help them build resilience. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy is announcing the launch of a public-private collaboration designed to address this need. A diverse set of private, governmental, academic, and nonprofit collaborators today is launching a beta version of the [Resilience Dialogues](#), an online consultation service that will allow community leaders to engage in facilitated, expedited, and tailored dialogues with scientists, resilience practitioners, subject-matter experts, and other leaders.

By connecting communities with subject-matter experts, the Resilience Dialogues will help decision makers build a better understanding of their climate risks and identify the locally relevant information, tools, programs, and other resources that can help them in resilience planning.

The Resilience Dialogues, a public-private collaboration, will be led by a [team](#) of climate-resilience practitioners from Federal agencies and civil society. It will be co-managed by the American Geophysical Union (AGU) and the U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP).

In the beta rollout of this effort, the Resilience Dialogues team will work closely with several community-based and community-serving resilience networks. These networks include the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research, the Community and Regional Resilience Institute, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Resilience AmeriCorps, and the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact. These networks, which all have direct connections with communities working on climate and sustainability issues, will be instrumental in developing the Resilience Dialogues into a service that supports on-the-ground needs.

FEDERAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

The U.S. Government's involvement in the Resilience Dialogues will be coordinated by the USGCRP. As an interagency body, USGCRP will help coordinate input from Federal

agencies, which will identify Federal scientists, practitioners, and community stakeholders to participate in the Resilience Dialogues. Federal agencies will also provide direction on ways that the Resilience Dialogues can help communities make more productive and efficient use of new and existing Federal services. The participating agencies are:

- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
- U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

NON-FEDERAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

- **American Geophysical Union's Thriving Earth Exchange:** Through its Thriving Earth Exchange (TEX) program, AGU connects scientists with community leaders and helps them work together to advance local priorities related to sustainability, resilience, and environmental justice. TEX will recruit facilitators, scientists, and climate professionals, as well as manage and coordinate the leadership team for the Resilience Dialogues.
- **American Meteorological Society (AMS):** AMS advances understanding of the Earth system and the use of science for societal benefit. AMS will: recruit scientists and professionals (including broadcasters); help guide the effective engagement of public, private, and academic sectors; and leverage its local chapters to engage with communities.
- **American Society of Adaptation Professionals (ASAP):** ASAP is a professional organization that connects and supports people who are building climate resilience. To support the Resilience Dialogues, ASAP will recruit facilitators, scientists, and climate professionals from its membership. ASAP will also offer a professional network to community members who want to stay engaged with the adaptation profession and continue to build their expertise and network.
- **Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC):** ISC's mission is to help communities around the world address environmental, economic, and social challenges. ISC will recruit facilitators, scientists, and climate professionals; identify interested communities; and help develop the Resilience Dialogues as a tool to support regional collaboration.

- **Kresge Foundation:** The Kresge Foundation's Environment Program is providing funding for the Resilience Dialogues collaboration. This funding helps further the Kresge Foundation's work on mitigation, adaptation, and social cohesion by helping communities access quality technical assistance and ensure the dialogues engage people from historically underrepresented groups as contributors and beneficiaries.
- **Meridian Institute:** The Meridian Institute designs and facilitates collaborative processes to help people make informed decisions and solve complex problems, such as those associated with building resilience to the impacts of climate change. Meridian will coordinate the facilitation process of the Resilience Dialogues.
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Climate CoLab:** MIT's Climate CoLab is a crowdsourcing platform in which people work with experts and each other to create, analyze, and select detailed proposals for addressing climate change. Climate CoLab developed the beta online platform and contributed expertise in the management of online conversations and will continue to host the online platform and explore the Resilience Dialogues as a strategy for harnessing collective intelligence.