

Invest in Building Community Resilience to Climate Change



Climate adaptation is essential to reduce vulnerability and build resilience to climate change impacts. Projects that provide adaptation benefits help communities withstand the impacts of climate change, preserve ecosystems and promote environmental justice to increase long-term sustainability.

Engaging the public in developing adaptation strategies can lead to more sustainable and equitable outcomes.

1. ENGAGE

- Raise awareness of local climate-related risks and impacts.
- Engage with community members to understand their needs, including those facing disproportionate risks from climate change.

2. ASSESS

- Assess climate impacts, vulnerabilities and risks.
- Involve affected communities in the assessment process, ensuring their knowledge and perspectives are included.

3. PLAN

- Involve community members in identifying climate adaptation and resilience solutions.
- Organize engagement events to exchange information and ideas
- Pinpoint projects that can address local climate resilience and adaptation needs.
- Seek out technical assistance opportunities.

4. APPLY FOR FUNDING

- Identify federal, state and other sources of funding that can support your project.
- Apply for and secure funding. If applicable, showcase how you've considered climate change in your project proposal.

6. MONITOR & EVALUATE

- Track the progress and effectiveness of your project.
- Adjust your project plans and implementation processes as needed.
- Ask community members what is and isn't working.

Steps to Climate-Resilient Investments

Project proponents can follow this iterative process when assessing their risks, developing plans, applying for funding and implementing climate-resilient projects, all while engaging with local community members.

5. IMPLEMENT

- Put your climate resilience and adaptation project into action!
- Give community members decision-making power as projects are implemented.

Examples of Climate Adaptation Solutions and Benefits

People Solutions

Establishing community resilience hubs to provide shelter and essential services during climate-related emergencies or disasters, such as wildfires and extreme heat.



Environmental Solutions

Implementing watershed restoration projects to build the resilience of ecosystems and the surrounding communities that depend on them.



Policy Solutions

Adopting climate-resilient building codes and standards to promote energy efficiency, low-carbon construction materials and green infrastructure features.



For additional support, visit epa.gov/resilient-investments

