

The National Academies of
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

*Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education
Board on Environmental Change and Society*

Climate Change Adaptation Investments and Measuring Effectiveness

The National Academy of Sciences Keck Center - Room 100
500 5th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

December 8, 2016

Purpose of this Seminar: Adaptation is one of two main strategies for managing the risks of climate change. Yet there is still little agreement on the definition of what counts as adaptation, and little effort to track and monitor the effectiveness of different types of climate adaptation efforts. How adaptation is defined and measured will also vary according to level of governance, international and domestic contexts, and scale of implementation. This seminar will focus on the issue of how diverse agencies are identifying adaptation investments and tracking their value. Collectively we aim to explore the state of science and practice, and to identify priorities for co-production of research involving both scientists and practitioners to support effective public and private sector investments in adaptations that will increase resilience to climate change.

The seminar will have two panels of experts involved in the application of policies and programs at international, national and local levels. The panelists will provide opening remarks, which will be followed by audience discussion.

Categorizing Adaptation (Panel 1)

- How are adaptation investments being distinguished from other forms of investments in program portfolios; e.g., What are the criteria that are being used to distinguish an adaptation investment from investments in more general community or economic development? Is this important to do from an agency perspective?

Measuring Adaptation and Adaptive Capacity (Panel 2)

- How are agencies (public, civil society, etc.) evaluating the effectiveness of adaptation investments and what are the challenges in doing so?
- How does monitoring the effectiveness of adaptation affect investment decisions?
- What are the opportunities for incorporating research and evaluation into adaptation planning and implementation?

To Register for Seminar and Day 1 of the Board Meeting –

Click <http://sgiz.mobi/s3/d6024963b453>

To Register for Day 2 (Open Session) of the Board Meeting, please email Toby Warden at mwarden@nas.edu

OPEN SESSION

- 8:00 am** **Registration** (*Breakfast provided in Lobby Reception Area*)
- 8:30 am** **Welcome, Board Meeting Overview**
Toby Warden, Interim Director, Board on Environmental Change and Society (BECS), DBASSE
Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair
- 8:35 am** **Introduction from Seminar Co-Chair**
Hallie Eakin, Arizona State University, BECS Member
- 8:40 am** **Opening Comments: Vision and Next Steps for Adaptation post-Paris**
Stéphane Hallegatte, Senior Economist, World Bank
- 9:00 am** **Setting the Stage: What Do We Know About What Counts as Adaptation? Why This Isn't Just an Academic Question**
J. Timmons Roberts, Brown University, BECS member
- 9:10 am** **Panel 1: Categorization of Adaptation Investments**
Moderator: J. Timmons Roberts, Brown University, BECS member

Purpose: How adaptation is defined is significant

- *What can be counted as adaptation? Categorization of adaptation matters from a number of perspectives*
- *International agreements under the UNFCCC included pledges of support for adaptation*
- *Evaluation and further planning for resilience requires a valid set of projects and activities be evaluated*

Perspectives on the International Adaptation Deficit

Leonardo Martinez-Diaz, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy and Environment, U.S. Department of the Treasury

The Need for Mutual Accountability: Developing Nation Concerns About the Delivery of Sufficient and Useful Adaptation Funding, and the Importance of Assuring they are Well-Utilized

Mizan Khan, Professor at the Department of Environmental Science and Management (DESM), NSU, Dhaka, Bangladesh

From Tracking to Action: Promoting Ownership and Social Accountability in Adaptation Finance

Heather Coleman, Climate Change and Energy Manager, Oxfam America

- 10:30 am** **Break**
- 10:45 am** **Brief Overview of Measuring Effective Adaptation Investments**

Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair

10:55 am

Panel 2: Adaptation Investments: Measuring Effectiveness

Moderator: Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair

- *Given that adaptation strategies have been identified and are being counted as adaptation, are such investments successful? How do we measure effectiveness?*
- *Do you count the intention or the outcomes?*
- *Can the reduction of vulnerability be measured and attributed to adaptation investments?*

Evaluation that counts: Uses, Users, and Developers of Climate Adaptation Indicators and Metrics

James C. Arnott, PhD candidate University of Michigan and Associate Director, Aspen Global Change Institute

Methods for Evaluating Effectiveness

Nate Engle, Climate Adaptation Consultant, World Bank

Evaluating the Effectiveness of Adaptation at the Local Level

Susanne DesRoches, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Policy at NYC Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency

12:15 pm

LUNCH (*Provided in Lobby Reception Area*)

1:00 pm

Climate Change Adaptation Investments Reflections/Discussion/Next Steps

Moderator: Hallie Eakin, Arizona State University, BECS Member

2:45 pm

Seminar Adjourns

OPEN SESSION CONTINUES (Room 100)

3:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair

3:15 pm

Progress and Strategies for Advancing Contributions of the Social and Behavioral Sciences to Global Change Research and Decision Support-- Social Science Coordinating Committee (SSCC) of the USGCRP

Carrie Hritz, PhD, Supervisory Geographer and Branch Chief/Partnership Communication and Outreach Branch, Geography Division, U.S. Census Bureau

*Jia Li, PhD, Climate Economics Branch, Climate Change Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

Leah Nichols, PhD, Staff Associate, Office of Integrative Activities, National Science Foundation

4:30 pm

OPEN SESSION ADJOURNS

Friday, December 9, 2016

OPEN SESSION (Room 201)

10:00 am

Welcome and Introductions

Richard Moss, Joint Global Change Research Institute, BECS Chair

10:10 am

Risk Framing for the National Climate Assessment

Chris Weaver, PhD

Climate Scientist, Environmental Protection Agency [Via WebEx]

11:00 am

IPCC 1.5 Deg C -- Advancing Social Sciences and Humanities Research on Social Transformation to Sustainability

Susanne Moser, PhD

Director and Principal Researcher, Susanne Moser Research & Consulting and Stanford University

Member, Scientific Steering Committee for the Scoping Meeting of the IPCC's Special Report on "1.5 Deg C of Global Warming"[Via WebEx]

12:00 pm

OPEN SESSION ADJOURNS