



Resilience Studies

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Is climate change a crisis, a disaster, an emergency?

Beyond the semantic debate, the calls for a paradigm shift are intensifying. Stakeholders concerned with the consequences of citizen and government's lack of preparedness seem to be multiplying. Governments around the globe are facing increasing pressures coming from the public, civil society and climate experts, as well as scientists from various backgrounds and disciplines, to act. Various levels of governments are being impacted with the consequences of events remotely or closely related to climate change, global warming, environmental destruction and disasters as well as chronic air pollution. There are also environmental injustices that affect disproportionately socially and economically disenfranchised communities. Moreover, climate adaptation, crisis preparedness and infrastructure resilience are highly intertwined issues governments must address.

But how? There are difficult questions triggered by our increasing awareness regarding the causes of climate change that warrant thorough, peer-reviewed independent scientific examination. The IIAS Resilience Studies Track will provide panels, forum and conferences which will examine the following questions:

1. How can local governments best mitigate the consequences of extreme weather events?
2. What are the innovative "best" practices in climate change adaptation?
3. How can public leaders secure the buy-in from the industry?
4. What methodologies or analytical frameworks can be employed to evaluate climate-policy options
5. What are the levers and barriers to risk regimes' adaptation and innovation's?
6. What shapes, influences or determines the support for climate action among various countries and industries?
7. Are there cases of positive adaptation that have provided insights and could be scaled up?
8. What is to be learned from aboriginal and traditional knowledge bases when it comes to dealing and responding to the uncertainties created by global warming?
9. How can government systems be better equipped to deal with the increased systemic complexity generated by the climate crisis?
10. How should academia stakeholders engage with society to support and enable proactive action upon climate change?



11. How can governments tackle the interactive complexity in a highly volatile international environment, where technical failure, human error, can have ramification on the equilibrium of nations?
12. What lessons are to be learned from “natural” disasters and their systemic complexity?
13. What cases provide us with insights and guidance to increasing the resilience of systems at the local, state, federal and international levels?