

Local Communities Adapting to Climate Change: Managing Risk in Decision Making

This hands-on, interactive course provides local and regional leaders with the tools they need to assess the impacts of climate change and manage the risks it poses — and the opportunity to share their concerns on a difficult topic

November 4-5, 2010

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy | Cambridge, MA



Who Should Attend

What last year's participants had to say:

“Whatever your local issues may be, this course will help elucidate common strategies that work anywhere”

— PROFESSOR DOUGLAS J. MEFFERT, TULANE UNIVERSITY, NEW ORLEANS, LA

“This training is a must for anyone planning for climate change, or considering such an undertaking”

— KAMRAN MESBAH, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES PLANNING, CAPITAL AREA REGIONAL PLANNING, MADISON, WI

“This was a unique hands on learning experience that covered climate adaptation contents through the exploration of planning processes that we could all implement”

— BRENDA COTTO-ESCALERA, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY BUILDING, NEIGHBORHOOD OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING, EAST BOSTON, MA

- Municipal, regional and state officials and staff
- Planners, land use professionals and consultants
- Public health and emergency services personnel
- Scientists, activists concerned about the costs of infrastructure
- Other civil society stakeholders

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Local, regional and state governments, and other stakeholders are already feeling the effects of climate change and face greater risks down the road — from significant sea level rise to water scarcity. Understanding these threats and preparing for them in the near term can minimize risks and costs in the years ahead.

This course will explain how to:

- 1) Assess the local risks associated with climate change;
- 2) Evaluate potential strategies for reducing vulnerability and enhancing resiliency; and
- 3) Build consensus within decision-making processes around which strategies to pursue.

This program will introduce you to important concepts, such as:

- **Risk assessment** — Identifying the risks associated with climate change
- **Modeling and climate downscaling** — Quantifying the risks associated with different scenarios
- **Scenario planning** — Using scenarios to explore possible futures and what might be done now to prepare for them
- **Collaborative approaches to decision-making** — Working together to find the best responses to climate change

A mix of presentations, discussions and interactive exercises will introduce these important risk assessment, planning, and decision-making tools and concepts to participants and actively encourage consideration of how to best utilize them in their communities.

Course Instructors

Lawrence Susskind

Ford Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning, MIT; Founder, CBI

Paul Kirshen

Climate Change Adaptation Research Leader, Battelle

Stephen Aldrich

President and founder, Bio Economic Research Associates (bio-era) LLC

Patrick Field

Managing Director, CBI; Associate Director, MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program

Course Agenda

Thursday, November 4

- 8:15 *Registration and Continental Breakfast*
- 9:00 Welcome and Overview
- 9:30 Understanding and Responding to the Risks Associated with Climate Change
- 10:30 Products and Outcomes of Adaptation Planning
- 11:10 Overview of Climate Change
- 11:30 Risk Assessment Exercise
- 12:15 *Lunch*
- 1:30 An Introduction to Scenario Planning
- 2:00 Assessment and Convening
- 3:00 Assessment and Convening Exercise
- 4:15 The Mechanics of Scenario Planning
- 5:15 *Reception*

Friday, November 5

- 8:30 Recap of and Reactions to Day One
- 9:00 Scenario Planning Exercise
- 10:15 Analyzing and Quantifying the Impacts of Climate Change
- 11:00 Evantown Heat Waves Game
- 12:30 *Lunch*
- 1:45 Evantown Flood Risk Management Game
- 3:45 Final Closing Thoughts and Questions
- 4:30 *Adjourn*

This course is sponsored by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, taught by the Consensus Building Institute, and co-sponsored by the Environmental League of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Climate Action Network, Climate Change and Wildlife Alliance of Massachusetts, Cape Cod Commission, City of Cambridge, Institute for Sustainable Communities and Clean Air-Cool Planet. ▼

Registration Information

This course is offered free of charge thanks to the generous support of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. It fills quickly and registration is required; seats are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

Registration deadline:

October 8, 2010

For more information or to register:

E-mail:

lincolninstitute@resource-plus.com

Call: 888.845.8759

“It was well worth two days—course was very well organized, informative, and collaborative”

— JULIA WYMAN, POLICY ANALYST, COASTAL STATES ORGANIZATION



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