The Climate Leadership Commitments: Resilience and Indicators

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Resilience Commitment

Broad Goal: Increase “ability to survive disruption and to anticipate, adapt, and flourish in the face of change” (definition of resilience)

Key concepts of Resilience Commitment

- Increasing adaptive capacity, and better adapted infrastructure, environment and citizenry
- Partnership with community
- Assessment and understanding, planning, indicators of success
Campus / Community Task Force

1. Resilience Assessment
2. Future Scenarios
3. Climate Impacts & Vulnerability Assessment
4. Decision Options & Actions
Benchmarking the Campus:
- Characteristics/unique
- Capacity
- Gaps/vulnerabilities
- Existing climate problems

Benchmarking the Community:
- Characteristics/unique
- Capacity
- Gaps/vulnerabilities
- Existing climate problems

Between Campus and Community:
- Assessing overlaps, consistent gaps

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Campus / Community Task Force

Resilience Assessment

Future Scenarios

Climate Impacts & Vulnerability Assessment

Decision Options & Actions

Campus Preferred Pathways:
- Priorities and goals
- Outcomes
- Timeframe

Community Preferred Pathways:
- Priorities and goals
- Outcomes
- Timeframe

Between Campus and Community:
- Assessing overlaps, disconnects

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Changes on Campus:
- Expected climate changes
- Impact to the scenario pathways
- Changes in vulnerability

Changes in the Community:
- Expected climate changes
- Impact to the scenario pathways
- Changes in vulnerability

Between Campus and Community:
- Climate should be the same
- Compare and contrast changes to scenario and vulnerability
Planning on Campus:
- Amend campus sustainability/climate/strategic plan to increase resilience capacity and reduce impact
  - Finalize indicators
  - Set thresholds and goals

Planning in the Community:
- Amend city sustainability/climate/strategic plan to increase resilience capacity and reduce impact
  - Finalize indicators
  - Set thresholds and goals

Between Campus and Community:
- Identify shared goals
- Identify leverage points to help each reach goals
Assessing and Measuring Resilience

Indicators to reduce vulnerability and enhance capacity

Indicators to reduce exposure to extremes

ADAPTIVE  ADAPTED
Assessing and Measuring Resilience

Indicators to reduce vulnerability and enhance capacity

ADAPTIVE

Indicators to reduce exposure to extremes

ADAPTED
Indicators to reduce vulnerability and enhance capacity

- **Financial**
  - Indicator: employment
  - e.g. Diversity of industry
    - Or
  - Number of local internships

- **Physical**
  - Indicator: Transportation
  - E.g. Accessible public transportation

- **Human**
  - Indicator: social connectedness
  - e.g. socially isolated residents

- **Ecological**
  - Indicator: Ecological Assets
  - E.g. % protected land

- **Natural**
  - E.g. % residents with high school diploma
  - Or
  - % students who come from the local area

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Assessing and Measuring Resilience

Indicators to reduce vulnerability and enhance capacity

Indicators to reduce exposure to extremes
Indicators to reduce Exposure to Extremes

**Indicator: Emergency Fund**
E.g. available money for pre-event preparation

**Indicator: Utility Assistance**
E.g. cost of heat/cooling during emergencies

**Indicator: Communication**
E.g. % residents who can be reached >2 days ahead of storm

**Indicator: Heat Island**
E.g. shade canopy in city/campus

**Indicator: Shelter**
E.g. distance from storm shelter or cooling center

**Financial**

**Human**

**Social**

**Physical**

**Natural**
Financial

Variables:
% increase in hours of community service

Indicators: e.g. community engagement

Physical

Variables:
% increase in locally-owned businesses
% increase in local, paid internships

Indicators: e.g. employment

Social

Variables:
% increase in minority-participating in clubs, societies

Indicators: e.g. community engagement

Natural

Variables:
% reduction in obesity
% reduction in childhood asthma hospitalization

Indicators: e.g. health and wellness

Human

Variables:
% increase in renewable-generated power
% decrease in duration of residential power outages

Indicators: e.g. reliable energy

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Climate Leadership Commitment

Resources & Opportunities

• On call Second Nature staff provide guidance on the implementation of the climate commitments, and technical support with reporting requirements

• Webinars, climate leadership events, publications and climate and sustainability guide - mostly free and/or at a discount for signatories

• Leadership opportunities for both president's and Implementation Liaison's to serve on the Climate Leadership Steering Committee or Implementation Liaison Leadership Circle

• Opportunities to participate in pilot projects with partner organizations in areas such as scaled renewable energy, and data management and planning

• Access to Second Nature Reporting System data to help your institution demonstrate it's progress against peers and potentially support funding and financing opportunities for your institution. Data is also available to signatory institution students conducting climate and sustainability research

• Eligibility to participate in the Climate Leadership Awards, an annual competition presented in partnership with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)
http://secondnature.org/climate-guidance/

Climate Guidance

These guides provide the tools and direction to help innovative leaders build broader and deeper levels of sustainability impact both on and off campuses.