

# THE RESILIENCE CONTINUUM

COMPREHENSIVE RISK MANAGEMENT  
IN THE FACE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

EXPERT CONSULTATION  
SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2017  
ISID COMPLEX, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
4 VASANT KUNJ INSTITUTIONAL AREA  
NEW DELHI, INDIA

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## BACKGROUND

The notion of systemic resilience lies at the heart of all climate change initiatives. As countries scale up their adaptation action in line with the more ambitious UNFCCC process and its Paris Agreement, a comprehensive approach to climate risk management becomes essential. In this context, the way agencies – national and subnational governments, multilateral institutions, humanitarian organizations, universities – use their respective comparative advantages to optimize the balance between actions effected through preemptive investments in adaptation measures, and others that center on contingent measures on the remaining risk, will ensure that societies remain resilient.

In conceptual terms, we can consider all policy and planning discussions in this space to lie along an ex ante and ex post continuum, i.e. what should be done to avoid or prepare for climate shocks, and what should be done to minimize or mitigate the damage. Typical preemptive actions may include climate-proofing infrastructure, building protective measures, raising awareness and improving early warning systems, mainstreaming adaptation into planning, revising land zoning regulations, water harvesting projects, and changing cultivars, for example. The contingent suite of actions includes safety net functions that hasten rehabilitation, like insurance and innovative financial tools, as well as loss acceptance. These would typically resort to cost–benefit considerations and probability of losses in the optimization effort. But there are other factors that affect the need for contingent arrangements, for example:

- Unforeseen impacts or magnitude
- Impacts of transboundary action such as upstream water retention operations in shared river basins
- Impacts in other countries leading to indirect effects in the country under consideration
- Responses contingent on future transboundary action
- Absence of full feasibility of action – technologically, economically, or socially

## MOTIVATION

This meeting will gather experts from international organizations, NGOs, academics and governments to discuss and share experiences in the context of the resilience continuum. Participants will identify how they have addressed the challenges and benefits from investing in preemptive measures, disaster preparedness and education and/or in contingent actions to deal with the aftermath of adverse impacts of climate change, and what factors they considered in balancing both aspects.

Actual examples from lived experiences on the ground are promising entry points for developing the optimal policy mix for countries between preemptive and contingent measures to cope with climate change. Methodologies would also consider spatial and temporal distributional effects of policy benefits, feedback loops (induced by insurance premiums), culturally induced levels of risk aversion, as well as linkages with the global mitigation trajectory.

## **OBJECTIVES AND OUTPUT**

- Advance the thinking on the resilience continuum in the context of comprehensive climate change risk management
- Explore how stakeholders can collaboratively develop methodologies and specialized policy and planning instruments to foster comprehensive adaptation to climate change within the context of the resilience continuum
- Draft a priority list/document containing the outcomes of the deliberations, including concrete steps

## **OUTCOMES**

As a result of the discussions, the experts will be able to share and identify a range of inputs for policy including: specific relevant lessons from examples on the ground, concrete steps, common ground, common tools and synergies.

The results and conclusions from the consultation will foster more integrated efforts towards operationalizing the resilience continuum within the framework of climate change and adaptation strategies. Practitioners will also be able to identify entry points for comprehensive resilience strategies. Furthering this optimization process is an important element of country support. Results and conclusions from the consultation will feed into the COP 23 discussions in November this year.

## The Resilience Continuum Day 1 – Policy, Planning, Implementation and Support Schemes

**September 15, 2017**    **Opening Session**  
**09:00 - 9:30**

**Pierre Jacquet**, President of Global Development Network

**Youssef Nassef**, Director of the Adaptation Programme, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

**Jyoti K Parikh**, Executive Director, Integrated Research for Action and Development (IRADe)

**Keynote Speech**

**Shri Kamal Kishore**, Member, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)

**09:30 - 09:45**

**Coffee Break**

**09:45 – 11:45**

**Consultation: Policy and Planning**

**Objective:** Identify the cost benefits of adapting/reducing risk versus recovery or post hoc management, and the key entry points for reducing risk and building resilience within key development sectors.

**Moderator:** Pierre Bertrand, Senior Program Associate, Global Development Network

**Albert Salamanca**, Coordinator, SEI Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk, Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

**Satoko Yano**, Programme Specialist in Education, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

**Thomas Tanner**, Research Associate on Adaptation and Resilience, Overseas Development Institute (ODI)

**Chubamenla Jamir**, Assistant Professor at the Department of Energy and Environment, TERI University

**Marcella D'Souza**, Executive Director, Watershed Organization Trust (WOTR)

**Shirish Sinha**, Deputy Head, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

**11:45 – 12:45**

**Lunch Break**

**12:45 – 14:45**

**Consultation: Planning and Implementation**

**Objective:** Identify good practices and lessons that have helped ensure an effective recovery, optimize investment and build longer term resilience in response after disaster strikes considering the levels, frequency and severity of the impacts.

**Moderator:** Francesco Obino, Head of Programmes, Global Development Network

**G. Senthil Kumar**, Executive Director of Programme, Operations, Quality and Learning (POQL), CARE India

**Aditi Kapoor**, Climate and Resilience Adviser, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre/ International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC)

**Shashikant Chopde**, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Social and Environmental Transition-International (ISET-International)

**Nand Kishor Agrawal**, Programme Coordinator, Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Programme (HICAP), International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

**Nambi Appadurai**, Director (Climate Resilience Practice), World Resources Institute (WRI)

**Danny Marks**, Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies, Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong

**14:45 – 15:00**

**Coffee Break**

**15:00 – 17:00**

**Consultation: Financial Innovations**

**Objective:** Identify those new and innovative financial tools and support schemes that are particularly relevant to the context of the adaptation continuum, and help optimize support towards mainstreaming climate adaptation into domestic budgets and financial plans in the context of comprehensive risk management.

**Moderator:** Anindya Chaudhuri, Senior Economist, Global Development Network

**Aditya V. Bahadur**, Regional Programme Development Manager, Action on Climate Today

**Erik Kjaergaard**, Disaster Risk Management Specialist, Asian Development Bank

**SVRK Prabhakar**, Research Manager (adaptation), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

**UnniKrishnan Divakaran Nair**, Senior Policy Advisor (Natural Resource Management), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

**Jyotsna Puri**, Head, Independent Evaluation Unit (IEU), Green Climate Fund

## The Resilience Continuum Day 2 – Results and Future Steps

**September 16, 2017**  
**10:00 – 11:00**

**Moderator:** Francesco Obino, Head of Programs, Global Development Network

Discussion on the results and future steps – bridging assessment to implementation.

**11:00-11:15**

**Coffee Break**

**11:15 – 12:00**

**Closing Session (Plenary)**

**Albert Salamanca**, Coordinator, SEI Initiative on Transforming Development and Disaster Risk, Stockholm Environment Institute

**Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio**, Regional Programme Manager, Action on Climate Today

**Youssef Nassef**, Director of the Adaptation Programme, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

**Pierre Jacquet**, President of the Global Development Network

**12:00 – 13:00**

**Networking Lunch**