Climate Resilience Hub

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Building Resilience Through Partnerships
What Can Sustainability Leaders Learn from Business Resilience

Atlanta, November 1, 2013, ICCR --- Corporations, governments, and financial organizations that concern themselves with 'Climate Risk' will join forces in Atlanta in February 2014 under the banner of **"Investing in Innovation for Climate Resilience**'; the focus will be to explain how 'Business Resilience' saves money and resources, and boosts economic growth and profits.

Today, Climate Risk is being challenged among a growing number of corporations and governments, scientists, technology and social innovators, community leaders, non-governmental organizations, philanthropies, and more.

A new dialogue is emerging in the local and global business community around a new idea of 'Business Resilience'. Where sustainability aims to improve efficiency, resilience looks for ways to avoid disruptions.

'Investing in Innovation for Climate Resilience' - IICR Summit, February 2014, Atlanta

The Climate Risk agenda is starting to shape how corporations, governments, and financial organizations think about their response to unanticipated disruptions due to flooding, fires, energy and food shortages, and more.

To bolster capacity and to deal and respond to extreme events, the IICR will deliver solutions to Climate Risk through public private partnerships, investment, technology, and business intelligence.

Combating Climate Risk is not just about updating critical infrastructure, building higher walls, or upgrading communication networks. It's about deploying new technology more commonly associated with Army: wireless "mesh" micro communication networks, monitoring devices, electrical micro-grids that can compensate for exploding transformers, temporary bridges that can be inflated and positioned across rivers when tunnels flood, airships for transportation and more. Or by using nature itself as a form of "soft" infrastructure to restore the wetlands that serve as a vital buffer against hurricanes.

A shift of thinking from 'sustainability' to 'resilience' will change our actions from 'assuming stability and explaining change' to 'assuming change and explaining stability'. We will frame extreme weather events around the concept of business resilience.

For example, Hurricane Sandy hit New York hardest where it was most recently redeveloped. Lower Manhattan, which should have been the least vulnerable part of the island, was rebuilt to be "sustainable," NOT resilient. LEED-certified eco-friendly buildings are only part of the solution. The buildings are designed to save energy and resources, but are not required to have redundant power systems. Also NASDAQ was closed during Sandy – for the first time in history! Investment in innovation in communication and data services is needed for critical infrastructure.

'Resilience thinking' is associated with systems thinking, uncertainty, and wicked problems - a powerful concept and tool of quantifying business risk and resilience. But resilience as a concept comes with a problem; it turns on change that many people dislike due to many complexities, uncertainties, and moving parts.

'Investing in Innovation for Climate Resilience' (IICR) Summit 2014 will deliver business innovation that helps small to large size organizations and communities adapt to unwanted change, and to mitigate the risk at the source.

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ICCR Calls in Technology Companies and Professional Advisors to Build Business Resilience