

3.0.0

SERIES 3

Building Resilience



RESILIENCE PLANNING: OVERVIEW

Contents of Set

3.0.0: Guide

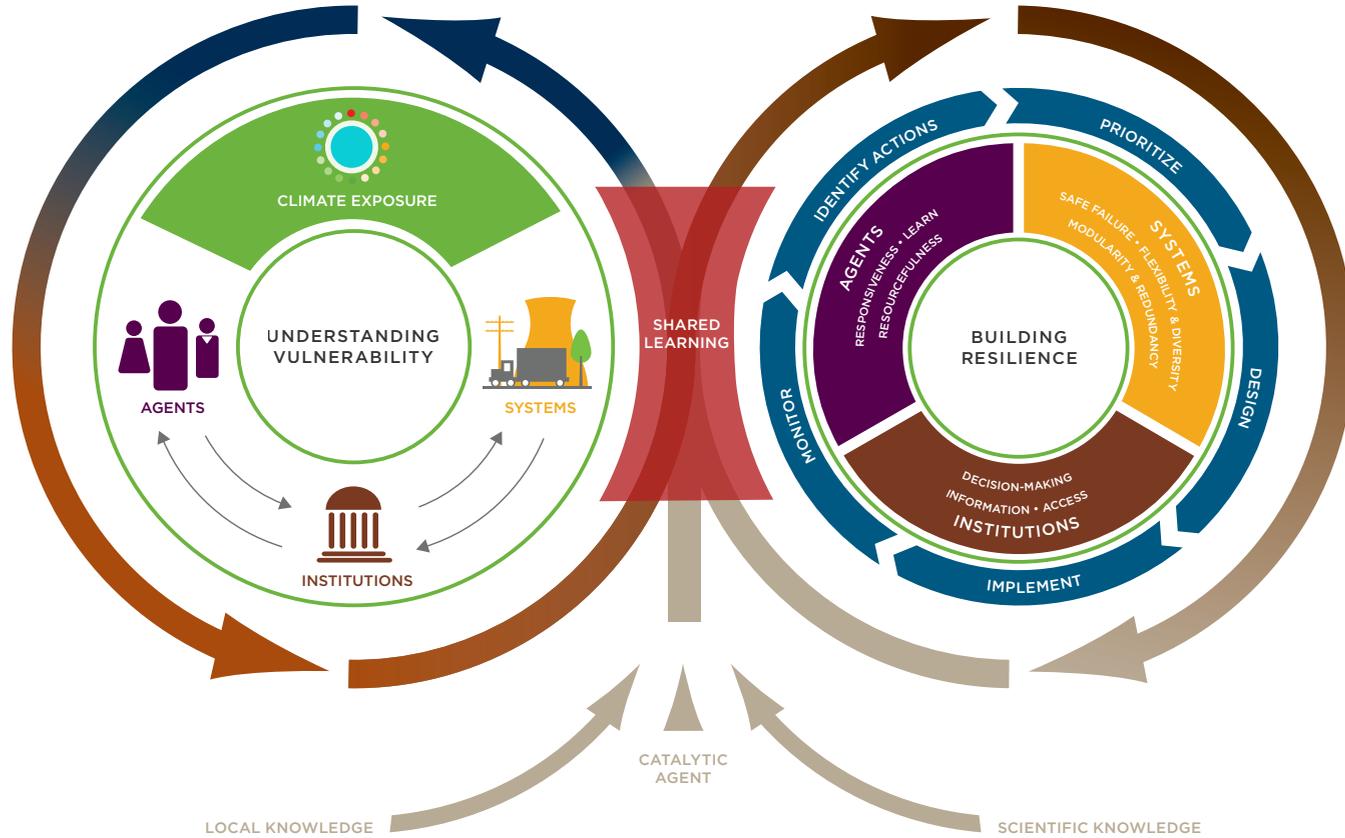
Series 3 addresses the right-hand loop of the Climate Resilience Framework, Building Resilience. The Building Resilience loop includes five steps (illustrated by the blue, inner arrows, shown in Figure 3.0.1):

1. **Identify Actions**
2. **Prioritize** which actions to implement
3. **Design** a strategy for implementation
4. **Implement** actions, and
5. **Monitor** the results of those actions.

The Series 3 materials do not address all of these steps in detail. For some steps, there are many tools already available—for example, for evaluating, ranking and prioritizing implementation actions. For other steps, such as implementation, tools are highly context dependent.

The materials included in Series 3 are those that ISET has developed to supplement materials available elsewhere. They are designed to fill gaps and/or address topics in unique ways. You will need to determine whether they are useful for your city's resilience process.

FIGURE 3.0.1
Climate Resilience Framework



Part 1: Identify Actions

The initial three sets in Series 3 address the value of developing a written Resilience Strategy, and explore how to develop initial resilience actions for that strategy given the uncertainty inherent in climate change.

3.1 Introduction to Resilience Planning: what it means to plan for and build resilience, and why you might want to plan this way.

3.2 Scenario Development: how to address the uncertainty of both future climate and future development. This set introduces scenario development, including generating a range of possible futures and exploring actions that could be taken to address the vulnerabilities those futures could bring.

3.3 Developing Resilience Actions: how to design actions that build resilience. These actions have the characteristics of resilience that we have been exploring—modularity and redundancy, flexibility and diversity, safe failure, responsiveness, learning, resourcefulness, inclusive, informed, adaptable, with good governance.

Part 2: Evaluating and Prioritizing Options

There are many tools available for evaluating and assessing adaptation and resilience options. These include sensitivity and threshold analysis, technical feasibility assessments, environmental assessments, and social impact assessments. A web-search will turn up multiple different tools to support these assessments developed by numerous organizations. We do not duplicate that material here.

We do include here several tools that ISET has developed for use in our own work. These tools are ones that we find particularly valuable and have not seen in quite this format anywhere else.

3.4 Capacity Assessment: an evaluation of locally available human resources and critical skills that can be leveraged to support local resilience and adaptation efforts.

3.5 Introduction to Cost-Benefit Analysis: an approach to determine the overall economic benefit that would accrue to society if the project or policy were undertaken. This set introduces Participatory Cost-Benefit Analysis and Quantitative Cost-Benefit Analysis and helps the user identify the type of analysis best suited to their evaluation.

Part 3: Designing Your Resilience Strategy

There are now multiple cities around the globe that have developed resilience or climate resilience strategies. A web search will turn up many options, and you can review what cities both similar and vastly different from yours are planning or implementing.

The contents of your City Resilience Strategy will be determined by your city's physical location, structure and challenges, by the cultural and political climate you work in, by financial constraints, and by local expectation, capacity, interest and need. The resilience activities highlighted in your Strategy will be based on the hazards you face, the nature of the city's vulnerable peoples, and how you choose to prioritize action.

Regardless of what your plan looks like, however, it should adhere to several basic principles:

- Any resilience interventions proposed in your Strategy should meet the basic resilience principles you outlined in Set 1.4.
- The interventions should have been evaluated against scenarios and resilience criteria, as discussed in Sets 3.2 and 3.3.

3.6 Participatory Cost-Benefit Analysis: introduces a methodology for using participatory research appraisal methods to ensure that financial, social and environmental benefits and costs of an activity are identified. As a result, the participatory cost-benefit analysis both captures information that is often unavailable from traditional data sources or is unincorporated in traditional analyses, and is relatively quick and inexpensive to implement.

3.7 Quantitative Cost-Benefit Analysis: quantitative cost-benefit analysis undertaken for climate change or disaster risk-related projects differs from a conventional cost-benefit analysis by integrating future climate risks and future damages associated with climate events. This set discusses how to adapt a standard cost-benefit analysis to address situations where disaster frequency, magnitude, or intensity is changing due to climate change; and provide the information needed to develop a Terms Of Reference to hire the right the right team to implement the analysis.

3.8 Multi-Criteria Analysis: a simple yet systematic tool for prioritizing one option from among many when there are a number of different criteria influencing your selection. This tool is particularly useful in situations where a decision maker or decision group contemplates a choice of action in an uncertain environment.

- Proposed interventions should have broad support within the climate working group and steering committee, and ideally also within the agencies or departments that will be called on to implement them. Otherwise, your plan is at risk of being ignored.
- Finally, prior to beginning the writing of the City Resilience Strategy, the city team and facilitators need to decide on who the plan is being written for and how it will be used. For example, is it being written for circulation to city officials and city departments for incorporation into city policy, or is it being written to attract donor funding.

ISET encourages cities to view their City Resilience Strategy as a document for internal use. Once an internal document has been prepared, developing a summary document for use in soliciting funding, accompanied by specific intervention proposals based on that summary document, can be relatively straightforward. City commitment and policies built on the basis of an internal document will help assure funded projects are coordinated and working toward a comprehensive vision rather than addressing needs in a piecemeal fashion.

Part 4: Implementing Your Resilience Strategy

Implementation of your Resilience Strategy will be governed by stakeholder engagement, capacity and budgets. It is important to start where you can, at the scale that is feasible, with the partners that are interested, and build up over time.

Resilience is a process—you will never arrive at “Resilient”. Instead, you will continue to incrementally build up resilience—in systems, in actors, in institutions, and by reducing exposure. Throughout this process, you will want to return to the Climate Resilience Framework to reassess vulnerability, to hold additional shared learning dialogues, and to revise your City Resilience Strategy to reflect successes, new opportunities, and new challenges.

Part 5: Monitoring and Evaluation

A core element of any resilience process is learning. It is critical that, as you begin implementing resilience actions, you put in place a system for monitoring and evaluating the impacts and results of those actions. In most cases, this should ideally extend significantly beyond the lifetime of the implementation itself. Consequently, monitoring and evaluation will be most successful if they build on monitoring already in place within city departments and programs.

We encourage you, prior to beginning implementation of activities, to explore in detail what other mechanisms and systems are already in place for tracking and evaluating similar programs, whether they are being implemented by NGOs, government, or private industry. If possible, develop partnerships with these organizations, utilize existing baseline information wherever possible, and develop project indicators that can be monitored with little or no additional data collection.