

Communities in the U.S. are undertaking a rich array of climate adaptation actions that are making them more resilient to climate impacts. These actions provide models and lessons that can immediately help other communities better protect themselves from climate risks like flooding, heat waves, wildfires, and severe storms. In aggregate, these activities demonstrate that more U.S. communities are attempting to prepare for climate risks than previously thought.

This presentation will profile the results of a 2-year study funded by The Kresge Foundation which conducted case studies of why and how 17 communities took specific actions to tangibly reduce their vulnerability. The following four questions will be explored in detail:

1. What motivates communities to take adaptive action?
2. What are communities doing to adapt?
3. How are communities implementing adaptation actions?
4. What are communities achieving through adaptation?

Additionally, we will present a subset of our conclusions and tactical recommendations to inspire ongoing, forward-thinking action that can serve as a guiding example for other communities and adaptation professionals as they work to reduce climate vulnerability and advance the field of climate adaptation.