

Corporate Climate Resilience Pathways

Innovation Stories

Thank you for engaging with the Corporate Climate Resilience Pathways initiative led by The Center for Climate and Energy Solutions (C2ES). Our objective is to empower companies to enhance their resilience, scale up investment in adaptation, and drive systemic transformation toward a sustainable future. We aim to highlight exemplary corporate actions through our *Innovation Stories Library*, encouraging a shared approach to resilience that benefits both the corporate sector and society at large.

C2ES is collecting innovation stories on a rolling basis.

Please submit your innovation story to the following form.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: How will our company's story be used?

A: By participating, your company's leadership insights and strategies will gain visibility through the Corporate Climate Resilience Pathways initiative. It will be housed on the C2ES website in an innovation story library, in publications, and may be included in posts with partnered organizations.

Q: What is the value of providing an Innovation Story?

A: Your story, alongside others, will help catalyze continuous learning, application, and innovation in business resilience practices, inspiring other industry peers to embrace action and collectively advance us toward a more sustainable and resilient future.

To inform our work, we surveyed case studies from key organizations and found that many companies are innovating to address key resilience issues within and across their industries and on local and global levels. With this analysis to ground our work, this initiative serves as an opportunity to further facilitate knowledge sharing for companies with developed resilience strategies and those just beginning their journey.

Q: Are there eligibility requirements for what companies can submit a story?

A: Yes. We are seeking stories from companies with several characteristics:

- 1. **Public Commitment to Climate Action:** The company has made a public commitment to review and address its climate impacts within the last 3-5 years.
- 2. **Proven Track Record:** The company has documented evidence of contributions to advancing climate resilience.
- 3. **Interest in Publicly Sharing Your Story:** the company is comfortable sharing its efforts and insights with a global community through the Corporate Climate Resilience Pathways initiative.

Companies facing major litigation based on environmental impact at the time of their submission and publication of the case study, or operating as a fossil fuel major may not be featured in this effort.

Q: What kinds of Innovation Stories are being sought?

A: We are seeking corporate innovation stories that demonstrate:

- Innovative Practices within the Company: The company has implemented, or is in the process of implementing, innovative climate resilience practice(s) within the organization and is able to answer the following questions: What makes the practice innovative within your company? Does it or did it set a new precedent for the company? If the practice was implemented over the past few years, how has it scaled or created lasting change within the company? Did new processes lead to new resilient outcomes? If the innovation is recent within your company, what makes it innovative?
- 2. **A Central Role of the Business**: The company serves as a key catalyst in driving the project, process, or partnership, and it would not be possible without the company's participation.
- 3. A Clear Climate Resilience Focus: The resilience project, process, or partnership clearly demonstrates a commitment to building: 1) the company's resilience to physical climate impacts; and/or 2) the resilience of the communities in which the company operates and/or where major suppliers operate; and/or 3) sectoral or global resilience to the physical impacts of climate change.
- 4. **Alignment with Principles for Corporate Climate Resilience Leadership:** The resilience project, process, or partnership represents two or more of the Principles for Corporate Climate Resilience Leadership, described below the FAQ.
- 5. **Materiality:** If applicable, the project, process, or partnership addresses a climate resilience issue material to the company's operations or leverages/expands its core competencies.
- Clear, Stated Outcomes: The resilience project, process, or partnership has defined goals and outcomes. If the effort is in early stages, then benchmark results are invited in lieu of final outcomes.
- 7. **Process Innovation:** The project introduces a key process change or shift that enhances the climate resilience capabilities of the company.

Q: What can we expect after we submit a story?

A: We will be in touch with those who have been selected for publication to clarify questions, gather images, and confirm final text.... Etc.

Q: Does submission of a story ensure selection?

A: A timely and full application will increase the chances of selection, as C2ES is seeking to showcase stories that answer the questions to the best extent possible. Should C2ES choose not to publish the story, we will provide feedback on if or how it can be improved for a subsequent submission.

Principles for Corporate Climate Resilience Leadership

As part of a broader initiative to catalyze corporate leadership on climate resilience, C2ES, Resilience Rising, and Resilience First have engaged cross-sector stakeholders—including businesses, NGOs, and resilience-focused organizations—to develop guiding principles that reflect how companies can demonstrate leadership in advancing resilience to the physical impacts of climate change.

The working principles provide an organizing frame to guide our work and to establish a global framework for corporate leadership on climate resilience. They are designed for broad endorsement and use by private enterprises around the globe to assert a common view that companies leading on climate resilience are:

- Science-Based & Proactive: Companies acknowledge and assess the acute and chronic risks
 presented by the physical impacts of climate change and implement best practices in their planning
 and investments that enhance resilience across the value chain.
 - a. Explanation: As physical climate impacts increase and compound across interconnected systems, risks to private sector activities are rising and present the need for proactive and science-based risk management. Resilience-focused companies recognize the latest scientific consensus articulated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and other leading scientific studies that demonstrate the effects of climate change on every region across the globe. In tandem with efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage transition risks, companies integrate physical risk assessment and reduction approaches across corporate activities and investments to enhance resilience to these impacts.
- 2. **Transparent & Accountable:** Companies regularly measure and report assessed climate risks, adaptation actions, and their impacts in a consistent and transparent manner.
 - a. Explanation: Companies can improve awareness of systemic risks, inform best practices, and enable collaborative action by appropriately measuring and disclosing their material and non-material physical climate risks, sharing their resilience activities, and proactively participating in voluntary reporting regimes where reporting regulation is less advanced.
- 3. **Safeguarding & Enhancing:** Companies employ practices that safeguard against maladaptation and increased vulnerability to physical climate hazards and strive to enhance the adaptive capacity of communities and natural ecosystems.
 - a. Explanation: Resilient communities and natural ecosystems are a necessary input to sustainable economies and thriving businesses. It is incumbent on companies to ensure that their business practices do not reduce the resilience of communities and ecosystems; instead, corporate activities should seek to protect and enhance the health and adaptive capacity of these systems.
- 4. *Inclusive & Equitable*: Companies strive to collaboratively engage value chains and local communities to understand and improve decision-making, contribute to systemic needs and priorities, and drive the implementation of equitable climate adaptation and resilience investments.
 - a. Explanation: A climate-resilient system is built on healthy and thriving communities and
 ecosystems. By embedding principles of inclusivity and equity across corporate resilience
 planning and operations, companies can more fully understand their climate risks and

opportunities and assess a broader set of strategic options with internal and external stakeholders. These practices will enable companies to design and develop solutions that create shared value and co-benefits for a broader spectrum of stakeholders and promote more just outcomes.

- 5. **Transformative:** Companies support and pursue climate adaptation solutions that enable positive systems-level transformations within their organizations, industry sectors, and value chains, and in communities and natural ecosystems.
 - a. Explanation: The private sector is uniquely positioned to develop, adopt, and deploy innovative solutions and services at scale. Companies can support transformative change by engaging in radical collaboration, creating new business models, and pursuing net positive and regenerative outcomes.