MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLANNING

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Climate change **mitigation** seeks to reduce the amount of GHG emissions from cities to slow global warming.

*Cities emit GHGs into the atmosphere. These trap additional heat and cause global warming.*

Global warming changes the local climate (temperature and precipitation) and drives sea-level rise, which may impact cities.

Climate change **adaptation** seeks to address the impacts of climate change on cities.
Adaptation & Local Jurisdictions

Keys to Success

• Political leadership
• Collaboration
• Triggering events
• Dedicated funding and staff
• Communicate co-benefits
• Interdepartmental team
• Stakeholder engagement
• Institutionalization

Barriers

• Inadequate data
• Reluctant decision makers
• Long time horizons
• Resource constraints
• Regulatory barriers
• Lack of peer examples

Binder et al, 2010; Boswell, Greve, & Seale (in draft)
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Binder et al, 2010
Regional Organizations

• Three common themes
  • More science
  • More justification for pursuing adaptation
  • More regional collaboration
Case Lessons

• Known impacts (6/7)
• State action was desired (political shelter) (4/7)
• Justification & communication concerns (5/7)
Thank You

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