



ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY NEW ENGLAND

**Center for Climate Preparedness
and Community Resilience**

Equitable Adaptation: Collaborating for Resilience
Monday, April 4, 2016
10:00-11:30am

These are the notes from the Session's Participant Break-Out Groups.

- 1. What approaches to engagement are effective? In achieving equitable adaptation?**
 - a. Engaging with people on the ground, inviting them in (not top-down)
 - i. Need to be there and know people before the issues occur
 - b. Going to established community events to connect with people → most effective
 - c. Being a volunteer at events/just supporting/ building trust
 - d. Get introduced by someone who trusts you
 - e. Find neutral convening ground, like a science museum → targets unusual suspects and pay stipend → craigslist outreach
 - f. Identify local stakeholders → be persistent
 - g. Create a budget for compensation → respects people's time
 - h. Boundary organizations
 - i. Localizing data for communities/ capacity building
 - j. Use infographics to translate concepts so all can understand
 - k. "Experts" also have something to learn from the community
 - l. Go to the communities, hold meetings there
 - i. Language access
 - ii. Food/refreshments
 - iii. Childcare
 - iv. Ensure meetings are at times and locations good for community
 - m. Take time to build trust
 - i. Personal relationships (face to face)
 - ii. Be explicit about tensions between interests
 - iii. Be vocally optimistic
 - iv. Reflect on values/goals
 - n. Diverse ways of communicating to the community (ways in addition to language)
 - o. Long-term engagement
 - p. Consider disabilities (mobility, etc.)
 - q. Take time/effort to engage local organizations
 - i. Involve them in process/efforts
 - r. Understand other/underlying needs of community (structural inequities)

**Local Solutions: Eastern Regional Climate Preparedness Conference, April 2016
Baltimore, MD**

2. How can adaptation community planners effectively work with the community-based organizations?

- a. Non-profits should look to education institutions to galvanize the 18-22 age group
- b. Get 18-22 involved with research at academic institutions
- c. Create new forums to engage community organizations
- d. Don't ask community organizations to do any more work → just shift perspective/
use capacity better
- e. Funding
- f. Cultural competency
- g. Financial resources
 - i. Funds for implementation
 - ii. Celebrate successes
 - iii. Truly work collaboratively
 1. Include in brainstorming
 2. Help build capacity of local communities
 - iv. Recognize that community-based organizations (CBOs) can be very
different/unofficial
 - v. Understand current constraints of government (managing expectations)

What works in facilitating communications and equitable adaptation?

- a. Who is your audience?
- b. How do they access info?
 - a. Listen: talk with community leaders
 - b. Fund community leaders to convene
 - c. Cash stipends and gift cards
 - d. Starting from a positive lens: What makes your community strong?
Asset-based
 - e. Promote whole community response to disasters (rather than just
government)
 - f. Create visual aids and mapping (ID vulnerabilities and assets)
 - g. Involve interpreters as team members
 - h. No PowerPoints! Interactive!