



NYS ADAPTATION PRACTITIONERS NETWORK

MEMBER GUIDELINES

Through targeted discussions with individuals from across the state who are working with local governments on climate adaptation planning and implementation, the NYS Adaptation Practitioners' Network seeks to:

1. Connect and build relationships among non-profit organizations;
2. Share knowledge and develop the professional practice in a variety of contexts (e.g., rural to urban);
3. Identify processes, models, and tools that create high-quality vulnerability assessments and adaptation projects and discuss how to scale and replicate to work towards climate resilience in New York State.

The network will convene twice a year to share best practices and knowledge. In addition, there will be opportunities to convene on more specific topics through regular working group meetings. There are three current working groups:

- **Learning Network:** Develops and promotes monthly sessions to maintain the communication between practitioners and to seed ideas for collaborative work.
- **Policy + Legislation:** This group educates local and federal climate adaptation policies and practices. They will stay abreast of adaptation policies and practices and report to the larger group, giving opportunities to members to provide input where appropriate.
- **Organization Building + Development:** The goal of this group is to support the development and professionalization of the network.

The following outlines the roles and responsibilities of network practices:

Membership: All members are encouraged to participate in one or more working groups and the Network's slack channel. Membership is free and open to any person or organization representing a non-profit, or local community organization that advises local or state government on resilience infrastructure, representatives from State Agencies that work directly on climate change policy in New York State, and academics with an interest in the above. Members can lead working groups that are designed to drive the conversation in New York State around climate forward and resilient adaptation practices. Individuals who would like to become members should email info@rebuildbydesign.org or sign up [here](#).

Leadership: The founding members of the NYS Adaptation Network (Rebuild by Design, the Water Resources Institute at Cornell University, and the Syracuse University Environmental Finance Center) plan to continue providing leadership support. Going forward, leadership roles are open to any network member with the goal of 2-5 members representing the diversity of the network itself. While there is no hierarchy of office, it is expected that the leaders, who will also be members of the Organization Building + Development Group will steer the year's agenda with input from working groups. Leadership will also be responsible for creating fundraising goals and uses. The website for the network, and its Slack channel, will be hosted at Rebuild by Design, until the organization has funding to create an independent site.



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Fundraising: While membership is free to join, any member can fundraise to support their organization's participation. The Organization Building + Development group will work on additional fundraising opportunities to support the organization and its convenings.

DIVERSITY AND ACCESSIBILITY

We believe our goal is most effectively fulfilled through a commitment to diversity and inclusiveness as a core value and practice. Throughout our work, we support diversity across all lines of difference, including age, economic circumstance, ethnicity, sex, race, range of ability, religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity/expression. We aim to lead by example, viewing and encouraging diversity as a fundamental tenet to the success of this process. Building and sustaining diversity requires an ongoing commitment to inclusion that must be embedded in our organizational culture, values, norms and behaviors. It is a work in progress, and we hope to continue to learn from one another, as well as our fellow network members.

We must ensure accessibility throughout this process to all community members. We are committed to breaking down the barriers to accessibility for all our materials, events, and communications.

Leadership will be responsible for working with Working Group leads to ensure that communications, accessibility, and diversity are an ongoing priority. We welcome any feedback for improving this ongoing work.