

'RESILIENCY' FROM MANY PERSPECTIVES: UNTRADITIONAL PARTNERSHIPS TO FACILITATE
PLACE-BASED ADAPTATION STRATEGIES

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There is a human aspect to addressing climate change which only now is starting to be acknowledged through untraditional partnerships and networks that cross through the private, public, and NGO sectors. Instead of the timeworn, top-down approach that imparts information and adaptation doctrine to the local level, these partnerships are taking a ground-up approach that emphasizes active listening and engagement. Maryland's coastal zone management program is looking to other states which have organized resilience networks, such as Washington State's Coastal Hazard Resiliency Network, as a tool for encouraging this paradigm shift in adaptation strategy. Through this methodology, networks like the Eastern Shore Resilience Partners, which is hosted by the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy with of participation from many state agencies and academia, seek to understand how Maryland's communities identify with their surrounding landscapes, what community values are most important, and how coastal communities envision their future. This type of ground-up dialogue enables coastal planners to serve as advocates for local communities and to facilitate place-based adaptation strategies thorough recognition of local experience, identities, and values. This talk highlights several partnerships including the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Chesapeake & Coastal Service, and the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science that aim at producing a strong ground-up approach to adaptation. Specific projects that focus on stakeholder and community engagement, building information networks, and working within community values to achieve local climate adaptation will be explored. Goals for all projects aim at transferability to similar coastal communities to continue informing the community network of coastal adaptation practitioners.