

## Preparing to Plan

**Pre-planning is a valuable first step for adaptation planning.** One of the core principles in the process is to avoid reinventing the wheel. Building on the existing activities, processes and projects that are already underway leverages resources that are already available. Start by analyzing existing efforts and determine ways to integrate your efforts with activities into a unified agenda that supports resilience-building. Connecting your efforts with existing work also brings together many different public and private stakeholders, which can lend valuable political support and technical expertise to adaptation and resilience work.

**Use this process checklist to ensure readiness for a successful planning effort:**

- Become familiar with the BRACE Framework and adaptation planning for public health
- Assess the *Climate Mitigation, Adaptation, and Resilience Planning* in your county and region
- Identify and include key partners
- Assess the resources and gaps for planning
- Identify and include internal and external stakeholders
- Define time frame and milestones for the planning effort
- Define the scope of the plan and the time frame for implementation and monitoring, and iterative planning
- Convene with key partners and stakeholders early on to inform your efforts
- Define the parameters of priority interventions based on capacity, resources and the time frame for the plan

## Resources

- **Building Resilience against Climate Effects—A Novel Framework to Facilitate Climate Readiness in Public Health Agencies**  
Journal Article describing the BRACE Framework, how it relates to public health functions and can be implemented
- **CalBRACE Inventory Template for Local Health Departments\* to Assess local Climate Mitigation, Adaptation, and Resilience Planning.**  
This is a template to create an overview of the local context for your planning effort. It will help to identify relevant planning activities in your health department,

departments within your county government, and community-based and regional organizations. This process locates local resources for planning , identifies potential stakeholders, gaps public health can address, political environment, previous findings and priorities. It includes a discussion section to gain insights from stakeholders. Examples from county health departments\*

- [12 Steps to Operationalize Climate Change in a Local Health Department](#)  
This two page fact sheet from the National Association of County and City Health Officials combines program and logistical considerations with the CDC BRACE Framework.
- [Adaptation Capability Advancement Toolkit \(Adapt-CA\)](#)  
This easy to use Website provides local governments with tools for overcoming common institutional barriers and improving agency capabilities. By using the checklists and matrixes in Adapt-CA, local governments can rapidly identify and assess existing capabilities in order to pursue climate change adaptation initiatives more effectively and holistically.
- [Silicon Valley 2.0 - Climate Preparedness Gap Analysis](#)  
This Gap Analysis provides an overview of efforts to prepare for the potential consequences of climate change and variability on public health. The section is organized by climate change variable. An overview of the asset vulnerability is provided, followed by descriptions of the existing effort(s), the level of implementation (i.e., vulnerability assessment, risk assessment, strategy development, or strategy implementation), and the relevant organizations.
- [Santa Clara County Public Health Climate Change Plan Process](#)  
This is a PowerPoint describing steps and opportunities that the staff from Santa Clara Public Health Department pursued to integrate climate change strategies into its strategic plan.
- [Climate Change and Health Equity Issue Brief](#) by Office of Health Equity, CDPH

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