

BEST PRACTICES IN CLIMATE ADAPTATION: THE WATER UTILITIES CLIMATE ALLIANCE EXAMPLE

*Laurna Kaatz¹, Julie Vano², Seevani Bista³, Alan Cohn⁴, David Behar⁵, Kavita Heyn⁶, Keely Brooks⁷, Jennifer McCarthy⁸, Mohammed Mahmoud⁹, **Tirusew Asefa**^{10, ‡}, Abby Sullivan and Julia Rockwell¹¹, Marisa Flores-Gonzalez and Heather Dalrymple¹², Danielle Purnell¹³*

¹Denver Water

²Aspen Global Change Institute

³San Diego County Water Authority

⁴New York City Dept of Environmental Protection

⁵San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

⁶Portland Water Bureau

⁷Southern Nevada Water Authority

⁸Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

⁹Central Arizona Project

¹⁰Tampa Bay Water

¹¹Philadelphia Water Department

¹²Austin Water

¹³Seattle Public Utilities

Water Utilities Climate Alliance (wucaonline.org) is a coalition of 12 of the largest water utilities in the nation with over 50 million customers base. Through spectrum of climate adaptations (Understand, Engage, Plan, Act, and Sustain), the coalition has developed a guideline for Best Practices (BPs) in climate adaptation. A wide range of application scenarios and utilities business functions were considered in this effort. This talk highlights a series of BPs and lesson learned that may be implemented by utilities to build resiliency in the face of climate change and variability.