

# Understanding the Role of the Government in Preventing and Responding to Major Disasters

# Important Roles for Government in Driving Climate Preparedness/Action

- **Capacity to convene critical stakeholders**
  - **National Climate Assessment**
  - **Access to information not readily available by the public**
  - **Regional vulnerability assessment**
- **Increase awareness**
- **Bring entities/individuals together that traditionally don't interact, but clearly should**
- **Capacity to understand how communities will be affected**

# Important Roles for Government in Disaster Response

- **Establish incentives for mitigating future risk**
  - Don't mask risk
  - Build structures for recognizing risk while transitioning away from current masks
  - Ensure that when recovery efforts are taken, same mistakes aren't made twice
  - National Disaster Relief Competition

# A Model for Regional Climate Action

- **Pillars of the Community**
  - Largest employers
  - Academic institutions
  - Religious leaders/organizations
  - Infrastructure
  - Entities with multi-decadal perspectives
- **Public will leads to continuity of action and more meaningful goals and implementation efforts**

# Core Competencies for Successful Climate Change Professionals

## Foundational Knowledge and Skills

- Science literacy
- Environmental and economic literacy
- Understanding of the policy landscape
- Management acumen

## Organizational Knowledge and Skills

- Strategic Planning
- Decision-Making
- Compliance and Enterprise Risk Management
- Asset Management
- Value and Supply Chains
- Communications and Corporate Social Responsibility
- Governance

## Strategic Execution

- Enterprise Risk Mitigation
- Supporting Change within the Organization
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Reaching Beyond the Organization



# Critical Areas of Knowledge & Skill



# Workforce Transformation

- Supply chain and procurement professionals
- Risk management and business continuity professionals
- Public policy and administration
- Business school graduates
- Architects, civil engineers & planners
- Mechanical and electrical engineers
- Public health
- Agricultural and biological
- Education
- Geopolitics: Defense and National Security

# Role of the Government in Transforming the Workforce

- **Government entities are direct employers (or contract) large numbers of important professions**
  - **Planners**
  - **Civil engineers**
  - **Architects**
- **A change in requirements upon employees and contractors in strategically selected places would result in a market signal that would transform credentialing organizations and higher education curriculum**



# So What's the Role of Government?

## ▪ Leadership

- By example
- By educating and increasing awareness
- By developing resources to inform decision making
- By establishing sensible policies and visions
- By being ahead of the curve and mitigating risk, rather than paying for the cascading impacts
- By engaging communities and stakeholders