



Governor's Office of  
**Land Use and  
Climate Innovation**

UNIVERSITY  
OF  
CALIFORNIA



the **Pontifical Academy of Sciences**



the **Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences**

**The Committee of Climate-Resilient California and Californians (CRC2) presents:**

# CRC2

**INNOVATE LOCALLY  
TO INSPIRE CHANGE  
GLOBALLY**

## Online **SUMMIT**

**CLIMATE RESILIENT CALIFORNIA & CALIFORNIANS**



27 & 28 February, 2025  
8:30 am - 6:00 pm

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN](#)

**INNOVATE LOCALLY TO INSPIRE  
CHANGE GLOBALLY**



**Join California state officials, city mayors, county administrators, researchers, philanthropists, and entrepreneurs. Learn firsthand, the impacts of climate on California communities, as well as develop a resilience strategy.**

# Climate Resilient California and Californians (CRC2)

## A Regional Summit in California to Help Launch the Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Social Sciences' Global Initiative: From Climate Crisis to Climate Resilience

**A Sub-National Regional California Summit sponsored by  
The Governor's Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation,  
Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Social Sciences, Vatican (PAS/PASS)  
and the University of California**



Summit Chairs: Ram Ramanathan - *CRC2 Chair, Council Member, PAS/PASS, UC San Diego*  
Sam Assefa - *Director, California Governor's Land Use and Climate Innovation Office;*  
and Christina Christie - *Dean, School of Education, UC Los Angeles*

Funded by Sara Miller McCune, Founder of Sage Publishing;  
Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation,  
University of California, Office of the President;  
and UCLA School of Education & Information Studies



## FEBRUARY 27

### Climate Crisis to Climate Resilient State: How Do We Get There?

8:30 - 9:00 AM

#### Opening Session: Setting the Stage

**Chair:** Sam Assefa - *Director, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, California*

- **Commemoration of victims of the L.A. Fires:**

Sam Assefa - *Director, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, California* and  
Tina Christie - *Dean, School of Education, UCLA*

- **Cardinal Peter Kodwo Turkson** - *Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Social Sciences (Vatican)*
- **Wade Crowfoot** - *Secretary, California Natural Resources Agency*
- **Michael Drake** - *President, University of California*

9:00 - 9:15 AM

#### Opening Session: Land Acknowledgement and Reflections

- **Vincent LaPena** - *Traditional Ecological Knowledge Manager, Wilton Rancheria tribe*

9:15 - 10:15 AM

#### Session 1: Climate Resilience – Perspectives on Governance

**Chairs:** Debra Gore-Mann - *CRC2 Co-chair, Former President and CEO, The Greenlining Institute, Oakland*; and Abby Edwards - *Climate Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation*

- **Maura Healey** - *Governor of Massachusetts*
- **Governor Kotaro Nagasaki** - *Governor, Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan*
- **Governor Wilber K. Ottichilo**, *Governor of Vihiga County, Kenya*
- **Deanne Criswell** - *Former FEMA Administrator, Washington D.C.*

10:15 - 11:00 AM

#### Session 2: Launch of a Global Climate Resilience Movement

**Chairs:** Cardinal Turkson and Louise Bedsworth - *Executive Director, Center for Law, Energy, and the Environment, UC Berkeley*

- **Ram Ramanathan** - *Chair of CRC2, Council Member PAS/PASS, UC San Diego*
- **Sam Assefa** - *Director, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, California*
- **Marcelo Suárez-Orozco** - *Chancellor, University of Massachusetts*

11:00 - 11:40 AM

#### Session 3: Frontline Climate Extremes

**Chair:** Sigrid Wright - *CEO, Community Environmental Center*

- **Rita Kampalath** - *Chief Sustainability Officer, County of Los Angeles*
- **Patricia Lock Dawson** - *Mayor, City of Riverside*
- **Joe LaCava** - *Council President, City of San Diego*
- **Alexis Fineman** - *Former Council Member and Former Mayor, Town of San Anselmo*

11:40 - 12:20 PM

#### Session 4: Solutions to Systemic Resilience Issues

**Chair:** Rita Kampalath - *Chief Sustainability Officer, County of Los Angeles*

- **Karen Ross** - *Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture*
- **Christina Curry** - *Chief Deputy Director, CalOES*
- **Fonna Forman** - *Director, Center on Global Justice, UC San Diego*

**12:20 - 1:20 PM**    **LUNCH**

**1:25 - 2:00 PM**    **POST-LUNCH Dialogue**

Moderator: **Sam Assefa** - *Director, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, California*

Participants: **A VIP, Wade Crowfoot** - *California's Secretary of Natural Resources Agency* and **Liane Randolph** - *Chair, California Air Resources Board*

**2:00 - 2:45 PM**    **Session 5: Climate Actions – Youth Voices**    -

**Chairs:** **Karen Cowe** - *CEO, Ten Strands* and **Maryanne Wolf** - *Director, UCLA Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners and Social Justice*

- **Zachary Fox-DeVol** - *Westside Neighborhood School, Los Angeles*
- **Ananya Gupta** - *Geffen Academy, Los Angeles*
- **Grace Mancusi** - *UC Los Angeles Lab School, Los Angeles*
- **Andrew Rodriguez** - *West Los Angeles College, Los Angeles*
- **Bella Santos** - *UC Berkeley, Berkeley*
- **Willem Shpilsky** - *UC Los Angeles Lab School, Los Angeles*

**3:00 - 3:30 PM**    **Session 6: National and State Climate Actions for Resilience**

**Chair:** **David Ackerly** - *Professor and Dean, Rausser College of Natural Resources, UC Berkeley*

- **Jane Lubchenco** - *Former Climate Advisor at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (2021-2025); Oregon State University*
- **Melissa Hoffer** - *Climate Chief of Massachusetts*

**3:30 - 4:15 PM**    **Session 7: Financing Mitigation and Adaptation**

**Chair:** **Ken Alex** - *Project Climate, UC Berkeley*

- **Rob Engle** - *Nobel Economist, Stern School of Business, NYU*
- **Arunava Majumdar** - *Dean, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability*
- **Nuin-Tara Key** - *Executive Director of Programs, California Forward*

**4:15 - 5:00 PM**    **Session 8: Public and Mental Health Resilience**

**Chair:** **Erminia Guarneri, MD** - *President, Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine; Medical Director, Guarneri Integrative Health, Inc.*

- **Sheri Weiser** - *Founding Director, University of California (UC) Center on Climate Change, Health and Equity, UC San Francisco*
- **Jyoti Mishra** - *Co-director, University of California (UC) Climate Change and Mental Health Initiative*
- **Linda Helland, MPH, CPH** - *Climate Change & Health Equity Branch Manager, Office of Health Equity, California Department of Public Health*

**5:00 - 5:45 PM**    **Session 9: Societal Transformation**

**Chair:** **Christina Christie** - *Dean, School of Education, UC Los Angeles*

- **Andra Yeghoian** - *CIO, Ten Strands*
- **Meighen Speiser** - *Executive Director, ecoAmerica*
- **Debra Gore-Mann** - *Former President and CEO, Greenlining Institute*
- **Erin Coutts** - *Executive Director, Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability*

**5:45 PM**    **ADJOURN**



**FEBRUARY 28**

## **From Planning to Implementing Resilience**

**Co-chairs:** Abby Edwards - *Climate Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Land Use Climate Innovation*; Fonna Forman- *Center on Global Justice, UC San Diego*; and Jonathan Parfrey - *Climate Resolve*

**8:30 - 8:40 AM**

### **Opening Session- Land Acknowledgements and Reflections**

Speaker: Vincent LaPena - *Traditional Ecological Knowledge Manager, Wilton Rancheria tribe*

**8:40 - 9:10 AM**

### **Session 1: Elements of Climate Resilience Blueprints**

Facilitators: **Louise Bedsworth** - *Executive Director, Center for Law, Energy, and the Environment, UC Berkeley*; **Sigrid Wright** - *CEO, Community Environmental Center*

- **Nuin-Tara Key** - *Executive Director of Programs, California Forward*
- **Karalee Browne** - *Assistant Executive Director at the Institute for Local Government*

**9:10 - 10:15 AM**

### **Session 2: Essential Elements of Blueprints: Resilient Communities and Centering Equity**

Facilitator: **Fonna Forman** - *Director, Center on Global Justice, UC San Diego*

- **Centering Equity and Community Engagement:** **Natalie Hernandez** - *Environmental Project Manager, Gateway Cities, Council of Governments*
- **Indigenous Knowledge in Planning:** **Connor Magee** - *Research and Data Applications Manager, Pala*
- **Affecting Climate Action in America's Second Largest City:** **Kristen Torres Pawling** - *Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy & Planning, Office of Los Angeles Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky*
- **Civic Education - The Role of AmeriCorps in Building Climate Resilience:** **Julia Kim** - *Partnerships Lead, Farrallon Strategies*
- **Equitable Resilience Planning in Higher Education:** **Matthew St. Clair** - *Chief Sustainability Officer, University of California*

**10:15 - 11:10 AM**

### **Session 3: Essential Elements of Blueprints: Weather and Climate Proofing California - Panel Discussion**

Facilitator: **Jonathan Parfrey** - *CEO, Climate Resolve*

- **Alexis Pelosi** - *Former Senior Advisor for Climate, US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*
- **Apurva Pande** - *Owner, Principal, CHACOL, Inc.*
- **Samuel Carter** - *Founding Principal of Resilient Cities Catalyst*
- **Honorable Lindsey Horvath** - *Supervisor, District Three, County of Los Angeles*

**11:10 - 12:05 PM**

### **Session 4: Essential Elements of Blueprints: Integrating Science, Finance and Insurance into Climate Resiliency Planning**

Facilitator: **Jonathan Parfrey** - *CEO, Climate Resolve*

- **Finance Strategies:** **Larry Kosmont** - *Chairman and CEO, Kosmont Companies*
- **Science Integration in Planning:** **Adrienne Greve** - *Associate Professor, City and Regional Planning Department, California Polytechnic State University (CalPoly), San Luis Obispo*
- **Discussion:** **Rex Richardson** - *Mayor, City of Long Beach*



12:05 - 1:05 PM	LUNCH
1:05 - 1:40 PM	<b>Dialogue: Implementing Climate Resilience</b> Facilitator: <b>Ram Ramanathan</b> - <i>Chair of CRC2, Council Member PAS/PASS, UC San Diego</i> in conversation with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jerry Brown</b> - <i>34th and 39th Governor of California</i></li> <li>• <b>Congressman Scott Peters</b> - <i>California's 50th District, San Diego</i></li> </ul>
1:40 - 2:10 PM	<b>Session 5: Reflection on Governance and Urgent Implementation</b> Facilitator: <b>Ken Alex</b> - <i>Project Climate Director, UC Berkeley</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ricardo Lara</b> - <i>California Insurance Commissioner</i></li> <li>• <b>Ken Alex</b> - <i>Project Climate Director, UC Berkeley</i></li> </ul>
2:10 - 3:00 PM	<b>Session 6: Essential Elements of Blueprints - Integrating Urgent Challenges</b> Facilitator: <b>Amber Mace</b> - <i>Managing Director/Chief of Strategic Partnerships, California Academy of Sciences</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Public and Mental Health in Planning: Dr. Linda Rudolph</b> - <i>Director, Center for Climate Change and Health, PHI</i></li> <li>• <b>Climate Displacement and Migration: Carlos Martín</b> - <i>Vice President for Research and Policy, Resources for the Future</i></li> <li>• <b>Flood Risk and Sea Level Rise: Mike Anderson</b> - <i>State Climatologist, Department of Water Resources</i></li> <li>• <b>Biodiversity and Ecological Integration: David Ackerly</b> - <i>Professor and Dean, Rausser College of Natural Resources, UC Berkeley, California</i></li> </ul>
3:00 - 4:00 PM	<b>Session 7: Three Breakouts - Climate Resilience in CA Communities</b> Breakout Facilitators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rural: Em Johnson</b> - <i>Community Environmental Council Director of Climate Programs</i></li> <li>• <b>Urban: Shalini Vajjhala</b> - <i>Executive Director, PRE Collective</i></li> <li>• <b>Coastal Communities: Michael McCormick</b> - <i>President, Farallon Strategies</i></li> </ul>
4:00 - 4:40 PM	<b>Session 8: Mitigation and Beyond - Success Stories at the Local Level-benefits</b> Facilitator: <b>Ken Alex</b> - <i>Project Climate Director, UC Berkeley</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Nicole Capretz</b> - <i>CEO, Climate Action Campaign</i></li> <li>• <b>Rex Parris</b> - <i>Mayor, City of Lancaster</i></li> <li>• <b>Dan Kammen</b> - <i>Distinguished Professor of Energy, UC Berkeley</i></li> </ul>
4:40 - 5:00 PM	<b>Blueprints - Next Steps</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Louise Bedsworth</b> - <i>Executive Director, Center for Law, Energy, and the Environment, UC Berkeley</i></li> <li>• <b>Sigrid Wright</b> - <i>CEO, Community Environmental Center</i></li> </ul>
5:00 - 5:15 PM	<b>Closing Reflections</b> Facilitator: <b>Debra Gore-Mann</b> - <i>Former President and CEO, Greenlining Institute</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ram Ramanathan</b> - <i>Chair of CRC2, Council Member PAS/PASS, UC San Diego</i></li> <li>• <b>Sam Assefa</b> - <i>Director, Land Use and Climate Innovation, CA Government</i></li> </ul>
5:15 PM	ADJOURN

## **THE CRC2 TRANS-DISCIPLINARY TEAM**

Ram Ramanathan (Chair) - *UCSD & Council Member- Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City and Co-Chair Vatican's Climate Resilience Initiative;*  
Samuel Assefa (Co-Chair) - *Director, Governor's Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation; Chair, Strategic Growth Council;*  
Debra Gore-Mann (Co-Chair) - *Former President and CEO, Greenlining Institute, Oakland*

## **CRC2 SUMMIT CO-CHAIRS**

Ram Ramanathan (Chair) - *UCSD & Council Member- Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican City and Co-Chair Vatican's Climate Resilience Initiative;*  
Samuel Assefa - *Director, Governor's Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation; Chair, Strategic Growth Council;*  
Christina Christie - *Dean, School of Education, UC Los Angeles;*  
Abby Edwards - *Climate Deputy Director, Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation*  
Fonna Forman - *Director, UCSD Center on Global Justice, UC San Diego;*  
Jonathan Parfrey - *CEO, Climate Resolve*

## **SPEAKERS AND SESSION CHAIRS**

### **Governors, Representatives, Mayors, Council Chairs, Agency/University Heads**

Maura Healey - *Governor of Massachusetts*  
Kotaro Nagasaki - *Governor of Yamanashi Prefecture, Japan*  
Wilber Ottichilo – *Governor of Kenya*  
Scott Peters – *U.S. Representative, California's 50th District, San Diego*  
Sam Assefa - *Director, Land Use and Climate Innovation, CA Govt; CRC2 Summit Co-Chair*  
Jerry Brown - *34th and 39th Governor of California*  
Deanne Criswell – *Former Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency*  
Wade Crowfoot - *Secretary, California Natural Resources*  
Patricia Lock Dawson - *Mayor, City of Riverside*  
Michael Drake - *President, University of California*  
Alexis Fineman - *Former Mayor of San Anselmo*  
Melissa Hoffer - *Climate Chief, Massachusetts*  
Liane Randolph- *Chair, California Air Resources Board*  
Rita Kampalath - *Chief Sustainability Officer, County of Los Angeles, California*  
Joe LaCava - *Council President, City of San Diego, California*  
Jane Lubchenco – *Former Climate Advisor at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (2021-2025); Oregon State University*  
Karen Ross - *Secretary California Department of Food and Agriculture*  
Rex Richardson – *Mayor City of Long Beach*  
Marcelo Suárez- Orozco - *Chancellor, University of Massachusetts*  
Cardinal Peter Kodwo Turkson - *Chancellor, Pontifical Academy of Sciences and Social Sciences (Vatican)*  
Nancy Ward – *Director, California Office of Emergency Services*

### **All Other Speakers and Session Chairs**

David Ackerly - *Professor and Dean, Rausser College of Natural Resources, UC Berkeley, California*  
Ken Alex - *Project Climate Director, UC Berkeley*  
Michael Anderson - *State Climatologist, Department of Water Resources*  
Louise Bedsworth - *Executive Director, Center for Law, Energy, and the Environment, UC Berkeley*  
Karalee Browne - *Assistant Executive Director at the Institute for Local Government*  
Nicole Capretz - *CEO, Climate Action Campaign*  
Sam Carter – *Founding Principal, Resilient Cities Catalyst*  
Erin Coutts – *Executive Director, Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability*  
Karen Cowe – *CEO, Ten Strands*  
Christina Curry - *Chief Deputy Director, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services*  
David Eisenman - *Director, UCLA Center for Public Health and Disasters; Co-director, UCLA Center for Healthy Climate Solutions*  
Robert Engle - *Nobel Economist NYU*  
Alexis Fineman – *Council member, Town of San Anselmo, California*  
Zachery Fox-DeVol - *Student, Westside Neighborhood School, Los Angeles*  
Adrienne Greve - *Associate Professor, City and Regional Planning Department, California Polytechnic State University (CalPoly) , San Luis Obispo*  
Erminia Guarneri, MD - *President, Academy of Integrative Health and Medicine; Medical Director, Guarneri Integrative Health, Inc.*  
Ananya Gupta - *Student, Geffen Academy, Los Angeles*  
Linda Helland, MPH, CPH - *Climate Change & Health Equity Branch Manager, Office of Health Equity, California Department of Public Health*

Natalie Hernandez - *Environmental Project Manager, Gateway Cities, Council of Governments*  
Em Johnson - *Community Environmental Council Director of Climate Programs*  
Daniel Kammen – *Distinguished Professor of Energy, UC Berkeley; Energy and Resources Group*  
Nuin–Tara Key- *Executive Director of Programs, California Forward*  
Julia Kim – *Partnerships Lead, Farrallon Strategies*  
Larry Kosmont – *Chairman and CEO, Kosmont Companies*  
Vincent La Pena – *Traditional Ecological Knowledge Manager, Wilton Ranchera tribe*  
Amber Mace – *Managing Director/Chief of Strategic Partnerships, California Academy of Sciences*  
Connor Magee – *Research and Data Applications Manager, Pala*  
Arunava Majumdar - *Dean, Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability*  
Grace Mancusi - *Student, UC Los Angeles Lab School, Los Angeles*  
Carlos Martin – *Vice President for Research and Policy, Resources for the Future*  
Michael McCormick - *President, Farallon Strategies*  
Jyoti Mishra - *Co-director, University of California (UC) Climate Change and Mental Health Initiative*  
Apurva Pande - *Owner, Principal, CHACOL, Inc.*  
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Alexis Pelosi - *Former Senior Advisor for Climate, US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*  
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Bella Santos - *Student, UC Berkeley, Berkeley*  
Willem Shpilsky - *Student, UC Los Angeles Lab School, Los Angeles*  
Meighen Speiser - *Executive Director, ecoAmerica*  
Matthew St Clair - *Chief Sustainability Officer, University of California Office of the Presidents*  
Kristen Torres Pawling – *Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy & Planning, Office of Los Angeles Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky*  
Shalini Vajjhala – *Executive Director, PRE Collective*  
Sheri Weiser - *Founding Director, UC Center on Climate Change*  
Debra Williams – *Community Engagement Specialist*  
Maryann Wolf - *Director of the UCLA Center for Dyslexia, Diverse Learners, and Social Justice*  
Sigrid Wright - *CEO, Community Environmental Center*  
Andra Yeghoian - *CIO, Ten Strands*

#### Trans-disciplinary **Team Members**

[ramanathan.ucsd.edu/trans-disciplinary-team/](https://ramanathan.ucsd.edu/trans-disciplinary-team/)