Resilience and Sustainability Collaboratory

EMORY



Creating sustainable futures

HIGHLIGHTS

The Resilience and Sustainability Collaboratory (RSC) is a think and do tank that leverages the collective expertise of corporate leaders, Emory faculty and staff, government, and community organizations to plug into actionable projects that generate innovative solutions to sustainability and resilience challenges impacting our global society. Check out the RSC digital story.

The goal of the RSC is to create a new paradigm for operations, establishing a collaborative able to identify and implement cutting-edge climate solutions and social interventions that promote healthy and thriving communities across our City and region.

In 10 years, the worst impacts of climate change could be irreversible. The South is home to 97 of the 100 U.S. counties expected to be hit the hardest by the effects of climate change.

BENEFITS

The RSC serves as a hub through which partners can co-create new solutions and practices that integrate the relevant environmental, social, and economic ideas to address perseverative issues, especially in disadvantaged communities. RSC projects first tested locally can be scaled to solve issues at the organizational, national, and global levels. This model builds deeper degrees of resilience and enables us to drive innovation without fear of failure.

By focusing our efforts on resilience and regenerative actionable initiatives, we intend to prepare our campus, community, and region for the fast-approaching changes to our current socio-ecological systems. RSC provides the critically needed space for achieving novel and innovative solutions for thriving local communities, ensuring Emory's operations do not face the business and utility disruptions that will present increasing risks to the institution over time, and providing a model for developing more global solutions.

HOW IT WORKS

- Resilience Thinking Principles: The Stockholm Resilience Centre has laid out <u>seven principles</u> to help put resilience concepts into practice. These will guide how we operate and select projects.
- Faculty Advisors from over 20 University graduate and professional schools and College departments work together with corporate, government, and community groups to generate innovative solutions and implement actionable projects.
- RSC projects are first tested locally, generating on-the-ground demonstrations of practical resilience-based solutions that are translatable to communities across the globe.
- Building on existing and future projects related to sustainability and regenerative resilience at Emory, the RSC extends learning to community organizers, corporate partners, political leaders, and other national and local partners to generate dialogue and develop actionable solutions.

- The RSC will occupy space in the heart of Downtown Atlanta. The space will include medical clinics, a family resilience center, shared laboratory space, flexible offices for visiting scholars, a theater and gallery, and a food pharmacy providing whole healthy foods.
- The RSC brings together the strengths of Emory Operations, Sustainability, and Campus Planning to create more ties to the City of Atlanta and regional governmental entities, as envisioned in the One Emory Strategic Plan.
- The RSC is funded through strategic corporate engagement, providing seed funding as well as ongoing operational funding for the Collaboratory.

CURRENT RSC PROJECTS

The RSC unites best-in-class leaders across multiple disciplines and prioritizes applied research projects that engage the local community and make a different in a measurable and mutually beneficial manner.

The RSC Clinic

Soil Testing and Community-Engaged Remediation in West Atlanta

The Working Farms Fund

LEARN MORE

Keep Up With Events and Information:

Sign up for the Office of Sustainability enewsletter, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter to keep up with the latest events and opportunities!

Recent Commentaries, Publications and Recognition for RSC Faculty Advisors:

- Dr. Eri Saikawa contributed to "<u>Health</u> concerns grow as EPA probes metal plant next to Atlanta school" for AJC
- Dr. Eri Saikawa was featured in <u>"I am an Emory Researcher"</u> series
- Dr. Eri Saikawa contributed to "After Lead

QUESTIONS?

For more information about Emory's Resilience and Sustainability Collaboratory, explore the RSC digital story. For questions, donations or requests to partner with the RSC, contact emorysustainability@emory.edu.

Pollution Findings in Atlanta, A Free Program To Test Georgia Yards for Contamination" for WABE

- Dr. Eri Saikawa commented in, "U.S. Exits Paris Climate Accord after Trump Stalls Global Warming Action for Four Years" for Scientific American
- Dr. Jagdish Sheth received global recognition for scholarly repute and naming honors for the Jagdish Sheth School of Management in Bangalore, India
- Dr. Eri Saikawa co-authored "A new screening index to better target low-level lead exposure in Atlanta, Georgia" published by Scientific Reports
- Dr. Rebecca Philipsborn co-authored
 "Climate Change and the Practice of
 Medicine Essentials for Resident Education"
 published by the Journal of the Association
 of American Medical Colleges