

Session 1: Normative Dimension of Resilience

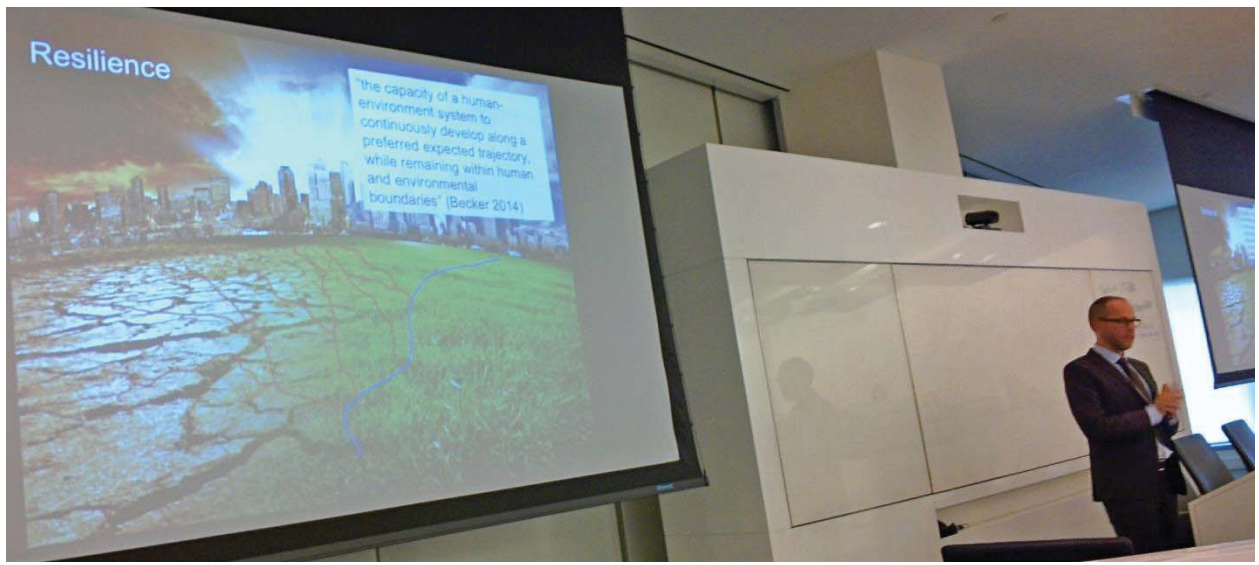
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Linking Resilience, Risk and Sustainable Development: An Inherently Normative Endeavour

Abstract:

Both academics and policymakers are increasingly suggesting that societies must be resilient to be safe and sustainable. While there are many approaches to resilience available, not all of them are conceptualized for the context of communities, societies or other systems that explicitly entail human beings. Human beings with considerably greater capacity to anticipate and learn than any other species on the planet. Moreover, most approaches to resilience are not designed for addressing the long-term development of such human-environment systems, which is central for understanding or improving sustainability. For the concept of resilience to have any meaning in the context of sustainable development, it becomes equally normative and requires us to define the system, what values to focus on, what events to be resilient against and the time period of analysis.





Resilience

"the capacity of a human-environment system to continuously develop along a preferred expected trajectory, while remaining within human and environmental boundaries" (Becker 2014)