

PM WORLD BOOK REVIEW



Book Title: ***Adapting to Change The Business of Climate Resilience***

Author: **Ann Goodman**

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Introduction

Floods, fires, earthquakes, tornadoes and hurricanes. What do these catastrophic events all have in common? They are all obviously natural disasters but did you know companies such as Citi, Sprint, ConAgra, Stoneybrook Farms, Sprint and IBM have all established company programs to not only mitigate the effects of the catastrophic events but also save the company money as well as cut down on greenhouse gases?

Overview of Book's Structure

From the preface to the conclusion, Ann Goodman shares examples of big name companies who today are positively impacting the environment. These are companies are cutting out waste, planning for catastrophic events, cutting down greenhouse gases, and finding ways to save the company money while still maintaining high standards of customer service. From banks to telecommunications to the food industry, companies are making sound changes to their current processes.

One of these companies is Citi bank. Citi is "targeting reductions of up to 35 percent in greenhouse gas emissions, 30 percent in water and energy use and 60 percent in waste. Their long term goal is to reduce greenhouse gases by 80 percent by 2050" (pg. 5). How will they accomplish some of these lofty goals? Through the focused areas for supplier engagement and supply chain policy; paper, IT, hardware as well as evaluate the disposal and most closely related to greenhouse gases, travel and logistics (pg. 16).

In the telecommunications area, Sprint's sustainability and related climate resilience measures have earned the organization numerous awards including it is the only

telecommunications company as of the time of publication, that belongs to WWF Climate Savers Program and Coalition for Environmentally Responsible Economies.

In the food industry, ConAgra created initiatives to “improve sustainability in all aspects of the business, from limiting water usage by the suppliers (farmers) at the source to limiting waste throughout the processing and transport of the products such as diverting waste from landfill, often to productive processes” (pg. 45).

These are just a few examples of the many companies described who have made positive impacts within their organizations.

Highlights

2017 was wrought with natural disasters and in some cases, events that were mere days between one another. But what can companies really do about it? “A lot of climate resilience is about creativity about hope and life and the future” (Preface xiv).

Companies are recognizing the need to deal with a “likely increase and intensity of climate related events worldwide” (pg. 3). With new employee programs as well as through the use of consultants, the group of companies described throughout this book have set the standard for others who are lagging in the area of preparedness and environmental responsibility.

Highlights: What I liked!

The company stories shared within the pages of the book outlined the proactive stance against natural disasters, cutting down on waste and greenhouse gases.

How did they achieve success? Through wake up calls, risk management issues faced and through careful planning. Each chapter concluded with a synopsis of the projects and the achievable targets that should be a framework for other companies.

Who might benefit from the Book

The standards have been set by the companies within Goodman’s book. Any organization who wants to not only be fiscally responsible, but also environmentally responsible will benefit from the mistakes, lessons, plans and outcomes outlined.

Conclusion

How are companies going to effectively prepare for disasters, reduce waste and cut down on greenhouse gas emissions? By involving employees and consultants. With employees they are utilizing inhouse resources as well as empowering the employees to solve issues within their department and organization. Through the use of consultants they are using experts within their fields to help solve and plan for the future thus making positive impacts on the environments and mitigating the effects of natural disasters.

Companies cannot play the blame game and refute responsibility for actions that negatively impact the finite resources we all share. They must make responsible changes today. Those that still refuse to change will falter and fail.

For more about this book, go to: <http://www.businessexpertpress.com/books/adapting-change-business-climate-resilience/>

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About the Reviewer



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Heather Creer-Rygalski, PMP has more than 20 years of experience working in training and development departments both in the corporate arena and within the public school system using her project management training for all of her projects. She has a BA in Psychology and a M.Ed., both from Texas State University.

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