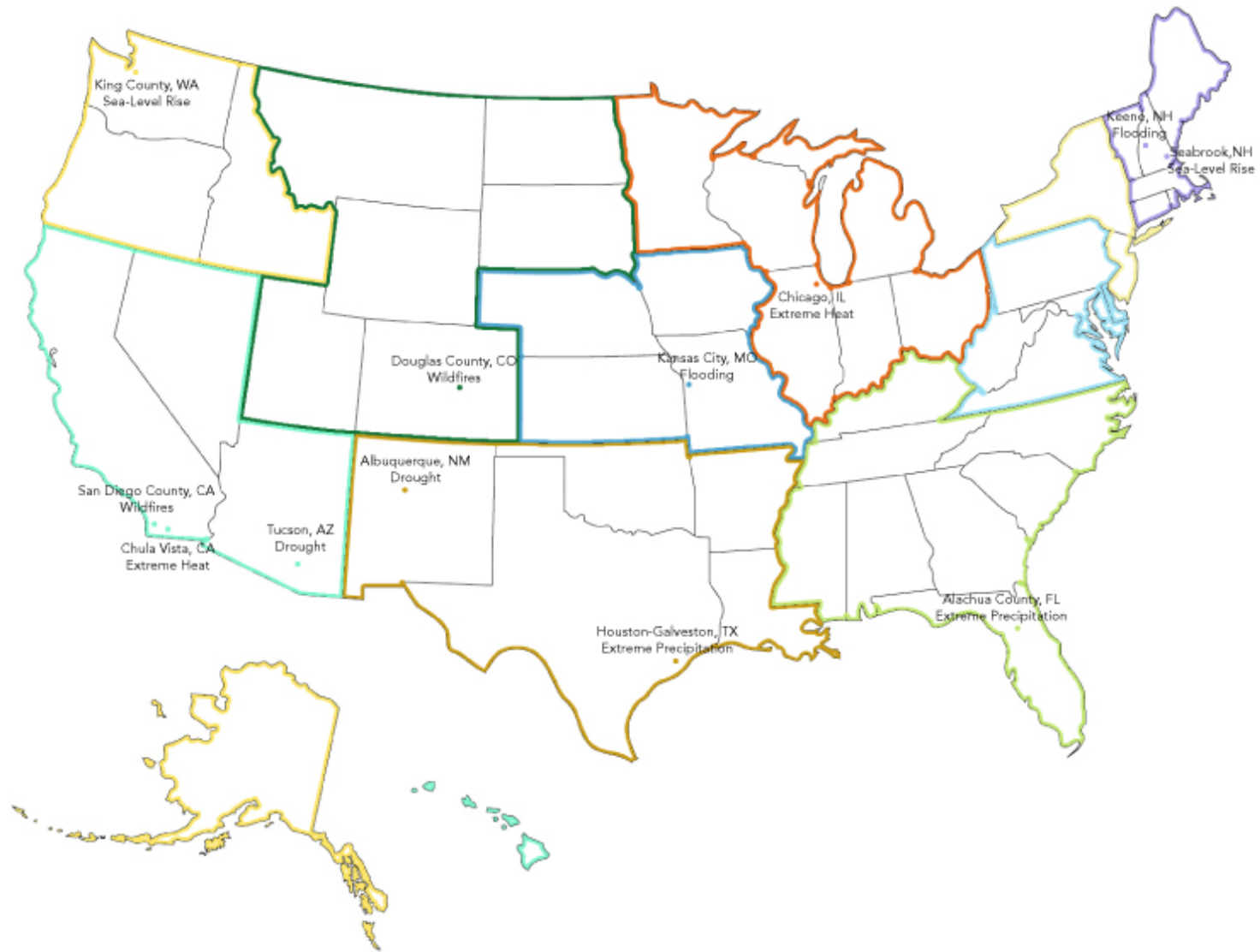


National Case Studies

Adaptation limiting our susceptibility to the effects of climate change

vs.

Mitigation reducing the impact of climate change itself



Wildfires

Lessons Learned: **Wildfires**

- Homes built to wildland urban interface codes, strategic changes to landscaping, structure placement, and building materials prevent the spread of wildfires (San Diego County).
- Wildfire protection ordinances promote smart growth and vice versa.(Douglas County).

Flooding

Lessons Learned: Flooding

- Measures such as green infrastructure and stream setbacks present flooding *and* beautify the city and protect habitats (Kansas City).
- The implementation of zoning and building codes, clean stormwater management, and other smart growth policies depends on leadership and strategic partnerships (Keene, NH).

Extreme heat

Lessons Learned: Extreme Heat

- Climate change adaptation need not increase municipal budgets and can be a participatory process (Chula Vista).
- Achieving climate change adaptation is an opportunity to break down silos within city government (Chicago).

Sea-level Rise

Lessons Learned: **Sea-Level Rise**

- Zoning and development regulations, rather than investment in infrastructure, can have a significant impact on preservation, protection, and risk mitigation (King County, WA).
- Economic benefits of adaptation action can exceed the costs (Seabrook, NH).

Drought

Lessons Learned: Drought

- “Soft” methods such as building codes, development requirements and public education programs can improve resilience to drought (Albuquerque, NM).
- Mandates for water suppliers and public participation in water conservation are tactics for combatting drought (Tucson, AZ).

Extreme Precipitation

Lessons Learned: Extreme Precipitation

- Cities must find ways to navigate political and emotional issues, such as calling in outside experts (Houston-Galveston, TX).
- Measures that address economic, social, and environmental concerns often make a region more climate-ready (Alachua County, FL).