Resilience Practice for Buildings and Cities

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Abstract

This presentation articulates how the science of resilience relates and forms a foundation for practice, in designing, constructing, planning and maintaining buildings, cities, and communities. The guided conversation concentrates on a practitioner’s algorithm based on resilience science and theory, ecosystem scale biomimicry, and traditional ecological knowledge. The framework and structure of this panarchal design process and resulting case studies are discussed. By invoking a scientific framework of life’s deep laws and the living world itself as the template for design, we can analyze our ways of building, urban and community planning, and systems of law as functional units of ecology and culture sprawled over different scales of time, place, and pace. Doing so allows designers, builders, architects, engineers to shift from flawed current and predominantly human metrics, and instead to use new tools, of diversity, time, pace, place, and scale. A stunningly simple question answers all design and construction challenges - what world would you imagine and build for your children and future generations?

Keywords: Resilience, Biomimicry, Practitioner, Design, Traditional Ecological Knowledge