

MICHAEL E. COTE

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist

Michael E. Cote
6 E Nelson Ave Suite 303
Alexandria VA 22301
+1.206.550.3034
MichaelCote@gmail.com

SUMMARY

Mr. Michael E. Cote is an international Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist focusing on developing and supporting laws and policies that encourage sustainable resilience outcomes in developed and developing country contexts. He specializes in assisting stakeholders integrate adaptation options at the local, regional, and national levels.

Recent experiences include: **Project Director** of Private Investment for Enhanced Resilience (PIER), a 3-year, \$5.4M climate resilience project working in eight countries. **Technical Lead** for the USAID Support for the Urban Policy (SOUP) project, assisting USAID to promote investments and attract buy-ins to support resilient-urban development. **Program Manager** and **Technical Lead** of the USAID Climate Change Implementation Support contract (USAID CCIS [formerly 'ISCRS'] 2015-2017), managed \$1.5M budget, major subcontractor, support staff, and independent consultants to implement USAID's portfolio-level climate risk screening processes mandated under President Barack Obama's 2014 Executive Order 13677. **Director of Communications** for USAID's Climate Change Resilient Development (CCRD, \$31.5M, 2012-2015) project. **Activity Coordinator** for an urban planning technology pilot for several cities in Vietnam. **Technical Lead** of the High Mountain Adaptation Partnership in Nepal and Peru. He was also a member of the USAID/GCC's informal National Adaptation Plan (NAP) working group (Jamaica, Tanzania, and W. Africa).

Michael is also an accomplished writer, having published technical reports and journal articles on lessons learned, land-use planning, institutional capacity building, institutional barriers to incorporating climate information, and the laws and policies of climate adaptation. He is currently an editor for The International Journal of Climate Change, and was an Expert Reviewer on the IPCC Fifth Assessment, Working Group II.

SKILLS

- Climate Policy Analysis
- Team Leadership
- Supervision of Home Office and Field Staff
- Work Planning and Budgeting
- Qualitative Project Assessment
- Conference Presenter and Organizer
- Strategic Communications
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Capacity Building
- Cultural Sensitivity

Country Experience: Australia, Belize, Brazil, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Kazakhstan, Mozambique, Netherlands, Nepal, Pacific Islands (regional), Peru, Tanzania, Thailand, United States, Vietnam

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Winrock International, Arlington, VA USA

October 2017-Present

Chief of Party, leading a high-performing team in support of the Private Investment for Enhanced Resilience (PIER) project. PIER is a \$5.4 million, 3-year (2017-2020) Cooperative Agreement supporting leading-edge climate adaptation investment and finance in eight developing countries. PIER is funded by the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES): winrock.org/projects/pier.

Tetra Tech, Washington, DC, USA (Consultant)

June -September 2017

- **Urban Resilience Consultant**, conducted global market assessment urban resilience funding, investment, and competition.

Partnership International, LLC, Washington, DC, USA (Consultant)

June -September 2017

MICHAEL E. COTE

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist

Michael E. Cote
6 E Nelson Ave Suite 303
Alexandria VA 22301
+1.206.550.3034
MichaelCote@gmail.com

- **Team Lead (Work Plan and Evaluation)**, Led technical team to deliver annual work plan; monitoring and evaluation strategy; communications approach; and in-country institutional needs assessment for Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre's (CCCCC) 4-year, \$26M USAID Caribbean Climate Adaptation Project (CCAP) project.

ECODIT, LLC, Arlington, VA, USA

April 2016-March 2017

Climate Resilience Specialist (Consultant)

- **Team Lead (Urban)**, Led two teams and two tasks for USAID/Urban Office's Support of the Urban Policy (SOUP) project: 1) Lead author of an urbanization and resilience case study in secondary cities in Mozambique. The study will assist USAID better understand how to mainstream climate adaptation information into urban planning strategies, programs, and activities; 2) Leading development of country-level Urban Profiles with custom indicators and metrics for USAID Missions investing in urban-related projects and activities.
- **Technical Specialist (Urban)**, USAID/Mozambique Mid-Term Evaluation of USAID Coastal City Adaptation Project (CCAP). Conducted field work, desk study, and monitoring and evaluation analysis of USAID Mozambique's \$18.5M, 5-year CCAP project: http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00mjg4.pdf.
- **Home Office Engagement Manager (Climate Risk Management/Policy)**, USAID/GCC Climate Change Integration Support (CCIS) project under the USAID/Global Climate Change (GCC) Office. Responsible for staffing, work planning, budgeting, schedule, and technical tasks. CCIS supports the GCC Office's efforts to integrate President Obama's Executive Order 13677 on Climate Risk Management into all USAID strategies, programs, and activities. We designed indicators and tools, and trained agency staff to conduct climate risk screenings across all of USAID's programs and portfolios.

International Resources Group (IRG), Alexandria, VA, USA

October 2015-May 2016

Senior Climate Adaptation Specialist

Proposal team advisor, capture manager, proposal design, work planning, and program support for new business opportunities with climate adaptation components in developing countries. Supported management of IRG's REPLACE IDIQ, USAID's \$700M contract mechanism for climate change, NRM, livelihood, and biodiversity projects.

International Resources Group (IRG), Alexandria, VA, USA

May 2013-October 2015

Program Manager, Climate Resilient Development. Led simultaneous teams for USAID Global Climate Change Office's \$31M, 4-year [Climate Change Resilient Development \(CCRD\)](#) contract:

- **Director of Communications** – Managed a team of writers, editors, designers, and videographers with approximately \$1M budget. Coordinated deliverables schedules of 12 subcontractors. Designed and implemented communications strategy of CCRD for impact, legacy, and contributions to the field of climate adaptation and resilience. From-back-of-the-napkin idea to successful execution, launched the [Advancing Climate Resilient Symposium 2015](#), an invite-only event tailored for decision makers at USAID, DOS, and key partnership organizations. Designed, directed, prepared, approved, and disseminated technical reports, case studies, videos, media campaigns, thought leadership papers, factsheets, and lessons learned documents for use by USAID Bureaus and Missions. Managed four specialized websites for use by development practitioners. Developed talking points and presentations for Senior USAID staff.
 - **Coordinator, Vietnam Climate Impact Decision Support Tool (CIMPACT-DST)** – Managed a \$650K municipal land-use planning technology pilot in Hue Province, Vietnam. Coordinated all subcontractor field work; participated in work-planning, workshop coordination, budgeting, deliverables, scale-up, capacity building, reporting, and monitoring and evaluation. CIMPACT-DST is a climate risk decision making software tool for
-

MICHAEL E. COTE

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist

Michael E. Cote
6 E Nelson Ave Suite 303
Alexandria VA 22301
+1.206.550.3034
MichaelCote@gmail.com

use by urban planners that a) increases capacity to understand climate impacts and b) aims to lower climate and economic risks to planning and development goals.

- **Technical Lead, High Mountain Adaptation Partnership (HiMAP)** – Managed \$2.5M budgets, teams of field scientists and researchers in high-mountain communities in Nepali Himalayas and Peruvian Andes. The project leveraged \$10.5M in buy-ins from the UNDP (via GEF), the Government of Nepal, and Peru's Ministry of Environment and successfully reduced risks from glacial lake outburst floods in Lake Imja. HiMAP is now a sustainable program. Other tasks included: managed 11 field-based "Climber Scientist" small-grants averaging \$100k each to NGOs, PhD researchers, and institutes conducting and piloting innovative adaptation tools, assessments, and approaches in vulnerable high-mountain communities. Facilitated implementation of Local Adaptation Plans of Action (LAPAs). Coordinated capacity building workshops. Organized post-Nepal 2015 earthquake mission to evaluate flood risks from 3 glacial lakes in coordination with USAID-Nepal, Nepali Army, ICIMOD, researchers, videographer, and a logistics team.

Association of Climate Change Officers (ACCO), Washington, DC

2011-2012

Adaptation Program Manager

Lead and managed the research division of the organization. Co-authored \$21M NSF grant to create a climate and education center at the University of South Carolina. Managed *Adaptation Working Group* comprised of climate scientists (USGCRP, NCAR, USC), private sector managers (SAIC, Swiss Re), and policy makers (U.S. Forest Service, White House CEQ). Designed, analyzed, and published seminal survey identifying barriers to incorporating climate science into daily management across sectors. Advised and managed Adaptation Working Group Supported committees and conferences including: U.S.-Netherlands Connection; CEQ's GreenGov Symposium; EPA Climate Leadership Conference; and USGCRP's National Climate Assessment communication team. Lead author and researcher of a field-assessment of climate adaptation coastal and water infrastructure policies in the Netherlands.

University of Massachusetts-Amherst and Greve Municipality, Denmark

2010-2013

Municipal Policy Assessor, Climate Adaptation

Conducted conformance-based policy assessment of Greve Municipality's climate adaptation plan applying Laurian and Day's Planning Outcome Evaluation (2010) methodology. Compared planning outcomes to determine linkages and barriers in decision making processes. Evaluated IPCC-A2 scenarios and recent storm-water engineering projects via reviewing land-use permits and related fees, and interviews with local government and flood engineers. Drafted international urban planning best-practices manual for urban planners and climate adaptation practitioners.

SELECT CONSULTANCIES

Climate Adaptation Specialist, Climate Planning, Brisbane, Australia

2012-2013

Co-wrote tenders and proposals for business development. Advisor to CEO on municipal-level adaptation tool.

Climate Adaptation Advisor, Four Twenty Seven Climate Consulting, CA, USA

2012-2013

Advised CEO on business development measures and climate adaptation information.

Climate Adaptation Consultant, South Asia Management and Engineering Services, Bangladesh

2012-2013

Provided strategic planning and proposal support advice on adaptation projects funded by Asia Development Bank.

Country Consultant, Adaptation International, TX, USA

2012-2013

Co-writer of an EOI to support development of a new National Climate Adaptation for the Government of Tanzania.

MICHAEL E. COTE

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist

Michael E. Cote
6 E Nelson Ave Suite 303
Alexandria VA 22301
+1.206.550.3034
MichaelCote@gmail.com

Communications Consultant, FBV and UNFCCC, Brazil

2012-2013

Co-developed public-private leadership partnership for climate adaption planning in Latin America.

Regional Climate Risk Consultant, UMass-Amherst and 495/MetroWest Partnership Inc., MA, USA

2008

Assessed climate risks and designed climate risk mainstreaming process for the Partnership's economic development programs in 32 economically-connected towns and cities.

Cultural and Historic Preservation Consultant, Gullah African-American Community, SC, USA

2008

Developed and applied a tailored public negotiations process to resolve a cultural and land-use dispute between the Gullah people (a marginalized community) and Beaufort County. Co-designed revisions to Beaufort's urban development policies to consider impacts and opportunities.

MICHAEL E. COTE

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist

Michael E. Cote
6 E Nelson Ave Suite 303
Alexandria VA 22301
+1.206.550.3034
MichaelCote@gmail.com

Urban Planning Assistant, Office of Planning and Development, Northampton MA, USA

2007-2009

Researched, wrote, edited, and closed approximately \$2.5 million in local, state, and federal land use grants e.g.: Mass-LAND Grant 2007, Mass-Transit Grant 2008; U.S. Fish & Wildlife 2007, 2008. Wrote two winning state sustainability awards: Commonwealth Capital 2007, 2008. Redeveloped city's Open Space and Recreation Plan. Analyzed and contributed to implementation of dozens of land-use projects including, EIA/EIS permit review, wetlands delineation, Smart Growth, rail-to-trail and brownfield redevelopments, LEED certification, Green Communities Act, community development, historic preservation grants, and recreation sites.

City Writer and Editor, The Providence Journal Bulletin, RI, USA

2004-2007

For the City and Environmental Desks, researched, wrote, edited, proofed, and approved print newspaper copy and industry correspondence for Pulitzer Prize winning newspaper. Trained staff, developed new editing system, tested proprietary software and streamlined inter-departmental IT network and billing systems. Elected to Union Executive Board, which managed \$1 million budget, two lower councils and legal and contract issues for 500 members.

TEACHING

Visiting Professor, Vermont Law School, VT, USA

2014-Present

Climate Change Adaptation in Human Systems, ENV 5343. Juris Doctorate- and graduate-level course.

Lecturer, University of Massachusetts, MA, USA

2009

Current Research in Sustainability for Planning and Landscape Architecture. Graduate-level survey course.

EDUCATION

MELP *Environmental Law and Policy* (Climate Change Law), Vermont Law School, VT, 2010

MRP *Regional Planning Cum Laude* (Climate Urban Planning), University of Massachusetts-Amherst, MA, 2010

BS *Environmental Design* (Sustainable Cities), University of Massachusetts-Amherst, MA, 2008

AS *Small Business Accounting*, Johnson and Wales University's College of Business, RI, 1996

SELECT PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Cote, M., King, R. (2017). Urban Resilience Planning for Secondary African Cities - A Case Study of Mozambique. Project analysis for USAID's Land and Urban Office Support for the Urban Policy (SOUP).

Kim, Y., Smith, J., Mack, C., Cook, J., Furlow, J., Njinga, J., **Cote, M.** (2016). A perspective on climate-resilient development and national adaptation planning based on USAID's experience. *Climate & Development*. DOI:10.1080/17565529.2015.1124037

Cote, M. (2014). Accommodating Adaptation into Legal Institutions: The Law of Adaptation to Climate Change. *Climate Policy*, 14(2): 321-324. (Invited)

Cote, M., Becker, A., Helmuth, B., Nijbroek, R. (2012). Everything, Engineered: Water management in the Netherlands: Lessons for U.S. counterparts. Report for U.S. - *Netherlands Connection Group*.

Cote, M. (2011). Climate adaptation planning: Anticipating the legal issues for urban planners. *International Journal of Climate Change*, 2(3): 87-101.

Cote, M. (2011). Assessing climate adaptation plans IN: Feiden, W., & Hamin, E. *Assessing sustainability: A guide for local governments*. American Planning Association. Chicago. Planning Advisory Service, RP 565.

MICHAEL E. COTE

Climate Adaptation and Resilience Specialist

Michael E. Cote
6 E Nelson Ave Suite 303
Alexandria VA 22301
+1.206.550.3034
MichaelCote@gmail.com

Cote, M., Bartuska, A., Helmuth, B., Cleaves, D., Stults, M., Wasely, E., et al. (2011). Barriers to implementing climate adaptation plans: A survey of climate professionals. For *Association of Climate Change Officers*.

Cote, M. (2010). Envisioning transmission transition: Denmark's incremental shifts towards energy independence. *Berkeley Planning Journal*, 23: 225-235. (Invited).

CERTIFICATIONS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Certificate: PMP Pro I: Project Management for Development Professionals (2014)

Certificate: *Adaptive Thinking for Navigating the Anthropocene*. Full scholarship and travel grant. Central European University, Budapest, Hungary (2012)

Fellow: *Climate Change Adaptation Fellow*. Association of Climate Change Officers (2011)

Fellow: *George Perkins Marsh Environmental Law Fellow*. Vermont Law School (2010)
