Resilient America Roundtable Meeting #21 (Virtual)

Speaker Biographies

Colin Foard

Colin Foard is a manager with Pew's fiscal federalism initiative, leading the project's research into state and federal spending on natural disasters and other topics. He also engages stakeholders to improve understanding of the federal-state fiscal relationship and ensure that policymakers have data and evidence to inform their decision-making.

Before joining Pew, Foard spent five years on the staff of a senior member of the U.S. House of Representatives' appropriations and budget committees, handling committee work as well as a broad policy portfolio that included homeland security, transportation, housing, and immigration issues. He also served as a congressional constituent caseworker and field representative in Oakland, California.

Foard holds a bachelor's degree from Union College in Schenectady, New York, and a master's in Latin American studies from the University of California, Berkeley.

Francis Bouchard

Francis Bouchard is an accomplished global public affairs professional who has served as an advisor, catalyst, and contributor to a series of climate resilience and insurance initiatives. He is currently the Managing Director for Climate at Marsh McLennan, and earlier served as the Group Head of Public Affairs & Sustainability for Zurich Insurance Group, where he focused on aligning the Group's government affairs, sustainability, and

Foundation activities. He originally joined the insurance sector in 1989, and since has held a series of industry-focused advocacy, communications, sales, citizenship, and public affairs roles, both in the U.S. and in Switzerland.

Francis also chairs the board of directors of SBP, a national non-profit focused on disaster resilience and recovery, serves on the board of the climate-focused insurtech incubator InnSure, and is a member of the Advisory Council of Syracuse University's Dynamic Sustainability Lab.

Jackie Higgins

Jackie Higgins is the Head of Public Sector Solutions NA at Swiss Re, where she leads a team that designs, originates and executes innovative risk management & transfer solutions with public entities in North America. Previously, Jackie was the Head of Global Partnerships, International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group. Prior to IFC, she was appointed by the White House to serve as Deputy Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor to the President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation









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(OPIC), the US government's development finance institution, where she developed OPIC's strategic relationships and helped manage its 250-person staff and operations.

From 2009 to 2010, she also served as OPIC's CFO, managing the agency's \$83M annual operating budget and \$15B investment portfolio in more than 105 emerging markets. Before joining OPIC, Jackie spent eight years at the White House Office of Management and Budget, leading oversight of the budget, policy, programs, and management of various international development and finance agencies. In 2004, Jackie served as principle economic advisor to Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister and the Iraqi Ministry of Finance. She has also worked at an internet trade finance company, African Development Bank, Technoserve, the Council on Foreign Relations, and Saatchi & Saatchi Advertising. Jackie holds an M.I.A in finance and economic development from Columbia University and a B.A. in political science and history from Colgate University.