

Dr. Susan Cutter is a Carolina Distinguished Professor of Geography at the University of South Carolina where she directs the Hazards and Vulnerability Research Institute. She received her B.A. from California State University, Hayward and her M.A. and Ph.D. (1976) from the University of Chicago. Her primary research interests are in disaster vulnerability/resilience science—what makes people and the places where they live vulnerable to extreme events and the metrics for monitoring and assessing vulnerability and resilience. She has authored or edited twelve books, more than 100 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

Dr. Cutter has also led post-event field studies of the role of geographic information technologies in rescue and relief operations in (September 11th World Trade Center attack) and studies of evacuation behavior from Three Mile Island (1979), Hurricane Floyd (1999), and the Graniteville, SC train derailment and chlorine spill (2005). Most recently (2006) she has led a Hurricane Katrina post-event field team to examine the geographic extent of storm surge inundation along the Mississippi and its relationship to the social vulnerability of communities and how these affect long-term recovery in the region. She has provided expert testimony to Congress on hazards and vulnerability and was a member of the US Army Corps of Engineers IPET team evaluating the social impacts of the New Orleans and Southeast Louisiana Hurricane Protection System in response to Hurricane Katrina.

Dr. Cutter serves on many national and international advisory boards and committees including those of National Research Council, the National Science Foundation, the Natural Hazards Center, the American Geophysical Union, Louisiana's Coastal Area Science Board, and ICSU's Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR). Dr. Cutter serves as co-executive editor of *Environment* and is an associate editor of *Weather, Climate, and Society*. She is also a coordinating lead author of Chapter 5 of the IPCC Special Report on "Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation."

She is an elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) (1999), past President of the Association of American Geographers (2000), and past President of the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA) (2008). Dr. Cutter holds the MunichRe Foundation Chair (2009-2012) on Social Vulnerability through the United Nations University-Institute for Environment and Human Security, in Bonn, Germany.