RISA private sector partnerships: Where are we now and where are we (maybe) headed?

RISA PI meeting
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You will do well to expand your business.
Main goal of this session:

Take the temperature of the room on where RISA-private sector partnerships are headed and ID a few big issues we should think about.
Mostly this is a discussion, but here’s what coming in the next few slides:

- Extremely brief summary of some of what the RISA teams are doing with private sector partners

Four propositions that (we think) will help frame our discussion

Some questions to seed the discussion
Snapshot of RISA private sector experiences

- Consultancies & sub-contracts
- Utility companies (power and water)
- Technology companies
- Non-profits/NGOs
- Large industries (e.g., ag, shipping, hospitality)
Snapshot of potential future RISA private sector work

• Real Estate Development
• Recreation (e.g., ski resorts)
• Re-Insurance/Insurance
• Agriculture, specialty crops
• Finance
• Data Visualization/Data Development
A few propositions to frame our discussion

1. University models are changing as, e.g., states defund higher ed

2. Federal research $ not necessarily growing

3. More and different demands for adaptation-related research and collaborations

4. Most RISAs have significant regional profile so they are seen as go-to partners
1. What are viable business models for doing as Andrew Comrie suggested and continuing to “evolve RISA” in the context of potentially more pull from private sector?
2. Are your university bureaucratic structures ready and able to deal with more/different kinds of contracts?
3. Are there intellectual property/data ownership issues different than what we already experience with our partners?
4. How should we deal with ethical dilemmas related to working with for-profit companies seeking competitive advantage?
5. Should there be a RISA party line on these issues or is this ultimately best sorted out at the local/regional level?