

AdaptNSW



**Office of
Environment
& Heritage**

The latest in climate change adaptation

This month we open round three of the Building Resilience to Climate Change grants, invite you to AdaptNSW2016, congratulate the winners of the Climate Adapted People Shelters competition and cover the recent National Climate Adaptation Conference. Plus the usual news, reviews and publications.

[Building Resilience to Climate Change Grants](#) now open

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage invites local government organisations to apply for round three of the Building Resilience to Climate Change grants. The grants support projects that build resilience to climate change in local communities by addressing identified risks and vulnerabilities.

This round is focused on projects that build resilience of vulnerable communities, or adapt priority infrastructure to climate change. Grants are funded by OEH and administered by Local Government NSW. Applications close 10 October 2016

[Find out more and apply here](#)

INVITE - AdaptNSW2016 - 2nd Dec 2016, Sydney

Join us for our annual adaptation event to showcase and celebrate the achievements in adaptation over the past 12 months. The program will be announced over the coming months. [Register your interest now](#)



The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility has launched their [‘CoastAdapt’ platform](#), supporting coastal decisions makers adapting to climate change and sea level rise in Australia. It includes tools and information on the science of climate change, risks, effective response options, and likely costs of action. CoastAdapt is currently available in beta version for review and consultation, with the final version to be released in early 2017

What does a climate friendly bus shelter look like? Winners of the [Climate Adapted People Shelter](#) competition, MM Creative incorporated shade panels, real time bus timetables and LED lights. [Watch the video of their design pitch](#). They will now work with Penrith City Council to refine, build and install a prototype design. The [people's choice award winner](#) went to high school students of Lakes Grammar School. CAPS is an initiative of the Building Resilience to Climate Change program.



National Adaptation Conference wrap up

In July, adaptation practitioners from around Australia and international guests gathered in Adelaide for the [National Adaptation Conference](#). Use the links to find abstracts, reports or organisations that can help advance your own adaptation.

coasts

Coasts was a dominant theme of the conference:

- Participants were honoured to hear from UK sea level rise expert, [Roberts Nicholls](#)
- NCCARF presented a series of talks on the beta [CoastAdapt platform](#), including the discussion forum [CoastExchange](#), the [process of risk assessment](#) and [where next for research](#)
- Other talks looked at [community engagement](#), [planned retreat](#) and the [policy implications](#), a novel but serious approach to [planning using games](#), and [sea level rise and kids](#).

communicating

Communicating climate adaptation featured across multiple dedicated streams including [communicating climate change science for adaptation](#), [synthesising knowledge into policy](#) and [knowledge and learning for adaptation](#). Also presentations on [sea level rise communication](#), including the [CoastExchange discussion forum](#).

defence

[Professor Admiral Chris Barrie](#) (retired) gave an engaging presentation on promoting climate change within Defence, highlighting the Climate Council report on [Climate Change, Security and Australia's Defence Force](#). Panel session '[A resilient and secure region](#)' generated discussion around bringing strategic and military geography to bear on the challenges of climate change.

Infrastructure

OEH sponsored a panel session on the [Cross Dependency Initiative](#)(XDI), showing how projects like [AdaptWater](#) create collaborative adaptation responses. A dedicated stream on [adapting cities and infrastructure](#) looked at migration, planning and employment. A

session on [Adapting urban design](#) showcased the latest in urban greening and community development.

health

Presentations covered

- [Heatwaves](#) including causes ([impacts](#), studies, vulnerable) and solutions (communications, cooling, [urban design](#) and [greening cities](#)).
- health, relocation, and [social vulnerability](#)
- [Mental health](#), including drought
- [Biological health](#)
- [Health based advocacy](#), including rep from [Doctors for the Environment](#)

A debate asking 'does where I live dictate how healthy I'll be' had councils, researchers and consultants battle it out. The [Vulnerable Communities Network](#) hosted a Masterclass with visiting US Professor [Kris Ebi](#)

agriculture

Two dedicated sessions, the [changing shape of primary industries](#), and [adaptation at the farm scale](#) included talks on emerging technologies in adapting land use, water usage, mixed land use and farmer perspectives to climate change. Other talks covered [indigenous knowledge of farming](#), a [video on sea level rise on sugar cane](#) and [mental health in farmers](#)

so much more

The conference covered so much more, including

- Adaptation post Paris, with guest speaker Xianfu Lu on the [UNFCCC framework](#)
- Finance, including engaging talk from Sean Kidney of [Climate Bonds](#) and Emma Herd of the [Investa Group on Climate Change](#)

- Property, banks and insurance, highlighting the Climate Institute's report on [financial implications to housing](#)
- Adventurer, climate activist and writer [Tim Jarvis](#) on his expeditions to Antarctica.

Congratulations to the NCCARF Climate Adaptation Champions. OEH was pleased to see the work of our partners Sydney Trains and the EIANZ recognised



Individual - [Vic McGrath](#)

A respected member of the Torres Strait Island communities. He has worked to raise awareness throughout Australia about the risks of climate change to these islands. Often acting as a bridge between authorities and these at-risk communities, Vic is acclaimed for his unique ability to effortlessly transverse cultural, scientific and governance domains.



Community - [The Horse Federation of South Australia](#)

A community-based organisation working with horse owners and enthusiasts in South Australia has developed a 'Horse owner education program'. Through this program, Horse SA has supported horse owners to develop Action Plans to reinvent the way their property infrastructure is installed and managed to take into account future considerations, including climate change.



Government - [Sydney Trains](#)

In developing a Climate Change Risk Assessment and an Adaptation Masterplan, this NSW Government-owned train operator has identified the key risks posed by climate change to its rail infrastructure, services and customers. Adaptation action already underway includes the installation of concrete

sleepers and tension-regulated overhead wiring on its network, as well as new lightning protection measures.



Business - Learning to Adapt, EIANZ

This association has been building capacity among environmental professionals for more than three decades. With more than 400 participants to date, its Learning to Adapt Program has become the most continuous and longest running course relating to climate change in Australia.

Recent publications

9 years after the Pasha Bulka, we're finally getting a handle on East Coast Lows. The Conversation

Papers on East Coast Lows in special edition of the Journal of Southern Hemisphere Earth Systems Science 2016

Jacobs, B., Boronyak-Vasco, L., Moyle, K., & Leith, P. (2016). Ensuring Resilience of Natural Resources under Exposure to Extreme Climate Events .Resources, 5(2), 20.

Events

2016 National Landcare Conference 21 to 23 September 2016, Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre VIC

12th ACCARNSI Early Career Researcher Forum and Workshop 26 to 28 September 2016, University of South Australia SA

Grants

Building Resilience to Climate Change grants Round 3

Community Resilience Innovation Program Grants

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