



**Victorian Centre for Climate Change Adaptation Research monthly newsletter. More information about items in this newsletter can be found on the VCCCAR website at [www.vcccar.org.au](http://www.vcccar.org.au)**

#### **News**

1. Victorian Climate Change White Paper
2. Timelines for next round of VCCCAR sponsored climate change adaptation research
3. VCCCAR think tanks – news regarding outcomes of the next round of applications
4. Climate change adaptation stakeholders needed for *Scenarios* research project survey

#### **New staff**

1. Rob Roggema – VCCCAR visiting fellow
2. Hartmut Fünfgeld - Research Fellow, adaptation ‘framing’ project based at RMIT University
3. John Martin – VCCCAR Implementation Committee

#### **Forthcoming events**

1. *Scenarios* research project climate change adaptation workshop – 15 September (invitation only event)
2. Climate Science Communication Workshop – 24 September
3. National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility -Terrestrial Biodiversity Network ‘Roadshow’ – 5 October
4. VCCCAR think tank *Incorporating climate change impacts and adaptation into capital investment decision-making* – 7 October
5. *Communicating about Climate Change Adaptation: Reflections on A Workshop Process* – 17 November
6. VCCCAR Annual Forum – 26-27 April 2011

#### **VCCCAR administration**

1. VCCCAR Implementation Committee meeting 16 September – 12noon to 2pm (invitation only event)
2. VCCCAR Advisory Board meeting 18 November 2 – 4pm (invitation only event)

#### **NEWS**

### **1. Victorian Climate Change White Paper**

The Victorian Government recently released the Victorian Climate Change White Paper. For the full document, go to <http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/climate-change.html>. For specific information on climate change adaptation, go to 'Action 9' of the White Paper.

### **2. Timelines for next round of VCCCAR sponsored climate change adaptation research**

VCCCAR will host its next research development workshop on Wednesday, 22 September 2010. The role of the workshop is to help develop and select research projects that meet VCCCAR's research priorities for commencement in 2011. The projects to be developed on the day will be drawn from proposals submitted by way of an Expression of Interest form that will be circulated via the VCCCAR contact list in the next few days. Priority areas for research in 2011 will be determined by the VCCCAR Advisory Board and State Government Research Investment Panel next Tuesday. Applications to participate in the workshop should be made by way of the completed Expression of Interest form and should be submitted to VCCCAR by close of business 14th September. Applicants will be advised of the outcome on the 16th of September. Any enquiries regarding the next workshop can be made to VCCCAR at [enquiries-vcccar@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:enquiries-vcccar@unimelb.edu.au). Project proposals for the next round will be due by the end of October.

### **3. VCCCAR think tanks – news regarding outcomes of the next round of applications**

VCCCAR recently sought submissions for the next round of think tanks to commence in 2011. Applications are currently being considered and applicants will be advised of the outcome by the end of September.

### **4. Climate change adaptation stakeholders needed for *Scenarios* research project survey**

Does your work involve making decisions, developing policies, planning or engaging with people about climate change adaptation? Have you had to consider different future scenarios in thinking about climate change impacts and responses? Whether or not you have experience developing or using scenario based strategies in policy-making, planning or engagement around climate change – the *Scenarios* project team would like to hear your thoughts. Visit their online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PN7VGHF> to learn more. Survey closes 16 September.

## **NEW STAFF**

### **1. Rob Roggema – VCCCAR visiting fellow**

VCCCAR is pleased to announce the commencement of Rob Roggema as its inaugural visiting fellow. A citizen of the Netherlands, Rob's recent academic and employment history combines climate adaptation research as part of his PhD at the Delft University of Technology with his role at the Province of Groningen as Manager, Strategy and Regional Planning and Program Manager, Climate Adaptation and Regional Planning. Rob has written two books about climate adaptation, 'Tegenhouden of Meebewegen' ('Withstand or Move Along', WEKA, 2007) and 'Adaptation to Climate Change: A Spatial Challenge' (Springer, 2009). Rob's research interests include comparative approaches to climate adaptation implementation in Australia and the Netherlands. One of his research objectives while VCCCAR Visiting Fellow is to compare the

Dutch and Australian planning systems and to research the application and implementation of the new planning paradigm ('swarm planning' for climate adaptation) in the Australian context, with particular emphasis on its relevance to Victorian organisations and the Australian climate adaptation research community. Rob will be initially based with VCCCAR at the University of Melbourne and can be contacted via email at [rrogema@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:rrogema@unimelb.edu.au).

## **2. Hartmut Fünfgeld - Research Fellow, adaptation 'framing' project**

Hartmut Fünfgeld joins RMIT's Climate Change Adaptation Program as Research Fellow for the VCCCAR funded project *Framing multi-level and multi-actor adaptation responses in the Victorian context*. Prior to accepting this role, Hartmut has been leading ICLEI Oceania's climate change adaptation work. In collaboration with selected Australian local governments, he developed and implemented a methodology to assist local authorities in assessing climate change risk and identifying appropriate local adaptation measures. As a result of this work, ICLEI Oceania now has a comprehensive capacity-building and decision support program in place that is being replicated in local councils around Australia. ICLEI and Kogarah City Council (NSW), which participated in this pioneering work, recently became a finalist in the United Nations World Environment Day Awards, indicating that the work that has been done is at the forefront of climate change adaptation planning. Hartmut has a PhD in Human Geography, his dissertation being on the social vulnerability of small-scale fishing communities under the impact of political violence (field work in Sri Lanka, graduated summa cum laude) and has also previously carried out research in rural livelihood development in Zambia.

## **3. John Martin – VCCCAR Implementation Committee**

John Martin joined VCCCAR's Implementation Committee as La Trobe University's representative in July, replacing Annabelle Duncan who was appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) of the University of New England. John is the Director of La Trobe University's Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities (<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/csrc/index.html>) and has a strong interest in the institutions and processes that create sustainable communities. His initial training in ecology and natural resource management, sociology and a PhD in public policy provides a multidisciplinary view on sustainable development. John has worked across Australia for the Federal, state and local governments and in the Asia Pacific and Africa on a range of assignments for the World Bank, the ADB, AusAID and the UNDP. His current research and consulting interests include local and regional governance, agriculture and rural change, and the impact of climate change on regional Australia.

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**1. Scenarios research project climate change adaptation workshop – 15 September** (invitation only event).

The VCCCAR funded *Victorian Scenarios Project: Building common understanding of climate adaptation scenario approaches and strategies*, will be holding a workshop on 15 September with Victorian climate adaptation policy makers and practitioners. To find out more about this workshop please contact Taegen Edwards. Email: [taegene@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:taegene@unimelb.edu.au) Ph: 61 (0)3 8344 0917

## **2. Climate Science Communication Workshop – 24 September**

This workshop is being presented by the Australian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society (AMOS). This workshop brings together those involved professionally in both the science and communications fields to identify the key challenges that must be overcome to enable more effective engagement with various audiences. For more information about the workshop, including how to register, please visit the AMOS website at [www.amos.org.au](http://www.amos.org.au).

## **3. National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility -Terrestrial Biodiversity Network 'Roadshow' – 5 October**

The Victorian Roadshow - Adaptation challenges and research needs of local stakeholders – is part of the NCCARF Terrestrial Biodiversity Network 'Roadshow' program. The Victorian event will be held on Tuesday 5th October, 2010 at Rydges on Swanston, Melbourne, Victoria. The target audience comprises management agencies, policy makers, NGO's, government and other interested parties. The program is available at <http://hosting2.arcs.org.au/terrestrialbiodiversity/index.php/vic-roadshow.html>. To register please contact [k.mitchell5@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au](mailto:k.mitchell5@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au) or [yvette.williams@jcu.edu.au](mailto:yvette.williams@jcu.edu.au).

## **4. VCCCAR think tank *Incorporating climate change impacts and adaptation into capital investment decision-making*, John Scott Meeting House, La Trobe University, Bundoora Campus, 7 October – 10am to 4pm.**

The think tank aims to refine ways of incorporating the costs and benefits of climate change (and environmental impact) in assessing capital investment proposals for development and management of long-lived public infrastructure. Recognising economic and environmental resource constraints, the think tank will identify gaps in knowledge and encourage the formation of new collaborative activity through cross-sectoral learning in transport, roads, health, local government, water and electricity. To register your expression of interest or for further information, please contact: [c.adams@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:c.adams@latrobe.edu.au) and [g.boyce@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:g.boyce@latrobe.edu.au). More details regarding this think tank can be found on the VCCCAR website under 'News and Events'.

## **5. *Communicating about Climate Change Adaptation: Reflections on A Workshop Process*, 17 November, venue and time TBA**

This event will comprise a one-hour public seminar to be followed by a 1-2 hour workshop for invited researchers and government decision-makers. The presenters are Professor John Martin, VCCCAR Implementation Committee member and the Director of La Trobe University's Centre for Sustainable Regional Communities (<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/csrc/index.html>) and Professor Sam Ham from the University of Idaho. Professor Ham is visiting Australia under a Fulbright Senior Specialist award working with John Martin to apply his insight and skills in 'thematic communication' with academic staff in regional campuses across Victoria engaging with local community leaders to develop effective communication strategies to adopt climate change adaptation practices. This will include La Trobe at Bendigo, Deakin at Warrnambool, RMIT at Hamilton, Monash in Churchill and the University of Ballarat. On 17 November Sam and John will report on this workshop program identifying learning from the project for future adaptation planning in Victoria.

## **6. VCCCAR Annual Forum – 26 and 27 April 2011, venue TBA**

Please place this date in your diary. The 2011 forum will build on our first forum this year to showcase VCCCAR research and related activities, foster dialogue between stakeholders and continue to build our links with the climate change adaptation community on Victoria. News on venue and program soon.

## **VCCCAR ADMINISTRATION**

### **1. VCCCAR Implementation Committee meeting 16 September – 12noon to 2pm (invitation only event)**

The next Implementation Committee meeting will take place on 16 September – 12noon to 2pm. Project leaders for the first round of VCCCAR funded climate change adaptation projects (or nominees) are also invited to attend. Venue is the VCCCAR meeting room, level 1, 221 Bouverie Street, Carlton.

### **2. VCCCAR Advisory Board meeting 18 November – 2-4pm (invitation only event)**

Venue for the next meeting of the VCCCAR Advisory Board is Graduate House, 220 Leceister Street, Carlton.

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## **CONTRIBUTING TO VCCCAR NEWS**

VCCCAR news is open to contributions relating to climate change adaptation news and events. Priority will be given to news and events in Victoria or of interest to Victorian readers.

To contribute to this newsletter please email submissions to Doug Scobie at [douglass@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:douglass@unimelb.edu.au). Please include "Item for VCCCAR news" in the subject header.

All items will be edited for length, style and suitability. Technical language and jargon will be edited to plain English.

**Doug Scobie**

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