

VCCCAR UPDATE – Friday 5 October 2012

More information about items in this update can be found on our website: www.vcccar.org.au

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NEWS

VCCCAR visiting fellows for 2012 & 2013



<u>Dr Kate Lonsdale</u>, senior associate at the Stockholm Environment Institute, and <u>Prof. Jonathan Overpeck</u>, founding co-director of the Institute of the Environment at the University of Arizona, have been selected as VCCCAR's visiting fellows for 2012 and 2013 respectively. Kate will commence an 11 week fellowship this month, and Jonathan will commence a three month fellowship in January 2013.



VCCCAR's visiting fellowship program attracts outstanding scholars and academics that contribute to our research agenda and actively promote international research initiatives with their home institution. They work collaboratively across VCCCAR partner universities and engage with government agencies and non government stakeholders to develop and disseminate best practice in climate change adaptation research. Follow the links for more information on Kate and Jonathan's areas of expertise.

Save the date - VCCCAR Annual Forum 2013



We are pleased to announce that the fourth VCCCAR Annual Forum with be held on **Monday 13 May 2013 in Geelong**. More information to follow in the next VCCCAR News.

Commencement of Round 3 research projects

Round 3 research projects are now well underway. See below for an overview of each project:

Governance models for adaptation and natural disaster risk management: legal, regulatory, institutional and financial assessment



This project investigates Victorian legal, financial and institutional frameworks for managing the risks of extreme events and natural disasters and makes recommendations for incorporating decision-making under the uncertainty introduced by climate risk. It aims to identify specific risk management mechanisms in land use planning, catchment management, natural resource management and infrastructure development. It aims to inform the development of climate adaptation

policy, law reform and implementation, working closely with government partners to identify options for knowledge transfer to support decision-making through accessible practitioner and policy related publications.

Implementing tools to increase adaptive capacity in the community and natural resource management sectors



Improving capacity for managing climate risks and building community resilience is an identified priority for the Victorian Government. This project will undertake a structured analysis of the application of tools and guides for climate change adaptation in regional and metropolitan community service and catchment management sectors. 'Real-world' barriers, issues and opportunities will be assessed through participatory research with key partners, including sector peak bodies. A range of analytical tools and

approaches will be trialed and the results used to improve risk management procedures and practices. Results will also provide a better understanding of the usefulness of different types of information approaches in other sectors.

<u>Decision taking in times of uncertainty. Towards an efficient strategy to manage risk and uncertainty in climate change adaptation</u>



Climate variability challenges governments and stakeholders due to the uncertainty of future impacts. There is also uncertainty in other forms of information required to make long-term planning decisions such as land suitability or population and economic growth projections. The negotiation of knowledge on which decisions can be based is an important part of debates among experts, the public and political decision-makers. This project will use the Gippsland region to analyse the process of regional

planning and how knowledge of climate change impacts and adaptation options is used in decision-making. The project considers the energy economy, and integrated land use planning, and how both need to integrate a variety of conflicting interests and develop guidelines for improved regional planning, taking future climate risks into account.

PUBLICATIONS

Latest VCCCAR publications available online

Our latest publications are now available on our website. Click the links below to view. If you would like to request a hard copy of a publication email pbond@unimelb.edu.au with your name, postal address and the title of the publication you are requesting.

- Resilient Urban Systems policy brief
- Resilient Urban Systems final report
- Integrated Land Management policy brief

EVENTS

Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit launch



When: 8.30am – 10am Thurs 25 October 2012
Where: Level 4, 460 Bourke Street, Melbourne CBD
The Climate Change Adaptation Toolkit has been
developed to integrate climate adaptation into
processes and decisions and to support robust

decision making in the face of uncertainty. Relevant for government and organisations considering the impacts of climate change to their business/services/community, the toolkit has been developed in partnership with RMIT University and the City of Greater Geelong. It will be free for download and use. The launch includes presentations by Burke Renouf, Coordinator Sustainability from the City of Greater Geelong and Hartmut Fünfgeld, Research Fellow with the Climate Change Adaptation Program at RMIT University. Places are strictly limited. RSVP to Amanda O'Sullivan at amandao@netbalance.com