

VCRC Newsletter



VICTORIAN CLIMATE
RESILIENT COUNCILS

Desktop review of climate change risk assessment approaches

In the September Newsletter we provided a summary of the outcomes from Nation Partners desktop review of existing climate risk assessment tools and standards available for use by Local Government. For your convenience the link to the full report is below. It's a very useful report and we highly recommend it to councils considering a climate risk assessment.

Climate risk assessment literature review

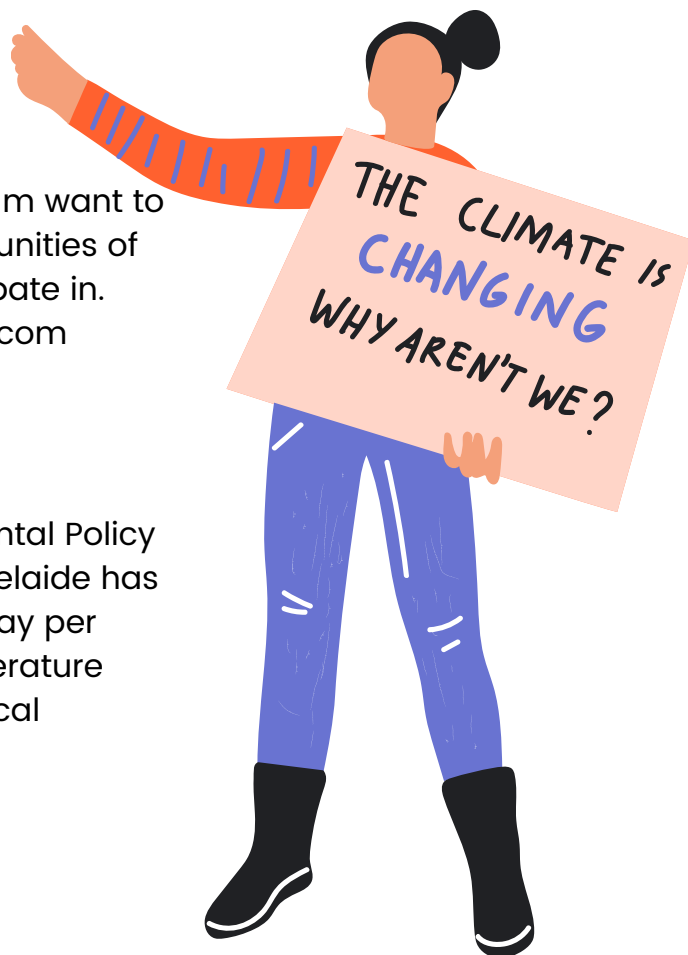
<https://adapt.waga.com.au/resources/VCRC%20-%20CCRA%20review%20-%20Nation%20Partners%20-%20Final%20summary%20report.pdf>

Can you help us???

As part of Resource Mapping the VCRC team want to know about any Climate Resilience Communities of Practice (CoP) you are aware of or participate in. Please contact us at vcrcprogram@gmail.com

Welcome to our Volunteer

Lucy Eaton, a recent graduate in Environmental Policy and Management from the University of Adelaide has joined the VCRC team as a volunteer one day per week. Lucy is supporting the team with a literature review of climate resilience resources for local government.



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Key Meetings this month

Project Steering Committee

The VCRC Project Steering Committee comprises a representative from each of the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances meeting with the VCRC project team.

The 3rd quarterly PSC meeting was held on 11th October. While PSC meetings are an opportunity to review progress on the development of the VCRC, they're also used to workshop specific questions with the greenhouse alliances.

This meeting looked at some key strategic questions, including how to deal with limitations in climate risk assessment guidance for councils and the limitations of the Climate Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) process. These issues will be addressed in future advocacy through the VCRC.

Meeting with DEECA Climate Science Team

The VCRC team and members of the Project Steering Committee met with the Climate Science team in the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) on 18th October.

Focus of the discussion was Victoria's Future Climate Tool. The Tool provides access to data on future climate models for Victoria and is essential reading for anyone wanting to understand and plan for climate change.

The Climate Science team updated us on their plans for the tool, which include updating the data and making clear what the data will mean for specific climate hazards such as heatwaves, floods and storms. The VCRC representatives provided the Climate Science team with ideas for improving councils' access to the tool and data. This will be an ongoing conversation.

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2nd Meeting Adaptive Capacity Checklist (ACC) Pilot

In total 12 councils attended the meeting of the Adaptive Capacity Assessment working group, including nine metro and three rural.

Discussion was on Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (ME&R); Benchmarking and where How Well Are We Adapting (HWAWA) could integrate with the VCRC program. The group emphasised the importance of ME&R to provide evidence for advocacy and the value of case studies to assist learning. There is also the need for flexibility to support a range of councils and engage under resourced and rural and regional councils.

Merri-bek, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Surf Coast and East Gippsland have expressed interest in piloting the revised checklist which will commence in November. The next meeting on 9th November will focus on how council staff can engage council leadership on climate resilience.

1st Mtg of Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) Review

Seven councils attended the CERA review working group meeting with two from metro and five from rural councils.

After an introduction including background to the VCRC program and the CERA review project the group heard from Gt Dandenong on the work they are doing with CERA focussing on heatwaves and floods.

Discussion focussed on officer's experience of MEMP development using the CERA tool, their capacity to use Victoria's Future Climate Tool and the Climate Council Climate Risk map and sharing information about local projects and resources.

If you have interest in joining this group please contact the VCRC team.

What is next?

During November the VCRC team will be:

- Starting work on a business case for the VCRC platform and online portal
- Continuing with the literature review. Specifically now looking at adaptation planning
- Refining the program, governance, funding and resourcing models
- Commence piloting the revised Adaptive Capacity Checklist.

Connect

If you would like further information about VCRC you can find more information on our [website](#) or contact our team on vcrcprogram@gmail.com

Thank You

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