

Climate Resilient Communities of the Barwon south west

Councils and partners working together

The Climate Resilient Communities of the Barwon South West project is a joint collaboration between 10 local governments, the Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries and a range of statutory agency partners. The project aims to help communities throughout the Barwon South West region understand what risks or opportunities might be presented by future extreme weather events.

Phase One of the project was completed in 2014 and it identified a list of high priority regional projects that could be delivered in Phase Two. These projects are captured in the Regional Report which provides a snapshot of climate risks and opportunities, preparedness and adaptation priorities for the region.

For further details about the overall project and its progress so far, please refer to Fact Sheets 1, 2 and 3.

Additional Support through VASP Fund

With the support of the project Councils and partners, we were able to secure an additional \$400,000 through the Victorian Adaption and Sustainability Partnership (VASP)

fund which will be allocated towards the implementation of the high priority regional projects. In simple terms, this will allow us to deliver many more projects than we had originally anticipated.

Phase 2: High Priority Projects Delivery 2014-15

Small working groups were formed with officers from each of the Councils and partner agencies to further scope the priority projects and present their findings to the Project Reference Group (PRG) in a workshop held at Port Fairy in July 2014.

All eight of the scoped priority projects were supported for delivery, however it was agreed that they should be staged over the next three years – five delivered in Phase 2 and 3 delivered in Phase 3 (VASP).

Detailed project briefs were developed for the five Phase 2 projects and presented to the PRG in December 2014 at a meeting held in Bannockburn. Details of these projects is provided in the table Below

Details of sub-projects that are **currently** being delivered:

PROJECT TITLE	SCOPE	PROJECT FUNDS	COMPLETION DATE	CURRENT STATUS
Climate Resilient Communities Web Portal	To develop a web portal to provide a knowledge base for a host of information related to the project and broader climate adaptation initiatives.	\$60,000	August 2015	The development of the South West Victoria Climate Adaptation Portal is being developed by FedUni in partnership with the Glenelg Hopkins and Corangamite CMAs. A 'prototype portal will be presented to the PRG at the Hamilton PRG Workshop on 11 th of June 2015.

Climate Risk Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plans	For eights Councils to develop and implement Climate Adaption Plans, including a climate risk assessment of Councils operations. Two Councils to implement their Adaption Plans.	\$300,000	December 2015	The Tender documentation is currently being finalised and will be presented to the PCG and PRG by June 2015. The tendering process will commence by mid June 2015.
Resilience of water supplies in un-serviced communities	The project will help build understanding of the risk level for water supplies of unserviced communities and identify hotspots/towns across the region. A program will then be run to build capacity for two of these communities to improve the resilience of their water supplies. The program will be a model that can be used in other vulnerable water supply towns.	\$50,000	December 2015	The two pilot towns have been identified (one G21 region and one Great South Coast region) where the awareness raising and educational components will be rolled out for this project. Next steps are to work with the relevant municipalities to arrange communications, mail-outs, venues and other logistics; Redesign and rebrand available Barwon Water tools (i.e. DVDs). Community workshops are planned to be delivered in late spring/early summer 2015.
Knowledge and Resource Sharing	Share knowledge and better practices that help embed climate resilience in council and other organisations decision making.	\$20,000	December 2015	Funded conference attendance of senior local government Staff at the Climate Change Adaptation for Local Government & Public Sector Conference held in Melbourne on 4 th of December 2014. Project Reference Group Workshop at Hamilton – 11th of June 2015: • Environ Presentation: The Copenhagen Adaptation Story - Lessons from the City of Copenhagen's adaptation journey • Workshop to explore SW Climate Adaptation "Community of Practice' concept as a practical approach to broader knowledge sharing.
Training in climate project software to build internal capacity	Rollout a tool and training that will assist local government staff to forecast climate impacts for local areas, helping them to consider impacts for their projects.	\$40,000	February 2016	Currently in discussions with the City of Greater Geelong and the City of Yarra regarding opportunity to build on the multimedia Climate Adaptation training modules under development as part of their collaborative VASP project.

For information about the three projects scheduled for delivery in Phase 3 (VASP) during 2015 - 16, please refer to Fact Sheet 3.

Next Steps

- Formal Tendering of the major priority CRC Project Climate Risk Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plans
- Project Control Group Meeting late May 2015.
- Project Reference Group Workshop Hamilton 11th of June 2015

How can I get involved?

Further updates on opportunities to get involved will follow over the months ahead.

In the meantime, for more information or to register your interest in the project, contact:

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