

# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONGRESS

CREATING A CLIMATE RESILIENT FUTURE FOR AUSTRALIA



## Structured Process

- Identify ways to acknowledge the uncertainties surrounding the impact of future climate change into today's decisions
- Develop robust adaptation responses as part of your organisation's strategic response strategic planning
- Emphasise the need to make adaptation planning a mainstream issue across your organisation

## Outcome Focused

- Identify and learn skills to face the challenges associated with building a business case for adaptation
- Create a forum for practical knowledge sharing – drawing on the collective expertise of organisations already adapting
- Evaluating and testing practical adaptation responses and priorities using scenarios

Event Partner

# PROGRAM DESIGN

We invite you to be part of an **INNOVATIVE** process which requires your full engagement and interaction over the two days. The more you invest, the more you will gain in terms of practical value and outcomes.

## SESSION DESIGN

- 1 Leading expert presentations will be followed by facilitated group activities involving all delegates.
- 2 Each participatory activity is designed to build on those that preceded it and integrate with the additional information provided by each opening speaker. Participants will stay in the same groups throughout the two days to enable consistency and flow of work.
- 3 By the end of the Day 2 groups will have created a narrative of their work.



## WHO WILL ATTEND?

- **Business managers** – dealing with increasing complexity and uncertainty and multiple shocks to their business models
- **Policy-makers** – in finance, health, community development, environment, primary industries, planning and transport
- **NGOs** – working on climate and cross-cutting issues
- **Researchers** – particularly those working on interdisciplinary themes relating to climate change

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Some details in the agenda may be subject to change

DAY 1

13 October 2011

8:45am

## Introduction by Congress Chair

Rob Gell, Master of Ceremonies

9:00am – 9:40am

## Opening Address

From 'climate sceptic' to a leading voice on climate science, Rear Admiral Tittle will discuss climate change, and its impending implications on US national security. David is part of a special Task Force that has developed the Navy Arctic Roadmap, a 5 year strategic plan designed to ensure the US Navy is ready and capable of contributing to a safe, stable, and secure Arctic region throughout the 21st century.

Rear Admiral David Tittle, Director, Task Force Climate Change and Oceanographer for the US Navy (US)

9:40am – 10:20am

## Opening Keynote

### Using information about future climates in adaptation decision-making: what works, what doesn't and what's possible

Information about future climates is characterised by uncertainty. Planners and decision-makers need to understand where projections and other accounts of climate futures are uncertain and how this uncertainty should influence their decision-making.

*Followed by questions and discussion*

Dr Graeme Pearman, Graeme Pearman Consulting

## SESSION OUTCOMES

### Participants should leave this session understanding:

- ✓ The uncertainty in climate projections and how levels of uncertainty change with scale, timing and location of potential climate impacts
- ✓ Which climatic changes might be 'locked in' by past emissions, current emissions trajectories or might be averted through strong mitigation efforts
- ✓ The importance of assessing climate futures using range of future climate outcomes rather than point estimates
- ✓ The importance of considering low probability, high consequence outcomes in adaptation planning.

10:20am

## Coffee Break

10:40am – 11:00am

## Introducing the Congress Process

10:00am – 12:00pm

### Adaptation and your organisation – where are you and where are you going?

This session allows participants to consider the keynote presentation in the context of their organisations' own work.

Roderick Marsh, Associate Director, Net Balance

12:00pm – 1:15pm

## Practical priorities in adaptation planning

Climate change compounds existing risks as well as introducing new ones. Understanding the intersection between adaptation and other shocks faced by organisations is a crucial element of adaptation planning.

*Facilitated by Jenni Metcalfe, Director, Econnect*

Bill Hartnett, Sustainability Manager, Local Government Super

Final speaker (tbc)

## SESSION OUTCOMES

### Participants should leave this session understanding:

- ✓ The way that climate risk compounds existing organisational risks as well as creates new ones.
- ✓ How this affects value (particularly financial) of adaptation actions – in single organisations as well as across a community/class of organisation/nation etc.
- ✓ New hints/principles for prioritising adaptation actions from this perspective

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

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DAY 1

13 October 2011

1:15pm

Lunch

2:15pm – 3:30pm

## Building a business case for adaptation investment and organisational change

Adaptation planning needs to be integrated into almost all elements of an organisation's activities – strategic and operational. This is challenging. Many characteristics of the adaptation problem do not integrate well with typical approaches to decision-making in most organisation.

**Facilitated by Jenni Metcalfe, Director, Econnect**

**Councillor Krista Milne, Sustainability Manager, City of Melbourne**

**Dr Bruce Taylor, CSIRO**

**David Rissik, Deputy Director, NCCARF**

### SESSION OUTCOMES

Participants will hear about:

- ✓ Common pitfalls and challenges that arise when addressing climate change adaptation in organisations (e.g. perceptions of climate change, managing uncertainty, relevance of adaptation spend in the context of short-term priorities, cost).
- ✓ Ways to approach organisational inertia on climate change adaptation
- ✓ How to justify long-term climate change adaptation expenditure, while managing the risks of over, under and mal-adaptation.
- ✓ How to integrate existing knowledge across disciplines and develop and communicate new knowledge.

3:30pm

Coffee Break

3:45pm – 5:00pm

## Embedding climate adaptation: building robust decision-making capability

There is no simple design for adaptation decision-making. The 'best' design, plan or strategy for adaptation may be one that offers a satisfactory solution under a wide range of possible futures. It may not be the cheapest, easiest to implement or the one with the clearest long-term outcome.

Good adaptation decision-making responds to climate change uncertainty by maintaining flexibility, testing options, maintaining links with a wide range of stakeholders. Adaptation requires a change from 'predict-then-act' approaches to 'explore-then-test' ones.

**Roderick Marsh, Associate Director, Net Balance**

*Case Study tbc*

### SESSION OUTCOMES

Participants should leave this session with an understanding of:

- ✓ What makes decisions robust
- ✓ How to design decision-making processes so they are most likely to deliver robust outcomes

5:00pm

## Closing Comments Day One and Networking Drinks

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

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# DAY 2

14 October 2011

9:00am – 9.45am

## Keynote Address

### The Risks of a Changing Climate

Will Steffen provides a candid picture of the impacts of climate change on the earth systems. This session is designed to help anchor the day's discussions in physical realities of climate change.

**Professor Will Steffen, Executive Director and Climate Commissioner, ANU Climate Change Institute and Climate Commissioner**

9:45am

### Scenario planning for adaptation: what works, what doesn't, what's promising

Scenario planning has a long history as a tool for dealing with uncertain futures. It can be a controversial tool. Some suggest detailed scenarios risk 'locking-in' thinking about the future to a limited range of possibilities; others emphasise the value of scenarios as a way of 'stress-testing' plans and informing discussions about policy and governance in the context of uncertainty and complexity.

*Followed by questions and discussion*

**Professor John Wiseman, University of Melbourne**  
**Dr Lauren Rickards, University of Melbourne**

## SESSION OUTCOMES

Participants should gain an understanding of:

- ✓ How scenarios can be incorporated into adaptation planning
- ✓ How to develop useful scenarios
- ✓ How to best use them to improve decision-making

10:15am – 10:45am

## Coffee Break

11:15am – 12:30pm

## Working Group Session 1:

### Combining priorities for action with organisationally-relevant scenarios

Participants will use their work from the day 1 session 'practical priorities in adaptation planning' to develop three scenarios to provide context for future decision making.

## SESSION OUTCOMES

Participants will develop:

- ✓ A list of information requirements for prioritisation and decision making
- ✓ Three possible scenarios that capture a range of future outcomes against which adaptation decisions can be evaluated

12:30pm

## Lunch

1:30pm – 2:45pm

## Working Group Session 2:

### Using scenarios to test adaptation responses

## SESSION OUTCOMES

Participants will:

- ✓ Obtain hands-on experience evaluating and testing adaptation responses and priorities using scenarios developed for that purpose
- ✓ Understand the value of scenarios as tools to explore uncertainty and complexity and test the robustness of adaptation responses to a wide range of possible futures

*Led by Ian Dunlop (tbc)*

2:45pm

## Coffee Break

# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

*Some details in the agenda may be subject to change*

DAY 2

14 October 2011

**3:00pm – 4:15pm**

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**Working Group Session 3:**

## **Using scenarios and climate information in a business case for action on adaptation**

Including the results of work focused on exploring uncertainty and complexity and generating robust solutions in a traditional business case can be hard.

Many organisations demand more certainty (even if it is illusory) in business cases than robust solutions can provide. Robust solutions work best in situations where uncertainty cannot be reduced.

### **SESSION OUTCOMES**

**Participants should leave the session understanding:**

- ✓ How scenarios and information about climate futures can be incorporated in a business case
- ✓ How scenarios can be used to improve organisations' decision-making

**Led by facilitator from Net Balance (tbc)**

**4:15pm**

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**Closing Remarks and Close of Congress**

## CONFERENCE DETAILS

### TO REGISTER

Web climateadaptation.com.au  
Fax 02 9810 6746  
Email zaf@3pillarsnetwork.com.au  
Mail 212A Darling Street  
Balmain NSW 2041

### ENQUIRIES

Contact Zaf Makdum  
Tel 02 9555 4203  
Email zaf@3pillarsnetwork.com.au

### DATES & VENUE

13-14 October 2011

Melbourne Town Hall

The Supper Room (3rd floor)  
Corner Swanston and Collins Streets  
Melbourne VIC 3000  
Tel 03 9658 9779  
Fax 03 9654 1427

### TIME

Registration starts at 8.30am on  
13 October 2011 and conference  
ends 4.30pm on 14 October 2011.

### Cancellation Policy:

Should you be unable to attend, a substitute delegate is always welcome at no extra cost. Alternatively, a full refund, minus 50% (incl GST) service charge will be made for cancellations received in writing up to two weeks prior to the event. Regrettably, no refund will be given for cancellations received later than two weeks prior to the event.

### Privacy:

The above information will be recorded in our delegate database. 3 Pillars Network may also share this information with our event sponsors. Please tick the appropriate box if you do not wish to receive further correspondence.

### Event Partner



### Presented by



**3 PILLARS**  
NETWORK

The 3 Pillars Network is the leading knowledge network for sustainable business in Australia. Membership is free for any individual who has attended a 3 Pillars event.

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## REGISTRATION FORM

### REGISTER ME FOR THE CLIMATE ADAPTATION CONGRESS

I am a member of 3 Pillars Network  I am interested in becoming a member

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#### EARLY BIRD – Book & pay by 23 September 2011

Full 2-day conference  \$795+GST = **\$874.50**

#### Bring your colleagues and save!

2 people from same organisation  \$1390+GST = **\$1529.00**

3 people from same organisation  \$1935+GST = **\$2128.50**

#### STANDARD REGISTRATION RATE – Book & pay after 23 September 2011

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2 people from same organisation  \$1590+GST = **\$1749.00**

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### NON MEMBERS

#### EARLY BIRD – Book & pay by 23 September 2011

Full 2-day conference  \$895+GST = **\$984.50**

#### Bring your colleagues and save!

2 people from same organisation  \$1590+GST = **\$1749.00**

3 people from same organisation  \$2235+GST = **\$2458.50**

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Full 2-day conference  \$995+GST = **\$1094.50**

#### Bring your colleagues and save!

2 people from same organisation  \$1790+GST = **\$1969.00**

3 people from same organisation  \$2535+GST = **\$2788.50**

**Please note that special rates are available for not for profits. Further discounts also apply for larger group bookings.**

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