



Tuesday 1 October 2013

VCCCAR News

More information about this update at www.vcccar.org.au

Message from the director on future adaptation research



VCCCAR is currently funded by the Victorian Government until June 2014. Our 13 research projects have been organised in four themes:

- Governance, Framing and Implementation
- Resilient Urban Systems
- Decision Making under Uncertainty
- Natural Resource Management in a Changing Climate

Research project outputs have provided valuable input to policy processes and adaptation activities identified in the **Victorian Climate Change Adaptation Plan**. The Victorian universities involved in VCCCAR have indicated their willingness to continue the partnership to support improved policies for adaptation in Victorian State and local governments and improved preparation and resilience in communities and industries. To build the case for future investment in research, VCCCAR organised a series of think tanks focused on key themes identified in the Victorian Adaptation Plan.

The first – managing risks to public assets and infrastructure - was held on 22 August. A group of 30 senior members of state and local government, industry representatives, and university researchers identified key research needs to improve decision making in relation to energy, water, transport and the built environment. Identified benefits from this research investment included reduced costs of

maintaining supply, increased water, energy and transport security, more efficient planning and investment decisions and better capacity to manage the impacts of increasing frequency and intensity extreme events on these assets.

The second think tank on Friday 27 September (see image above), focused on research to support adaptation in the private sector. It identified the need for improved understanding of adaptation challenges and actions in small to medium enterprises; providing frameworks for the business case for adaptation investment; how to work with business advisors such as banks, accountants and consultants; identifying improvements to regulatory standards and building codes; and improved understanding of the potential wider impacts of climate events on supply chains, customers and markets. Climate change can present opportunities as well as risks to business. Stronger partnerships between industry and researcher are required to support improved adaptation in business. View the [background paper for this think tank](#).

Additional think tanks to identify research needs to support partnerships with local government and the community and managing risks to natural assets and natural resource based industries will be held during October. Outputs from these think tanks will be used to provide a supporting case for funding to the Victorian Government and other potential investors.

I welcome your input into future research directions for climate adaptation research in Victoria. Draft reports from these think tanks will be available for wider input and comment until the end of October. Please keep an eye on our [website](#) for updates on the outcomes of these think tanks.

Rod Keenan
Director, VCCCAR

MSLE Seminar: What are responsible products and how can they tackle key issues like deforestation and human rights?

When: 5-6pm Monday 14 October 2013

Where: Graduate House, 220 Leicester St, Carlton

In this free seminar **Scott**

Poynton, Executive Director and Founder of The Forest Trust (TFT), will discuss critical buyer leverage across supply chains, responsible sourcing policies, and the limitations of forest and palm oil

certification. TFT works across timber, paper, palm oil, and other supply chains to develop and implement policies to eliminate deforestation and protect human rights.



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