

# An Agenda For Australian Research On Climate & Energy Security (Phase I)



Australian  
National  
University

# Project Team

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# Project Aims

This project engages Australian policymakers and researchers in order to:

- Understand Australian government priorities and research needs regarding climate, energy, and natural disaster security (nationally and in our region)
- Develop ongoing communities of practice between researchers and policymakers in government-identified priority areas, to enhance capacity for evidence-based policymaking
- Facilitate collaboration between expert researchers & innovators and policymakers to identify specific, actionable solutions to improve Australia's resilience to climate change
- Produce a novel national agenda for Australian research on climate and energy security identifying clear & new ideas for development of research projects

In doing so, *this project will enhance Australian research capacity to better address vulnerabilities related to climate change and energy transitions.*



Image: Bushfires threaten the ACT in January 2020  
(Wikimedia Commons)

# Project Structure

## Phase One

- Project team map public sector stakeholders & run meetings with policymakers to identify government priorities and research needs.
- Project team & policymakers co-design up to five *Engagement Sessions*.
  - Policymakers determine session goals
  - Format of each Engagement Session varies depending on the themes & specific goals for the Session.

## Phase Two

- **Engagement Sessions held**
  - Develop up to five thematic communities of practice
  - Identify and rank research gaps related to climate & energy security
  - Meet the tangible, specific goals for each Session as identified by policymakers.
  - Engagement Sessions are bespoke, invite-only, and conducted under Chatham House rule.

## Phase Three,

- **Project team produces a Summary of identified research priorities related to Australian climate & energy security**
  - Based on discussions and activities during the Engagement Sessions but adhering to the Chatham House rule
- **Project team circulates and receive feedback on draft Summary from policymakers before it is published open-access**
- **Project team continues to leverage and strengthen the communities of practice.**

# PHASE I OUTCOMES

# Session I: Pacific Islands-Australian Regional Engagement to Address Climate Security

<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Offer a platform for policymaker and expert dialogue on climate security in the Pacific Islands, supporting momentum towards upcoming collaborative initiatives between Australia and our region</li><li>• Form an ongoing community of practice between Australian and Pacific Islands experts and practitioners on climate security in our region in an inclusive, respectful environment</li><li>• Identify specific knowledge gaps to be addressed by this community of practice in the next 12 months</li><li>• Identify specific avenues for further collaboration and advocacy on climate security among members of this community of practice in the 12 months</li></ul>
<b>Driving Questions</b>	<p>How can Australia and Pacific Islands researchers and policymakers improve collaboration to address shared challenges in light of the current climate emergency in our region, as well as the onus on a broadened comprehensive view of security?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How has climate change been defined and addressed as a national security issue throughout the Pacific?</li><li>• How would the Pacific Islands nations and Australia benefit from better engagement between policymakers and researchers?</li><li>• What are the realities of Pacific Islands energy needs? Costs?</li><li>• How can Australia collaborate in a genuine and respectful manner with Pacific nations on technical input and transfer of skills?</li></ul>
<b>Format</b>	Hybrid summit (in-person plus online)
<b>Participants</b>	30 in-person (catered), plus up to 30 online
<b>Timing</b>	5-hour summit with lunch & tea networking breaks



# Session II: Disruptive Technologies and Innovation in Climate and Renewable Energy Security

<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect Australian policymakers and innovators working on disruptive decarbonisation technologies.</li><li>• Identify specific, actionable solutions to prepare Australia for upcoming disruptive decarbonisation technologies.</li><li>• Form an ongoing community of practice between policymakers and disruptive technology innovators on Australian climate and energy security.</li><li>• Identify specific opportunities for collaboration between members of this community in the next 12 months</li><li>• Identify specific knowledge gaps to be addressed by this community of practice in the next 12 months</li></ul>
<b>Driving Questions</b>	<p>What are the disruptive technologies that will fundamentally alter/improve our and our region's climate change &amp; renewable energy strategies?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What do they cost?</li><li>• How can they be implemented effectively?</li><li>• How can we best ready Australia and our region for these disruptive technologies?</li><li>• How can knowledge transfer regarding to Pacific Islands nations regarding disruptive technologies be pursued in a participatory and respectful manner?</li><li>• What are the barriers to fostering greater climate and renewable energy technology innovation in Australia and the Asia-Pacific? What do innovators need to succeed in improving our climate change &amp; renewable energy outcomes?</li></ul>
<b>Format</b>	Structured analytic techniques
<b>Participants</b>	30 in-person
<b>Timing</b>	3-hour session with tea/networking break

# Session III: Australian Climate Security and Natural Disaster Preparedness

<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect Australian policymakers and researchers with expertise on climate security, natural disaster responses and management, and emergency services</li><li>• Identify specific, actionable solutions to improve Australia's natural disaster preparedness in light of the effects of climate change and the renewable energy transition.</li><li>• Form an ongoing community of practice between policymakers and researchers to improve Australia's natural disaster preparedness.</li><li>• Identify specific opportunities for collaboration between members of this community in the next 12 months</li><li>• Identify specific knowledge gaps to be addressed by this community of practice in the next 12 months</li></ul>
<b>Driving Questions</b>	<p>How can the Australian government improve its strategic readiness and capabilities in dealing with natural disasters related to climate change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What types and intensities of natural disasters is Australia expected to face as a result of climate change?</li><li>• What types and scale of deployments will be needed to address these disasters?</li><li>• What types of structural and investment shifts will be required - in armed services but also whole-of-government roles and capabilities?</li><li>• What will this cost and how can this be implemented in the most resource-efficient manner?</li></ul>
<b>Format</b>	War-game
<b>Participants</b>	30 in-person
<b>Timing</b>	3-hour session with tea/networking break



# Session IV: Societal Security During Decarbonisation (Australia and our region)

<b>Aims</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Form an ongoing community of practice between Australian policymakers and researchers with expertise on the geopolitics, economic transformations, social impacts, human security, and the political upheavals of climate change</li><li>• Identify specific, actionable solutions to improve engagement between government and communities in Australia (and our region) in adapting to the impacts of climate change and the energy transition</li><li>• Identify specific, actionable solutions to improve Australian societal preparedness for the social and political transformations expected as a result of climate change</li><li>• Identify specific opportunities for collaboration between members of this community, and between members of this community and other sections of Australian society, in the next 12 months</li><li>• Identify specific knowledge gaps to be addressed by this community of practice in the next 12 months</li></ul>
<b>Driving Questions</b>	<p>How can we prepare Australian society to adapt to the impacts of climate change and the renewable energy transition?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What types of community and social impacts of climate change and the renewable energy transition in Australia and our region should we be preparing for?</li><li>• How might climate change adaptation/mitigation strategies be implemented so as to improve social equity outcomes?</li><li>• How can we better engage communities as partners in implementing climate change adaptation/mitigation strategies?</li><li>• How can we use the networks fostered through this engagement to improve tools &amp; knowledge to address societal security during decarbonisation?</li></ul>
<b>Format</b>	Structured analytical techniques OR War-game
<b>Participants</b>	30 in-person
<b>Timing</b>	3-hour session with tea/networking break

# Session V: Bespoke Engagement Session

<b>Aims</b>	Theme, activities, and aims determined based on priorities of Department/Agency
<b>Driving Questions</b>	TBC
<b>Format</b>	Developed by project team in consultation with relevant Department/Agency/Ministerial Offices
<b>Participants</b>	Number of participants and timing flexible depending on session needs
<b>Timing</b>	TBC

# THANK YOU

## Contact Us

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