

## Overview

The University Climate Consortium (UCC) comprises four research intensive Universities within the Group of Eight:

- ▶ Australian National University
- ▶ Monash University
- ▶ The University of Melbourne
- ▶ The University of NSW

A formal mechanism now exists between these Universities to enhance collaboration in:

- ▶ climate science
- ▶ climate impacts
- ▶ climate adaptation
- ▶ climate mitigation
- ▶ integrated solutions

This mechanism provides arrangements for collaborative research, sharing of information, and engagement across institutions.

## Contacts

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# Capacity

**The UCC is the one-stop-shop for University-based climate research excellence. We have leading expertise in all major areas from climate modelling to weather hazards to adaptation and mitigation policy.**

We have superb expertise in the impacts of recent and future climate change on biodiversity, urban and agricultural systems, and water resources. We are leading the development of risk-based estimates of climate change impacts in Australia. Key institutional issues including governance, economics, and emerging legal frameworks are innovative strengths of the UCC. Via participatory research, we explore the user-driven solutions to mitigating and adapting to climate change.

The UCC includes most of the significant climate research capacity in Australian universities. We include three Federation Fellows, several Australian Research Council Professorial Fellows and the directors of relevant national centres. All members have exceptional national and international links.

We have the strongest undergraduate and postgraduate teaching and training programs in the Southern Hemisphere.

**The Australian National University** hosts the ANU Institute of Environment, which facilitates integrative cross-university collaboration on climate, water and energy research. ANU's strength in climate is its breadth, spanning basic science in palaeoclimate and land processes through adaptation research on human health and biodiversity to the human dimensions of climate change - institutions, governance, economics and law. The ANU maintains a strong policy interface with the Australian Government.

**Monash University** hosts the Monash Sustainability Institute including programs in biodiversity, climate, transport, water and energy. A large climate program integrates climate and meteorological research focusing on regional modelling, extreme events, bushfires, and the urban environment. Monash possesses a significant history in participatory research, through programs in International and Regional Development, National Urban Water Governance and Community-based Climate Adaptation.

**The University of Melbourne** has an active research program in climate change, impacts, adaptation and mitigation. These are focussed through the Climate Adaptation Science and Policy Initiative (CASPI). Areas of expertise include agriculture and forestry; biodiversity; climate science; decision making and risk management, energy efficiency; geospatial information and visualisation; social and economic impacts; urban transport & the built environment; and water.

**The University of New South Wales** hosts the Climate Change Research Centre which focuses on physical and biophysical research in oceans, atmosphere and terrestrial systems to improve global and regional climate modelling. Initiatives in biodiversity, risk, extremes and urban design are linked with innovative programs in business and carbon management. We undertake participatory research with indigenous communities and with coastal councils, linking our research to end-users.

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**The UCC combines our expertise into one framework. The breadth, across the UCC, encompasses fundamental climate change science, as well as the challenges of mitigation and adaptation. Indeed, the formation of the UCC reflects our individual recognition that the challenge of climate change is beyond the capacity of any single institution.**

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*Our strength is the collective capacity we bring to all aspects of the climate challenge.*