



# Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies

## Fact Sheet

### Regional Adaptation Strategies

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) is developing regional climate change adaptation strategies covering each of its six regions – Loddon-Mallee, Hume, Gippsland, Port Phillip, Barwon South West and Grampians. These Regional Adaptation Strategies (RAS) will be practical strategies to guide priority climate change adaptation action where Victorians live.

The regional adaptation planning process will provide stakeholders with a framework to identify, prioritise and deliver strategic adaptation action within their region. It is expected that the RAS will identify actions entirely within a region's sphere of influence as well as actions that will require coordination and engagement beyond the region. The resulting strategy will be a plan of action for regional stakeholders and a tool to support strategic engagement to catalyse further adaptation action within each region.

### Supporting our Regions to Adapt Program

The development of RAS delivers on a commitment under *Victoria's Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2017-2020* to support regional adaptation planning and are a key initiative under the Victorian Government's four-year *Supporting our Regions to Adapt* program. The program provides practical support for regional Victorian communities by **building adaptive capacity** and supporting the **delivery of adaptation action**. The program has the following objectives:

- To build an understanding of regional vulnerability and likely impacts of climate change to inform priorities for adaptation action.
- To develop a state-wide strategic approach to regional climate change adaptation that guides appropriate and effective adaptation action across the three years of the program and beyond.
- To **build the capacity** of regional stakeholders to deliver coordinated and effective adaptation action across state-wide, regional and local levels.
- To **deliver tailored solutions and drive action** to support Victoria's regions to adapt to current and prepare for future climate change impacts.
- To build and strengthen relationships with regional stakeholders, between policy and delivery and within

regions, to support effective and coordinated adaptation action in Victoria's regions.

### Complementing local & state-wide adaptation

Under the *Climate Change Act 2017*, state-wide sector-based Adaptation Action Plans (AAPs) will be developed for seven key systems vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. The RAS will complement the AAPs by providing a place-based, stakeholder-led analysis of climate change adaptation issues which can help inform state-wide actions. The RAS aim to support and enable greater local level action by identifying and elevating adaptation issues and barriers that are better addressed at local and regional scales.

### Locally informed and locally owned strategies

The RAS will engage a wide range of different stakeholders to draw on diverse local knowledge and expertise and build a rich picture of the region. DELWP will support the establishment of *Regional Adaptation Stakeholder Committees* to develop, engage in and, where possible, lead the development of the RAS.

The RAS will also draw on the 2017-18 *Climate Change Adaptation Gap Analyses* conducted in each DELWP region to better understand the current and expected local impacts of climate change, adaptation actions already underway, and future needs for each region.

### DELWP's role: strategize, catalyse and enable

Engaging stakeholders and facilitating partnerships to enable local communities, regions and sectors adapt to climate change is a key role of the Victorian Government. The development of the RAS will be facilitated by DELWP regional teams, using participatory approaches that put local knowledge and expertise at the centre of the process.

DELWP will support the development and monitoring and evaluation of the RAS over the next three years, through the *Supporting our Regions to Adapt* program.

### For further information

Contact DELWP's Regional Program Managers or visit:

[www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/adapting-to-climate-change-impacts](http://www.climatechange.vic.gov.au/adapting-to-climate-change-impacts)



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