

South Australia's Industry Climate Change Conference 2023

There has never been a more important time to consider both the climate change risks to your business and the impact of your business on the environment. With the effects of climate change being felt around the world, businesses are working toward actively managing their climate risks, whilst reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. It is smart business to take steps toward the opportunities of a clean, green future as well as preparing your business for any impacts of climate change.

Reducing emissions and climate risk management benefits us all and can also benefit your business. These benefits include:

- increased revenue through attracting new customers and producing new products and services
- reduced costs through changed behaviour in areas such as travel and energy use
- engaged stakeholders such as:
 - staff, who are attracted and retained in the business,
 - customers, who are more loyal to the business, and
 - investors, who are able to see that you are managing carbon emissions.

The South Australian Government is taking actions to reduce emissions on a pathway to net zero and to prepare the state for climate related risks.

- The state's governing legislation in relation to climate change is the [Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007 \(legislation.sa.gov.au\)](https://legislation.sa.gov.au). This legislation is currently [being reformed](#) to update targets.
- [South Australia – Responding to Climate Change](#) outlines the priority actions that the South Australian Government will be focussing on in the near term to build a strong, net zero emissions future and adapt to climate change.
- These priority actions build upon a strong foundation of [existing government action](#) to address climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- The South Australian Government is also amending the [Environment Protection Act 1993](#) to clarify powers relating to greenhouse gas emission reduction and climate change adaptation.

An output of the inaugural SA Industry Climate Change Conference 2023 is a resource kit to help your business to **manage climate risks** and provide tools to **reduce emissions** and **build climate resilience**.

Emissions Reduction

Sustainability and Net Zero

- The South Australian Government provides [energy efficiency information and programs for businesses](#).
- The SA Office of Small and Family Business provides resources on [how to become a net zero business](#), including how to:
 - [Calculate your business' emissions](#)
 - [Reduce your business' emissions](#)
 - [Offset your business' emissions](#)
- A new [Net Zero Essentials program](#) was launched by Business SA and the state government in April, which will provide practical support for SMEs to reduce their emissions.
- [Green Industries' Business Sustainability Program](#) assists businesses and industry sectors to accelerate sustainable change.
- [Green Industries offers funding incentives](#) for business and industry sustainability initiatives.
- The World Wildlife Fund for Nature has developed a [Resources Hub](#) to help businesses understand and reduce their impact on the environment.
- Dsquared consulting has developed a [short information paper](#) detailing their carbon neutrality story to support other small-to-medium enterprises on their own journeys.
- The Australian Government offers information on [managing your business' environmental impact](#).
- The Australian Government's [Climate Active program](#) can also help you to understand and offset your emissions to achieve carbon neutrality.
- The United Nations offer resources to help [transform climate issues into action](#).
- Enviro Data SA offers [guidance on carbon planting](#).

Transport

- The state government [EV Fleet Pledge Program](#) can help your organisation to better understand plug-in electric vehicles, through peer-to-peer information sharing and easy to access tools and resources.
- The Adelaide Metro [public transport savings estimator](#) can estimate how much money and carbon emissions could be saved by using public transport instead of driving a car.

Construction / Built Environment

- The [Materials Embodied Carbon Leaders Alliance](#) has useful resources relating to low embodied carbon construction materials.
- The [Supply chain sustainability school](#) offers free learning materials and courses aimed at the construction sector to help build capacity in social, economic and environmental sustainability.
- The [Adelaide Sustainable Building Network Green Book](#) is a free guide to organisations providing solutions for sustainable built environments.
- Lendlease's '[Stepping up the Pace: Fossil Fuel Free Construction](#)' report provides information on low emissions construction, including the local availability of low or zero emission construction equipment.
- [Building Upgrade Finance](#) is a private finance product designed to assist building owners with environmental upgrades to non-residential buildings.

Adaptation and Risk Management

- The Southern and Hills Local Government Association have produced regional climate adaptation resources including fact sheets and a report on '[where we build, what we build](#)'
- The National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility publishes [Practical Adaptation Guides](#).
- The [Climate Services for Agriculture](#) provides farmers and communities climate information to prepare for climate risks.
- The [Future Drought Fund](#) provides farmers access to subsidised learning and development opportunities in strategic business management, farm risk management and decision-making, natural resource management, and personal and social resilience through the farm business resilience program.
- The Queensland Government have produced a [Climate Change Risk Management tool for small business](#)

- The Federal Government provide information on [preparing your business for an emergency](#), and [what to do in an emergency](#).
- The [CSIRO Climate Resilient Enterprises initiative](#) prepares and assists Australian industry to manage impacts and risks from a changing climate.
- The [Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures](#) is a global initiative that was created to improve and increase reporting of climate-related financial information.

Science and Information

- [Climate science, information and resources](#) have been developed to assist decision making, find innovative solutions, and take action to respond and adapt to our changing climate:
 - [The latest climate projections for SA](#) (maps and key findings)
 - A [Guide to climate projections for risk assessment and planning in South Australia 2022](#)
 - [Urban Heat and Tree Mapping](#) and [Coastal Flood Mapping](#)
- The Department for Industry, Innovation and Science maintains a [SA Business Information Hub](#)
- The [Climate Change Science and Knowledge Plan for South Australia](#) seeks to improve the evidence base to support South Australia's responses to climate change.
- The [SA Drought Hub](#) undertakes research for drought resilience and adaptation.
- The CSIRO, in partnership with BoM has developed [climate change projections](#) for Australia's natural resource management sector.

The Organising Committee thank you for attending *South Australia's Industry Climate Change Conference*, and hope that these resources help your business on its emission reduction journey.

Contact climatechange@sa.gov.au for any further information.