

Overview of database categories

<https://australianadaptationdatabase.unimelb.edu.au>
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Climate
Systems



National Environmental Science Program
Enabling best practice adaptation

Australian Adaptation Database

Data name	Data description	Category	Data type	Max no. per entry
ID	A unique numerical identifier assigned to each individual database entry.	-	Numerical	1
Name of Initiative	The unique name of the entry as given by the lead organisation.	-	Text	1
URL	The most relevant URL to a website with more information about the project.	-	URL Link	1
Source	The original data source or referral.	-	Text	1
Description	A summary of the key points about the adaptation project and any significant anomalies.	-	Text	1
Lead Organisation	The organisation(s) responsible for initiating and implementing the adaptation initiative.	-	Text	3
State or Territory	The Australian state or territory where the initiative is based.	-	Categorical	1
Region	The Australian region where the initiative is based, if applicable.	-	Text	1
Local Government Area	The Australian local government area where the initiative is based.	-	Categorical	4
Town or City (SA2)	The Australian town or city where the adaptation has occurred, if relevant, using Australian Bureau of Statistics Statistical Area 2 lists.	-	Categorical	1

Data name	Data description	Category		Data type	Max no. per entry
Type of Organisation	Categorising the lead organisation by type, according to a pre-determined typology.	Civil society	Civil society comprises the people, groups, relationships and activities that comprise the grass-roots levels of society, including families, community organisations, and many voluntary associations, as well as peak bodies that represent the interests of grassroots people and organisations.	Categorical	3
		Private and non-profit organisations	For-profit or not-for profit firms and organisations that are part of the economy and not under state or government control. This includes firms at all scales, and not-forprofit organisations that are operating at a larger scale, often with several paid employees.		
		Local Government	The third level of government in Australia, 537 in total.		
		Regional organisation	Either a conglomerate of local governments (e.g. regional LGA organisations) acting together based on a common risk / concern or a group which is responsible for an area broader than a local government area (e.g. NRM regions).		
		State or Territory Government	State or Territory government led bodies or associated agencies or enterprises.		
		National or Federal Government	National government led bodies or associated agencies or enterprises.		
		University or research institution	Research bodies conducting investigation into relevant issues.		
		Other	Not aligned to any other category.		

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Climate Hazard	The climate hazard that the adaptation responds to, building on the classification used in the National Climate Risk Assessment Methodology.	Changes in precipitation	Variations in rainfall, including changes in rainfall patterns, hail, sleet or snow.	Categorical	4
		Drought	Short-term or long-term drought due to increased aridity, decreased rainfall and increased heat.		
		Humidity	Short-term, long-term or seasonal changes in humidity levels.		
		Riverine flooding	Riverine flooding, estuarine flooding.		
		Coastal erosion, flooding and change	Coastal erosion and flooding due to sea level rise or storms and storm surges or tidal anomalies.		
		Changes in temperature	Average temperature increases or decreases and variability.		
		Fire	Bushfires, grassfires, scrub fires, smoke.		
		Temperature extremes	Short-term periods of extreme heat or extreme cold, most typically heatwaves.		
		Extreme wind	Windstorms across temperate, sub-tropical and tropical regions, cyclones.		
		Ocean warming and acidification	Marine heatwaves, coral bleaching, changes in ecological cycles, acidification, changes in ocean currents and temperatures.		
		General climate change	A climate risk or hazard is not directly specified.		

Data name	Data description	Category		Data type	Max no. per entry
Project Purpose	The intended type of adaptation project: what the adaptation aims to achieve, from a pre-determined typology.	Governance instruments	Orders and procedures that seek to steer the process of adaptation. This includes policies, plans, strategies, frameworks, guidelines, laws, regulations and associated activities undertaken to initiate and organise adaptation activities.	Categorical	2
		Research	Formal gathering of information through research or pilot projects, with formal research outputs.		
		Information gathering	Information collection about risks, hazards or potential adaptation options, to inform or justify adaptation.		
		Knowledge building	Information sharing activities designed to communicate knowledge about risks or adaptation options, to inform adaptation.		
		Stakeholder engagement	Learning from those with an interest in adaptation, for example work to understand community opinions, and using this information to steer adaptation decision making.		
		Institutional change	Key structural changes which promote adaptation or increased ability to adapt.		
		Coordination	Networks or bodies created to facilitate cooperation and coordination among a group of people acting on climate change adaptation.		
		Intervention	Adaptation action taken to directly and purposefully reduce climate risk or increase resilience to climate change.		

Data name	Data description	Category		Data type	Max no. per entry
IPCC Adaptation Category	Categorising the type of adaptation using pre determined IPCC categories in line with the National Climate Risk Assessment Methodology. This typology was adjusted with the addition of 'knowledge', acknowledging data which did not fit into the existing categories.	Infrastructural and technological	Investment in physical assets and technological systems.	Categorical	1
		Institutional	Establishment of policies, procedures and management systems to address risks.		
		Behavioural and cultural	Building knowledge, skills, and capacity for agency and personnel and key stakeholders to make climate-smart decisions.		
		Nature-based	Using natural systems to address climate-related risks and generate broader co-benefits.		
		Knowledge	Knowledge based activities and information products used to inform climate change adaptation actions. This category was added to the existing typology to address a gap.		
Tags	Notes on whether a program, project, or initiative is part of something larger or related.	-		Text	1
Evaluation	Details on pre-existing monitoring and evaluation, including URL links.	-		Text	1
Start Year	The year the project began.	-		Numerical or Text	1
Completion Year	The year the project was completed.	-		Numerical or Text	1
Funding Details	Any publicly available details on funding amount, type, or funder and URL link to details.	-		Text	1

Data name	Data description	Category		Data type	Max no. per entry
National Climate Risk Assessment 'System at Risk'	The system affected by the risk, drawn from Australian Climate Services National Risk Assessment Methodology.	Natural environment	The natural environment system refers to Australia's ecosystems, biodiversity and natural processes. It includes ocean around Australia, coastal areas and shorelines as well as the natural environment that is not part of urban or agricultural zones (with some overlap), such as national parks, rangelands, grasslands, forests and bushland and other natural landscapes.	Categorical	4
		Primary industries and food system	The primary industries and food system refers to marine, terrestrial and estuarine commercial activities dedicated to producing food, fibre, wood, fuel and other products. This system includes agriculture, aqua and marine culture, fisheries and forestry sectors, spanning large-scale and smallholder operations, both commercial and non-commercial, covering the entire chain from extraction to the consumer.		
		Defence and national security	The defence and national security system refers to the structures and functions dedicated to safeguarding Australia's domestic stability and international interests, including disaster readiness and risk reduction. It includes all emergency management services, workforce and volunteers, defence operations and their workforce, particularly with respect to the role of military in disaster response or geopolitical tensions arising from extreme events.		
		Economy, trade and financial system	The economy, trade and finance system refers to Australia's interconnected insurance and investment markets, import and export markets, the distribution of goods and services, and the institutional arrangements that govern them. This system includes the institutional arrangements governing economic activities and trade networks across all scales.		
		Health and social support	The health and social support system refers to population health and wellbeing, as well as the provision availability and access to health, wellbeing, and social services. It includes services that encompass healthcare, public and preventative health, aged care, disability services, housing support, employment and financial wellbeing and their supporting infrastructure.		
		Infrastructure and the built environment	The infrastructure and built environment system refers to the intricate networks of human-made structures across Australia. This system includes physical buildings, green and blue spaces and their supporting infrastructure such as transport, water and energy systems.		
		Regional and remote communities	The regional and remote communities' system refers to all (natural, social, economic and built) aspects of communities in Australia that are beyond major urban centres. This system includes regional centres, towns, remote communities, mining settlements, small islands and external territories.		

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