

This project was a forward thinking project that revealed the potential social implications of climate change in the ACT. It was the first project of its kind in Australia.



Social Impacts of Climate Change in the ACT

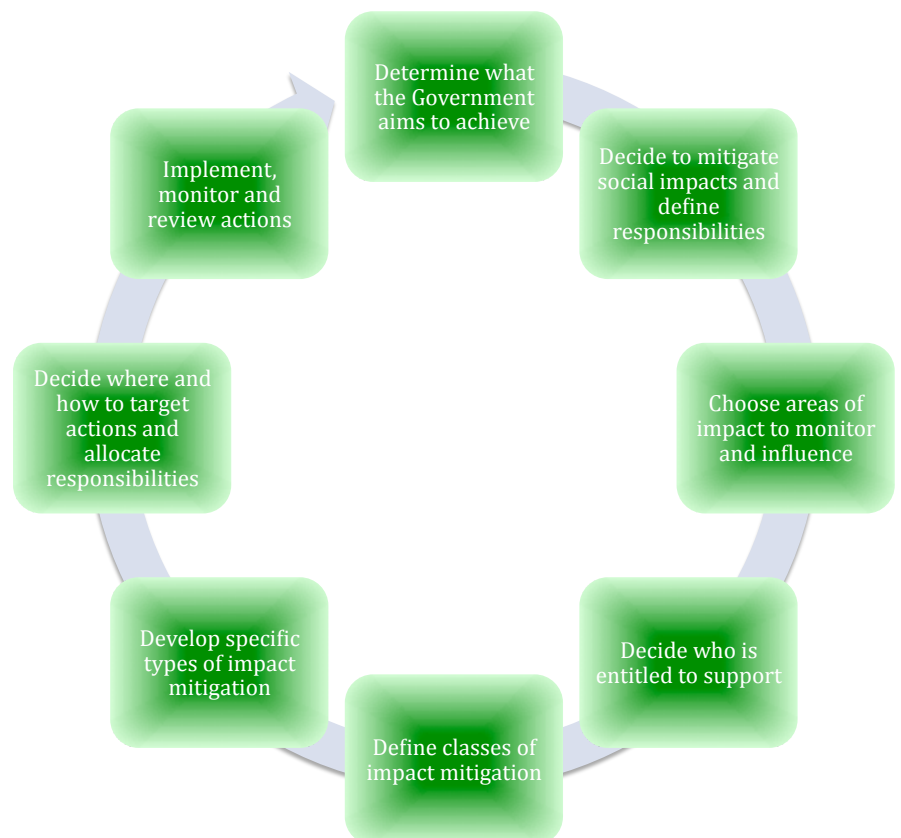
Client: ACT Chief Ministers Department

Project tasks

The study involved the following:

- a brief overview of the anticipated impacts of climate change for Australia and specifically, the ACT.
- overview of how essential goods and services costs are increasing or are likely to increase
- definition and identification of household vulnerability to social impacts
- review of existing and proposed policies, programs, legislation and actions that seek to mitigate social impacts arising from climate change and/or from rising costs
- quantification of the financial costs of social impacts and mitigation actions
- identification of policy options, models and opportunities for mitigating the social impacts of climate change responses for the most vulnerable.

Policy Development Process



Policy suggestions

Based on the findings of this study, six social impact mitigation actions were proposed for implementation in the short term.

1. Investment in an expanded and ongoing comprehensive household audit program.
2. Capital investment in the installation of solar hot water systems.
3. Capital investment in the improvement of space heating efficiency.
4. The development of a customised risk assessment tool for identifying and monitoring vulnerable households.
5. Investment in a household education program that targets behaviour change and is primarily delivered in conjunction with the audit process.
6. Implementation of a best practice hardship policy.

The other policy options include:

- The introduction of lifeline tariff pricing policies for essential services;
- Improving access to locally grown fresh food; and
- Improving access to sustainable transport.

Canberra SGS Office Profile

Paul Howorth, Associate Director
 Liesl Codrington, Senior Consultant
 Ed Wensing, Senior Consultant
 Liz de Chastel, Senior Consultant
 Peter Jones, Consultant
 Tanya Berkeley, Research Assistant

Based in the suburb of Dickson in the inner north of Canberra, we are a collaborative team of people, working to provide innovative solutions to complex policy problems. We combine our planning, environmental, economics and legal backgrounds to pursue better policy outcomes and practical, evidence based advice to those we work with.

If you would like any further information about the project or our work, please do not hesitate to contact us using the details provided.

Website: <http://www.sgsep.com.au>
 Urbecon: <http://www.sgsep.com.au/publications>
 Full report: <http://www.cmd.act.gov.au>

Liesl Codrington
 Senior Consultant
 SGS Economics and Planning,
 Canberra

PO Box 788
 Dickson
 ACT 2602

P:
 02 6262 7603
 F:
 02 6262 7564

