

## Acting with the rest of the world

Australia's efforts to reduce carbon pollution at home are contributing to the international effort to reduce the risks of climate change.

We are committed to securing an effective international agreement and we are playing our full and fair part, including through formal international negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

In December 2007, we ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the UNFCCC, agreeing to limit our annual carbon pollution to 108% of 1990 levels during the period 2008-2012. Without action by Australian governments, businesses and households, our carbon pollution would have risen to 124% of 1990 levels during the period 2008-2012.

The global community is now working out what needs to be done after 2012 to reduce carbon pollution and minimise the adverse effects of climate change.

Australia seeks an ambitious global agreement capable of stabilising greenhouse gas levels in the atmosphere at 450 parts per million or lower. This reduces the risks associated with severe climate change and is consistent with seeking to limit the rise in global temperature to 2 degrees.

As a developed country, Australia recognises its responsibility to show leadership. Australia will build on its Kyoto target and reduce our carbon pollution to 25% below 2000 levels by 2020 if the rest of the world also takes strong action on climate change.

We are also putting in place a wide range of programs to ensure Australia can meet this ambitious target. Programs include the **Renewable Energy Target**, the **Clean Energy Initiative** and the **Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme**.

In addition to our action in Australia, we are taking practical action internationally to help build a strong international response to climate change.

## International funding commitments

- Australia's \$200 million International Forest Carbon Initiative:
  - \$30m for the Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership
  - A \$10m bilateral package of support for Indonesia
  - \$3m to the Papua New Guinea-Australia Forest Carbon Partnership
  - \$11.7m for the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
  - Up to \$3m for the Indonesia-based Centre for International Forestry Research
  - \$1.5m to help international NGOs
  - \$10m to the World Bank's Strategic Climate Fund to support the Forest Investment Program
  - \$15.8m for the Asia Pacific Forestry Skills Capacity Building Program.
- Australia has committed \$150m from our international aid budget under the International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative to help our neighbours adapt to climate change
- Up to \$100m per annum for a global institute to speed up development of carbon capture and storage technology
- \$12 million to Shaping an International Solution to Climate Change
- \$20 million Pacific Climate Change Science Program
- \$100 million to the World Bank Clean Technology Fund
- \$40 million to the World Bank Strategic Climate Fund to support the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience
- \$1m to the Trust Fund for Participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- \$20m for the Australia-China Joint Coordination Group on Clean Coal Technology.

**For further information on Australia's approach to climate change visit [www.climatechange.gov.au](http://www.climatechange.gov.au)**

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Australian Government  
Department of Climate Change



**Australia's international response to climate change: working towards a global solution**

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## Helping to shape a global solution

### Three pillars of Australia's climate change policy

Australia is playing its part in helping to reach a global solution through actions at home and abroad.

An investment of more than \$15 billion in climate change initiatives is putting Australia on track to a low carbon future where our society is prosperous, our economy is strong, and our environment is protected.

The Government's actions on climate change fall under three main categories:

- reducing Australia's greenhouse gas emissions
- adapting to climate change we cannot avoid
- helping to shape a global solution.

## Partnerships

Australia has formal climate change partnerships with a range of developed and developing nations.

We currently have bilateral partnerships with China, New Zealand, South Africa, the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan and European Union.

The partnerships are delivering practical on ground outcomes helping Australia and partner countries take action on climate change. For example, they are supporting the development of technology to capture and use coal mine air methane, developing methods to measure climate change impacts on biodiversity, and supporting the development of carbon accounting systems.

We also have bilateral partnerships with Indonesia and Papua New Guinea in which we work together to reduce deforestation.

Through the **Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate**, Australia cooperates with Canada, China, India, Japan, South Korea and the United States to address climate change, energy security and air pollution challenges in a way that encourages economic development and reduces poverty.

The Government has also agreed to a strategic partnership with the Clinton Foundation's **Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI)**. The partnership will see Australia's experience in developing its **National Carbon Accounting System (NCAS)** shared with other countries. The goal of this partnership is to develop a global forest carbon monitoring system through a global network of national systems.

## Investment

Recognising that countries are at different stages of economic development and have different vulnerabilities to climate impacts, Australia is financially supporting developing countries to respond to climate change.

Through our \$150 million International Climate Change Adaptation Initiative, Australia is helping some of the most vulnerable countries in our region better adapt to the impacts of climate change.

We are contributing \$100 million to the *World Bank Clean Technology Fund* to help finance new approaches to the demonstration and use of low carbon technologies in developing countries.

We are contributing \$50 million to the *World Bank Strategic Climate Fund* to pilot new development approaches that reduce emissions and address potential impacts of climate change.

Economic modelling undertaken by the Australian Treasury in 2008 showed that there are advantages to Australia acting early if action on climate change expands gradually across the world. Nations that delay action continue to lock in emission-intensive capital, so they face higher long term costs as global investment is redirected to 'early movers'. Nations that act early face lower long term costs: around 15 per cent lower than in a world of coordinated global action. (*Australia's Low Pollution Future: The Economics of Climate Change Mitigation, 2008*)

## Forests and climate

An effective global approach to climate change must help developing countries reduce emissions from deforestation.

Through the \$200 million **International Forest Carbon Initiative**, Australia is working with Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to show that reducing emissions from deforestation can be part of an effective response to climate change, while helping deliver rising living standards.

As part of the initiative, Australia and Indonesia have established the **Kalimantan Forests and Climate Partnership (KFCP)** and are developing one of the first large scale activities to demonstrate how this can be done in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia.

Australia has also submitted a proposal to the UNFCCC for a **forest carbon market mechanism** to create financial incentives for developing countries to preserve forests rather than remove them.