



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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SCIENCE THE KEY FOR MORE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Environment Minister Robyn Parker today announced a \$2.75 million investment into new research that will assist communities to be better prepared to respond and adapt to a changing climate.

Ms Parker said the research was a first for NSW and will involve three of the state's leading research agencies - Macquarie University, Sydney Institute of Marine Science and the Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS.

"This research will assess the risks of a changing climate to NSW communities," Ms Parker said.

"The NSW Government is honouring our commitment to assist local government, business and the community to build resilience to extreme events by increasing our understanding of the climate risks and actions needed to minimise the impacts of climate change.

"The research will address our knowledge gaps, foster innovation and facilitate collaboration between the NSW government and leading experts.

"This is a first of its kind and leads the way for other collaborations with research institutions to provide the necessary science to inform government decision making."

The *NSW Adaptation Research Hub* is comprised of three nodes:

- **Biodiversity Node.** Macquarie University (with support from CSIRO) will focus on increasing knowledge of how species, ecosystems and landscapes adapt to climate variability and explore ways to make integrated decisions for local land use plans that optimise biodiversity outcomes.
- **Adaptive Communities Node.** The Institute for Sustainable Futures, UTS (with support from CSIRO) will increase knowledge of how communities adapt and respond to extreme events and climate variability and explore ways government can support communities to build their resilience and adaptive capacity.
- **Coastal Processes and Responses Node.** The Sydney Institute of Marine Science will focus on providing local communities and councils in coastal zones with information for coastal and estuary impact assessment, risk management and adaptation responses.

“Developing the *Adaptation Research Hub* will harness the capabilities of NSW research institutions to deliver the necessary knowledge the community needs to be resilient in the face of a changing climate,” Ms Parker said.

“Research partners are also contributing additional funding that ensures that the NSW Government is maximising the benefits of our investment in science.

“As a result the *NSW Adaptation Research Hub* is expected to deliver upwards of \$6 million in research activity over three years.”