



Climate-Smart Decisions in Our Changing World



NOAA delivers the science, data, services and solutions that help the world address the climate crisis.



An integral part of the Department of Commerce, NOAA observes and predicts our changing environment from the depths of the oceans to the surface of the sun, shares that knowledge with others, and is responsible for conserving and managing America's coastal and marine resources, all with a focus on science, service and stewardship.

NOAA's climate science, services and decision-making tools—everything from greenhouse gas measurements to sea level rise projections—are used in communities in the U.S. and around the world to keep people safe during extreme weather, drive business decisions for industries like agriculture and transportation, and help build infrastructure for the future.

Demand for NOAA's information is increasing, as the world sees more frequent and more costly extreme weather and climate-related disasters. Investments in NOAA's climate research, data, tools, and capacity-building are a key part of the United States' whole-of-government response to the climate crisis.

NOAA is centering equity in all aspects of our work in order to produce better science, deliver better services, be better stewards of the environment and economy, and build a more inclusive workforce.

**Learn about NOAA's commitment to addressing the climate crisis at:
www.climate.gov/COP26**



NOAA's Role at COP26



NOAA is committed to helping the world respond to climate change through its mission of delivering climate science, service, and stewardship.

Science

Advancing the state of the science for sea-level rise. Collaborating with several U.S. agencies, NOAA will publish updated sea-level rise and extreme coastal water projections for every U.S. state and territory, filling gaps for rural and underserved regions. This data is key for advancing how we plan for coastal resilience, infrastructure and emergencies.

Enhancing the World Ocean Database. NOAA will develop and deploy a new tool within the World Ocean Database to help ocean data users easily discover and access immense volumes of globally distributed ocean information. Partnering with the International Oceanographic Commission, this investment will increase timely, high quality input for climate forecast models, as well as seasonal and longer time-scale monitoring.

Opening a Pacific Islands ocean acidification training center. NOAA and the U.S. Department of State are partnering with the South Pacific Community, the University of the South Pacific, and The Ocean Foundation to launch a new training center in Fiji to expand capacity for ocean acidification monitoring and research across the Pacific Islands. Understanding how ocean acidification affects local coral reefs and fisheries will enable better protection for the ecosystems, livelihoods, and economies they support.

Launching the NOAA Blue Carbon Inventory. In partnership with the U.S. Department of State, NOAA will provide technical support to countries to incorporate coastal blue carbon into their National Greenhouse Gas Inventories (NGGI). NOAA will focus on 3-5 geographically-diverse countries, amplifying the impact of this investment through regional partnerships, interagency collaboration, and activities such as the development of guidebooks, workshops and training materials. This metric is an important way countries track progress towards achieving their climate ambitions.

Establishing a globally operational Surface Ocean CO₂ Reference Network. The network will integrate established and proposed national and regional surface ocean carbon dioxide (CO₂) research and monitoring efforts into a global framework, enabling countries to track changes in global ocean uptake of CO₂ over time. Through international engagement, NOAA will facilitate the development of the global network and produce high-value products, such as observation-based annual updates of ocean carbon uptake and changes in ocean acidification, that are critical for decision making about ocean-based mitigation options and marine ecosystem health.

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Service

Fostering climate-smart communities. NOAA supports the President's Emergency Plan for Adaptation and Resilience (PREPARE), which helps vulnerable countries and communities adapt to and manage the impacts of climate change. We are contributing to PREPARE through NOAA's Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) program, where NOAA is investing \$10 million in interdisciplinary climate adaptation research and equity-focused community engagement. These projects build climate-smart communities—and lessons learned are shared through international partnerships—by incorporating climate and social impact expertise into planning for stormwater management, public health, green and gray infrastructure, transportation planning, housing, and small business issues.

Building climate-ready infrastructure. A new partnership between NOAA, the American Society for Civil Engineers (the world's largest civil engineering professional society), and the University of Maryland aims to ensure that the design and construction of critical infrastructure in the United States and internationally takes into account the best available scientific understanding of future weather and climate conditions. This new partnership will increase the pace of climate adaptation and reduce design, construction, and maintenance costs.

Improving early disaster warnings around the world. NOAA and USAID will invest \$6 million to improve early warnings of weather, climate and water-related disasters. This investment will train local scientists and leaders to predict emerging climate hazards around the world, expand the Weather and Climate Ready Nations programs new countries in the Caribbean and the Pacific to support risk-informed decision-making, support the development of locally-relevant storm surge modeling and warning tools to countries in the Caribbean Islands, and launch several new regional trainings and production of 3D-Printed Automated Weather Stations to increase global weather and climate observations.

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Stewardship

Joining the Ocean Panel to advance a sustainable ocean economy: The U.S. will join the High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, also known as the Ocean Panel, composed of 14 member countries collectively representing 40 percent of the world's coastlines. This multi-national initiative is harnessing the power of the ocean to tackle the climate crisis, provide jobs and food security, and accelerate sustainable uses of the ocean.

Launching partnership to focus MPAs as a climate solution. Along with the United Kingdom, France, Chile, and Costa Rica, the U.S. is launching the *International Partnership on Marine Protected Areas, Biodiversity and Climate Change*. The partnership will provide new information and tools to policy makers on the role of marine protected areas (MPAs) as climate solutions, with a focus on blue carbon.

Sponsoring a convening of the Pacific Risk Management 'Ohana (PRiMO). This regional coalition of agencies and organizations is committed to building the resilience of Pacific Islands to the impacts of climate change and disasters. The convening will provide a forum to discuss fundamental questions of climate-related risks, vulnerability, and equity/inclusion and solutions for new pathways and partnerships to develop a more resilient future for all Pacific Island communities.

Lifting up island leadership. At the Leaders Summit on Climate (April 2021), the United States announced that it would support an initiative to foster island leadership in combating the climate crisis and promoting resilience in ways that reflect their unique cultures and sustainable development needs. In support of this partnership, NOAA and the State Department will work together to support the Local2030 Islands Network - a unique initiative designed to enhance the capacity of island nations to integrate climate data and information, and apply effective coastal and marine resource management strategies to support sustainable development.

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