SEA CHANGE
AUSTRALIA

Co-developing options to adapt
to a changing climate for fisheries
and aquaculture in Australia

SEACHANGEAUSTRALIA.ORG

CMS
CENTRE FOR MARINE SOCIOECOLOGY

UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA

UNIVERSITY of TASMANIA
IMAS
Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies

CSIRO

Department of
Primary Industries and
Regional Development
GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FRDC
Fisheries
Research and
Development
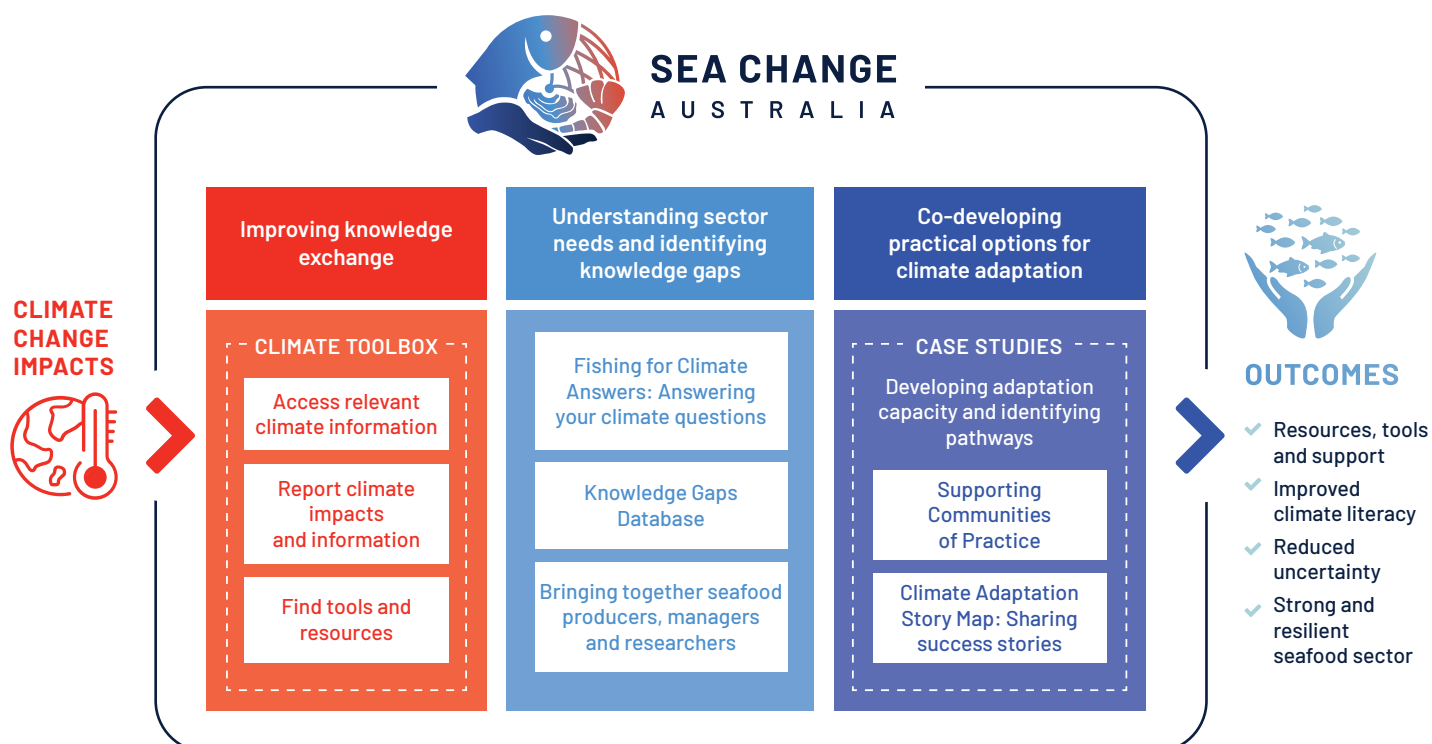Corporation

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Sea Change Australia brings together fishers, aquaculture producers, industry, managers, and researchers **to facilitate knowledge exchange and co-develop climate-resilient options** for strong and healthy fisheries and aquaculture sectors in Australia.

Climate change poses a growing threat to fisheries and aquaculture in Australia. Fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders across Australia need relevant climate information tailored to their changing needs. They also need ways to share how they are currently dealing with climate change and how they could improve their response.

KEY OBJECTIVES

1 Facilitate access to **relevant climate information and improve knowledge exchange** between researchers, managers, and industry.

2 **Understand the seafood sector's needs and knowledge gaps** to support existing and potential climate adaptation efforts.

3 **Co-develop practical, localised options for climate adaptation**, while supporting communities of practice and highlighting success stories, to strengthen the health and resilience of fisheries and aquaculture sectors in Australia.

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CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

Improving knowledge exchange

CLIMATE TOOLBOX

- Access relevant climate information
- Report climate impacts and information
- Find tools and resources

Understanding sector needs and identifying knowledge gaps

- Fishing for Climate Answers: Answering your climate questions
- Knowledge Gaps Database
- Bringing together seafood producers, managers and researchers

Co-developing practical options for climate adaptation

CASE STUDIES

- Developing adaptation capacity and identifying pathways
- Supporting Communities of Practice
- Climate Adaptation Story Map: Sharing success stories

OUTCOMES

- Resources, tools and support
- Improved climate literacy
- Reduced uncertainty
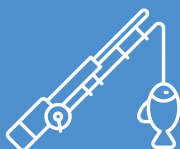- Strong and resilient seafood sector

HOW?

The Sea Change Australia project works with Australian fisheries and aquaculture sectors to develop ways to prepare for and respond to climate change impacts.

We'll create a nationwide two-way knowledge exchange between researchers and sector stakeholders. Our main goals are to understand how sectors are already adapting to climate change, identify what's stopping further adaptation, and co-develop practical, sector-specific options for climate resilience.

CASE STUDIES

We are working with 12 case-study fisheries and aquaculture operations, selected from around the country, to dive deeper to engage with stakeholders, conduct a policy and regulatory analysis to understand how policy and governance can act as barriers or enablers of adaptation, and explore how these sectors could adapt (and are already adapting) to climate change.

Key aspects of these case studies are exploring how to improve access to climate information and clarifying the policy and regulatory environment to catalyse adaptation.

Image credit: Moon Cheese Studio

'Fishing for Climate Answers'

Sea Change Australia creates opportunities for people across the seafood sector to ask questions about climate change. This approach builds on a successful model (Curious Climate project), where community questions are collected, sorted, and answered by experts.

This method helps researchers understand what matters most to the seafood sector and how to communicate climate science in ways that are practical and relevant. It also gives us the chance to hear how people want information delivered, and what they still need to know.

Importantly, we're also seeking to learn from the real-world changes that fishers and producers are already making in response to climate change. These on-the-ground observations and solutions are essential to inform broader planning and policy.

When we respond to questions, we'll also spotlight local researchers and other experts (industry leaders, Indigenous scholars, and local champions, for example) who are working on those specific issues. **Sea Change Australia aims to strengthen trust and connections between industry, researchers and decision-makers at all levels.**

Do you have questions about how climate change might affect your activities, industry, region, or target species? Are you noticing changes on the water? Wondering how to adapt your operations? Or do you just want to know more? **Ask the Sea Change Australia Expert Network** from our website!

Got expertise to share? We're also inviting scientists and specialists to join the expert pool and help respond. Together, these questions and expert answers help shape climate knowledge that is relevant, useful, and timely.

Q&A

CLIMATE TOOLBOX

Sea Change Australia facilitates access to **relevant climate information and improve knowledge exchange** between researchers, managers, and fishers, aquaculture operators, and others in the seafood sector. In our climate toolbox you can explore relevant information, share local observations of climate impacts, contribute your own adaptation stories, and find tools and resources suited to your needs.

Explore the toolbox at SeaChangeAustralia.org!

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Report potential climate-linked observations

Fishers and seafood producers spend time on the water and are often the first to notice changes in the environment. Across the sector, people are already adapting—by shifting practices, target species, fishing grounds, or attitudes toward climate change. Sea Change Australia values this on-the-ground knowledge and invites everyone in the sector to share their observations of possible climate impacts and stories of change.

We are building a national database of sector-led insights and will share highlights to showcase the key issues, challenges, and innovations emerging across Australia. By contributing your story, you help others learn and feel empowered to act, and see what climate adaptation looks like in practice.

Share your knowledge and be part of the journey toward a more climate-resilient seafood sector!

By showcasing what's working, we aim to support learning, inspire action, and foster a sense of optimism about the future of Australia's seafood sector.

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For more information, visit **SeaChangeAustralia.org** where you will find access to climate adaptation resources tailored to the seafood sector, you can submit your climate questions at our *'Fishing for Climate answers'* platform, and share your climate observations or experience in adaptation. For more information contact us at enquiries@seachangeaustralia.org

The Sea Change Australia initiative is an endorsed project of the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development under the FishSCORE2030 program.

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FishSCORE 2030