

CoastAdapt: Using C-CADS (<http://coastadapt.com.au/climate-change-adaptation-decision-support-c-cads>)

An example of the planning continuum for local government users developing an adaptation plan. In Table 2 we characterise four stages along that continuum, and suggest how C-CADS could be used in each situation.

Table 2: How C-CADS could be used at four stages of organisational adaptation planning.

Stage of planning	Use of CoastAdapt and C-CADS	Most relevant CoastAdapt content/C-CADS step
<p>1. Limited understanding of climate change and how it may affect an organisation. No organisational commitment as yet.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CoastAdapt contains information to build background understanding of climate change and its potential to harm the organisation. CoastAdapt provides guidance on use of methods and approaches to build organisational understanding and to invest in appropriate governance structures and community engagement. Since adaptation is most successful when it has community and organisational support, it is important to ensure these are in place before beginning any adaptation activities. Finally, implementing Stage 1 of C-CADS will ‘Identify challenges’ from climate change and sea-level rise through a first pass analysis to start getting internal and external stakeholder buy-in 	<p>C-CADS Step 1: Identify challenges</p> <p>CoastAdapt: Causes of climate change Global climate change Climate change in Australia</p>
<p>2. Recognition of climate change; awareness that it has risks for the organisation. No formal adaptation plan or consideration of climate change in other current strategy. Some initial resources available to explore the issue.</p>	<p>The available funds could be used to undertake the first three steps of C-CADS; by then the organisation will have identified risks and potential adaptation options to address them.</p> <p>Questions to be addressed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What areas of your organisation and its management responsibilities are likely to be covered by the adaptation plan (i.e. what areas are likely to be affected by climate change)? Are you in discussion with your community and senior management to get their buy-in? What adaptation options and processes might be most suitable at this point in time for your organisation? This question needs to be answered taking into account what risks need to be addressed as a matter of urgency, what adaptation actions can be postponed, and the extent to which human and financial capital are available. 	<p>C-CADS Step 1: Identify challenges C-CADS Step 2: Assess risks and vulnerabilities C-CADS Step 3: Identify options</p> <p>CoastAdapt:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts Overview of impacts (see also the impact sheets for individual content linked from that page) Assessing risks Assessing coastal climate risks at a local scale Guidance on risk assessment Stakeholder buy-in The importance of building community support Getting organisational buy-in Adaptation options Pathways approach Taking minimal action. Adaptation options (see also the options tables linked from that page)

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<p>3. No adaptation plan exists per se, but components of adaptation in some element of organisational management may be in place (e.g. land use plan, NRM regional plan, beach erosion management plan, etc.). Typically requires internal support to create an adaptation plan.</p>	<p>If you already have an existing plan for a climate-sensitive sector that explores adaptation, you may wish to use C-CADS to review and test the plan.</p> <p>The next step would be to develop the plan or grow any existing plans into a more comprehensive and integrated approach to adaptation for the whole organisation or activity. The advantage of taking this integrated approach is that it presents an opportunity to check that adaptation activities are well aligned, that any potential opportunities for co-benefits are being realised, that any trade-offs have been carefully thought through, and that any potential maladaptations are avoided.</p>	<p>C-CADS Step 4: Evaluate options and prepare plan C-CADS Step 5: Prepare for implementation and taking action C-CADS Step 6 supports evaluation of existing plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adaptation options Pathways approach Taking minimal action. Adaptation options (see also the options tables linked from that page) • Evaluation of options Transformation Monetary and non-monetary valuation Reducing legal risk
<p>4. Adaptation plan has been developed and approved with implementation commenced.</p>	<p>If you already have an existing adaptation plan, it is worth testing your plan and process against the C-CADs framework to identify gaps and barriers. Some questions to address are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you have good organisational and community buy-in? • Are identified adaptation actions being effectively implemented? If not, why not? Is there anything that can be done to overcome barriers to action? <p>This testing could be carried out as part of your monitoring and evaluation step and used to evaluate your planning process. You might be able to use alternative approaches to address challenges you have faced in developing or implementing your adaptation actions. You may also need to consider or to improve mainstreaming the adaptation process across your organisation.</p>	<p>C-CADS Step 6 Monitor and evaluate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take action Engaging the community Getting organisational buy-in Barriers to adaptation Financial resources Role of insurance • M&E Monitoring and evaluation Identifying indicators