

**Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration**  
**ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**  
**Department of Climate Change**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2008**



**Written question reference:** CC 22

**Outcome/Output:** Response to climate change

**Topic:** Climate Change Science Research

**Hansard Page:** Not relevant for written QoN

**Question: (Senator Williams)**

“What research is being undertaken specifically in relation to climate change/global warming? (provide a list of all projects)”

**Answer:**

Australian climate change scientists make a significant contribution towards improving our understanding of the Earth’s climate system, especially in relation to Southern Hemisphere climate processes. It is a key element of evidence based policy development that all decisions are underpinned by the best possible science. There are numerous programs currently underway across a range of agencies. These include:

Australian Climate Change Science Program (ACCSP)

The ACCSP is the cornerstone climate change science program in Australia. It aims to improve our understanding of the causes, nature, timing and consequences of climate change so that industry, community and government decisions can be better informed.

This program is being undertaken by various contributors including CSIRO, the Bureau of Meteorology and universities. Further information is available at:

[www.climatechange.gov.au/science/accsp/index.html](http://www.climatechange.gov.au/science/accsp/index.html)

Centre for Australian Weather and Climate Research (CAWCR)

CAWCR is a partnership between Australia’s leading atmospheric and oceanographic research agencies, the Bureau of Meteorology and CSIRO. The Centre aims to ensure Australia remains a world leader in climate, weather and oceans research. Further information available at: [www.cawcr.gov.au](http://www.cawcr.gov.au)

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)

CSIRO has a number of flagships involved in research in climate change including the Climate Adaptation Flagship, Wealth From Oceans Flagship, Water for a Healthy Country and the Energy Transformed Flagship. Further information can be found at:

[www.csiro.au/org/ClimateAdaptationFlagshipOverview.html](http://www.csiro.au/org/ClimateAdaptationFlagshipOverview.html)

National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF)

The Facility focuses on developing National Adaptation Research Plans to identify gaps in the information available to decision-makers. It will bring together existing and emerging national and international research on climate change impacts and adaptation and develop targeted communication products. The Facility will address issues of national priority and establish and maintain networks to link together key researchers. Further information available at: [www.nccarf.edu.au](http://www.nccarf.edu.au)

### Commonwealth Environment Research Facilities (CERF)

The CERF program engages with end-users, promotes collaboration between researchers and provides results accessible to government, industry and the community. Climate change is a key issue under the priority research areas.

Further information available at: [www.environment.gov.au/programs/cerf/](http://www.environment.gov.au/programs/cerf/)



### Cooperative Research Centres (CRCs)

Key CRCs focusing on climate change are:

#### *Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre (ACE CRC)*

Investigates the roles of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean in the global climate system and climate change. Research focuses on changes in sea level, the ocean's processing of greenhouse gases and managing marine ecosystems, as well as analysing the policy implications of our science. Further information available at: [www.acecrc.org.au](http://www.acecrc.org.au)

#### *Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (CO2 CRC)*

CO2 CRC is one of the world's leading collaborative research organisations focused on carbon dioxide capture and geological sequestration. Further information available at: [www.co2crc.com.au](http://www.co2crc.com.au)

### Australia's Farming Future (AFF)

Managed by the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), AFF is the climate change initiative for primary industries. It provides \$130 million over four years to help primary producers adapt and respond to climate change. Further information available at

[www.daff.gov.au/climatechange/australias-farming-future](http://www.daff.gov.au/climatechange/australias-farming-future)