



Government of South Australia

Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources
Management Board



Understanding the **impacts** of
climate change on **Aboriginal**
communities on **Eyre Peninsula**

Overview

Climate change, and its likely impacts on the natural and built environments, upon which people and economies are dependant, is widely recognised as one of the major challenges facing humanity. It is a problem that is becoming increasingly obvious today.

The Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board has been provided with funding from the South Australian government to undertake a pilot project into the likely impacts of climate change on Aboriginal Lands and communities within the Eyre Peninsula region.

The key themes that will be addressed by the project include the likely effects of projected regional climate change on:

- Health and wellbeing
- Water supplies
- Land use
- Energy use
- Dwelling designs and improvements
- Sea level rise and tidal inundation of low lying coastal areas
- The capacity to manage change

This is a pilot project that may be extended to other regions in the future. An objective is future planning by all to become involved in how to maintain lifestyles into the future.



Project Aims

The three main aims of the project are:

- 1 Promoting an awareness of regional and locally specific information about projected climate change and the likely impacts of those changes on people's lives.
- 2 Gathering information from Aboriginal communities about how they see climate change affecting their lives now and into the future and how they plan to cope with change.
- 3 Provide an assessment of the risks associated with projected climate change and create a body of key information required by governments, businesses, and people to plan strategies to overcome future challenges, and explore new opportunities.



Project activities

The major activities of the project are:

The development of an awareness package to promote the importance of the project to agencies and Aboriginal communities. The development of a practical technical information package for local Aboriginal people. Build the capacity of locally recruited Aboriginal people to be climate change awareness raisers and delivery agents for the information contained in the technical package.

Undertaking regional meetings with representatives of major government and non-government agencies to inform them about the project and gather feedback about what preparations they are making, or need to make, to deal with the projected impacts of climate change.

Local Aboriginal people are being employed to assist with engaging Aboriginal communities and families living on homelands across the EP NRM region to provide information and seek feedback.

All information generated and collected during the course of the pilot project will be used to undertake a climate change risk analysis for Aboriginal communities on Eyre Peninsula.

Key people involved in this project are:

- Dr Frances Mowling, Principal Consultant for Climate Change Programs, Rural Solutions SA.
- Adrian Simpson, Program Manager for Aboriginal Programs, Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board.

For further information please contact Adrian Simpson at the Eyre Peninsula Natural Resources Management Board on 8682 7555.