



**Climate Adaptation Futures:
Second International Climate Change Adaptation Conference 2012**
May 29–May 31, 2012, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, USA

*On the way to Rio+20, join us to consider what science, policy, and action
the world needs to adapt to climate change!*

Climate change is one of the most important environmental, social and economic issues facing the world today. Despite growing efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, some impacts such as higher temperatures, more intense floods, droughts, wildfires, and rising sea levels are now inevitable. We must plan for and adapt to these changes, to minimize the negative impacts and enhance the benefits to natural systems, societies, and human activities and well-being. This challenges decision making at all levels, from individuals to governments, as well as in business and industry.

Co-hosted and convened by the University of Arizona (www.arizona.edu) and by UNEP's Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation (PROVIA www.provia-climatechange.org), the conference focuses on adaptation to climate variability and change. The conference will bring together researchers, policy makers, and practitioners from developed and developing countries to share insights into the challenges and opportunities that adaptation presents. It will showcase cutting-edge research from around the world, focusing on themes of equity and risk, learning, capacity building, methodology, and adaptation finance and investment. It will explore practical adaptation policies and approaches, and share strategies for decision making from the international to the local scale.

This conference follows on the success of the pioneering [Climate Adaptation Futures Conference](#), co-hosted by Australia's National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility and the CSIRO Climate Adaptation Flagship in Australia in 2010 with nearly 1,000 participants from around the world. Inspired by this 1st conference we hope to build on the community that came together in Queensland and foster a connected, collaborative and creative international network of adaptation researchers, decision makers and interested citizens.

The conference program includes plenary lectures and panels, paper sessions, posters, and workshops. Conference Registration opens September 5, 2011 with deadline for abstracts February 15th. Conference themes and possible ideas for presentations include:

- Regional studies: where are the places and people most at need? What are their adaptation options and strategies for implementation?
- Update on key emerging climate change and impacts science, including the latest on future extremes, sea level change, water supplies and landscape transformation; how will uncertainties change in the coming decade?
- Communicating climate risks to facilitate adaptation: what do people want and need to know and how best to understand and deliver information?
- Building adaptive capacity: communities, institutions, and individuals lack sufficient capacity for implementation; what are the most effective ways to build capacity? What types of investments in capacity are appropriate and what scale of decision-making should be targeted?
- Examples of adaptations through case studies and best practices, including costs and benefits of implementing these options
- What can we learn from past adaptations to environmental change? How can we foster adaptations to futures characterized by surprise, non-linear change and unexpected consequences?
- Ecosystem based adaptation
- Funding priority research and adaptation: who pays, and for what, where, and how?
- Tools for adaptation: what approaches, tools, and methods are available? How do we judge their effectiveness?
- What are the relationships between mitigation and adaptation? How can the green economy facilitate adaptation?
- Measuring and evaluating adaptation: how do we know whether investments in adaptive capacity and adaptation are working?
- Adaptation under 4 degrees Celsius warming: as mitigation options are exhausted or delayed how might we face the challenges of adapting to 4 degrees C of warming?



Conference Web Site: <http://www.adaptation.arizona.edu/adaptation2012>

Logistics

The conference will be held on the [University of Arizona](#) campus in Tucson with accommodation available in University housing and local hotels. Tucson is easy to get to via non-stop flights from Los Angeles, Phoenix, Denver, Chicago, Dallas, Atlanta and 9 other cities and is located in the Sonoran Desert of the American Southwest, close to the border with Mexico. The warm temperatures of early summer in Tucson will encourage participants to contemplate how the millions of people who live in desert regions can adapt to climate in sustainable ways.

We encourage committees and project groups to consider meeting in conjunction with the conference (we can direct you to a number of interesting places to meet in the area)

For more information contact the UA [Institute of the Environment](#) at +1 (520) 626-4345, adaptation2012@email.arizona.edu

Conference Timeline

(All updates will be posted to the conference website at <http://www.adaptation.arizona.edu/adaptation2012>)

Deadline for abstracts: February 15th, 2012

Deadline for funding assistance requests: February 15th, 2012

Deadline for early discounted registration March 31st 2012

Registration costs

Full registration	\$600 (USD)
Early discounted registration	\$500 (USD)
Student registration	\$250 (USD)

Registration will include admission to conference, welcome reception, conference dinner, refreshments during conference and conference materials. We have secured lodging costs as low as \$40 to \$100 per night per room (the lower costs are for student dorm rooms) and have already identified some funds to assist participation by students, keynote speakers and those from developing countries. The University of Arizona Student Union, where most of the sessions will be held has a wide range of low cost food outlets and there are many reasonable and diverse restaurants within a few minutes walk of campus.

Confirmed Plenary Speakers Include

Joe Alcamo (Chief scientist, UNEP, Kenya)

Christopher Field (Carnegie Institution for Science, USA)

John Firth (CEO and co-founder, Acclimatise, UK)

Saleemul Huq (IIED, Bangladesh)

Kathy Jacobs (Office of Science and Technology Policy, USA)

Karl Jones (Catastrophe Management Services, Asia Pacific & Australia, Willis Re)

Richard Klein (Stockholm Environment Institute and Linköping University, Sweden)

Maria Lemos (University of Michigan, USA)

Nobuo Mimura (Ibaraki University, Japan)

Mark New (UCT, South Africa)

Karen O'Brien (University of Oslo, Norway)

Jonathan Overpeck (University of Arizona, USA)

Jean Palutikof (Griffith University, Australia)

Martin Parry (Imperial College, UK)

Anand Patwardhan (Indian Institute of Technology, India)

Cynthia Rosenzweig (Goddard Inst. for Space Studies, USA)

Ancha Srinivasan (Asian Development Bank, Philippines)

Sebastian Vicuna (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile)

and experts from many other academic, NGO and private sector organizations.