

# Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)

DRAFT Progress Report 2017-2018

## Executive Summary

The Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP), established through Senate Bill 246 (Wieckowski), is charged with developing a cohesive response to the impacts of climate change by coordinating state and local adaptation efforts that advance local implementation. Through the enabling legislation, ICARP focuses on efforts that advance climate equity and support integrated climate strategies that benefit both greenhouse gas reductions and adaptation. Senate Bill 246 established two components to the program: development of an Adaptation Clearinghouse (<http://resilientca.org>) and formation of a Technical Advisory Council (TAC). The following document outlines the accomplishments of both program components (since its launch in 2017), as well as recommended next steps and focus areas looking to 2019-2020. *[The Council will discuss these recommendations at the December 7, 2018 quarterly meeting; recommendations will be refined/modified in the final report].*

## ADAPTATION CLEARINGHOUSE

The Adaptation Clearinghouse – developed through a robust engagement process with end users – provides a centralized and user-friendly source of information to assist decision makers across state, tribal, regional, and local government when planning for and implementing climate adaptation efforts.



The initial build out of the Adaptation Clearinghouse occurred during a twelve-month period in 2017-2018, with a contract with the Geospatial Innovation Facility at UC Berkeley. The site was officially launched in August 2018 at the California Adaptation Forum. Central to the site build out were a series of important partnerships with state and federal agencies (outlined below) resulting in the integration and distribution of multiple adaptation and resilience efforts into a single, searchable site.

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Alignment with Safeguarding California

By working closely with California Natural Resources Agency, the Clearinghouse is aligned with the 2018 Safeguarding California Report ("*Safeguarding*") in two important ways. First, the Clearinghouse includes a series of curated topic pages, allowing users to find resources specific to a series of sectors and topic areas. These topic pages align directly with the sectors used in the 2018 *Safeguarding Report*, including the newly added Climate Justice and Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Resources chapters. Second, ICARP worked with each of the sector leads for *Safeguarding* to help develop topic-specific content, as well as identify key State resources for the clearinghouse. This includes hosting over 40 case studies highlighting State adaptation programs or projects that have been implemented across the state.

#### AB 2516 Sea-level Rise Data Integration

Through a key partnership with the Ocean Protection Council (OPC), the Adaptation Clearinghouse fully integrates the Assembly Bill 2516 Sea-level Rise Database, responding directly to legislative directives for both agencies to provide users with a single point of access for climate adaptation and resilience resources. This partnership also resulted in administrative and cost efficiencies by pooling resources towards the development of a single database-driven website.

#### Partnership with Caltrans for SB 1 Planning Grant Case Studies

The CalTrans Adaptation Planning Grant, funded through Senate Bill 1, is the State's first adaptation-specific planning grant, and as such, provides an important learning opportunity for State agencies on how future adaptation-specific grant programs can respond to local needs in a quickly-evolving field of practice. To facilitate this learning opportunity, OPR and CalTrans worked closely to integrate ICARP as a resource into the SB 1 Adaptation Planning Grant program; this includes the development of grantee case studies that catalog State investments in adaptation

made through the SB 1 Adaptation Planning Grant. These case studies are hosted on the Adaptation Clearinghouse. While not directly related to the Clearinghouse, CalTrans and ICARP are also working to document lessons learned from this program that could help inform other State adaptation grant programs; a final report will be hosted on the Clearinghouse following the close-out of the final round of grants.

#### Plan Alignment Compass

Led by NOAA and USGS, a multi-agency group collaborated to develop a “Coastal Plan Alignment Compass”, which provides an overview of the required elements and best practices for local coastal programs, local hazard mitigation plans, climate adaptation plans and general plans. The Compass also identifies crosswalk opportunities between these plans, including ways to leverage vulnerability assessments to help make them usable to all plans. As a development partner on the Compass, ICARP is now working with NOAA and USGS to build an interactive “Compass” on the Adaptation Clearinghouse (anticipated completion by January 2019).

## MOVING FORWARD

#### Integration of Adaptation Planning Guide

ICARP works closely with CalOES as part of the inter-agency workgroup for the Adaptation Planning Guide update. This update will include an interactive version of the APG, which will be integrated into the Adaptation Clearinghouse, in late 2019/ early 2020.

#### Coordination with Cal-Adapt

ICARP will work closely with the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the Geospatial Innovation Facility (GIF) to identify and implement integration between Cal-Adapt and the Adaptation Clearinghouse. With additional funding for Cal-Adapt provided by the Strategic Growth Council’s Research Program and the CEC, there will be multiple opportunities to support continued integration of state adaptation and resilience resources, especially focused on providing actionable research and data to inform local decision-making.

#### Maintenance and Engagement

With the initial build of the Adaptation Clearinghouse now complete, ICARP staff are developing a long-term maintenance and update plan for the Adaptation Clearinghouse. In addition to adding new resources to the Clearinghouse, staff are working to develop a sustained outreach and engagement plan with local governments and stakeholders. While there isn’t staffing to support a full climate-services program for local governments, ICARP will continue to explore partnerships that leverage the Adaptation Clearinghouse as a way to support local implementation of adaptation and resilience efforts. For example, ICARP is exploring a partnership with the CPUC to support better coordination between local governments and energy utilities around adaptation planning.

- *Additional ICARP TAC Recommendations: TBD*

## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Technical Advisory Council brings together local government, practitioners, scientists, and community leaders to coordinate activities that better prepare California for the impacts of a changing climate. (TAC members bring expertise in the intersection of climate change and the sector-based areas outlined in SB 246.) The Council meets quarterly at rotating locations around the state, as well as hosts periodic workgroup meetings. To date, the Council has guided two work streams, outlined below, in addition to providing input and guidance to other State-led adaptation programs:

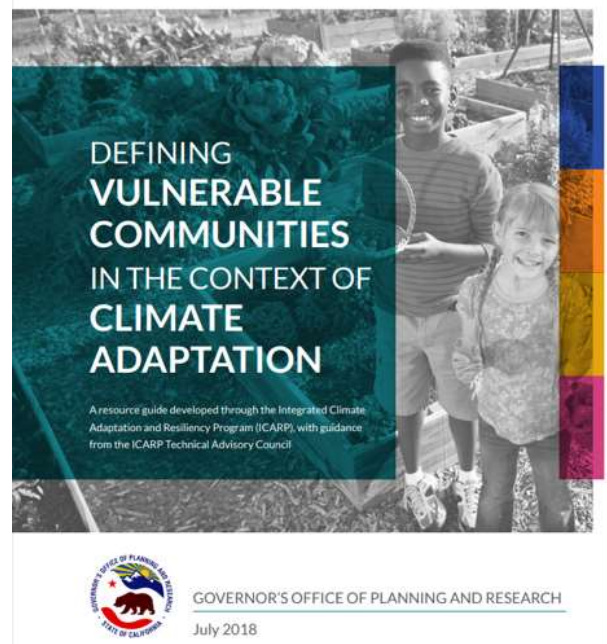
### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### Vision Framework

At the initial meeting of the ICARP TAC in March of 2017, the Council identified that the State needed a strong organizing framework on adaptation and resilience and, following this meeting, worked to create the following components of this framework:

##### Vision and Principles

The Council developed a vision statement that expresses the characteristics of a resilient California, as well as principles that guide how adaptation actions should be implemented to achieve this vision. The Council adopted the Vision and Principles in September 2017, with the condition that additional work was needed to define *vulnerable communities*, a term referenced throughout the Vision and Principles. The ICARP vision and principles have since been integrated into the 2018 *Safeguarding California* update.



##### Defining Vulnerable Communities in the Context of Climate Change Adaptation

The Council adopted a definition for vulnerable communities in April 2018 and staff developed a resource guide for local governments on how to actuate this definition while also meeting climate (Senate Bill 379) and environmental justice (Senate Bill 1000) legislative requirements.

##### Evaluation Framework

After establishing a vision and guiding principles, the Council guided ICARP staff on the development of an evaluation framework to track progress towards achieving this vision. While the Council initially explored developing outcomes-based evaluation metrics, the final evaluation framework instead focuses on a processes evaluation. After finalizing the evaluation framework – with public input through a series of workshops and workgroup meetings – ICARP staff partnered

with the Government Operations Agency (GovOps) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to pilot this evaluation framework on State departments' efforts to implement Executive Order B-30-15 through the State Sustainability Roadmaps (anticipated release by end of year, 2018).

#### Adaptation Finance and Funding

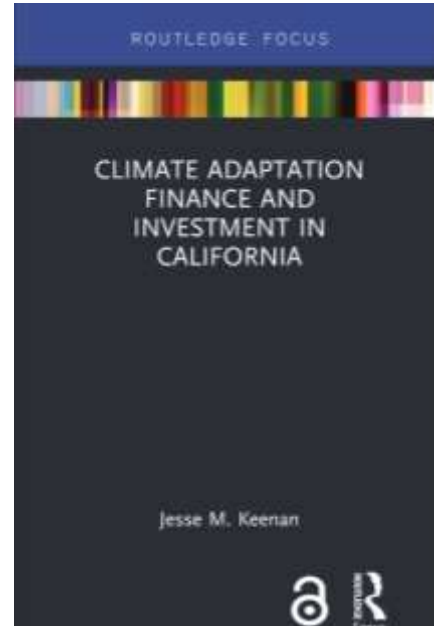
Funding and financing for adaptation and resilience is a major area of focus for ICARP, following the Council's direction at the March 2017 meeting.

##### Adaptation Finance Guide: Climate Adaptation Finance and Investment in California

ICARP, through a partnership with Jesse Keenan, released an Adaptation Finance Guide for local governments – the first of its kind – and, moving forward, will use this guide to hold training workshops and provide technical assistance to local governments and state agencies.

##### Regional Convenings: Collaborative Partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank

ICARP staff and the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco co-hosted a series of regional workshops throughout the state. The convenings brought together diverse stakeholders from local, state and federal government, private finance institutions, community-based organizations and non-profits to identify regional adaptation finance and funding needs. These convenings also provided an important capacity building and information sharing opportunity for practitioners working in finance and climate sectors. While not directly under the purview of ICARP, these convenings catalyzed a number of local projects and initiatives – including efforts to support resilient housing investment in LA and sustainable recreation and forest management in the Eastern Sierra.



## MOVING FORWARD

#### Vision Framework

- Building on the Council's work to develop a definition of vulnerable communities, ICARP staff continue to explore opportunities to support development of additional decision-support tools that ensure adaptation actions are responsive to and benefit vulnerable communities.
- Staff are also exploring opportunities to integrate the ICARP Adaptation Evaluation Framework into existing local adaptation planning evaluation and tracking efforts managed and/or approved by other state and federal agencies. Staff will also continue to partner with GovOps on the continued implementation of EO B-30-15 in State Sustainability Roadmaps

- *Additional ICARP TAC Recommendations: TBD*

#### Finance and Funding

- ICARP staff are working to develop an outreach and engagement schedule around the Adaptation Finance Guide, specifically looking to engage city managers and capital improvement program managers.
- *Initial ICARP TAC Recommendations:* ICARP should continue to identify opportunities to increase climate considerations in existing state funding programs, including opportunities to mobilize and leverage private capital. Where gaps exist, ICARP could engage in development of a long-term strategy to create new sources of funding (e.g. supporting efforts to understand economic consequences of inaction).

- *Additional ICARP TAC Recommendations: TBD*

#### Additional Recommendations *(provided by TAC members for discussion at 12/7 meeting)*

- **Improve Partnerships & Regional Coordination:** ICARP TAC should continue to improve partnerships between state, regional, and local entities in California. These efforts should strengthen the coordination of existing adaptation programs and promote better linkages between a variety of sectors including transportation, agricultural, and health systems.
  - Throughout this process, ICARP could pay particular attention to improving urban and rural connectivity.
  - ICARP TAC could play a formal role in the update to the Adaptation Planning Guide
- **Promote Human Health:** ICARP TAC could more actively engage on the health implications of climate change (e.g. support local government efforts to incorporate public health and adaptation efforts related to heat, air quality, vector-borne disease, etc.).
- **Barriers to climate-informed decision making:** understand psychological and social barriers that lead to maladaptation and reduce the long-term health and wellbeing of people living in California.
- **Focus on Key Climate Topics:** ICARP TAC could focus on specific adaptation topics such as managed retreat, Delta and inland flood risk assessments, and public health