

*The following supplement accompanies the article*

# **Disconnect between science and end-users as a barrier to climate change adaptation**

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**Supplement**

Fig. S1. Questions included in the online survey

**PERSONAL DETAILS**

Please complete the following questions about yourself.  
 IF YOU ARE UNCLEAR ABOUT ANY OF THE QUESTIONS OR TERMS USED, PLEASE COMMENT ON THIS IN THE SPACES PROVIDED.

1. Gender  
 Male  
 Female

2. Year of birth

3. Please select the highest level of formal education you have completed  
 Did not complete Year 10 or equivalent  
 Year 10 or equivalent  
 Year 12 or equivalent  
 Trade certificate/diploma or equivalent  
 Tertiary education at university

4. Please provide your postcode. If you are outside Australia, please provide your State/City/Country.

5. Which of the following BEST DESCRIBES you:  
 I am a climate scientist or researcher  
 I am a scientist or researcher in a field other than climate  
 I am someone who uses (or would like to use) information about future climate change impacts to make policy decisions  
 I am someone who uses (or would like to use) information about future climate change impacts to make business/operational decisions  
 I have a nonprofessional interest in climate change information and/or climate change adaptation

6. Please provide your job title/role/position

7. Please select the statement that BEST DESCRIBES your circumstances:  
 I produce information about future climate change impacts that could potentially be used by people in rural communities  
 I produce information about future climate change impacts that is NOT relevant to rural communities  
 I use information about future climate change impacts to make policy decisions that affect rural communities  
 I use information about future climate change impacts to make policy decisions, however these decisions DO NOT affect rural communities  
 I use information about future climate change impacts to make business/operational decisions and I AM a rural community member  
 I use information about future climate change impacts to make business/operational decisions and I AM NOT a rural community member  
 I DO NOT use information about future climate change impacts to make business/operational decisions and I AM a rural community member  
 I DO NOT use information about future climate change impacts to make business/operational decisions and I AM NOT a rural community member

**AVAILABLE INFORMATION ABOUT THE FUTURE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE**

8. Do you think that currently available information about future climate change impacts is useful? Why?  
 Yes  
 No  
 I do not use information about future climate change impacts

9. Where do you source the climate information that you use? If you do not use climate information please tell us why.

10. What are the STRENGTHS of the information about future climate change impacts that you use?

11. What are the WEAKNESSES of the information about future climate change impacts that you use?

12. Please add any further comments you have regarding the usefulness of information about future climate change impacts.

**WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT INFORMATION ON FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS**

13. Please rate the following questions in the table below. Use the ratings None, Low, Fair, High, Excellent

Please rate the AVAILABILITY of information about future climate change impacts that you require.

Please rate your AWARENESS of where to find the information about future climate change impacts that you require.

Please rate your level of UNDERSTANDING of the available information about future climate change impacts.

Please rate your awareness of what information about future climate change impacts actually EXISTS.

Please rate how well the FORMAT of information about future climate change impacts meets your needs.

Please rate how well the available information about future climate change impacts matches the level of DETAIL you require.

Please rate the RELEVANCE of the information about future climate change impacts.

Please rate the CREDIBILITY of the available information about future climate change impacts. For the purpose of this study, credibility refers to the SCIENTIFIC ADEQUACY of the evidence and arguments presented in the available information about future climate change impacts.

Please rate the LEGITIMACY of the available information about future climate change impacts. For the purpose of this study, legitimacy refers to the PRODUCTION of information about future climate change impacts, and whether that information represents and satisfies the needs of all stakeholders.

**USING INFORMATION ABOUT FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS TO INFORM ADAPTATION**

14. What information about future climate change impacts is required for successful climate change adaptation (or to reduce climate related risks)?

15. What are the STRENGTHS of the ways end users and decision makers use existing information about future climate change impacts?

16. What are the WEAKNESSES of the ways end users and decision makers use existing information about future climate change impacts?

**HOW OFTEN DO YOU USE INFORMATION ABOUT FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS?**

17. How often do you use information about future climate change impacts:  
 Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Yearly, Never  
 If you selected 'never', please tell us why.

18. How frequently do you source climate change information from the Bureau of Meteorology website?  
 Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Yearly, Never

19. How frequently do you source climate change information from the CSIRO (Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation) website [www.climatechangeaustralia.gov.au](http://www.climatechangeaustralia.gov.au)  
 Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Yearly, Never

20. What is the best form of media for you to receive information about future climate change impacts? You may select more than one.  
 Local newspaper, Local radio, Automated telephone service, Website, Email, Posted mail, Face-to-face, Workshops/meetings, Television, Other (please specify)

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING**

21. Do you agree to a member of the research team from the University of Newcastle contacting you to obtain further information? Yes/No  
 If you agree to be contacted, please provide your name and contact details. ALL INFORMATION AND RESPONSES ARE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL.

22. If you agree to be contacted, how would you prefer to answer future surveys?  
 Online, Paper copy mailed to me, Face-to-face, Telephone

Please provide feedback on the survey.

Table S1. Online survey initial distribution list

<b>Networks</b>
<p>Australian Climate Change Adaptation Research Network for Settlements and Infrastructure (ACCARNSI)            Contacts from previous projects (e.g. workshop participants and interviewees from previous National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility (NCCARF) projects (e.g. Kiem et al. 2010))            Primary Industries Adaptation Research Network (PIARN)            Managing Climate Variability Program's Climate Champions (MCVP 2012)</p>
<b>Federal, State and Local Government</b>
<p>Australian Bureau of Meteorology            Catchment Management Authorities              Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)              Local councils            NCCARF            Victorian Department of Primary Industries (DPI)            Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE)</p>
<b>Research organisations</b>
<p>Griffith University            Tom Farrell Institute for the Environment            University of Melbourne            University of New South Wales            University of Newcastle</p>