Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

# Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area

## Climate Resilience Officers



## At a glance

Climate Resilience Officers are part of projects funded under the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Climate Resilience Grant Program. The program supports First Nations-led responses to climate change – recognising the region's exposure to climate impacts and the importance of locally driven, culturally informed solutions.

## Why it matters

The Climate Resilience Grant Program aims to:

- **build** the capability and capacity of people and institutions in the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area to respond to climate change
- **support** an enduring and coordinated dialogue on climate change across communities and all levels of government
- **promote** the integration of Traditional Knowledges and western science so climate adaptation solutions are culturally appropriate, place-based and community led.

The program is part of the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area Climate Resilience Centre.

## What are Climate Resilience Officers?

These officers are employed by grantee organisations – local councils and a Traditional Owner-led body – to help deliver the program's objectives at a local level.

Their roles are flexible and vary across the region, reflecting different community priorities, environments and organisational responsibilities.

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.



# Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area

## Climate Resilience Officers

## What do they do?

The officers play a place-based support role. They help translate the program's objectives into meaningful local action and contribute to shared learning and coordination across the Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula Area. The officers work in ways that:

- respect Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property
- uphold Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- align with CARE (collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility and ethics) principles.

Depending on where they are based and their local priorities, Climate Resilience Officers may undertake some of the following activities.

### Community engagement and climate awareness

Support local engagement on climate change and adaptation, for example:

- community education or information sharing activities on climate impacts and priorities
- workshops, forums or outreach activities that bring together community perspectives on climate change.

### Practical climate adaptation

Help progress locally identified adaptation actions, for example:

- delivery of priority actions in local or regional climate or coastal adaptation plans
- small scale, on ground activities that contribute to building climate resilience, such as dune restoration.

### Knowledge and learning

Support learning about climate and environmental change, for example:

- help communities or organisations observe and document changes linked to climate impacts
- encourage appropriate sharing and use of climate related information for local decision making.

### Capability and leadership building

Strengthen long-term capability, such as:

- skills development related to climate engagement, monitoring or adaptation activities
- build confidence and leadership around climate adaptation within communities.

### Connection and coordination

Link local experience to broader efforts, for example:

- share local insights to inform regional climate adaptation discussions
- support collaboration between communities, organisations and regional initiatives, including work connected to the centre.



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