

U.S. Global Change Research Program

Program Overview: USGCRP At A Glance

Who We Are

The U.S. Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) is a Federal program that coordinates and integrates global change research across **13 government agencies** to ensure that it most effectively and efficiently serves the Nation and the world. USGCRP was mandated by Congress in the Global Change Research Act of 1990, and has since made the **world's largest scientific investment** in the areas of climate science and global change research.

What We Do

Through **interagency partnerships**, working groups, and collaborations with leading experts, USGCRP works to advance climate science and our understanding of **how global change is impacting society**, both today and into the future. To date, USGCRP has made major advances in our knowledge of Earth's past and present climate; quantified changes in the Earth's climate systems; improved climate change projections for the future; and advanced our understanding of the vulnerabilities society may have to the impacts of global change.

Why It Matters

Every day, USGCRP works to provide sound scientific information about climate and related global change that is **useful and accessible** to the people, communities, businesses, and decision makers who need it most.

For example, among the many reports and products developed by USGCRP is the **National Climate Assessment (NCA)**—a status report about climate change science and impacts that is delivered to the President, Congress, and the public every four years.

Our Federal Family



Department of Agriculture



Department of Commerce



Department of Defense



Department of Energy



Department of Health and Human Services



Department of the Interior



Department of State



Department of Transportation



Environmental Protection Agency



National Aeronautics and Space Administration



National Science Foundation



Smithsonian Institution



United States Agency for International Development

"We're aiming to ensure that any response to global change is a response informed by sound science." —Tom Armstrong, Director of the U.S. Global Change Research Program



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The NCA also analyzes trends in global change and predicts future changes up to 100 years down the road.

How We Are Evolving

Moving forward, our **four strategic goals** are to:

- 1. Advance Science:** Advance scientific knowledge of the integrated natural and human components of the Earth system.
- 2. Inform Decisions:** Provide the scientific basis to inform and enable timely decisions on adaptation and mitigation.
- 3. Conduct Sustained Assessments:** Build sustained assessment capacity that improves the Nation's ability to understand, anticipate, and respond to global change impacts and vulnerabilities.
- 4. Communicate and Educate:** Advance communications and education to broaden public understanding of global change and develop the scientific workforce of the future.

“What we’re doing—at a fundamental level—is working to prepare the Nation and the world for the future.” —Tom Karl, Chair of the National Science and Technology Committee’s Subcommittee on Global Change Research

