



Climate Impact Lab

Climate change is already impacting people, communities, and economies around the world. For humanity to thrive, policies to confront climate change must treat adaptation as a co-equal partner with mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions. The Climate Impact Lab's global network of economists, climate scientists, data engineers, and risk analysts are identifying where climate adaptations are most needed and what adaptation investments will deliver the greatest benefits to communities. They are doing so with the aim of developing a global playbook of data-driven, tested adaptation strategies to address the greatest impacts in the most vulnerable regions.

THE ADAPTATION CHALLENGE

Governments are increasingly prioritizing the need to adapt to climate change. Unfortunately, the recognition of adaptation's central importance is matched by a very poor understanding of where it is needed most and what strategies will work best in those places. The Lab is providing this data. For example, the Lab's Adaptation Inventory highlights policies and programs that have been shown to reduce climate impacts and improve resiliency in communities around the world.



“Just as a journey requires a map, effective climate adaptation depends on knowing where action is most needed and which investments will have the greatest impact. We’re providing that roadmap by pinpointing climate risks and the places where adaptation investments can deliver the biggest benefits.”

**— Michael Greenstone,
Co-Founder, Climate Impact Lab**

These insights, which the Lab will continue to develop and test, allow governments, funders, businesses, and people on the ground to set priorities based on data and ensure that limited resources are spent effectively. The insights also help the academic community identify new areas of research and assess the efficacy of adaptation policies and programs to inform where and how they can potentially be scaled.

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BUILDING OFF A DECADE OF EVIDENCE-BASED RESEARCH

The Lab has spent the last decade building the world's most comprehensive body of research quantifying the impacts of climate change, sector-by-sector and community-by-community around the world. This work, published in the world's leading scientific and economic journals, has produced projections of the impacts of climate change on mortality, agricultural productivity, labor supply, energy demand and coastal flooding risk. The Lab additionally monetized and aggregated those impacts to produce the world's first empirically derived estimate of the social cost of carbon (SCC)—the cost to society and the economy from each ton of carbon dioxide emitted. The SCC is an essential tool for incorporating climate impacts into cost-benefit analyses for policymaking, corporate planning, and investment decision-making.

LAB IMPACTS

Partnering with the United Nations to Provide Local Data to Vulnerable Nations

With the Human Climate Horizons data platform, the Lab has partnered with the United Nations Development Programme to provide hyperlocal climate data to developing regions expected to be the hardest hit.

Factoring the Cost of Climate Change into Government Rulemaking

The Lab has worked closely with the U.S. federal government, along with numerous state governments, to establish an updated social cost of carbon that leaders can use to guide policy development.

Predicting Flood Risk for American Families

The Lab's data, in partnership with First Street Foundation, exposes the flood risk of nearly every home in the United States.

Providing Data to Researchers Globally Through Microsoft Planetary Computer

The Lab has teamed up with Microsoft's AI for Earth to advance the state of climate knowledge within the research community through an open and freely-available dataset.

Highlighting Climate Change's Impact on Sports with Nike

The Lab teamed up with Nike to show how climate change will impact the sports and activities that people love.

Informing the Financial and Insurance Sectors of Climate Risk

The Lab has partnered with the Federal Reserve, Bank of England, BlackRock, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and others, to help stakeholders understand climate risks to their industries.

Justifying Climate Policy by Counting Lives Saved Locally

The Lab created the "Lives Saved Calculator" to provide advocates and leaders with actionable evidence to help them justify their efforts at every level of government.

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