

# Climate Projects at a Glance

## CURRENT RESEARCH

### [Informing National Climate Investments](#)

*Funder: Climate & Clean Energy Equity Fund*

As part of a national strategy to revitalize the American economy while addressing crucial issues like climate change and aging infrastructure, the Biden-Harris administration has set a goal of directing 40 percent of climate investment benefits to disadvantaged communities. We are conducting an in-depth analysis of California's approach to climate investments for disadvantaged communities, including identifying principles and lessons learned, to aid federal agencies in designing or retrofitting programs to address the needs of low-income and minority populations.

### [Adapting to a Hotter Future Through Outdoor Cooling Interventions](#)

*Main Funder: Strategic Growth Council's Climate Change Research Program*

Through a unique blend of micro-scale heat modelling, the design and installation of outdoor shade structures, and community participation to inform these efforts, this series of projects investigates the heat ameliorating benefits of urban greening and other cooling interventions in four heat impacted communities. The goal is to produce community-led and cost effective design solutions that can cool neighborhoods and improve thermal comfort, and to transfer this knowledge broadly.

### [Measuring Heat Impacts to Design and Target Protective Policies](#)

*Funder: Strategic Growth Council's Climate Change Research Program*

We are completing multiple studies that measure significant financial and health risks that extreme heat poses on vulnerable populations, including workers, low-income households, pregnant mothers and infants. We are also developing a tool to identify vulnerable populations and communities. Finally, we will be supporting state action through a policy analysis which reveals gaps in cohesive heat governance and funding opportunities.

### [Identifying Tribal Needs in Climate Adaptation and Resilience](#)

*Funder: California Energy Commission*

The California Tribal Gap Analysis will identify tribal communities' priorities, needs, and barriers in the areas of clean energy, transportation, and climate change adaptation. We are supporting the project with research design and analysis, as part of a team led by Prosper Sustainability.

### [Learning from Transformative Climate Communities](#)

*Funder: Strategic Growth Council*

We are assessing progress and results of investments through the Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program. We are focusing our evaluation effort on five TCC grants, totaling over \$160 million, in the communities of Fresno, Watts, Ontario, Northeast Valley Los Angeles, and Stockton. These investments are being evaluated along environmental, health, economic, and social justice dimensions and could serve as a national model for holistic, community-driven climate action.

### [Assessing the Impacts of California's Climate Policies](#)

*Funder: California Air Resources Board*

We are completing a first-of-its-kind study to estimate how the state's approximately 50 climate measures are reducing greenhouse gas emissions, criteria pollutants, and health impacts.

# Workforce Impacts of Decarbonization

## CURRENT AND RECENTLY COMPLETED RESEARCH

### Workforce Impacts of LA's Clean Grid Initiative

*Funder: Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP)*

The City of Los Angeles is embarking on an effort to dramatically clean its power grid by 2030, including: (1) source 60 percent of total power supply from renewables; (2) retire the use of once through cooling (OTC) practices at coastal power plants; and (3) upgrade transformation infrastructure to allow for more distributed power generation. Researchers at UCLA are quantifying the workforce impacts of different scenarios for achieving these goals.

### Workforce Impacts of Decarbonizing California's Transportation System

*Funder: State of California, through the Budget Act of 2019*

We contributed to the first report to comprehensively evaluate a path to a carbon neutral transportation system for California by 2045. Leading the study's workforce analysis, we found that achieving carbon neutrality in California's transportation sector could create over 7.3 million job-years of employment over the next 25 years.

### California Building Decarbonization Workforce Needs and Recommendations

*Funder: Sierra Club*

We published the first study to estimate the potential employment impacts of building decarbonization in California. A core strategy identified by the state to reach climate goals, building decarbonization requires both energy efficiency improvements and reducing the use of fossil fuels in residential and commercial buildings by switching to electricity powered by renewable energy. The study found that California's transition to all-electric buildings could support more than 100,000 jobs annually for 25 years, after accounting for losses in the fossil fuel industry.

### Employment Benefits from California Climate Investments

*Funder: California Air Resources Board and the Energy Foundation*

During debate over the future of California's Cap-and-Trade Program for reducing greenhouse gases, legislators looked to analysis by the Luskin Center for Innovation about the employment benefits of the investments supported by revenue from that program. The study is the first to quantify the number of jobs supported by California Climate Investments and co-investments from residents, businesses, and governmental entities that contribute matching funds.

## CONTACT

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