



WHAT DOES CLIMATE CHANGE MEAN FOR DARWIN?

More Hot Days and Heat Waves

Darwin already has more sweltering days over 35°C, from 5.6 each year on average a century ago to 22.2 per year now. Without rapid cuts to our carbon emissions, **in 2030 Darwin is likely to have an average of 132 days (4 months) over 35°C per year**, and 275 days (8 months) over 35°C each year in 2070.^[i]

Sea-level Rise

Sea-level in the Darwin region has risen 17 cm in the past 20 years, which makes it one of the highest rates in the world. It is **currently rising at a rate of 7mm each year, and this rate is rapidly increasing.**^[ii]



Mangrove die-off between MacArthur and Limmen Rivers, NT, 2016 (image courtesy Norm Duke)

Ecological Impacts

Since 2015, coral reef bleaching and widespread mangrove die-off has been reported at points along the Territory coast due to rising sea temperatures, lack of rain, and the third-strongest El Niño ever recorded.^[iii] Scientists expect there will be **no male sea turtles born at a key hatchery near Darwin within eleven years.**^[iv]

Health Impacts

Heatwaves are the most lethal type of weather event in Australia.^[v] Longer, more frequent and extreme heatwaves and heat stress puts children, people with heart and respiratory disease and the elderly at particular risk.^[vi] Mosquito-borne and infectious diseases are projected to increase.^[vii] Rising temperatures nationwide are leading to increased stress, anxiety, depression and in the worst cases, suicide.^[viii]



Image: Georgia Glen

Economic Impacts

If current emission rates continue, **climate change is predicted to cost Australian households roughly \$20,000 per year**. Increased air conditioner use is just the beginning.^[ix]

NT cattle exports are projected to decline by 19.5% by 2030 due to climate change.^[x]

Workforce productivity and food security is already being affected.^[xi]



Migration and Climate Refugees

North Australia will be the destination of refugees affected by sea-level rise, drought and extreme weather. Darwin residents are already relocating to southern Australia due to increasing temperatures.

Tourism Impacts

The Kakadu National Park floodplain is only 0.2-1.2m above sea level, making it vulnerable to even minimal sea level rise. 50 to 80% of Kakadu's beautiful freshwater wetlands are predicted to be destroyed in the next fifty years.^[xiii]

In Central Australia, outdoor tourism during summer has already become hazardous.^[xiv]

CLIMATE CHANGE

what Darwin can do

SOLUTIONS:

People Power! Make yourself heard. Raise the issue of climate change with friends, colleagues and relatives.

Stay positive. Working together creates solutions. "When we act, hope is everywhere" - climate action leader Greta Thunberg.

Adjust your lifestyle. Eat less meat, buy local market produce, ride a bike, bus more, plant a food garden and use less power. Use your own containers and bags, borrow and lend where possible.

Install solar rooftop PV and hot water.



Image: Georgia Glen

CLIMATE ACTION DARWIN A SAFE CLIMATE FOR ALL

Established in 2009, CAD is a 600-strong community group. We believe it is our moral obligation to current and future generations (and lifeforms) to prevent and reverse climate change. We do this by supporting individuals to take action, advocating for a transition to a zero carbon economy, and influencing decision-makers.



Image: iSolarNT

Come say hello at our meetings and events.

Visit:

climateactiondarwin.org.au

 @Climate Action Darwin

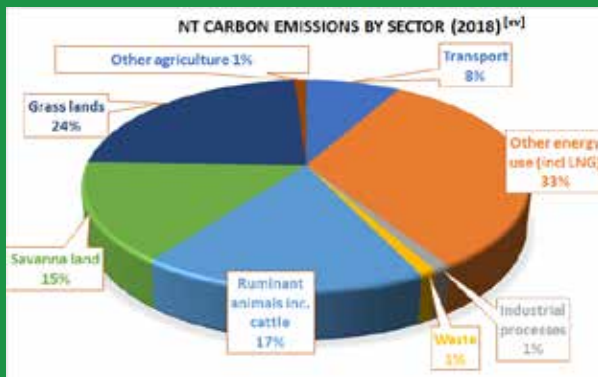
REFERENCES:

climateactiondarwin.org.au/climateinfo/references

THE NT IN THE GLOBAL PICTURE

- we are currently part of the problem

The NT is responsible for more than twice as much climate pollution per person than any other Territory or state in Australia.[xv] Australians produce five times more climate pollution per person than the global average.



Northern Territory Carbon Emissions

Left unchecked, the NT Government's embrace of fracking and LNG exports will make our emissions among the highest per person in the world. yet the Territory is ideal for producing solar energy.[xvi]



Image: Colin Carthew

Tell your local MLA and MP you want a strong NT carbon emissions reduction target.

Push the NT Government to support Beyond Zero Emissions' plan for **100% renewables and economic growth for the Territory.**

Ban Fracking in the NT and export solar-generated electricity, not gas.

Ask City of Darwin to declare a climate emergency. London, Vancouver and almost 500 other local councils have "declared" and are implementing emergency measures to go carbon neutral.

Join
CLIMATE ACTION DARWIN