

# A collaborative web — the evolution of an interjurisdictional knowledge broker network to help users inform and apply climate science research.

<sup>1</sup>Ramona Dalla Pozza, <sup>2</sup>Sarah Bassett, <sup>3</sup>Helen Bloustein, <sup>4</sup>David Putland, <sup>5</sup>Graham Green, <sup>6</sup>Susan Sweeney <sup>6</sup>Sharna Nolan, <sup>5</sup>Tamara Pinkerton, and <sup>2</sup>Matthew Riley

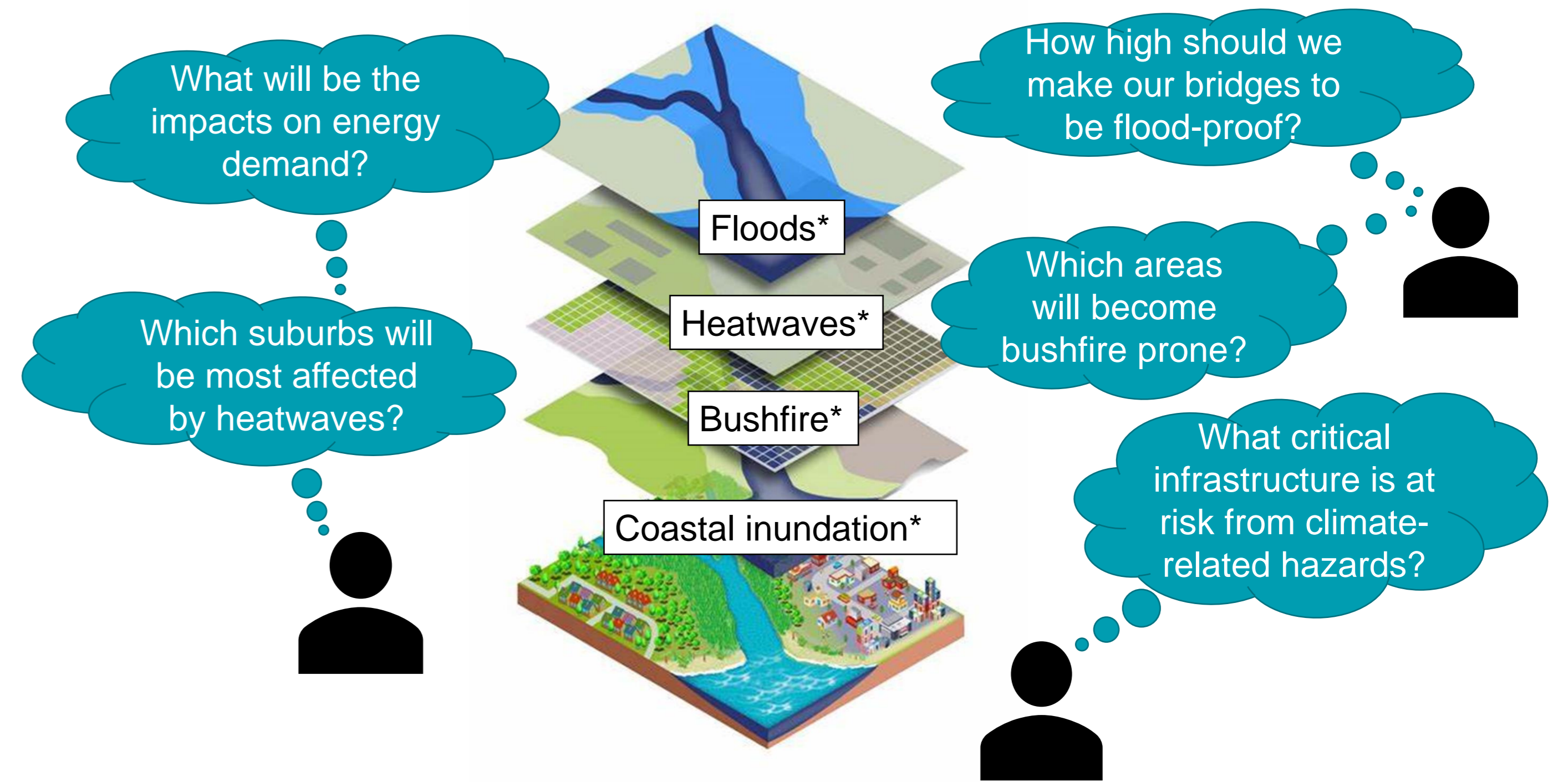
<sup>1</sup>University of Tasmania, <sup>2</sup>NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, <sup>3</sup> VIC Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, <sup>4</sup>QLD Department of Environment and Science, <sup>5</sup>SA Department for Environment and Water, <sup>6</sup>WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation,

## Key messages

- Collaboration between state, territory and Australian governments has led to the first-ever interjurisdictional knowledge brokering team within the National Environmental Science Program (NESP) Climate Systems Hub.
- Knowledge brokers are at the centre of this collaborative web, linking stakeholders and scientists in co-design and co-production with the aim of producing comparable, robust information for climate risk assessments and adaptation planning across Australia.

## Bringing the Australian climate science community together to provide a common understanding of climate risks and opportunities.

- Prior to 2019, there was a lack of collaboration and alignment between state, territory and Australian governments and science agencies producing future climate science information.
- Differing and sometimes conflicting future climate information, can create confusion for users and erode their confidence to act. See Figure 1.
- Users are demanding comparable, robust and fit-for-purpose information to inform their climate risk assessments and adaptation decisions.
- Progress has been made to address this issue and enhance collaboration and comparability through the Cross-Jurisdictional Community of Practice for Climate Science as well as the formation of the National Partnership for Climate Projections.



\*To provide confidence in climate risk and adaptation decisions, the underlying data needs to be comparable at local, regional and national scales

Figure 2: Climate projections require translation to understand the local impacts which can inform climate risk assessments and adaptation decisions.

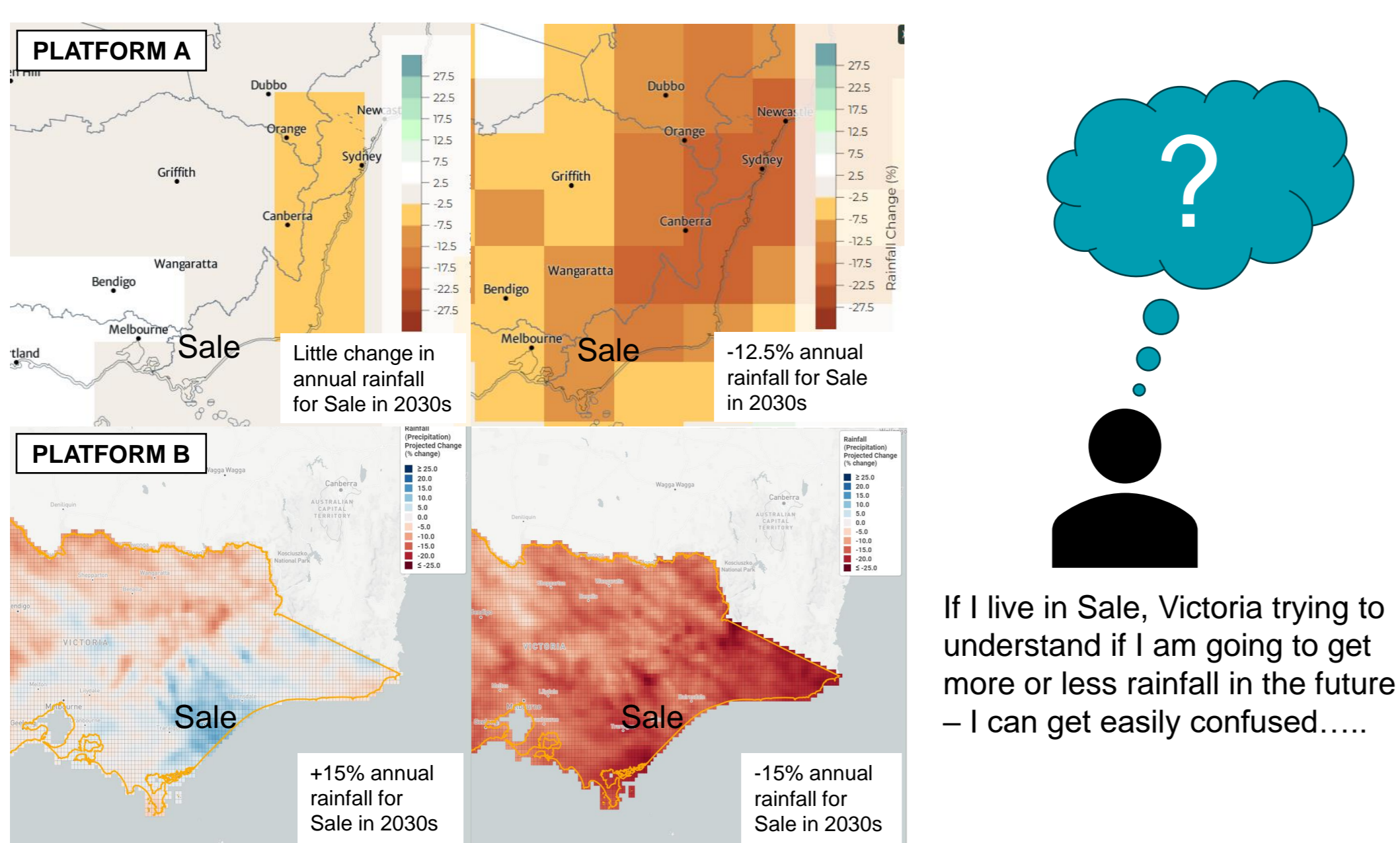


Figure 1: Example of future climate information showing annual rainfall projections for 2030s RCP4.5 for Victoria from two different sources (Platform A and Platform B).

## The NESP Climate Systems Hub interjurisdictional knowledge brokering team

- The network of state and territory knowledge brokers are at the centre of this collaborative web providing comparable, robust, fit-for-purpose information for users of climate information.
- This collaboration is providing a direct feedback loop to enable the climate science research to inform decision-makers. Decision-makers can also shape the science that is produced to ensure it is fit-for-purpose.

## Knowledge brokers help translate climate data into decision-ready information

- There is a big gap between future climate data and 'decision-ready' information. See Figure 2 for common questions that require translation to understand the impacts of future climate.
- Knowledge brokers form the bridge between scientists and decisions makers and through co-design and co-production produce fit-for-purpose information to inform *climate risk assessments and adaptation decisions*.
- The translation of climate projections to local, on-the-ground impacts requires input from many different stakeholders and sectoral expertise from all levels of government and industry.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

NESP2CLIMATE.COM.AU

Knowledge Brokering: Bridging the gap between climate science research and decision making - NESP 2 climate

The Climate Systems Hub is funded by the Australian Government under the National Environmental Science Program, with co-investment from the following partners:

