

Governor's Council on Climate Change (GC3) Subcommittees & Working Groups

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) will work closely and engage with other state agencies, communities, and stakeholders to implement E.O. 3 over the coming months and years. Accurately assessing and strengthening Connecticut's preparedness and resilience to the expected impacts of climate change in the coming decades will require the inclusion of stakeholders who bring a diversity of knowledge, perspective, and expertise to the process.

At this time, as directed by E.O. 3, two subcommittees are being formed to accomplish the work of the GC3 which include a:

- Climate Change Mitigation subcommittee, and
- Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency subcommittee.

[Meetings](#) of the two subcommittees will be noticed and open to the public, and will include opportunities for public comment.

Ad hoc working groups may also be established as needed and tasked with a time-limited scope of work on specific substantive areas to serve the mission of the subcommittees. Working groups will coordinate with the subcommittees to achieve specific objectives and deliverables. The following thematic areas are proposed as the basis for initial working groups (additional working groups may be formed as needed):

Joint Working Groups (reporting to both the Mitigation and Adaptation/Resilience Subcommittees)

Equity and Environmental Justice

This working group will implement a robust stakeholder engagement process that ensures communities most vulnerable to and disproportionately impacted by climate change will have the opportunity to both:

- meaningfully participate in the development of adaptation strategies that meet their needs and achieve equitable solutions, and
- review and evaluate the recommendations made in the [2018 GC3 report](#) to identify potential positive and negative impacts for low-income populations, communities of color, and other underserved or marginalized groups in order to make new, relevant sub-recommendations to be considered for inclusion in an updated report.

Working and Natural Lands

This working group will evaluate the role of nature-based solutions (e.g., scaling up the preservation and restoration of forests and coastal wetlands, green and natural infrastructure, agricultural lands) in climate change mitigation and adaptation and how to best incorporate the economic, social, and environmental co-benefits of these solutions into Connecticut's climate change planning strategies.

Adaptation Working Groups

Assessing Vulnerabilities in State Assets & Operations

This working group will assist in development of a framework for state agencies to complete an inventory of vulnerable assets and operations, including defining vulnerability criteria, risk parameters, and relevant climate hazards for analysis.

Financing Adaptation

This working group will identify innovative and practical options to finance climate adaptation and mechanisms to scale investment in the broad spectrum of climate resilience strategies and solutions.

Adaptation Planning and Implementation

This working group will review and update the 2011 Climate Change Adaptation/Preparedness Plan to include the most current and locally-scaled scientific information and analyses available and provide updated recommendations for adapting to and improving the state's resilience to climate change.

Science and Technology

Provide scientific and technical support to the Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency subcommittee and assist with translating climate modeling and data into actionable, downscaled information that can be used to incorporate into adaptation and resiliency planning processes.

Mitigation Working Group

Progress on Mitigation Strategies

This working group will review and evaluate progress in implementing the recommendations outlined in the 2018 GC3 report, [Building a Low Carbon Future for Connecticut: Achieving a 45% GHG Reduction by 2030](#). Assess how recommended strategies are integrated into existing and new policy planning efforts, evaluate the efficacy of existing and proposed policies at reducing GHG emissions, and prioritize the equitable distribution of costs and benefits of climate change mitigation.