



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM

Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy

The University of Hawai'i Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant) has served Hawai'i and the Pacific for over 40 years and is dedicated to achieving resilient coastal communities characterized by vibrant economies, social and cultural sustainability and environmental soundness. In partnership with the William S. Richardson School of Law, the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology, the College of Social Sciences, and the Hawai'i inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge, UH Sea Grant established the Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy (ICAP).

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The Center for Island Climate Adaptation and Policy (ICAP) facilitates a sustainable, climate-conscious future for Hawai'i, the Pacific, and global island communities. This center produces innovative, interdisciplinary research and real-world solutions to island decision-makers in the public and private sectors. As a focal point for University of Hawai'i climate expertise, ICAP serves as a two-way conduit between the university and island communities to catalyze climate change adaptation and resiliency.



CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS IN HAWAI'I & OTHER ISLAND COMMUNITIES

Over the past half-century, unique data gathered in Hawai'i at Mauna Loa Observatory have documented increasing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gasses. Climate change impacts are widespread and islanders are now faced with an unprecedented set of climate challenges. The most pressing concerns are ocean acidification, sea-level rise, altered precipitation patterns, and heightened storm vulnerability. Preparation for these challenges requires an unprecedented degree of focus, agility, and collaboration between educational disciplines, private entities, community groups and various tiers of government.





AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ENDEAVOR

ICAP is dedicated to bringing together a diverse body of interdisciplinary fields to coordinate research, education, and policy recommendations. A team of academic specialists in UH Mānoa’s Planning, Ocean Science, Hawaiian Studies departments and the Law School are the primary source for the Center’s work, while other departments across the UH campus are encouraged to participate and contribute in order to achieve the Center’s mission to provide top-notch climate data and solution-sets. The work of ICAP is primarily focused on science, policy, planning, and indigenous environmental knowledge.

FROM A LOCAL TO GLOBAL SCALE

Climate change will continue to threaten critical coastal and terrestrial ecosystems. These effects are consistent with those already observed in many island states. The Center gives each community a chance to develop sound adaptive strategies through ICAP’s assistance in crafting tailored policy responses for individual island communities at local, regional, and national levels. We face an uncertain climate future – ICAP can provide a range of interdisciplinary tools to foster island community sustainability and resiliency in the face of change.



FROM UH TO YOU

ICAP connects individuals and institutions to the rich climate knowledge at the University of Hawai‘i. The Center offers work product in the areas of law, policy, planning, and science to adapt to climate change while embracing the wisdom of local, traditional cultures. For further information, please contact us:

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The University of Hawai‘i Sea Grant College Program (UH Sea Grant) is part of a national network of 32 programs that promote better understanding, conservation, and use of coastal resources.

As part of the University of Hawai‘i’s prestigious School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST), we partner with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to provide links between academia, federal, state and local government, industry, and the local community.

