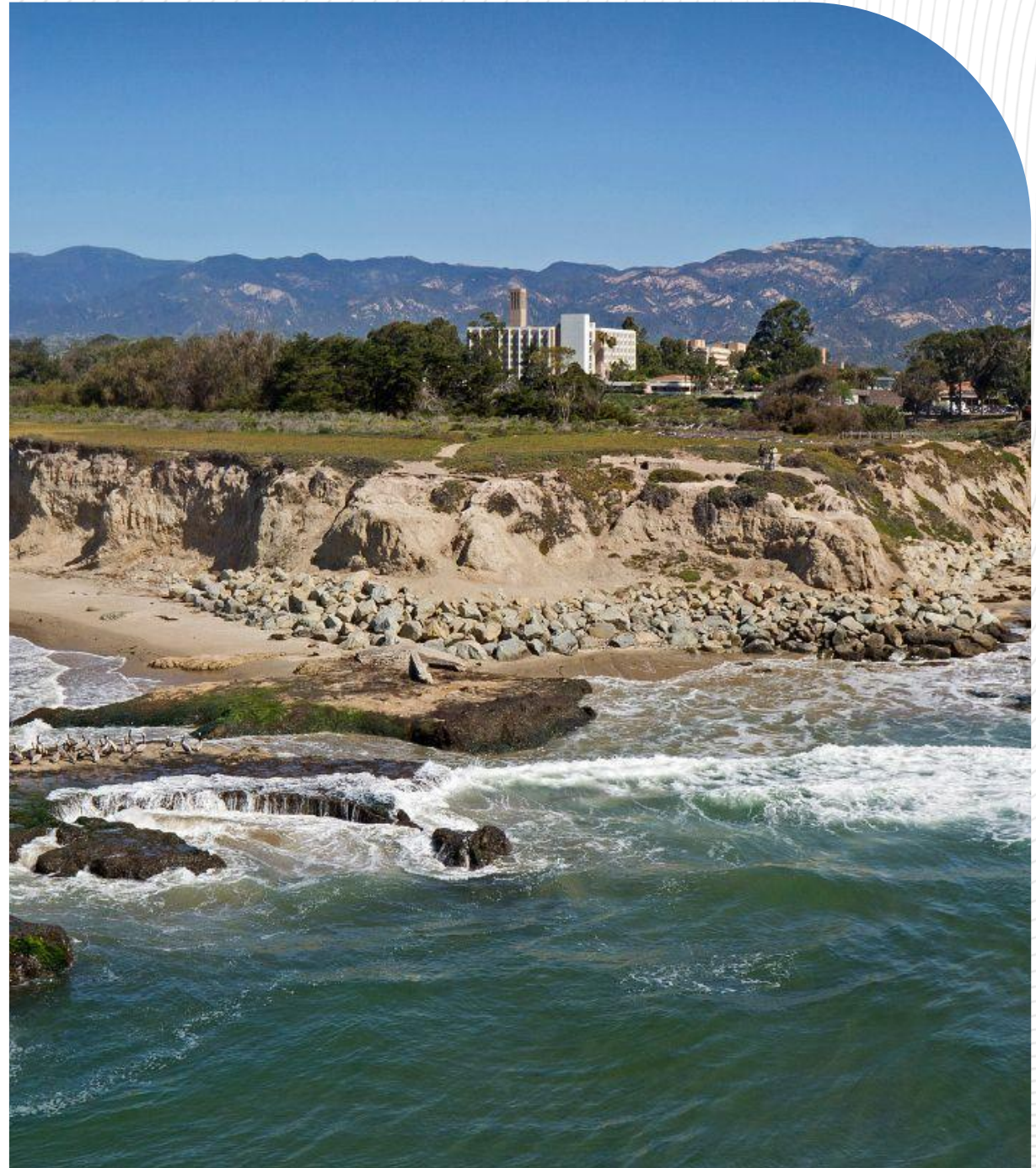


UC EQUITY-CENTERED CLIMATE
RESILIENCE PLANNING

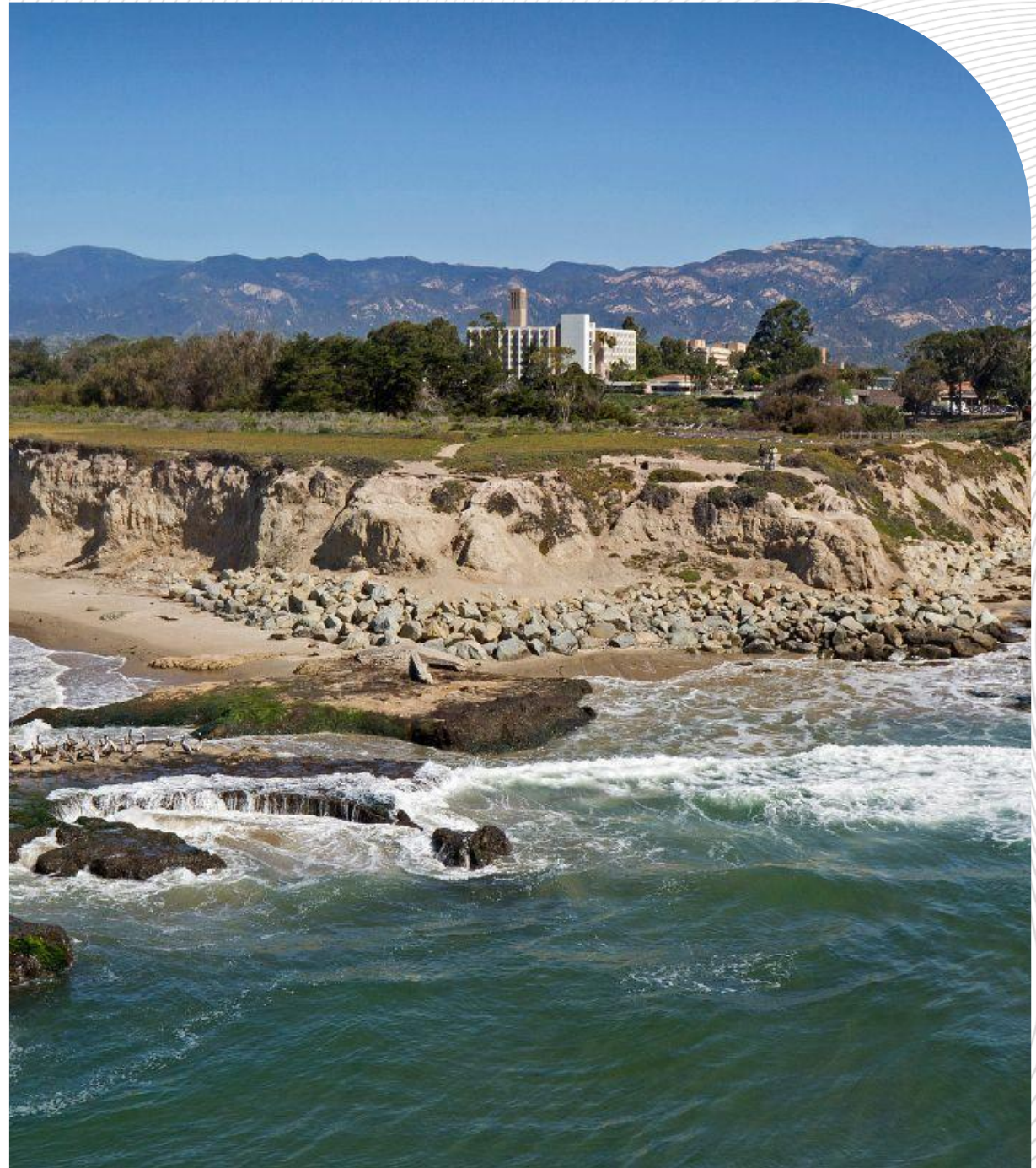
UC Santa Barbara Resilience Summary Report

August 2025



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0 Resilience Planning at a Glance

Executive Summary

The Importance of JEDI-Centered Climate Resilience Planning



The **impacts** of climate change are **widespread and intensifying** worldwide, including in California.



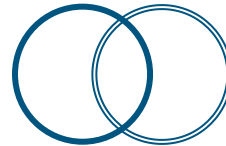
Marginalized and vulnerable groups often shoulder a **disproportionate** burden of climate impacts.



Proactive resilience planning can help University of California Locations **protect people, assets, and services** from the impacts of climate hazards.



Integrating resilience goals and strategies into local **action planning** fosters synergistic solutions, increases resource efficiency, demonstrates climate leadership, and strengthens buy-in.



Combining resilience and GHG emissions mitigation approaches in Climate Action Plans (CAPs) provides a dual benefit of addressing key vulnerabilities while reducing long-term climate impacts.



Advancing holistic climate action requires **collaboration** across departments, communities, and organizations to address key priorities and implement impactful approaches.

Targeted Action: Responding to Key Hazards

Key Hazards



Extreme Heat



Drought



Wildfire



Wildfire Smoke



Rainstorm and Flooding



Coastal Flooding

Priority Actions

1

Designate buildings on campus available to the campus community during climate hazards or emergencies. This could include clean air buildings during smoke events, and or heating or cooling centers. The information should be added to our existing interactive campus map.

Hazards Addressed:



2

Increase public outreach and education within the campus community on climate hazards, wildfire smoke and health impacts and mask use.

Hazards Addressed:



3

Continuously reassess climate hazards and use the assessment for Emergency Planning Committee Scenario Planning and Climate Hazard tabletop exercises on heat waves, wildfire and rainstorms, and flooding. And add a climate lens to all exercises.

Hazards Addressed:



4

Connect students with existing resources both on campus and in Isla Vista to help ensure students, especially those under-resourced and or under-represented, have resource hubs available that can provide clean air, power, heat, and cooling.

Hazards Addressed:



Executive Summary – Rain & Flood



Rain & Flood are priority climate hazards for UC Santa Barbara because of recent rain-related events and potential impacts to critical assets and roadways.

Key Impacts

- Disruption to campus supply chains
- Limited access to campus due to closed roadways
- Damage to infrastructure

Key Vulnerabilities

- Isla Vista
- Low-lying infrastructure

Our Resilience Objectives

- Ensure critical infrastructure is located above flood levels
- Engage in protections for infrastructure
- Ensure roadways are flood-resilient
- Ensure student population is located away from rain and flood hazards

Our Potential Actions

- Relocate critical infrastructure
- Increase protection measures if relocation not possible
- Improve storm drainage
- Maintenance of drainage systems
- Demolish buildings deemed unsafe and relocate to a new location

Hazard Summary – Wildfire & Wildfire Smoke



Wildfire and Wildfire smoke are priority climate hazards for UC Santa Barbara because of their potential impacts on health and safety and critical infrastructure and the expectation that they will become more frequent and severe.

Key Impacts

- Safety risks, including health problems connected to poor air quality
- Damage to critical infrastructure in the areas surrounding the UCSB campus.
- Disruptions in essential services
- Health issues for the campus community, both indoors and outdoors

Our Resilience Objectives

- Clean Air Centers
- Maintain Core Services, Critical Infrastructure
- Ensure UCSB Population Knows/Understands UC Policy for Poor Air Quality Events
- Ensure Campus Community knows how to limit smoke exposure

Our Potential Actions

- Educate the campus community on the health risks associated with wildfire smoke
- Enhance transportation infrastructure offered by UCSB
- Continue implement telecommuting and remote learning options when air quality or fire proximity poses risks
- Coordinate with city planners to create underground power lines in high-risk wildfire areas
- Provide education in IV and other residential areas on emergency preparedness and safety
- Further develop backup power generation systems for campus
- Establish designated clean air shelters on campus

Hazard Summary – Heat & Drought



Drought & Heat are priority climate hazards for UC Santa Barbara because of their potential impacts to human health and the electrical grid.

Key Impacts

- Increased heat illnesses leading to life-threatening situations or hospitalizations.
- Increased stress on the electrical grid, leading to power outages (especially in Isla Vista).
- Disruption or cancellation of outdoor events on the UCSB campus.

Key Vulnerabilities

- Individuals with pre-existing health conditions
- Isla Vista

Our Resilience Objectives

- Buildings are Equipped to Handle Thermally Intensive Events
- Reduce Impact on Electrical Grids, Limited Backup Generators/Reliance on SCE
- Accessibility to Clean Drinking Water

Our Potential Actions

- Make cooling centers available to the campus community
- Installation of additional Water Dispensers

Planning for Resilience at UC Santa Barbara

Our Resilience Planning Journey

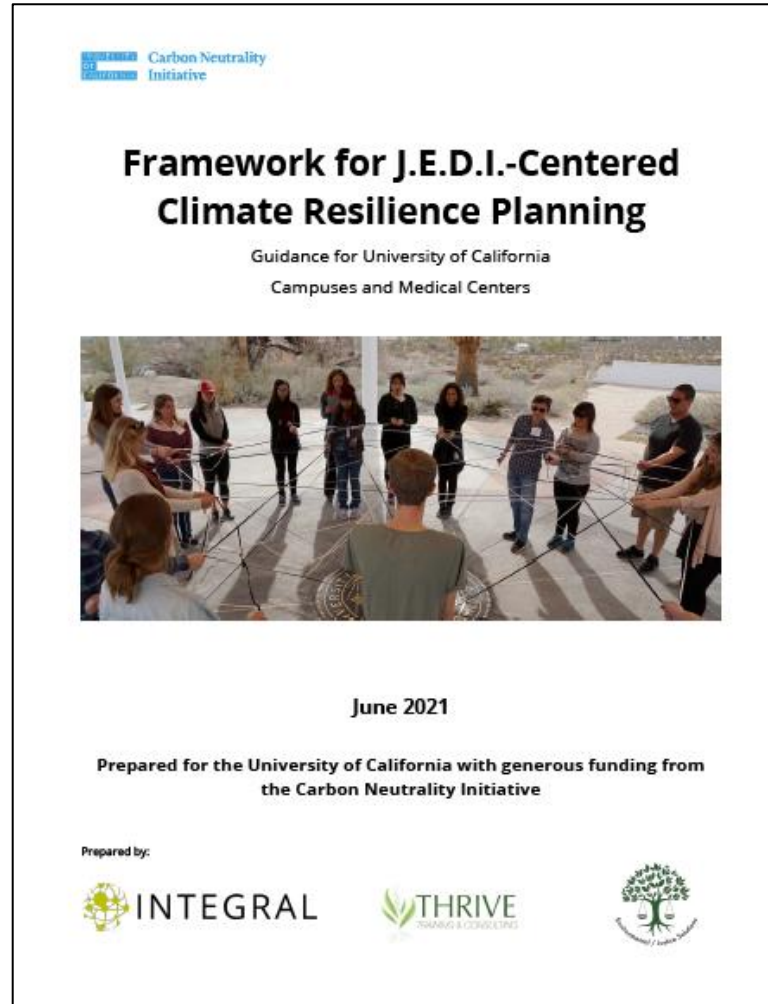
UC Santa Barbara is **proactively enhancing our resilience** to climate hazards, to protect the health and well-being of our campus community, safeguard assets, and plan for continuous essential service delivery during climate events.

Following the key steps of the Framework for J.E.D.I.-centered Climate Resilience, we first identified and assessed a wide range of **potential impacts** on people, assets, and services, from relevant climate hazards (e.g., extreme heat, wildfires).

To understand campus community concerns and action ideas, we held multiple **engagement** sessions, with a special focus on understanding the needs of vulnerable on-campus populations. The outreach included students, staff, and faculty stakeholders.

Based on the impact assessment and engagement, we identified **resilience goals, objectives, and actions**.

The planning process also catalyzed immediate action, such as updates to key plans and processes, and student emergency response training.



Framework for J.E.D.I.-centered Climate Resilience Planning

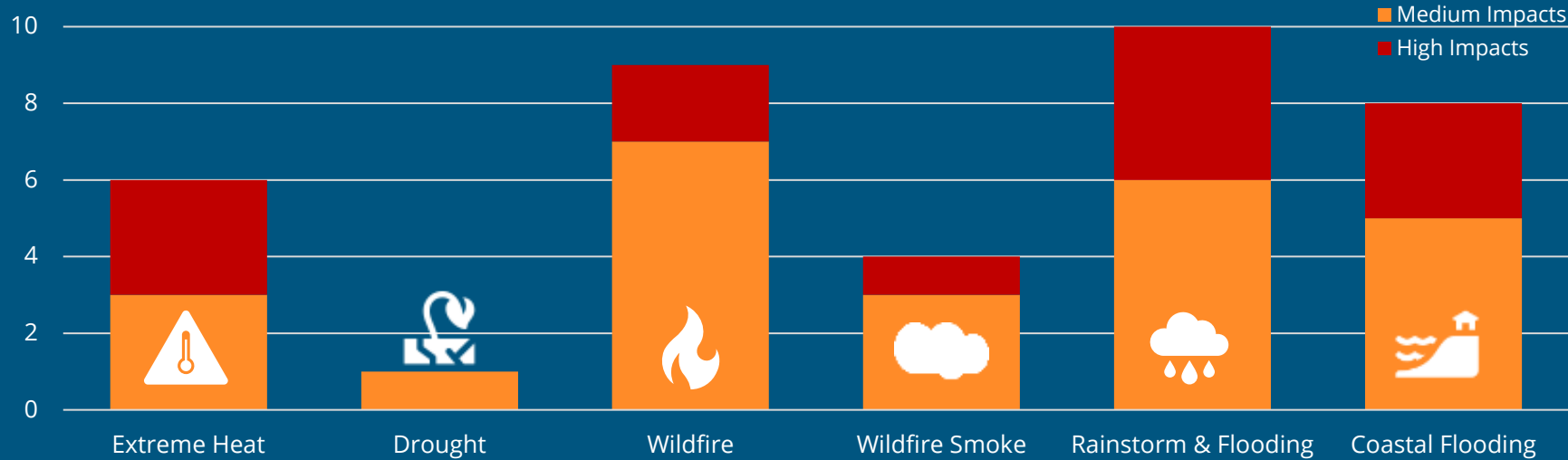
Key Steps:

1. Establish the Team, Scope, and Baseline
2. Identify Vulnerable On-Campus Populations
3. Identify and Engage Stakeholders
4. Develop a Shared Vision and Guiding Principles
5. Identify Climate Impacts
6. Analyze Vulnerabilities
7. Identify and Prioritize Solutions
8. Move From Planning to Implementation

UC Santa Barbara Resilience Dashboard

An at-a-glance overview of our resilience planning progress: summary of potential impacts, hazards, engagement statistics, and resilience goals and actions.

Potential Impacts by Hazard



Engagement Summary



Several hundred
staff, faculty, and
students engaged

UCSB Teams Engaged



Resilience Goals



Upgrade buildings and other infrastructure to improve climate resilience of built systems



Form and maintain coordinated, financially supported Emergency Response Plans across departments



Build and maintain relationships within student community about resilience



Continue to implement transportation, preventative, and responsive plans on climate hazard impacts, protecting overall continuity

Resilience Planning Outcomes and Takeaways

While the primary focus of UC Santa Barbara's multi-year climate resilience planning initiative was to lay the foundation for a proactive long-term plan by assessing climate-related impacts and vulnerabilities to inform resilience-building strategies, the process also sparked early action. Through cross-organizational collaboration, stakeholder engagement, and enhanced understanding of key priorities, the effort has led to several tangible outcomes that are already helping UC Santa Barbara and our community better prepare for climate-related events.

New Tools & Processes

- We integrated climate resilience into key emergency management processes (Hazard Vulnerability Assessments and Campus Emergency Planning Committee desktop exercises). Doing so has made climate resilience part of key decision-making processes.
- We also worked with the Emergency Management team to update the Campus Emergency Operations Plan.

Key Learnings & Outcomes

- The importance of fostering cross-departmental collaboration to break down silos and build opportunities for partnerships and knowledge exchange (including existing resilience measures). Through this collaboration, we learned that continued education is crucial given the ~4-year student turnaround and that each individual faces unique challenges and impacts from climate change.

Other Takeaways and Feedback Received

- We deepened partnerships with senior leadership and built institutional knowledge on how climate impacts our campus. Additionally, we established a process for integrating climate planning into all hazard planning on campus.

1 Findings from Analysis: Climate Impacts & Vulnerabilities

Preparing for Climate Change at UC Santa Barbara

Climate action has never been more important than today. Addressing climate change is not merely a response to the environmental challenge, but a global imperative to protect our collective health and well-being.

Climate change is not only altering long-term climate conditions, but also causing widespread and intensifying extreme weather events worldwide, including in California, such as frequent extreme heat events, persistent droughts, raging wildfires, damaging floods, and rising sea levels.

These climate hazards are causing a wide range of impacts on human physical and mental health, livelihoods, well-being and day-to-day life; however, not everyone is being impacted equally. Marginalized and vulnerable groups are often shouldering a disproportionate burden of climate impacts. Climate change serves as a risk multiplier, intensifying existing disparities and influencing the social and environmental factors that affect human well-being.

By planning for climate resilience, the University of California campuses and health centers can help protect the health and well-being of their students, staff, faculty, patients and visitors, and ensure they can continue to deliver essential services during climate disturbances when the campus community relies on them the most.

UC recognizes the imperative to act on climate change through mitigation, adaptation and incorporating social equity principles. It is committed to continuing to be a leader in climate action, upholding the University of California's goals and meeting national emissions reduction targets. Better preparedness for future climate extremes and hazards will protect human health, safety and well-being and help avoid damage and cost of remediation.

“The future of our planet depends on immediate and bold action to combat this profound existential crisis. We owe it to current and future generations to act decisively and to act now.”

University of California President Michael V. Drake, M.D.

Our Recent Experiences with Climate Events

UC Santa Barbara is already facing the impacts of climate change. The following examples illustrate the direct consequences of recent climate events on UC Santa Barbara, which are expected to intensify in the coming years, emphasizing the urgent need for climate resilience planning.



In December 2017, powerline explosions in conjunction with strong Santa Ana Winds started and spread the Thomas Fire through Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. The wildfires burned through **281,893 acres** and caused **\$2.2 billion** (2018 USD) in damages.

UC Santa Barbara **postponed Finals** due to poor air quality, IT issues, rolling power outages. Threats to vital research, departmental workloads increased exponentially from loss of workforce.



In January 2018, a series of mudflows from a deluge of rain in a 5 minute period caused debris and boulders to flow down creeks and valleys into Montecito. Debris flows reached **15 ft high** and **closed off a 30 mile stretch** of the US-101 from Santa Barbara to Ventura.

Estimated that **30% of UCSB staff were unable to come into work** from being physically blocked, evacuated, or health issues related to Thomas Fire/Debris Flow.



During heavy rainfall and high wind events of 2005, the bluffs and cliffs around UCSB became unstable and **locals were advised to stay away from the area**. Highway 217 and surrounding wetlands became flooded and inaccessible.

Access via the 217 Highway is blocked coming into/out of UCSB, causing **widespread transportation issues**. Rail and vehicular traffic were heavily impacted, with some people commuting to work by boat.

Key Climate Projections for our Region

UC Santa Barbara has already experienced significant climate hazards, and these events are projected to intensify with climate change. Understanding how these hazards are likely to evolve is critical to developing effective resilience strategies and ensuring UC Santa Barbara is prepared for the future.



Extreme Heat

Number of days >90°F are expected to increase from **0 to 3** in the 2050s.



Coastal Flooding

Areas of Lagoon Road are at **risk of flooding** (up to 2.5m of water depth) during a 100- year storm and a high-end scenario of 1.41m of sea level rise by 2100.

Low-lying areas surrounding the campus lagoon are at risk of moderate flooding (up to 1m water depth) under the same circumstances.



Wildfire

Average Annual Area burned is projected to increase **from 28.1 to 42.7 Acres** in 2050.



Rainstorms and Riverine Flooding

The campus is adjacent to Coyotito Creek which flows to the ocean through the Goleta Slough State Marine Conservation Area, which is a **regulatory floodway**.

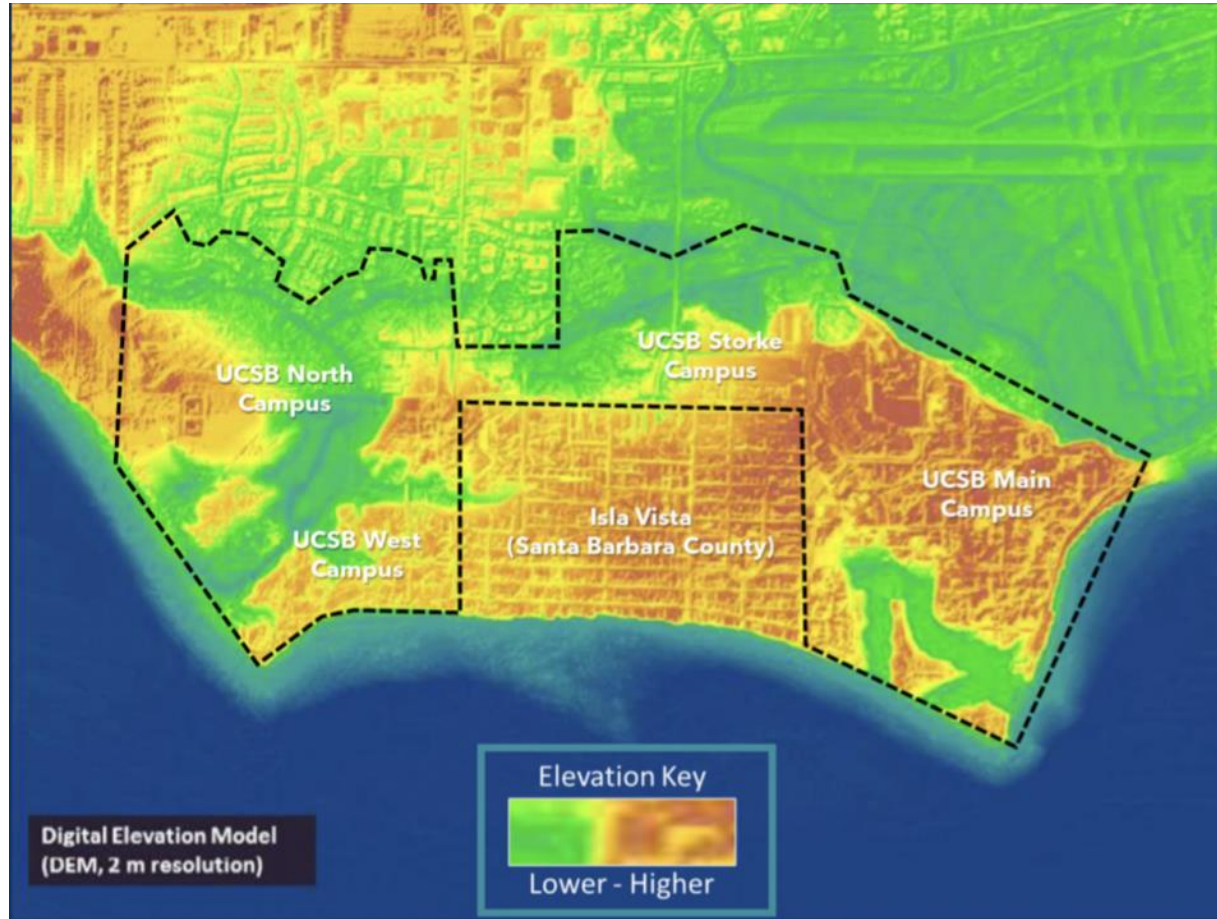


Wildfire Smoke

Every indicator of wildfire smoke is expected to **increase in severity** over the mid-term future (2050s).

Mapped Climate Projections

Mapping of climate hazards can improve our understanding of how climate hazards could impact UC Santa Barbara now and in the future - both directly, and indirectly. To complement the key climate projections summarized above, UC Santa Barbara also consulted available mapping resources to determine its exposure to flooding.



The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) presents sea level rise projections for Santa Barbara in 2050 there is a “likely” or 66% probability of sea level rise of between **0.4 and 1 foot**, a 5% probability of the rise being 1.2 feet or more, and only half a percent probability of it being 1.8 feet or higher.

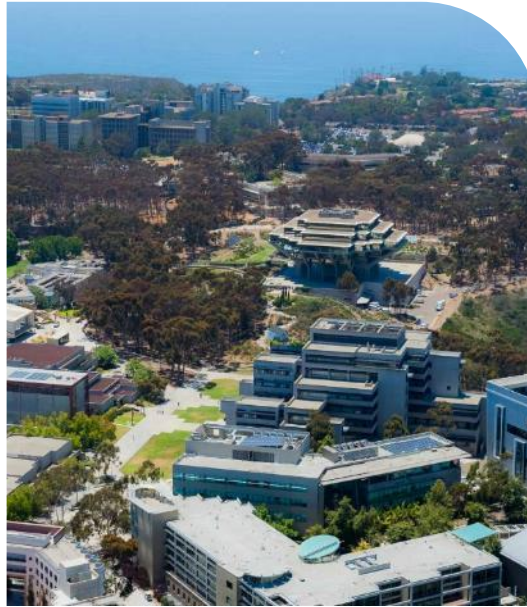
Analysis: Climate Impact Assessment

UC Santa Barbara conducted a detailed impact assessment to identify, evaluate, and prioritize potential climate impacts. The assessment highlighted key impacts to UC Santa Barbara's people, assets, and services that should be considered and addressed throughout resilience planning. This evaluation process rated each impact as a *Low*, *Medium*, or *High* priority for UC Santa Barbara to consider in resilience planning.

People



Assets

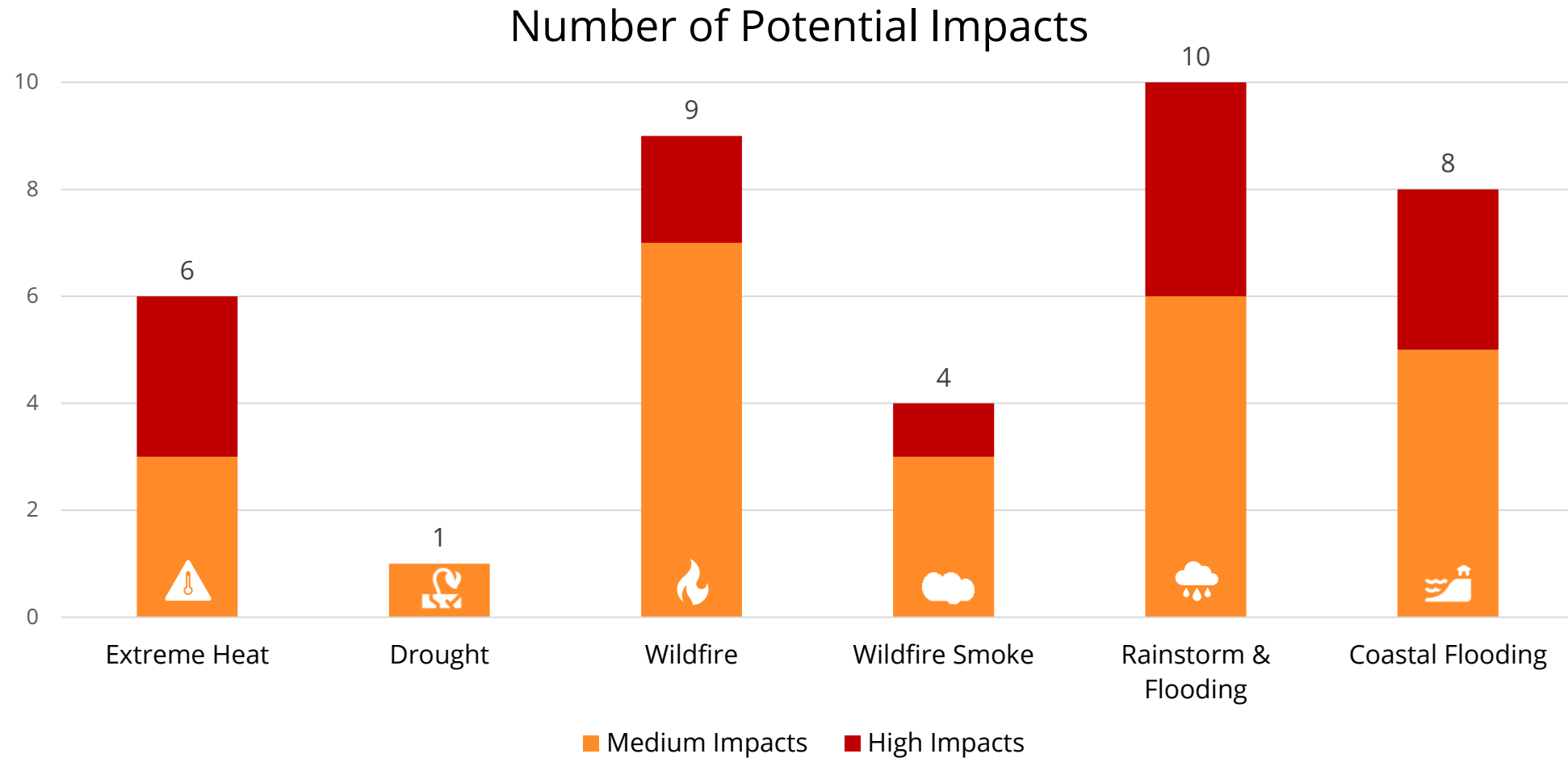


Services



Results: Key Hazards of Concern for UC Santa Barbara

The same identified *Medium* and *High* impacts were also summarized based on hazards, as show in the graph below.



Results: Key Potential Impacts of Rain & Flood



Climate Impact Assessment results indicate that **extreme rain and flood** hazards have the potential to cause the following key impacts on vulnerable people, assets and services:

Coastal Flooding

Significant portions of East Bluffs are vulnerable to Sea level rise and erosion from extreme rain and floods, and king tide events, including public access areas, parking, Lagoon Road, and underlying utilities, may be vulnerable with 0.5 meters of sea level rise. With 1.0 and 2.0 meters, significantly more development will be endangered, including buildings and additional utility lines.

Transportation Route Closures

During extreme rain and flood events regional transportation routes (including *HWY101*) are frequently impacted causing road closure events, during these events staff and faculty face difficulty accessing Campus, leading to staffing shortages and affecting critical services, a large portion of our staff commute from outside of the immediate city and would phase difficulty getting to campus, this is especially critical for essential workers who need to be on campus.



Photo: unknown

Motorists sit in their cars, stranded between two mudslides on Hwy 101 - La Conchita

Results: Key Potential Impacts of **Wildfire & Smoke**



Climate Impact Assessment results indicate that **wildfire and wildfire smoke** hazards have the potential to cause the following key impacts on vulnerable people, assets and services:

Transportation route closures

Important regional transportation routes (including HWY101) intersect with known high wildfire risk areas (during the Thomas fire in 2017 Highway 101 was closed due to the Thomas Fire's proximity and the threat it posed to the roadway). In the case of road closures in the region, staff face difficulty accessing campus, leading to staffing shortages and affecting critical services, as UCSB has a large commuter population of staff that live in North and South Santa Barbara county and rely on the 101 for campus access.



Power outages to campus and air quality

The UC Santa Barbara campus can be subject to power disruptions as wildfires can impact the 220 line power serving campus. Power disruptions occurred during the 2008 GAP fire, 2009 Jesusita Fire, 2017 Whitter and Thomas Fires. Bad air quality can impact campus during wildfires and impact outdoor activities. The greatest impact was the postponement of finals during the 2017 Thomas fire.



Results: Key Potential Impacts of Heat & Drought



Climate Impact Assessment results indicate that **drought and extreme heat** hazards have the potential to cause the following key impacts on vulnerable people, assets and services:

Overheating of buildings and assets

UCSB is acclimated to a coastal climate and many of our Residential Halls rely on natural ventilation, with warming temperatures we anticipate the potential need for added mechanical ventilation systems and or additional cooling centers. Additional cooling demands will put a strain on the power grid and our building infrastructure.



In June 2024, the daily high temperatures on campus reached 90°F, the heat wave impacted our outside commencement ceremonies. Number of days >90°F are expected to increase from 0 to 3 in the 2050s. This will impact outdoor events and cooling needs for the campus.

Other Key Potential Impacts and Vulnerabilities

- Direct damage to or malfunctioning of assets in case of overheating
- Loss of productivity or limited ability to perform duties due to uncomfortable indoor air temperatures
- Limited access to food and increasing food costs and insecurity due to long-term regional drought impact

Results: Key Vulnerabilities Across Hazards

The climate impact assessment also revealed *who* or *what* is most vulnerable to the range of potential impacts identified above. We paid special attention to these *people*, *assets* and *services* during action planning. Examples of key vulnerabilities across all hazards are listed below.

People

Disabled & House Insecure Affected
(Extreme Heat, Air quality)

Students Living on Del Playa (Sea Level Rise, Rain, Flood)

Children & Preexisting Health Conditions
(Wildfire Smoke, Extreme Heat Coastal Sea Rise)

UCSB and Isla Vista
(Wildfire + Smoke, Drought + Heat, Flooding)

Assets

Undersized HVAC systems (Extreme Heat, Air Quality)

Older buildings
(Flooding, Heat and Air Quality)

Roadways
(Flooding, Wildfires, Debris flow)

Soil Composition
(Wildfire, Flooding, Coastal Sea Rise)

Services

IT Services (overheating, power outage)

Clinical operating rooms
(overheating, power outage, air quality)

Water Accessibility
(Drought, Heat, Wildfire)

Events Access (Extreme Heat, Rain + Flooding)

2 UC Santa Barbara's Roadmap to Enhancing Climate Resilience

The Importance of JEDI-Centered Climate Resilience Planning



The **impacts** of climate change are **widespread and intensifying** worldwide, including in California.



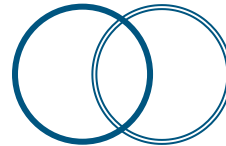
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Proactive resilience planning can help University of California Locations **protect people, assets, and services** from the impacts of climate hazards.



Integrating resilience goals and strategies into local **action planning** fosters synergistic solutions, increases resource efficiency, demonstrates climate leadership, and strengthens buy-in.



Combining resilience and GHG emissions mitigation approaches in Climate Action Plans (CAPs) provides a dual benefit of addressing key vulnerabilities while reducing long-term climate impacts.



Advancing holistic climate action requires **collaboration** across departments, communities, and organizations to address key priorities and implement impactful approaches.

Our Pathway for Proactive Climate Resilience Planning

Climate resilience is the ability of a system or community to survive disruption and to anticipate, adapt, and flourish in the face of change (definition by Second Nature). Resilience planning is essential to ensure that University of California (UC) Locations protect their people, assets, and services as climate hazards intensify in future years. By integrating resilience planning into Climate Action Plans (CAPs), Locations can develop synergistic solutions, increase resource efficiency, demonstrate climate leadership, and foster stronger institutional buy-in.

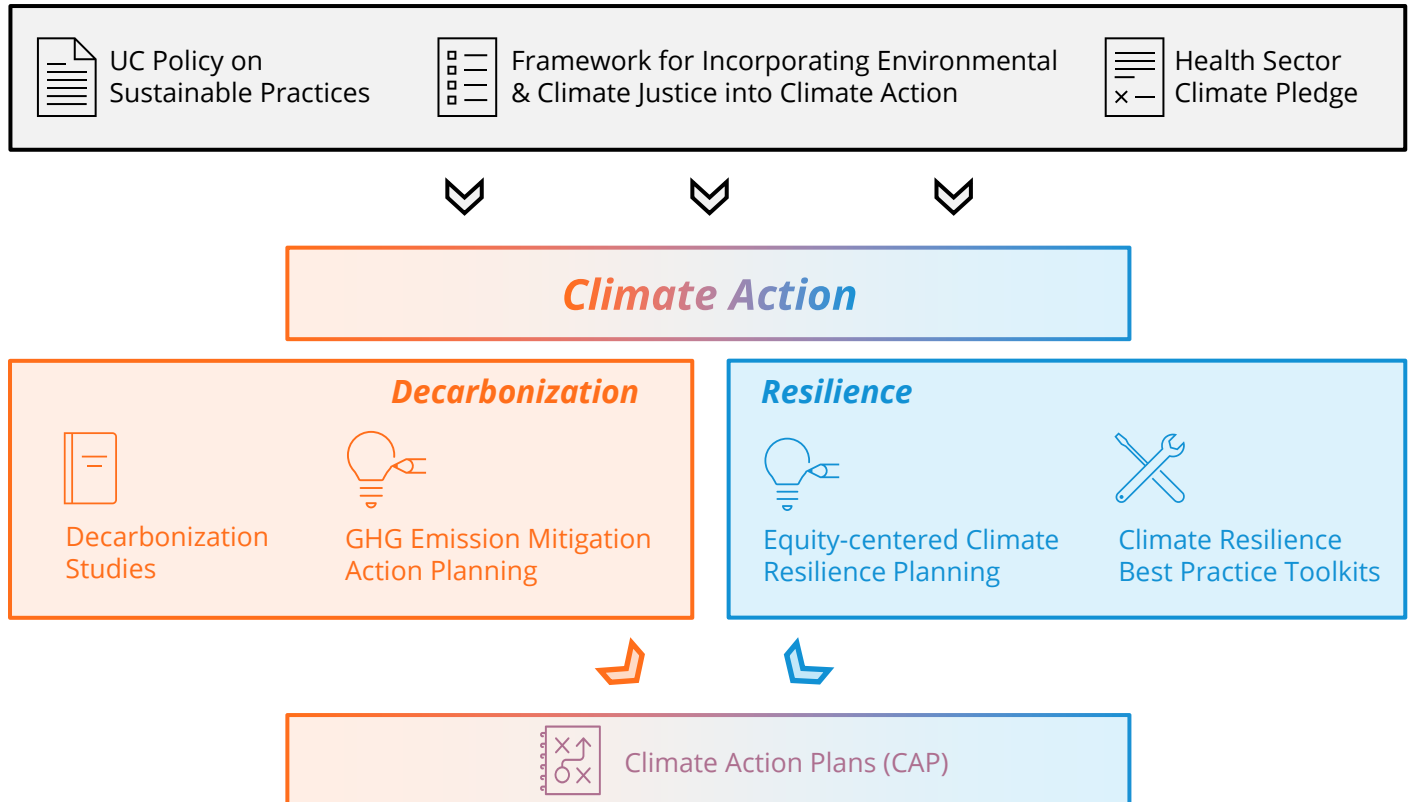
Combining **resilience and mitigation** approaches provides a dual benefit, addressing key vulnerabilities while reducing long-term climate impacts. Prioritizing resilient decarbonization strategies ensures that efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions remain effective under future climate conditions. Similarly, adopting low-carbon resilience approaches helps institutions prepare for challenges while contributing to a sustainable future.

In addition, both aspects of climate action need to incorporate considerations of climate justice and social equity to ensure that the burden of climate impacts and zero-carbon transition are not carried disproportionately among marginalized communities, and that these communities are considered, engaged and supported. Therefore, prioritizing justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) is critical in climate action planning.

Advancing holistic climate action requires collaboration across departments, communities, and organizations to achieve a holistic and impactful approach. Through partnerships, we can develop and implement strategies that address the diverse challenges posed by climate change.

The UC system has demonstrated a strong commitment to climate resilience and decarbonization, including by signing the *Health Sector Climate Pledge* in 2022. The *UC Policy on Sustainable Practices* and the *Framework for Incorporating Environmental & Climate Justice into Climate Action* guide the various climate action initiatives, including the recently completed decarbonization studies, the *Equity-centered Climate Resilience Planning* initiative, the *Climate Resilience Best Practice Toolkits*, and the ongoing GHG emissions mitigation action planning. These initiatives will directly inform the UC Santa Barbara upcoming *Climate Action Plan*.

UC Policies & Commitments



Existing UC Commitments, Goals, and Initiatives

The UC system has demonstrated a strong commitment to integrating climate resilience and justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) principles into climate action planning. This dedication is reflected through a range of existing commitments, goals, and initiatives.

UC Sustainable Practices Policy

- Establishes goals in 13 areas of sustainable practices
- Establishes a goal for each UC location to prepare and adopt an updated climate action plan prior to 2026, with immediate implementation
- Requires consideration of climate justice and resilience in the CAP update

Framework for Integrating Environmental & Climate Justice into Climate Action

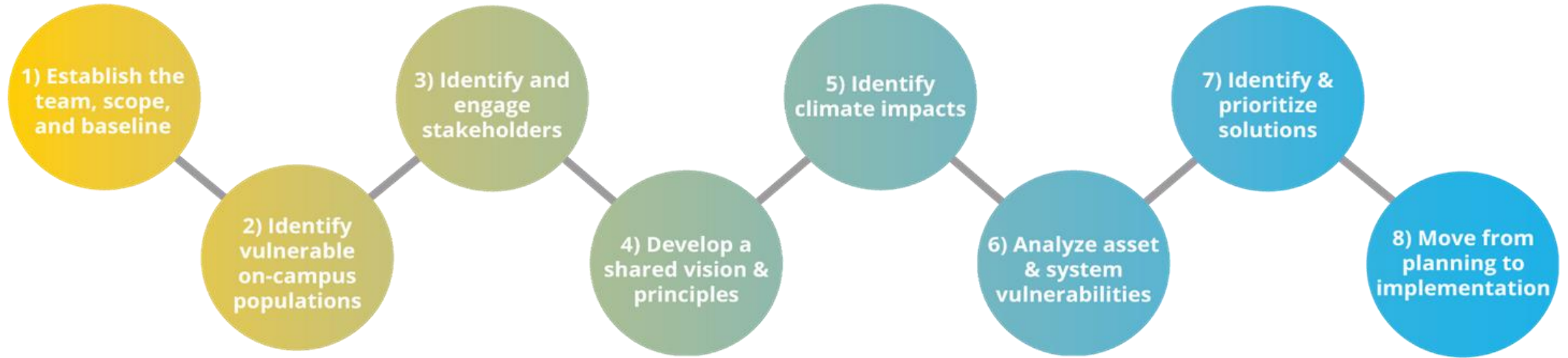
- A guide to help staff and leaders across the UC system promote equity, diversity, inclusion, and justice in climate action
- Provides examples of best practices and recommendations for evaluating the impact of climate actions in addressing equity

JEDI-Centered Climate Resilience Planning Initiative

- A multi-year initiative designed to support UC Locations in understanding and assessing potential impacts from climate hazards
- Assists locations in identifying key climate hazards, impacts, and vulnerabilities, and supports their integration into Climate Action Planning

JEDI-Centered Climate Resilience Planning Initiative

Overview of steps taken at UC Santa Barbara 2020-25



2020-21

- Established a Team
- Identified vulnerable on-campus populations

2022-23

- Identified Climate Impacts
- Education and Outreach

2024-25

- Analyzed Vulnerabilities
- Identified & Prioritized Solutions
- Implementation of Education

2024 Resilience Planning Progress at UC Santa Barbara

Outreach and Engagement (STEP 3): The team led a resiliency workshop for Clean Air Day at the Isla Community Center, hosted Community Disaster Education training events for staff and students, this included customizing the training for the unique hazards students face living in Isla Vista, tabled at and attended countless other events. Our Emergency Manager also hosted 2 table top exercises on extreme heat and storm events at our Emergency Planning committee meetings (Committee is chaired by AVC), additionally we completed a table top exercise with our Chancellor's Sustainability and the Rapid Rehousing and Basic Needs team.

Climate Impact Assessment (STEP 5/6): Building on the feedback collected from the previous 2 years, we completed the first draft of a Climate Hazard impact assessment. We reached out to subject matter experts and organizations representing frontline communities to collect input on the assessment.

Climate Action Planning (STEP 7): Translated what we learned through the Climate Hazard Impact Assessment and outreach and engagement efforts into a draft section of UCSB's Climate Action Plan dedicated to climate resilience. We are now reaching back out to partners we engaged earlier in the process to get their feedback on the draft.

Student Education and Empowerment (STEP 8): In early fall 2024, our Resiliency Fellow, Abby, became Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trained (24 hours), and then became a CERT Trainer (24 hours). Following this, Abby and Jim coordinated the training of 9 other new CERT trainers. The CERT club was also re-established and grant funding was secured for CERT backpacks given to students that completed the three-day long course.



Overarching Resilience Goals

These draft **overarching resilience goals** represent broader, cross-cutting themes for UC Santa Barbara to address the impacts of multiple climate hazards. Developed based on the Impact Assessment and stakeholder engagement, they highlight key areas for improving resilience. These goals will be further refined and finalized in 2025.



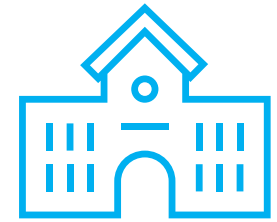
Upgrade **buildings and other infrastructure** to improve climate resilience of built systems



Form and maintain coordinated, financially supported **Emergency Response Plans** across departments



Build and maintain **relationships** within student community about resilience



Continue to implement transportation, preventative, and responsive plans on climate hazard impacts, **protecting overall continuity**

Cross-cutting Priority Actions

1

Designate buildings on campus available to the campus community during climate hazards or emergencies. This could include clean air buildings during smoke events, and or heating or cooling centers. The information should be added to our existing interactive campus map.

Lead: Resiliency Team

Start: Q4 2025

Hazards Addressed:



2

Increase public outreach and education within the campus community on climate hazards, wildfire smoke and health impacts and mask use.

Lead: Resiliency Team

Start: Q1 2024

Hazards Addressed:



3

Continuously reassess climate hazards and use the assessment for Emergency Planning Committee Scenario Planning and Climate Hazard tabletop exercises on heat waves, wildfire and rainstorms, and flooding. Add a climate lens to all exercises no matter the topic (ie Tsunami/sea level rise).

Lead: Emergency Planning

Start: Q1 2024

Hazards Addressed:



4

Connect students with existing resources both on campus and in Isla Vista to help ensure students, especially those under-resourced and or under-represented, have resource hubs available that can provide clean air, power, heat, and cooling.

Lead: Resiliency Team

Start: Q4 2025

Hazards Addressed:



Resilience Objectives and Actions – Rain & Flood



The following **resilience objectives** highlight key areas for UC Santa Barbara to target to improve resilience to rain and flood. They are designed to reflect the results of the Impact Assessment by focusing on addressing the highest-priority impacts identified.

Resilience Objectives

- Ensure critical infrastructure is located above flood levels
- Engage in protections for infrastructure
- Ensure roadways are flood resilient
- Ensure student population is located away from rain and flood hazards

Potential Actions

Relocate Critical Infrastructure,
Increase Protection Measures if
Relocation Not Possible

Improve Storm Drainage,
Maintenance of Drainage Systems

Demolish Buildings Deemed Unsafe,
Relocate to New Location

Resilience Objectives and Actions – **Wildfire & Smoke**



The following **resilience objectives** highlight key areas for UC Santa Barbara to target to improve resilience to wildfire & smoke. They are designed to reflect the results of the Impact Assessment by focusing on addressing the highest-priority impacts identified.

Resilience Objectives

- Clean air centers
- Maintain core services, critical infrastructure
- Ensure UCSB population knows/understands UC Policy for Poor Air Quality Events
- Ensure campus community knows how to limit smoke exposure

Potential Actions

Create Clean Air Centers, HVAC equipped to Handle Heavy Airborne PM

Protection of Critical Services, Infrastructure through Backup Generators, Alternative Energies

Create Trainings Required for Incoming Students to Create Baseline Knowledge

Resilience Objectives and Actions – Heat & Drought



The following **resilience objectives** highlight key areas for UC Santa Barbara to target to improve resilience to [drought and heat]. They are designed to reflect the results of the Impact Assessment by focusing on addressing the highest-priority impacts identified.

Resilience Objectives

- Buildings are equipped to handle thermally intensive events
- Reduce impact on electrical grids, limited backup generators/reliance on SCE
- Accessibility to clean drinking water

Potential Actions

Upgrade HVAC to More Efficient Units

Increase Cooling Efficiency by Upgrading Thermal Insulation

Installation of Filtered Water Dispensers

Outcomes and Takeaways

While the primary focus of UC Santa Barbara's multi-year climate resilience planning initiative was to lay the foundation for a proactive long-term plan by assessing climate-related impacts and vulnerabilities to inform resilience-building strategies, the process also sparked early action..

New Tools, Processes, and Outcomes

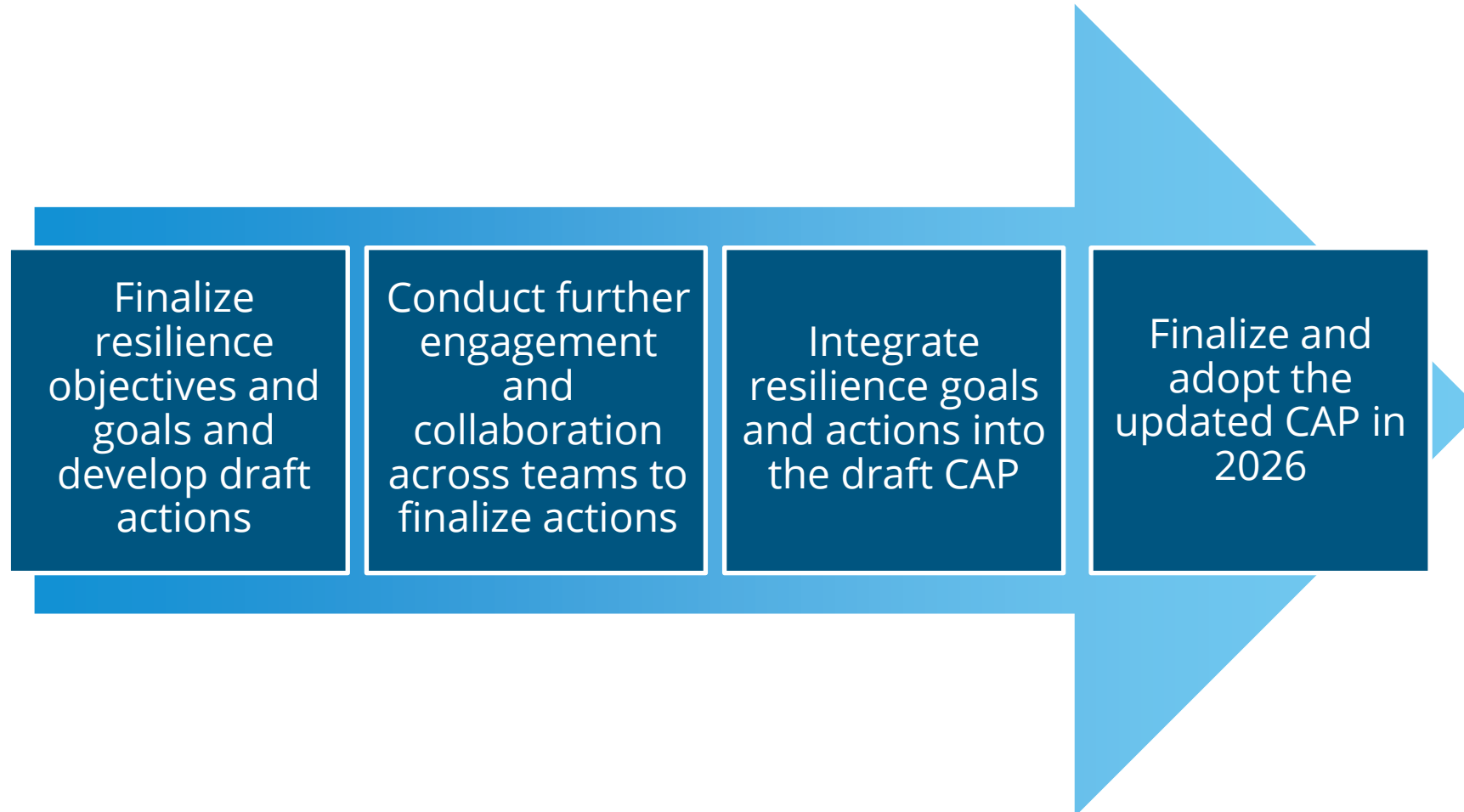
- We integrated climate resilience into key emergency management processes (Hazard Vulnerability Assessments and Campus Emergency Planning Committee desktop exercises). Doing so has made climate resilience part of key decision-making processes.
- Incorporated Climate Resilience into the Campus Emergency Operations Plan.
- Through this collaboration, we learned that continued education is crucial given the ~4-year student turnaround and that each individual faces unique challenges and impacts from climate change.
- We deepened partnerships with senior leadership and built institutional knowledge on how climate impacts our campus. Additionally, we established a process for integrating climate planning into all hazard planning on campus.



3 Our Next Steps for Climate Resilience Planning

Roadmap to UC Santa Barbara CAP

Looking ahead, all UC Locations are working to develop their Climate Action Plans, which will incorporate resilience goals and strategies. The key steps in this process are outlined below.



UC Santa Barbara Next Steps

The next steps for resilience planning at UC Santa Barbara focus on advancing strategies to strengthen climate resilience across key areas as identified in the Impact Assessment. These actions will build on stakeholder input and require collaboration across UC Santa Barbara units to ensure it is well-prepared for future climate impacts.

These next steps include:

- ❑ Increasing and continuing community outreach by connecting with existing Organizations on campus in partnership with the UCReady Student Coordinator, ensuring these groups are involved in and aware of Emergency Management and Continuity Plans on campus, ultimately building a stronger foundation for Climate Resilience on campus.
- ❑ Connecting existing resource centers in Isla Vista and on-campus to ensure a more streamlined, constant stream of basic needs resource allocation allowing students, particularly housing and food insecure students, to focus on their education. By having these hubs and safe havens to receive basic needs and access to clean air, power, heat, and internet, students especially vulnerable to climate hazards are able to continue their education without sacrificing overall well-being.
- ❑ Continue to update HVA and Climate Impact Assessment as we experience climate hazards, to address any gaps in the assessment and lessons learned. Continue to conduct tabletop exercises with the Emergency Planning Committee on current and future climate hazards.

UC Santa Barbara Next Steps (cont.)

- ❑ Continue to building a coordinated emergency response plan across departments, utilizing support from senior administration to ensure all needs across campus are met, especially during climate hazard related events.
- ❑ Continuously reassess climate hazards and use the assessment for Emergency Planning Committee Scenario Planning and Climate Hazard tabletop exercises on heat waves, wildfire and rainstorms, and flooding. And add a climate lens to all exercises.
- ❑ Maintain and nourish existing partnerships between UCSB organizations / departments and local communities and environmental protection groups, continue to implement erosion control measures, and support the monitoring of sea level rise impacts on bluff erosion, the shoreline, and the lagoon as described in the Sea Level Rise Adaptation Plan.

Continued Collaboration on Integrated Climate Action Across UC Santa Barbara





UC **SANTA BARBARA**

Thank you!