

ARCCA's Purpose and Core Activities

Given the current landscape at the federal level and its threats to climate action, unwavering support to advance adaptation at the local level is more critical now than ever before.

The Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) is a robust network of leading regional collaboratives – each encompassing a diverse group of public agencies, nonprofits, universities, and private sector companies – working together to build resilience to climate change impacts throughout California.

As a statewide network bringing together some of the leading voices and thinkers on climate adaptation at all levels of society, ARCCA provides critically needed infrastructure for

- » Coordination between State, regional, and local goals and activities;
- » Supporting for regional collaboratives to build effective local responses; and
- » The exchange of best practices and replicable strategies to accelerate actions.

Coordination between State, regional, and local goals and activities:

ARCCA has played a pivotal role in creating a unified voice and elevating the regional approach in climate adaptation discourse, as well as in advocating for greater coordination and integration across sectors, jurisdictions, and the vertical hierarchy of government. ARCCA has become a trusted voice in the adaptation space and frequently relied upon for subject-matter expertise, policy recommendations, stakeholder engagement, and to bring attention to important considerations that have been overlooked in state discourse on adaptation.

- » ARCCA provides a forum for open dialogue and coordination with key state and federal agencies (e.g. OPR, CNRA, CalEPA, SGC, CDPH, OSTP, USGCRP) to ensure robust consideration of local concerns in state decision-making and adaptation activities.
- » By leveraging strong partnerships and through formal and informal channels, ARCCA advocates for greater adaptation funding and support for regional and local agencies, as well as for the institutionalization of climate adaptation in state policies and plans.
- » As a trusted partner, key state agencies collaborate with ARCCA to host regional listening sessions, gather local input and feedback, and disseminate pertinent information.
- » ARCCA's participation in state dialogue resulted in the inclusion of ARCCA as a resource in the Climate Change Research Plan for California, Executive Order B-30-15 supplementary materials, and Safeguarding California: Implementation Action Plans.

“ARCCA has played a critical role in raising the visibility of climate adaptation in California and here in the Sacramento region. ARCCA has continuously advocated for a regional perspective and approach on climate adaptation, filling a much-needed void between state agencies and local communities – the frontlines of climate impacts. At the local level, ARCCA fosters cross-sector and cross-jurisdiction collaboration to address climate change impacts, raises the profile and urgency of climate adaptation, and informs local jurisdictions on actions at the state and federal level.”

Larry Greene | Exec. Director, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District

Supporting regional collaboratives to build effective local responses:

Regional collaboratives play a critical role in solidifying and elevating regional considerations to the State, convening diverse stakeholders to build expertise and find common ground, and leverage limited resources to effectively build local and regional resilience. ARCCA offers a community and support network for regional collaboratives and has actively advised emerging groups and networks to bolster regional efforts.

- » ARCCA provides mechanisms and opportunities for direct interaction between adaptation practitioners to build capacity, increase understanding of critical issues, and contribute to a more robust dialogue at the state level.
- » Through targeted assistance and guidance, ARCCA provides support to emerging regional climate collaboratives in underserved and under-represented regions such as Central Coast, San Joaquin Valley, North Coast, and Inland Empire.
- » By partnering with the Georgetown Climate Center, case studies on regional collaborative formation, governance, and funding have been developed to encourage and support the creation of additional collaboratives across the nation.
- » ARCCA is also working with national partners to support emerging collaboratives and adaptation efforts outside of California to ensure progress throughout the nation.

The exchange of best practices and replicable strategies to accelerate action:

With a strong foundation and network of dedicated adaptation practitioners, ARCCA ensures continued advancement of sound adaptation policies and practices, and strives to accelerate the transition from planning to implementation. By creating a space to share knowledge and resources, ARCCA has helped to accelerate progress in a field that receives little funding support.

- » Opportunities and mechanisms to facilitate the exchange of best practices and replicable strategies across regions, sectors, and levels of government through quarterly member meetings, monthly executive committee meetings, numerous ad hoc meetings on focused topics, and a frequently utilized email list.
- » Through regular dissemination of relevant news, funding opportunities, resources, and events, ARCCA helps members stay informed and pursue timely opportunities.
- » ARCCA hosts quarterly learning session webinars on focused topics to help adaptation practitioners continue to build expertise, and also provides a forum for members to collaborate on presentation opportunities to communicate the urgency of adaptation to non-traditional partners.

“ARCCA provides a vital, ongoing channel for the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative to communicate and partner with other regions and the State on climate resiliency. Without a doubt, ARCCA has helped us to advance our local adaptation programs and initiatives in San Diego, while also providing an exclusive setting for articulating local government adaptation needs and priorities to State leaders, and developing stronger professional relationships with other climate change practitioners across California.”

Cody Hooven | Chief Sustainability Officer, City of San Diego