

RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

The Business of Climate Change

Professor Bobby Banerjee from the College of Business, along with colleagues Professor David Levy from the University of Massachusetts and Drs Bettina Wittneben and Chukwumerije Okereke from the University of Oxford, is exploring the strategies employed by business and government to cope with the challenges of climate change. This research is funded by the Australian Research Council Discovery program.

'Global climate change is perhaps the most significant, yet poorly understood challenge facing the world today' says Professor Banerjee. 'Recent international and Australian reports have highlighted the role of business in addressing climate change, and also stress the urgent need to develop effective policies through partnerships involving business, governments, international institutions and non-government organisations. When the Kyoto Protocol ends in 2012 there is considerable uncertainty about ongoing policy frameworks in the global arena. This project aims to inform international climate change policy by conducting a comprehensive analysis of institutional and corporate strategies to tackle climate change.'

Concentrating on climate change policies and strategies in Australia, Germany, the UK and USA, the investigators will conduct interviews and focus groups with a wide variety of stakeholders, including key personnel from government, large and small business firms, industry associations and non-governmental organisations. They will seek to explore the differences in climate change policy and strategies in the four countries. Case studies of voluntary partnerships between large energy-intensive industries and other agencies will also be conducted to identify successful strategies for stakeholder engagement and managing climate change challenges.



This project will improve corporate Australia's capacity for sustainability by developing a framework that integrates climate change issues into corporate strategy and government policy. The findings are also expected to enhance understanding of the challenges and opportunities resulting from the introduction of an emissions trading scheme in Australia.

Project Title: Corporate and Institutional Strategies for Climate Change: An International Comparative Study

Funding has been set at: \$295,000 over three years

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