



Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)
Monterey, CA 93943

CLIMATE AND SECURITY NETWORK
(CSN) CHARTER
September 2022



Introduction

This charter formalizes the establishment of the Climate and Security Network (CSN) and describes the need for it, its goals, evolution, responsibilities, and structure. The CSN connects faculty, students, and researchers at NPS who are engaged in climate and security issues, and provides opportunities for interdisciplinary learning and problem-solving. The CSN brings together experts from different departments to present the collective expertise at NPS to help solve climate security challenges in the Department of the Navy (DoN) and Department of Defense (DoD).

The Need

The DoD has recognized climate change as a national security threat for over two decades and, in recent years, has emphasized the need to address the security implications of climate change due to its effect on military infrastructure, tactical equipment, readiness, operations, and its broader geostrategic implications for the US. Security challenges related to climate change occur at the intersection of multiple disciplines, and their solutions therefore require interdisciplinary knowledge and actions. The CSN fosters, encourages, and provides this interdisciplinary environment.

The Evolution

A network is an effective engagement tool to ensure the ongoing success and longevity of an organization. In 2021, in response to the increase in federal actions and mandates related to climate change, faculty and researchers at NPS came together to create the CSN as a mechanism to unify efforts on climate security issues. The CSN is based on proven network functions including targeted resourcing, promoting opportunities for engagement, fostering connections to key stakeholders, and facilitation of activities and events that promote information sharing and problem-solving in the climate security realm.

As a network, the CSN evolved to contribute to key DoD and DoN climate documents and strategies. In years 2 – 5, the CSN will align with the two goals in the Navy Climate Strategy, *Climate Action 2030*: build climate resilience and reduce climate threat. CSN will maintain representation on the five Lines of Effort Working Groups as identified in the strategy as follows.

- LOE 1: Climate Informed Decision Making
- LOE 2: Train and equip for climate resilience
- LOE 3: Resilient Built and Natural Infrastructure
- LOE 4: Supply Chain Resilience and Innovation
- LOE 5: Enhance Mitigation and Adaptation through Collaboration

Mission and Goals

The mission of the CSN is to support the climate and security research and curricular needs of the DoN and DoD. The CSN Goals are to:

- Present NPS collective expertise on climate and security to meet the needs of DoD and the DoN; and,
- Advance opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration and information sharing related to climate and security among NPS and external partners.

As part of NPS, the CSN focuses on NPS' core areas of operation: Education, Research and Outreach as follows:

- Education – Enhance educational opportunities for faculty and students to understand the complexities inherent in climate change and national security;
- Research – Support NPS researchers active in climate security issues through sharing of funding and partnership opportunities, roundtables to discuss current issues and share research findings, and research presentations by students and faculty;
- Outreach – provide regular updates to members sharing highlights from the climate security world; host events that encourage the development of partnerships within NPS and with external partners; this includes the Naval Education Enterprise Climate Collaboration initiated by CSN to include Naval Academy, Naval War College, Marine Corps University and Naval Community College.

Structure

CSN members include NPS faculty and students who are engaged in climate and security research and teaching as well as interested alumni and external partners. Members may join via the website or emailing the CSN Lead.

The CSN structure includes a Lead (or Co-Leads) and a Planning Team. The structure is determined by the Planning Team. The Planning Team meets monthly to review CSN activities, opportunities, and administrative needs. The Planning Team includes faculty and students from many departments across campus but is not limited to a particular number or representation from across campus. The Planning Team's composition may change over time; it is currently made up of representatives from the following departments, groups, and centers:

Center for Infrastructure Defense (Operations Research)
Department of Defense Management
Energy Academic Group
Meteorology Department
National Security Affairs
Naval Warfare Studies Institute
Systems Engineering

***Approved by Provost Scott Gartner
20 September 2022***