

# COSBOA's Six-point Climate Change Framework

For small business, addressing climate change must include:



1. **Equitable action**, so small businesses don't bear an unfair burden of change. We must change, but let's not implement systems which unfairly place the burden on small business, increase costs, or are overly regulatory.



2. **Improved access** to crisis recovery resources. We know that climate change driven disasters will occur more frequently and with greater intensity, so let's put plans in place now that help us cope in the immediate aftermath of floods, fires, droughts and storms.



3. **Improved crisis planning** and implementation to minimise the impact of climate changes. What can we do before these disasters to minimise their impacts? Strengthening resilience, building protective infrastructure, working locally, and planning for increased weather variability will all help small business.



4. **Transitional arrangements** to renewables that recognise small businesses' limited ability to take on further costs and help them make good choices that contribute to reducing climate change impacts. Individually, we're small; collectively, small business are influential, so we need to be included in plans for transitional arrangements to renewables that understand we may need assistance both to move and to fund the change.



5. **Equal access** to the benefits of a green, renewable, sustainable future. The benefits of renewable, green, and sustainable technology must be shared equally in the business community. If these only serve big business to increase their advantage, the entire community that depends on small business vitality will suffer.



6. **National structure** that will enable the long-term actions required to be determined, implemented, measured, and adjusted. A process that will be consultative, collaborative and consider the overarching needs of the Australian community, including small business.

Small business is affected by climate change directly through disasters, droughts, floods, storms, and fires. Natural and normal events can be covered by insurance and prudent planning. Unprecedented events, and their increased frequency, duration, and severity, defy the ability of small business to plan and respond. The unpredictability and uncertainty of these events will continue for many years, so we must adjust. Most importantly, we must change now to mitigate the impacts on the climate and environment in the future.

COSBOA Policy  
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## About COSBOA

The Council of Small Business Organisations Australia (COSBOA) collectively represent an estimated 1.3 million of the 2.5 million small and family businesses that operate in Australia.

*COSBOA is the big voice for small businesses people since 1977. As a collaboration of peak organisations, we promote small business with independent, tenacious advocacy to powerful decision-makers to get a better deal for millions of small businesses people and a better economy for all Australian people.*

Small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are major contributors to the Australian economy. SMEs employ 68% of Australia's workforce. In GDP terms SMEs together contribute 56% of value added. For this reason, small and medium businesses will be *the* key partners with Government in re-building the Australian economy and re-employing hundreds of thousands of people as we adjust to the impact of climate change and COVID-19.