

# Transitioning regions to a low carbon future

Meg Argyriou – Head of Engagement, ClimateWorks Australia

## Monash Sustainability Institute Seminar

Thursday, 2 February 2012  
1.00 – 2.00 pm

Seminar Room  
Monash Sustainability Institute  
Building 74  
Monash University  
Clayton Campus

No RSVP required. All welcome!  
Info: [msi-seminars@monash.edu](mailto:msi-seminars@monash.edu)

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Many regional areas face unique challenges in transitioning to a low carbon future – high concentration of industries that are energy or emissions intensive, significant economic focus on manufacturing and high fragmentation of emissions reduction opportunities to name a few.

ClimateWorks Australia has worked with the City of Greater Geelong and the Gippsland region to develop low carbon growth plans to assist these regions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resilience in a carbon constrained world. These plans demonstrate that reducing emissions typically has net financial benefits, even factoring in upfront costs. Many other regions are now also seeking low carbon growth plans. However, a range of barriers must be overcome for this abatement potential to be realised.

This presentation will discuss the methodology used in developing low carbon growth plans, key findings, the barriers they face in implementation and some strategic thinking around how these barriers may be overcome.

**Meg Argyriou** leads ClimateWorks' engagement team, and was project lead on the development of low carbon growth plans for Greater Geelong, Gippsland and Macquarie Park. Meg holds an MBA with a specialisation in Environmental Sustainability. She has an eclectic career background, including the media and arts sectors as a program manager for Film Victoria. She has also worked for the International Energy Agency. In addition to her MBA, Meg holds a Bachelor of Film and Television, a Graduate Certificate in Advertising and completed the Centre for Sustainability Fellowship program in 2009, Swinburne's Carbon Accounting course in 2008 and Sustainability Victoria's ResourceSmart program in 2007. She is also a casual trainer for the award-winning 'Green Steps @ Work' program, teaching businesses how to reduce their environmental footprint.



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