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# **Adapting to Climate Change: Ongoing Efforts with Other Federal Agencies**

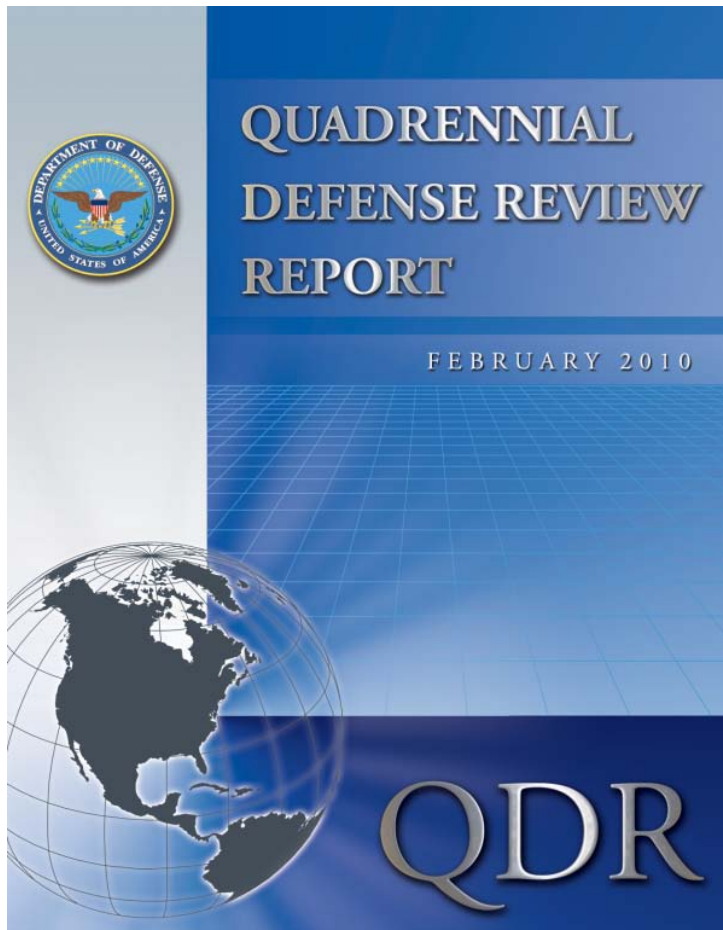
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# Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) 2010

Acquisition, Technology and Logistics



- “DoD will need to adjust to the impacts of climate change on our facilities...”
- “... a comprehensive assessment of all installations to assess the potential impacts of climate change on its missions and adapt as required.”
- “The Department will leverage the *Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program*, a joint effort among DoD, the Department of Energy, and the Environmental Protection Agency, to develop climate change assessment tools.”

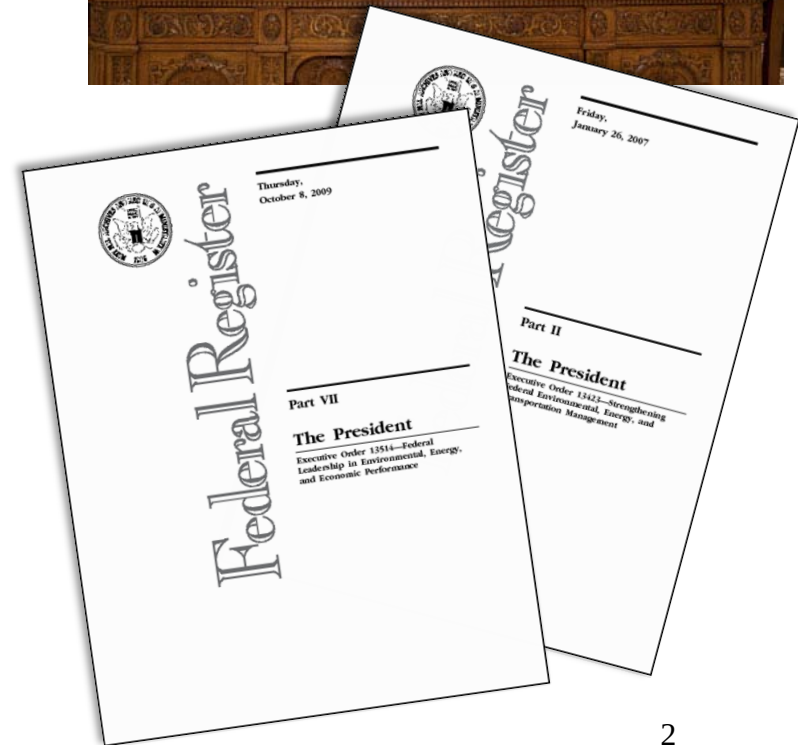


# Executive Order 13514

## Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy, and Economic Performance

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- Section 16: Agency Roles in Support of Federal Adaptation Strategy - Climate Change Adaptation Task Force Report
  - October, 2010- Recommendations for (adaptation) measures to CEQ
    - o Make adaptation a standard part of Agency planning
- Section 8: Agency Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan
  - (i) evaluate climate change risks and vulnerabilities to manage the effects of climate change on the agency's operations and mission in both the short and long term



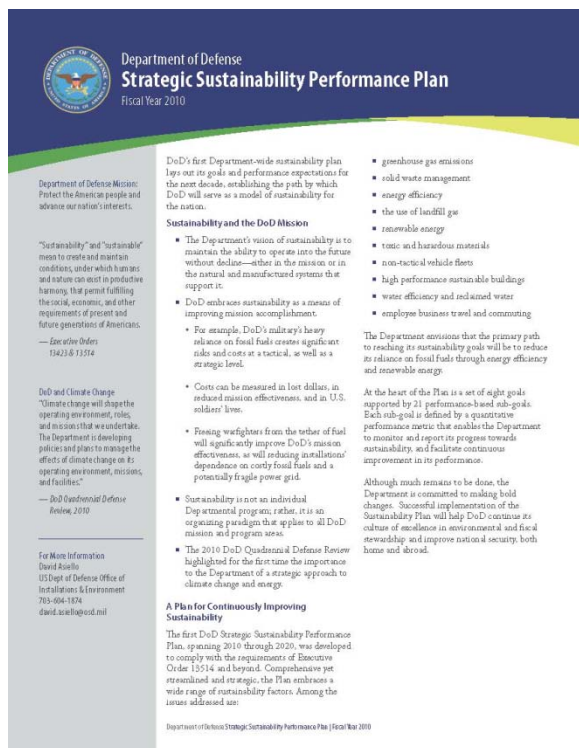


# DoD Strategic Performance Plan

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## Addressing Climate Change Risk and Vulnerability: a Three-Phase Approach

- **Phase 1: Development of a decision Framework**
  - *coordinate with other federal entities*
- **Phase 2: Climate Change Impact Assessments**
  - *develop analytical methodology and tool guidance for conducting assessments*
- **Phase 3: Climate Change Adaptation Planning**
  - *robust strategies*





# White House Climate Change Task Force

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- The Climate Change Adaptation Task Force is co-chaired by the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - Department of Defense is a member
- It's strategic vision is of a resilient, healthy, and prosperous Nation in the face of a changing climate.
- On October 14, 2010, the Task Force released its interagency report outlining recommendations to President Obama for how Federal Agency policies and programs can better prepare the United States to respond to the impacts of climate change.
  - The report recommends that the Federal Government implement actions to expand and strengthen the Nation's capacity to better understand, prepare for, and respond to climate change.

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/adaptation>





# Task Force's Guiding Principles

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- **Adopt Integrated Approaches:** Adaptation should be incorporated into core policies, planning, practices, and programs whenever possible.
- **Prioritize the Most Vulnerable:** Adaptation strategies should help people, places, and infrastructure that are most vulnerable to climate impacts and be designed and implemented with meaningful involvement from all parts of society.
- **Use Best-Available Science:** Adaptation should be grounded in the best-available scientific understanding of climate change risks, impacts, and vulnerabilities.
- **Apply Risk-Management Methods and Tools:** Adaptation planning should incorporate risk-management methods and tools to help identify, assess, and prioritize options to reduce vulnerability to potential environmental, social, and economic implications of climate change.
- **Apply Ecosystem-based Approaches:** Adaptation should, where appropriate, take into account strategies to increase ecosystem resilience and protect critical ecosystem services on which humans depend, to reduce vulnerability of human and natural systems to climate change.



# Task Force's Recommendations

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- **Make adaptation a standard part of Agency planning** to ensure that resources are invested wisely and services and operations remain effective in a changing climate.
- **Ensure scientific information about the impacts of climate change is easily accessible** so public and private sector decision-makers can build adaptive capacity into their plans and activities.
- **Align Federal efforts to respond to climate impacts that cut across jurisdictions and missions**, such as those that threaten water resources, public health, oceans and coasts, and communities.
- **Develop a U.S. strategy to support international adaptation** that leverages resources across the Federal Government to help developing countries reduce their vulnerability to climate change through programs that are consistent with the core principles and objectives of the President's new Global Development Policy.
- **Build strong partnerships to support local, state, and tribal decision makers** in improving management of places and infrastructure most likely to be affected by climate change.





# Implementing Instructions

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- Establish an agency climate change adaptation policy
  - April 15 – Designate senior agency official
  - June 3 – Issue an agency policy
- Increase agency understanding of climate change to agency mission and operations
- Apply understanding of climate change to agency mission and operations
  - June 3 – Respond to guiding questions
  - September 30 – Preliminary high level analysis
  - March 2012 – Final high level analysis



# Implementing Instructions (cont)

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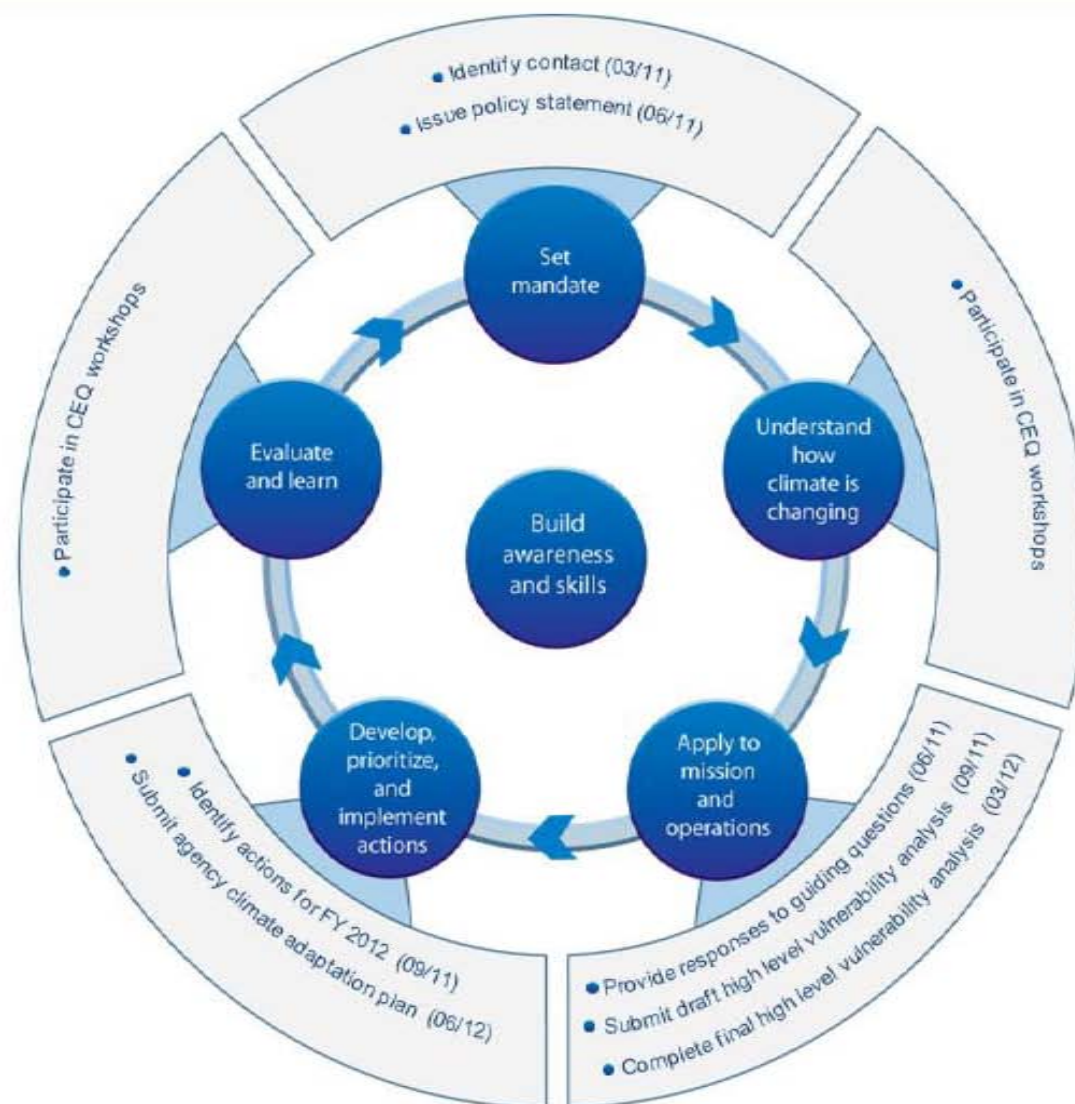
- Develop, prioritize and implement actions
  - September 2011 – Priority actions to CEQ chair
  - June 2012 – Climate Adaptation Plan for FY 2013
    - o Concurrent with Sustainability Plan
- Evaluate and Learn

# Federal Agency Climate Change Adaptation

## *Planning Actions, Planning Framework, and Guiding Principles*

### **Apply Guiding Principles:**

- Adopt integrated approaches.
- Prioritize the most vulnerable.
- Use best-available science.
- Build strong partnerships.
- Apply risk-management methods and tools.
- Apply ecosystem-based approaches.
- Maximize mutual benefits.
- Continuously evaluate performance.





# Policy Statement Suggestions

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- Vision for successful adaptation planning and initial adaptation goals
- Recognition that climate change adaptation is a complement to mitigation
- Adopt the Interagency Climate Change Adaptation Task Force's guiding principles
- Process to ensure effective coordination across programs and operations within the agency as well as with other agencies
- Identify programs and resources within the agency to support the adaptation planning process



# Guiding Questions

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- How is climate change likely to affect the ability of your agency to achieve its mission and strategic goals?
- How can your agency coordinate and collaborate with other agencies to better manage the effects of climate change?



# So What is DoD Doing?

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- Investments in Research and Development
  - SERDP/ESTCP
    - o Impacts of Sea Level Rise on Military Installations
    - o Effects of Climate Change on Threatened and Endangered Species
    - o Impacts on Southeast and Southwest Installations
    - o Impacts on Defense Assets in Alaska
  - Legacy Resources Management Program
    - o Species and Habitat Focused
- Designated Senior Agency Official
  - Dr. Dorothy Robyn, DUSD(I&E)



# So What Should Be DoD's Focus?

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- What are our biggest areas for Risk?
- Infrastructure?
- Water?
- Species and Habitat?
- Training?
- National Security?





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# Questions?

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