

Now that climate change has already started to impact the environment, preparing for its effects have become far more urgent. I can see that work is being done in agriculture and health, to prepare for the inevitable changes.

What is being done to prepare for evacuating householders as their properties become increasingly threatened with inundation? There will need to be a way of compensating them with new property on higher ground, otherwise there will be a large number of homeless people. The values of their properties will have to be calculated from the time prior to when they inevitably began to fall, which is probably about to happen soon.

At 75, I live in a house that will be subject to inundation some time after my death. However, if I live a few more years, the value of my estate will be greatly reduced. Who will compensate my heirs?

Just as with tobacco and asbestos, the people responsible for ignoring the warnings, concerning the consequences of their activities, will no doubt be long gone.

Even more difficult will be the eventual inundation of the vital infrastructure in our great city ports. How can we prepare for lost port facilities, roads and railways (especially underground), airports and all the commercial buildings?

Already in other parts of the world, inundation is causing the displacement of people from their homes, soon, when the great rivers of Asia begin to fail because of disappearing glaciers, their will be billions of people on the move because they can no longer grow or catch food. Considering the amount of xenophobia in Australia, over a minimal number of refugees entering our country now, I can only foresee a military response to the overwhelming numbers to come due to climate change.

In view of the overwhelming effects that will overcome us, I can see no better way of preparing for climate change than by trying to prevent it, prevention is better than cure. The only course open to us is to stop prospecting for and extracting all fossil fuels, urgently. Build renewable energy infrastructure, urgently. Work tirelessly to persuade the rest of the world to do likewise. To do this, the government must work for the people and not for Corporations. Preparation number one :- Corporate political lobbying must be exposed and deposed, banned.

Richard Stanford