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Global governance through regional organizations: A policy tool for climate change

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Climate change has become a fixture in transnational proceedings as evident in Paris 2015. Nations are working together as well as they ever have on this issue to develop mitigation and adaptation measures. Although policy negotiations are occurring at the global level, primarily under the auspices of the United Nations, subnational governance entities, such as state and local governments, will be increasingly relied upon to implement strategies addressing the impacts associated with climate change. The notion that climate change is occurring globally, but manifests itself locally is a common idea. An overview of the policy process is offered with emphasis placed on state and local governments. The use of the IPCC report is essential to understanding the mitigation and adaption needs of the region. A survey of potential impacts will be discussed. This paper considers the level of scientific and policy knowledge of US leaders, such as the Delta Regional Authority (DRA). Then, using survey data and analysis, this paper will consider options available to those regional organizations developing climate change policy.

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