



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

A horizontal collage of various agricultural products including oranges, wheat, corn, and other crops.

# Incorporating climate change considerations into the agriculture sector in Australia

**Simon Smalley (Minister Counsellor – Agriculture)**

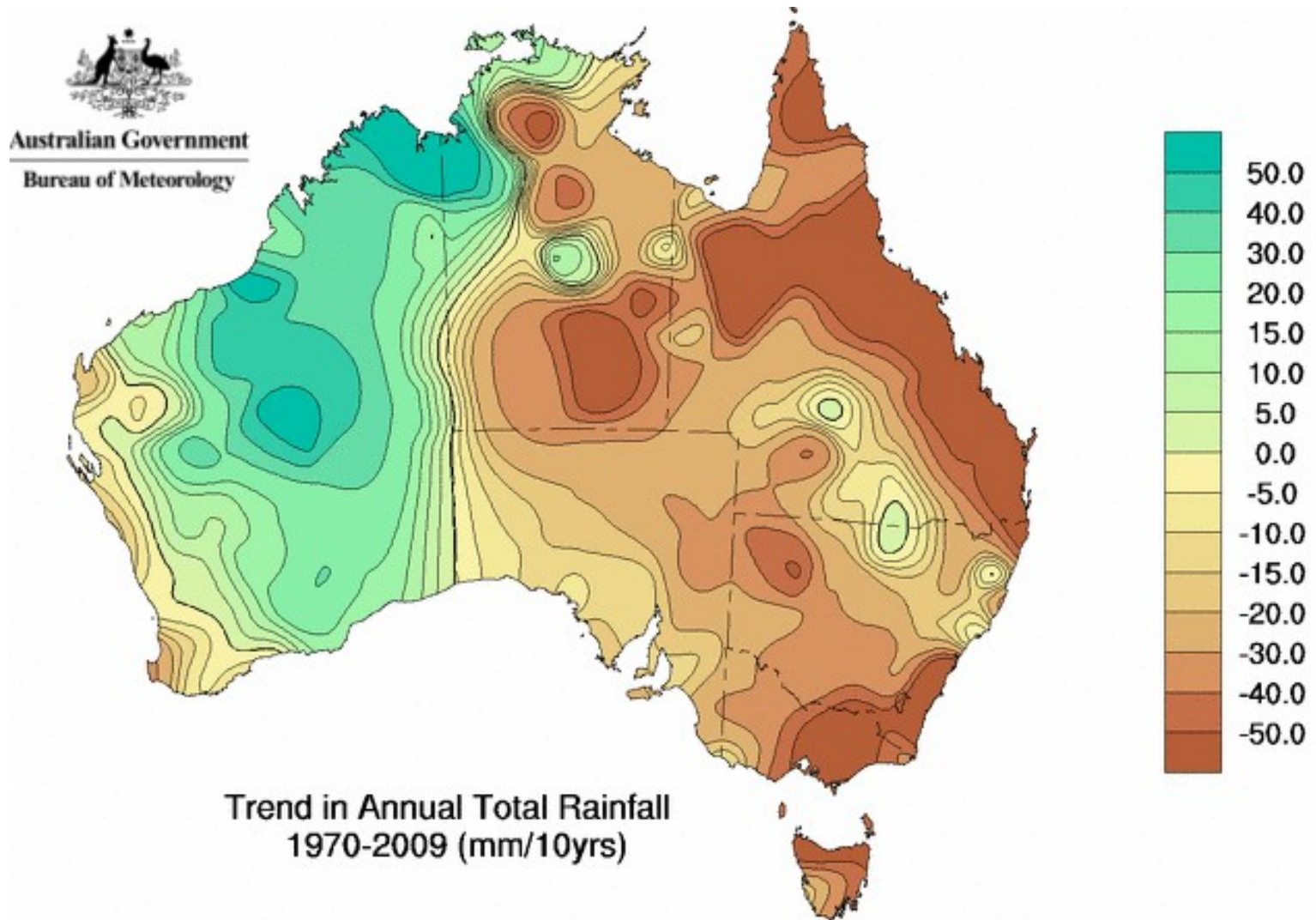
Embassy of Australia, Washington DC



# Climate change in Federal EIA process

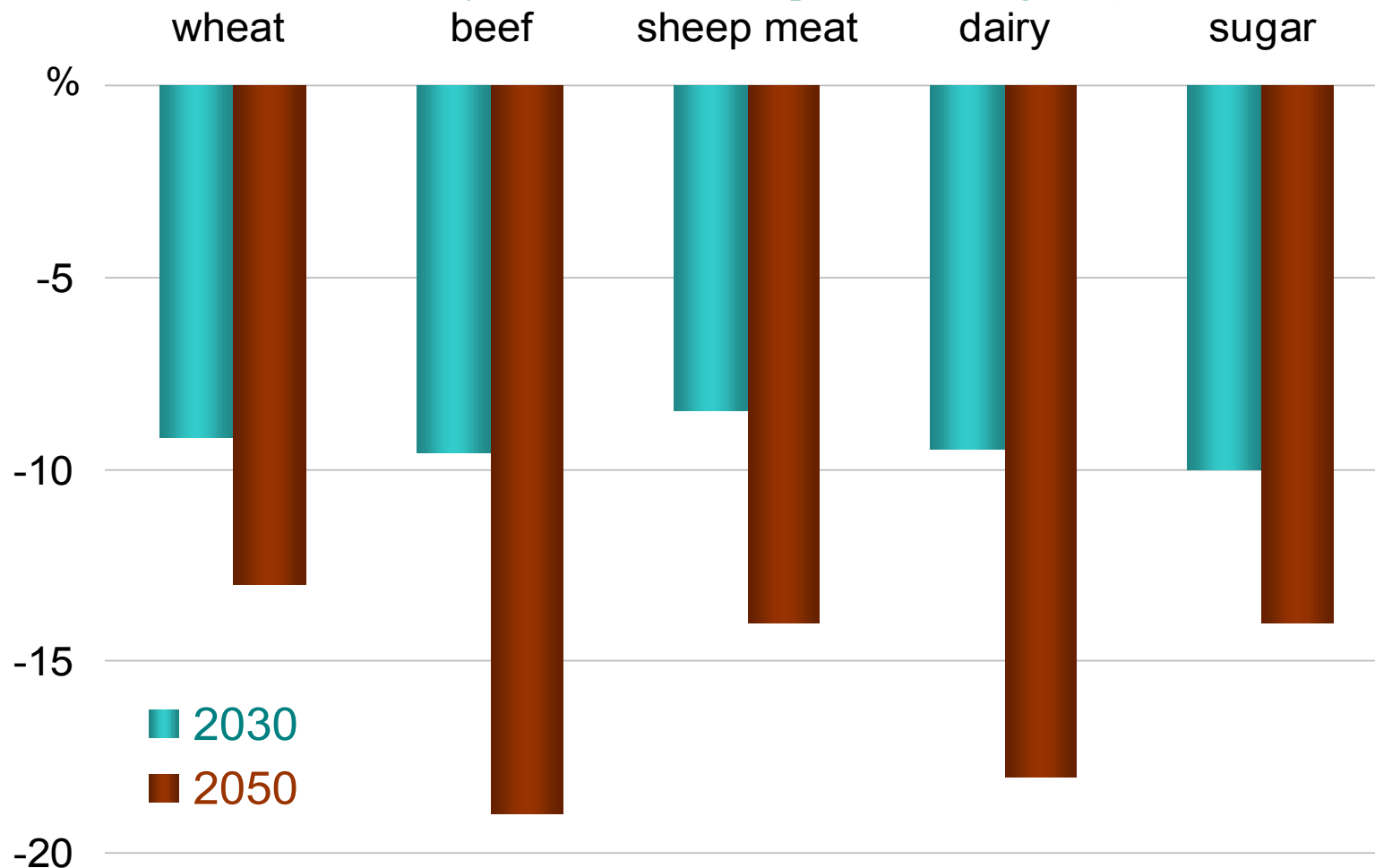
- **No climate change trigger for Federal environmental impact assessment**
- **Legislation review**
  - **Suggests greenhouse emission trigger**

# Climate change & Australia agriculture



# Australian agricultural output due to unmitigated climate change

*relative to the reference case (no adaptation or mitigation)* ABARE 2009





# Australian agriculture – Drought policy reform

## Moving from crisis management to risk management

- Farm Planning
- Building farm businesses – adaptation
- Farm family (income support) – asset & income means tested
- Community social support
- Structural adjustment support



# Agriculture - Climate Change Research

**\$46.2 m for development & demonstration projects.**

- **Soil Carbon Research Program** - \$9.6 million
- **Reducing Emissions from Livestock Research Program** - \$11.3 million
- **Nitrous Oxide Research Program** - \$4.7 million
- **Adaptation Research Program** - \$11.5 million

*Over \$130 million invested in 50 projects across the country*



# **Australia's water policy reforms**

## **Water for the Future**

- **Taking action on climate change**
- **Securing water supplies**
- **Using water wisely**
- **Supporting healthy rivers**



## Key Points

- Australian agriculture is vulnerable to climate change
- Taking action through policy reform