

Formal Education Programs in the CACCE Partnership

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This presentation will report on the formal education (K-12) activities and findings of Phase I of the Coastal Areas Climate Change Education (CACCE) Partnership. It will have several components. First, it will provide an overview of the primary and secondary education system in Florida. Second, it will present findings from a survey administered to Florida (N=145) and Puerto Rico (N=480) secondary science teachers. The survey reveals that the teachers hold many naïve views about climate change and climate change science and provide inadequate instruction about climate change. Third, it will report on the progress of six Multiple Outcome Interdisciplinary Research and Learning (MOIRL) pilot projects underway in schools in Florida and Puerto Rico. These MOIRL projects facilitate stakeholders (e.g. secondary science teachers and students, scientists, and community members) to engage in varied transdisciplinary and climate change related research and learning activities that result in multiple outcomes. Preliminary data will be presented from the Puerto Rico MOIRL project. Finally, the presentation will include a preliminary plan for the incorporation of climate change education into a secondary school science course as part of CACCE Phase II.