



Australian Government
National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



Maintaining momentum: driving systemic change to create a more resilient future



adrc 24



Australian Disaster Resilience Conference

#ADRC24

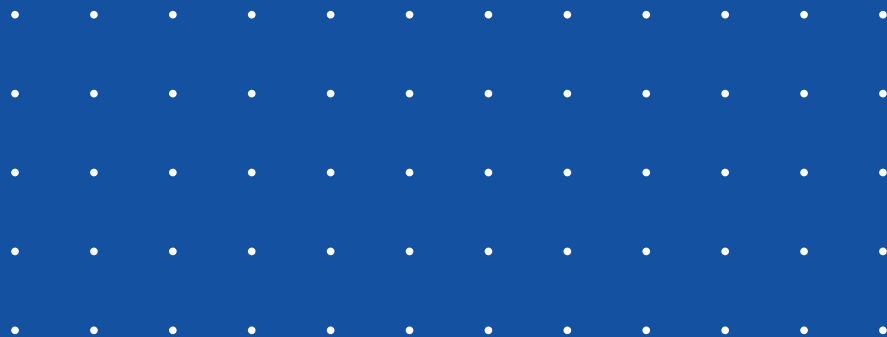
DELEGATE HANDBOOK



4 – 5 SEPTEMBER 2024 ICC **SYDNEY**

Running in partnership with AFAC24
powered by INTERSCHUTZ

[AIDR.ORG.AU/ADRC](https://aidr.org.au/adrc)



*The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2024 is hosted on
Tumalong, the land of the Gadigal clan of the Eora Nation.*

*In the spirit of reconciliation and as a demonstration of respect for the
traditional laws, customs, cultures and country of the First Nations of
this land, we warmly acknowledge the traditional custodians of Gadigal
Country and demonstrate respect to Elders past, present and emerging.*





Contents

Foreword	6
About the conference	7
About AIDR	8
AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Trade Exhibition	9
Conference program	11
Keynote speakers	14
Presentations and panels	16
Posters and voting	42
General information	51

NSW Reconstruction Authority



The NSW Reconstruction Authority was established to reduce the impact of future disasters across NSW and help communities recover from them faster.

We work with communities, businesses and other agencies to mitigate the impacts disasters have on our lives.

During disasters, we work with emergency services and local leaders to understand what communities need to recover. Post disaster, we lead the recovery effort in collaboration with local leaders and recovery partners.

Get Ready NSW website

The Get Ready NSW website provides resources and information to help prepare communities for floods, storms, bushfires, heatwaves and drought.





Topics include understanding risk, making emergency plans, emergency kits, planning for pets and animals, protecting guides for businesses and essential apps.

Visit nsw.gov.au/GetReadyNSW



Essential Preparedness Apps

Being better prepared for an emergency is important for NSW communities. These apps will help provide weather warnings, live traffic updates, and important information to help keep people safe.

-  Hazards Near Me NSW
-  Emergency Plus
-  BOM Weather
-  Live Traffic NSW

Visit nsw.gov.au/GetReadyNSW/Apps

State Disaster Mitigation Plan

The NSW Reconstruction Authority has developed Australia's first State Disaster Mitigation Plan (SDMP). The SDMP supports the NSW Government's commitment to making our communities safer, more resilient and better prepared to face the challenges of disasters caused by natural hazards such as floods, bush fires, storms, cyclones, coastal erosion and inundation.

The SDMP has been informed by technical analysis, research, previous inquiries, expertise, and broad stakeholder and community engagement.



Scan to read the SDMP

Disaster Adaptation Planning

Since July 2019, NSW residents have endured 73 declared disasters, at a cost of more than \$9 billion. Because of climate change and population growth, these impacts will continue to grow if action is not taken. Historically, around 97% of disaster funding has been spent on response and recovery with only 3% spent on reducing risk.

Place-based Disaster Adaptation Plans (DAPs) provide an opportunity for us to plan and work together to reduce impacts in NSW before a disaster happens. Over time DAPs will reduce the cost and impacts of natural hazards in a particular area. We are already progressing the development of DAPs for two high risk NSW regions. DAP Guidelines will be available later in 2024.



Scan to read about DAPs

NSW Recovery Plan

The NSW Recovery Plan supports the NSW State Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN). It provides the framework for recovery from disasters and other emergencies in NSW and it guides a collaborative and flexible approach to recovery where government roles and responsibilities align. It also complements our recovery partners and community-centered approaches to get communities back on their feet.



Scan to read full Recovery Plan

Foreword

Welcome to the 2024 Australian Disaster Resilience Conference. It is our pleasure at AIDR to be your hosts, and we hope you enjoy the experience of listening, learning, sharing, and networking.

We all know that natural hazards are continuing to intensify and impact communities more deeply and more frequently. The cascading and compounding impacts of disaster events effect how and where we live, our educational and economic outcomes, our health and wellbeing, and whether we have the opportunity to live our best life and thrive. The frequency and intensity of events are disrupting how we prepare, respond and recover. Communities and the organisations that support them are often now in these stages simultaneously. The risks we face are changing and so we must adapt and change.

This year, the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference theme is 'maintaining momentum: driving systemic change to create a more resilient future'. It is an opportunity to celebrate the exceptional work taking place across the country and come together to collaborate to create the changes we need, to ensure a more resilient future.

The conference program features two streams, with world-renowned keynote speakers, national and locally focussed presentations, panel discussions, and networking opportunities. We are offering a comprehensive conference experience that can be tailored according to your interests.

The conversation will extend beyond the conference rooms and into the AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Trade Exhibition. We are delighted once again host Resilience Lane after a successful debut last year. Visit Resilience Lane to see not-for-profit and community-focussed organisations showcase their work and services. Talk with them to find out how they work to support and strengthen community resilience.

Also in the Exhibition, the AIDR Knowledge Centre offers a chance to meet the conference speakers, view the informative poster display, and discover new research and innovations from across the sector. While you are there, come to visit us at the nearby AIDR stand.

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference aims to reflect on and learn from the past so we can strengthen and protect what we value, and accelerate and sustain momentum into the future.

We cannot create the future we all aspire to, without your help. We encourage everyone to use this conference as an opportunity to share ideas and inspiration, learn from one another, challenge thinking, build and strengthen connections, and adopt the systemic disaster risk mindset that will enable us to create a more resilient future.



Dr Margaret Moreton
Executive Director, Australian
Institute for Disaster Resilience

Special thanks to the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference program committee:

Australian Red Cross | Federation of Ethnic Communities' Councils of Australia | Insurance Australia Group | Monash University | National Emergency Management Agency | Natural Hazards Research Australia | NSW Rural Fire Service | NSW Reconstruction Authority | Resilient Sydney - City of Sydney | AFAC | AIDR



About the conference

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference welcomes you back in 2024 with the latest innovations and initiatives in disaster risk reduction and resilience.

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference is the nation's premier event that brings together a diverse and passionate crowd from a range of sectors to share knowledge and build connections for a disaster resilient Australia.

This year's theme 'maintaining momentum: driving systemic change to create a more resilient future,' reflects our focus on excellence in risk reduction, preparedness, building resilience and on working together to strengthen and protect what we value.

The conference will offer two streams of thought-provoking presentations, showcasing the exceptional work taking place across our country and exploring the systemic disaster risk mindset that will enable us to create a more resilient future. Delegates will hear from industry

experts, keynote speakers and panellists, on topics that are current and imperative for disaster risk management.

Additionally, delegates will have the opportunity to engage through networking functions, professional development programs, Resilience Lane, the AIDR Knowledge Centre featuring an impressive poster display, as well as the AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Trade Exhibition.

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference runs in partnership with AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ, Australasia's largest and most comprehensive emergency management conference and exhibition. This partnership facilitates whole-of-sector engagement across emergency management and disaster resilience, bringing delegates together to share ideas and collaborate for a better future.

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference is brought to you by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience.

Ask your questions to our speakers using Slido

This conference will be using an audience interaction platform called Slido. Slido allows you to submit your questions as well as upvote the questions of other participants. Questions with the highest number of votes will be preferred by our conference moderators.

1. Go to [slido.com](https://www.slido.com)
2. Enter **#ADRC24** or scan the QR code, which will be displayed on the slideshow of each presentation.
3. Once you are in the presentation Q&A page you can ask your questions to our speakers.

About the AFAC Conference App

1. **Scan the QR code** or search '**Sprintr Events**' in your app store to download the AFAC Conference App



Apple store



Google Play store

2. Enter the Event Code: **AFAC24**
3. Use your login details to sign in

If you experience issues with the app, please visit the registration desk.

Thank you to the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2024 Sponsors:

Industry Partner Sponsor



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Conference Delegate Lanyard Sponsor



Knowledge Stream Sponsor



Resilience Lane Partner Sponsor



About AIDR

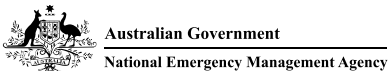
The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) is the National Institute for disaster risk reduction and resilience. We collaborate across sectors to strengthen the resilience of Australian communities to disasters.

AIDR creates, grows, and supports a range of networks; provides opportunities for learning, development, and innovation; shares knowledge and resources to enable informed decision making and action; and facilitates thought leadership through national conversations.

AIDR contributes to a more disaster resilient Australia through four key influencing strategies that encapsulate AIDR's work:

- Actively supporting, growing and sustaining a range of networks across sectors and jurisdictions.
- Enabling those with a role in disaster risk reduction and resilience to come together to learn, develop and innovate.
- Collecting, developing, curating and sharing knowledge to educate and promote good practice in disaster risk reduction and resilience.
- Providing a central focus point for national thought leadership on disaster risk reduction and resilience.

AIDR is supported by its partners: the Australian Government National Emergency Management Agency, AFAC and the Australian Red Cross.





When the weather turns wild Fortify your decision-making with industry-focused weather intelligence.

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Receive Actionable Insights

Your customisable interface centralises all key meteorological and environmental solutions. Teams can access concise insights and hyperlocal automated alerting to drive confident decision-making.



Access Comprehensive Intelligence

Utilise tools enabling bushfire spread prediction, numerical weather prediction including route cuts and aerological F160 diagrams, and thunderstorm climatology to evaluate long-term lightning risk.



Support Your PPRR Strategy

Understand climate outlooks driving bushfire risk, safely schedule fuel and hazard reduction, identify high-risk weather days to coordinate a precise response to active threats, and streamline your recovery efforts.



Easily Monitor Severe Conditions

Visualise weather threats and bushfire activity with Stormtracker and Weatherzone's Total Lightning Network. Access automated lightning proximity alerts, and GIS tracking of severe conditions across your service area.



Visit our team at Stand 541!

Weatherzone Business - Powering Smarter Weather Decisions

AFAC24 Trade Exhibition

powered by INTERSCHUTZ

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference delegates have full access to the AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Trade Exhibition, Australasia's largest emergency management exhibition, showcasing the industry's most impressive range of exhibitors covering all facets of emergency management equipment, technology and services.

The exhibition includes:

 <h3>Solutions Theatre</h3> <p>Featuring insightful presentations from industry leaders and experts.</p> <p>① Refer to the AFAC24 Conference App for more information on the Solutions Theatre program and exhibitors.</p>	 <h3>Demonstration Zone</h3> <p>Showcasing live displays of new emergency management technologies and best practice examples of emergency management situations.</p>
 <h3>AIDR Knowledge Centre</h3> <p>Giving delegates the opportunity to discover the latest in research and best practice, as well as the chance to meet speakers from the conference and to vote in the People's Choice Poster Award.</p>	 <h3>Resilience Lane</h3> <p>A space where not-for-profit and community focussed organisations will showcase their work and services that strengthen community resilience.</p> <p>Resilience Lane is sponsored by</p>  

The exhibition features:

- Vehicles and body specialists
- Fire extinguishing technology and agents
- Equipment for technical support and disaster relief
- Rescue, emergency, first aid and pre-hospital solutions
- Personal protective equipment
- Measuring and detection apparatus
- Infield redeployable infrastructure solutions
- Data, mapping, geospatial and detection solutions
- Safety training and equipment
- Training, simulation platforms and IT systems
- Extraction systems for fire stations and workshops
- Structural engineering, technical fire and building protection
- Aerial solutions
- Communication equipment and platforms
- Associations, organisations and service companies
- Satellite technologies

Exhibition opening times

Tuesday 3 September | 1:00pm - 8:00pm

Wednesday 4 September | 9:00am - 5:00pm

Thursday 5 September | 9:30am - 3:30pm



afac24
powered by **INTERSCHUTZ**

3-5 SEPTEMBER 2024
ICC SYDNEY

AFAC24 Exhibition opening times:

Tuesday 3 Sep 1.00pm – 8.00pm
Wednesday 4 Sep 9.00am – 7.00pm
Thursday 5 Sep 9.00am – 3.30pm

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



Sponsored by NRMA Insurance

Welcome Function
Tuesday 3 September



AFAC24 GALA Dinner
Wednesday 4 September

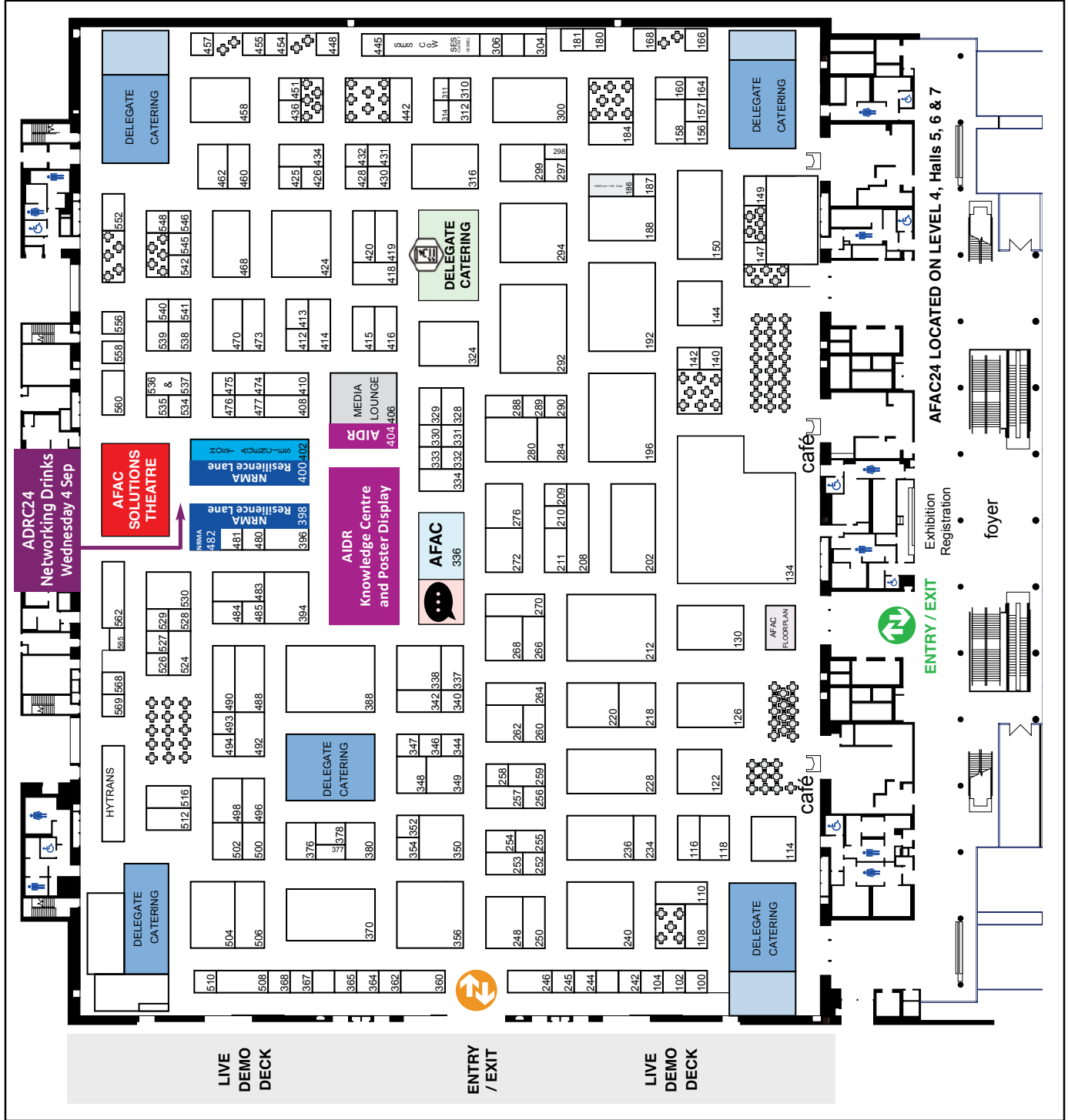
**AIDR Knowledge Centre
and Poster Viewing**



Meet The Speaker Lounge



**Dietary Requirement
Catering Station**



*Correct at time of print.

KEY: AIDR Stand and Knowledge Centre NRMA Resilience Lane Full exhibitor list available in the AFAC24 Conference App

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference | Day 1

TIME	FIRE to FLOURISH <small>Strong through community-led action</small>	FIRE TO FLOURISH KNOWLEDGE STREAM 6: ROOM C4.4	STREAM 7: Room C4.5
8.30am	Opening Ceremony		
9.15am	KEYNOTE: Dr Lori Moore-Merrell - US Fire Administration		
10.00am	KEYNOTE: Douglas D'Antoine, Recovery Executive Officer - Shire of Derby West Kimberley		
10.45am	Morning tea, exhibition viewing and poster session		
	POLICY TO PRACTICE	SUPPORTING, PARTNERING AND EMPOWERING	
11.55am	State Disaster Mitigation Plan - Driving systemic disaster risk reduction in NSW <i>Amanda Leck (NSW Reconstruction Authority)</i>	Recipe for resilience <i>Vanessa Inkster, Miranda Hampton, Pia Charlton and Sophie Millsteed (Adelaide Hills Council)</i>	
12.25pm	PANEL Lessons in collaboration <i>Georgia Whitbread (IAG), Liz Connell (South Australia State Emergency Services) and Lara Beattie (Australian Red Cross)</i>	Empowering youth in rural Victoria for disaster resilience: initial findings from future proof: young people, disaster recovery and (re)building communities <i>Carla Hall (Youth Affairs Council Victoria) and Fiona MacDonald (Victoria University)</i>	
12.55pm	The value of resilience: lessening the risk for our community <i>Melanie de Kleyn (Ipswich City Council)</i>	Tackling Australia's silent killer: from hot policy to cool hubs <i>Beck Dawson (Resilient Sydney) and Jon Swain (City of Sydney)</i>	
1.20pm	Lunch, exhibition viewing and poster session		
	LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY CONNECTION	INFANTS AND CHILDREN	
2.35pm	Community exercises: A collaborative approach to emergency preparedness <i>Sumarlinah Winoto (Nillumbik Shire Council)</i>	Partnerships and practice guidance - supporting the workforce to respond to the unique needs of infants and children in disasters <i>Ruby Awram and Ben Rogers (Emerging Minds National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health)</i>	
3.05pm	The Coffs Coast multi-lingual emergency warnings network: a community-government-NGO partnership for disaster communications in 22 languages <i>Luke Barbagallo, Biba Honnet and Erik Rau (City of Coffs Harbour)</i>	Bushfire babies: the Australian Breastfeeding Association's bushfire project, building disaster resilience in Eurobodalla Shire and beyond <i>Dr Michelle Hamrosi and Kate Turtiainen (Australian Breastfeeding Association)</i>	
3.30pm	Afternoon tea, exhibition viewing and poster session		
	MASCULINITIES, CULTURE AND DISASTERS	SYSTEMS, COLLABORATION AND INVESTMENT	
4.25pm	PANEL Masculinities, culture and disaster resilience: a panel discussion <i>Bhiamie Williamson (Monash University), John Richardson (Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience), Steve O'Malley (Gender and Disaster Australia), Dr Emma McNicol (Monash University), Collin Sivalingum (Australian Red Cross), and Isaia Piho (Fire and Emergency New Zealand)</i>	Why and how we need to investigate and strengthen the resilience of lifelines <i>Lauren Rickards (La Trobe University)</i>	
4.55pm		Making the case for climate and disaster resilience investment <i>Melinda Morris (Climate-KIC Australia)</i>	
5.20pm	Conference sessions close		
5.30pm	ADRC Networking Function		

*Correct at time of print.

LOCATION KEY

AFAC24 Plenary:
Darling Harbour Theatre

FIRE to FLOURISH
Strong through community-led action
Fire to Flourish
Knowledge Stream 6:
Room C4.4

Stream 7: Room C4.5

Resilience Lane
(in the Trade Exhibition)

Trade Exhibition
(allow five minute
transition time)

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference | Day 2

TIME	FIRE to FLOURISH <small>Strong through community, not alone</small>	FIRE TO FLOURISH KNOWLEDGE STREAM 6: ROOM C4.4	STREAM 7: Room C4.5
8.30am	KEYNOTE: Dr Catriona Wallace - Responsible Metaverse Alliance		
9.15am	KEYNOTE: Brendan Moon - National Emergency Management Agency		
10.00am	Morning tea, exhibition viewing and poster session		
	COMMUNITY-LED AND PLACE-BASED	INNOVATIVE THINKING	
11.20am	<p>Community-led recovery: what do we agree on, disagree on and how can we make it easier?</p> <p><i>Dr Kate Brady</i> (University of New South Wales/Australian Red Cross/University of Melbourne) and <i>Dr Colin Gallagher</i> (University of Melbourne)</p>	<p>Disaster resilience is built for the community by the community</p> <p><i>Anne Crestani</i> (Resilient Villages), <i>Karen Cody</i> and <i>Catherine MacNamara</i> (ABCD Inc.)</p>	
11.50am	<p>Tomorrow Ready Project: a place-based, grass-roots initiative building resilience for spontaneous volunteers and disaster recovery</p> <p><i>Jenni Beetson-Mortimer</i> and <i>Fiona Batterham</i> (Northern Rivers Community Gateway)</p>	<p>PANEL</p> <p>Learning and systems change for innovative community funding models</p> <p><i>Briony Rogers</i>, <i>Lindsey Goodman</i>, <i>Kizzy Nye</i> (Fire to Flourish), <i>John Walters</i> (Cobargo Community Development Corporation) and <i>Sam Henderson</i> (Northern Rivers Community Foundation)</p>	
12.20pm	<p>Place-based recovery for real – lessons from the Resilient Towns Initiative</p> <p><i>David Sanderson</i> (University of New South Wales), <i>Andrew Rae</i> (NSW Reconstruction Authority) and <i>Joanne Murrell</i> (Anglicare)</p>		
12.45pm	Lunch, exhibition viewing and poster session		
	CREATIVE PRACTICES	HOUSEHOLD RESILIENCE	
1.55pm	<p>Empowering communities: the role of Anglicare's bushfire recovery program in effective rebuilding</p> <p><i>Joanne Murrell</i>, <i>Liam McManus</i> and <i>Von Hutcheson</i> (Anglicare)</p>	<p>Home insurance affordability: drivers and policy solutions</p> <p><i>Calise Liu</i>, <i>Sinead Keane</i> and <i>Saroop Philip</i> (Finity Consulting)</p>	
2.25pm	<p>PANEL</p> <p>Placemaking as a catalyst for building resilience—using arts, culture and creative practices to co-design new social and spatial infrastructure for high-risk communities</p> <p><i>Nikhila Madabhushi</i>, <i>Professor Mel Dodd</i>, <i>Roxanne Smith</i>, <i>Cara MacLeod</i> and <i>Pamela Denise</i> (Monash University)</p>	<p>PANEL</p> <p>Resilience ratings – practical adaptation technology delivering positive systems impact</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Sharanjit Paddam</i> (Finity Consulting) <i>Kate Cotter</i> (Resilient Building Council), <i>Alix Pearce</i> (Insurance Council of Australia), <i>Vanessa Beenders</i> (Actuaries Institute of Australia) <i>Jennifer Coble</i> (NRMA Insurance) and <i>Jessica Forrest</i> (NAB)</p>	
3.30pm	AFAC24 CLOSING PANEL: Lived experience		
	PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE	LEARNING FROM PAST AND PRESENT	
3.30pm	<p>Future proofing Australia's resilience</p> <p><i>Duncan Sheppard</i> (Insurance Council of Australia)</p>	<p>100 years of community resilience in Australia: lessons from Australian Red Cross</p> <p><i>Andrew Coghlan</i> (Australian Red Cross)</p>	
4.00pm	<p>Driving systemic change in land use planning policy - the Queensland Resilience Policy Maturity Framework for Land Use Planning (GEOGRAPHIC)</p> <p><i>Stephen Dredge</i> (Meridan Urban) and <i>Anna Nottingham</i> (QLD Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works)</p>		
4.30pm	Closing ceremony		
5.00pm	Conference concludes		

*Correct at time of print.

LOCATION KEY

- AFAC24 Plenary: Darling Harbour Theatre
- Fire to Flourish Knowledge Stream 6: Room C4.4
- Stream 7: Room C4.5
- Resilience Lane (in the Trade Exhibition)
- Trade Exhibition (allow five minute transition time)

FIRE to FLOURISH



Enabling communities to strengthen their resilience to disaster.

Fire to Flourish is a five-year collaborative program to advance community-led disaster recovery and long-term resilience.

Working at the intersection of community development and disaster resilience, we partner with communities to co-create the foundations for a thriving future.



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Meet the keynote speakers



9:15 AM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Dr Lori Moore-Merrell

| DrPH, MPH, U.S. Fire Administrator, FEMA

Prior to her appointment, Lori served nearly 3 years as the President and CEO of the International Public Safety Data Institute (IPSDI), which she founded after retiring from a 26-year tenure as a senior executive in the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). She began her fire service career in 1987 as a fire department paramedic in the City of Memphis Fire Department, Memphis Tennessee.

Lori is a Doctor of Public Health and data scientist, whose work has changed fire and EMS deployment throughout the world. As the principal investigator and senior project manager, she oversaw the development of landmark reports and other tools to improve residential and high-rise fireground operations, community risk assessment, fire and EMS resource deployment, and 'Big Data Analytics'. Her work continues to influence executive decision-making across the fire service.



10.00 AM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Douglas D'Antoine

| Recovery Executive Officer, Shire of Derby West Kimberley

Douglas D'Antoine is Bardi and Jawi from country 200km north of Broome, Western Australia. He resides in Broome and has a somewhat unique albeit unsophisticated position as to the advancement of Aboriginality that is overwhelmingly supported by the Fitzroy Valley 2023 'lived experience'.

Prior to the devastating Fitzroy Valley floods cause by ex-tropical cyclone Ellie in January 2023, Douglas was a native title lawyer and then became the deputy CEO at the Kimberley Land Council, a corporate oil and gas lawyer at Woodside and then BP (upstream), roustabout and wool presser, and a police officer.

At the time of the floods, he was the CEO for Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation that holds native title on trust for the Bunuba language group. By way of context, Nyikina, Gooniyandi, Walmajarri and Wangkatjungka are the four other language groups in the Fitzroy Valley.

Since the floods, Douglas was the community advocate for those directly impacted by the floods opposite the Prime Minister, Premier and many other government dignitaries, then became the Executive Officer to the Fitzroy Valley Flood Recovery Working Group and is now the Recovery Executive Officer with the Shire of Derby West Kimberley.

Douglas' presentation focusses on the nationally unprecedented nature in which the agencies associated with the floods engaged the Fitzroy Valley community, and particularly the five language groups within the Fitzroy Valley through the Working Group.

He will explain how that engagement, that is being recognised nationally as best practice, laid the foundations for the strong and effective governance of the flood recovery efforts that, by way of outcomes, includes the reduction of crime in Fitzroy Crossing and the Fitzroy Valley.



8.30 AM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Dr Catriona Wallace

| Founder, Responsible Metaverse Alliance, Shark on TV series Shark Tank Australia

Dr Catriona Wallace has been recognised by the Australian Financial Review as the Most Influential Woman in Business and Entrepreneurship.

Catriona is an expert in the field of artificial intelligence (AI) and the metaverse and is an Adjunct Professor, keynote speaker and Founder of the Responsible Metaverse Alliance. Catriona is also the co-author of the book Checkmate Humanity: the how and why of Responsible AI.

As the founder of one of the first AI companies to list on the Australian Securities Exchange, Catriona has truly lived the life of an entrepreneur and CEO in the emerging technologies field. Indeed, Flamingo AI was the second only woman-led (CEO and Chair) business ever to list on the Australian Stock Exchange.

Based on her extensive experience in AI and emerging technology Catriona delivers keynote speeches globally on topics including AI, Web3 and the metaverse, digital transformation, responsible technology, the future of work, and diversity and inclusion.

Catriona's experience as one of the rare women leaders in advanced technology means that she is ideally suited to present on these important and topical subjects and does so in a way that is highly accessible, informative, non-technical, engaging and inclusive.

This unique skill set has also seen Catriona invited to Co-Chair Sir Richard Branson's B Team's AI Coalition and be a Director of the Garvan Institute, Gradient Institute and to Chair an AI VC Fund, Boab AI.

Catriona has achieved Advance Australia's highest award in technology and innovation for Australians working abroad and has been recognised by Analytica as one of the top AI speakers and metaverse commentators, globally. Catriona was inducted into the Royal Institution of Australia acknowledging her as one of the country's most pre-eminent scientists.

With a burning passion for and deep knowledge of AI and emerging tech such as the metaverse, Catriona believes that sharing knowledge about the responsible use of technology and is her true path and purpose.



9.15 AM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Brendan Moon AM

| Coordinator General, National Emergency Management Agency

Brendan Moon AM commenced as the first Coordinator-General of the National Emergency Management Agency in October 2022.

Brendan brings with him extensive expertise and experience in disaster response, recovery, preparedness and risk reduction. He spent 10 years with the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA), starting as the General Manager, Operations in 2011 until his appointment as Chief Executive Officer in 2016. While with QRA, Brendan led recovery operations and state-wide reconstruction and recovery efforts for all significant natural disasters in Queensland since late 2015 until 2022.

Brendan is a regular contributor to national and international dialogue on disaster risk and resilience and has addressed the United Nations Office of Disaster Risk Reduction's Asian Ministerial Conferences on multiple occasions. He is a passionate advocate for cooperation and collaboration across international, national, state and local agencies for disaster preparedness, response and recovery. Brendan is a graduate of the University of Queensland.

Presentations and panels – Day one

11:55 AM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

State Disaster Mitigation Plan - Driving systemic disaster risk reduction in NSW

Amanda Leck, NSW Reconstruction Authority

As disasters become more frequent and severe, their impacts on communities are wide reaching. To address this risk to life and livelihoods, the NSW Government has legislated the development of a State Disaster Mitigation Plan (SDMP).

In 2022 the NSW Reconstruction Authority was established, paving the way for the creation of a single agency to proactively reduce the impact of future disasters across NSW and to help communities recover from them faster. An essential element of the Act is the requirement for the RA to develop a State Disaster Mitigation Plan (SDMP).

Taking a whole of government approach, the SDMP will reduce the impact and cost of natural hazards on people, homes, livelihoods, infrastructure, and communities.

The plan has 37 actions that drive systemic change to reduce the exposure and vulnerability of people and assets to disasters. Through addressing the gaps in state-level policies and programs, NSW is driving systemic disaster risk reduction, as well as supporting and guiding

the development of Disaster Adaptation Plans (DAPs) at the local level.

Developed with local knowledge and expertise, DAPs assess the hazard risk and outline the specific strategies and actions to prevent or mitigate the impact of disasters. DAPs are intended to drive systemic change in NSW, impacting on land use planning decisions and driving investment in mitigation.

This conference presentation will provide an overview of the SDMP and key actions underway, including the Framework and Guidelines for Disaster Adaptation Plans, now complete.

Two years on from the devastating floods in the Northern Rivers in February 2022, the presentation will focus on work underway to develop a DAP in the Northern Rivers, as well as the implementation of the largest adaptation program ever delivered in response to a disaster in Australia, to prepare the region for future catastrophic disasters.



Amanda Leck is a strategic and experienced leader, with more than 25 years' experience working in the disaster management sector, as well as across all levels of government, the private sector and with community organisations to support risk mitigation, community preparedness and disaster resilience.

Amanda is the Deputy Secretary and Group Head of Adaptation, Mitigation and Reconstruction with the NSW Reconstruction Authority. In that role she is responsible for senior executive leadership of the Group including the delivery of the State Disaster Mitigation Plan and Disaster Adaptation Plans in the Hawkesbury Nepean Valley and Northern Rivers areas of NSW.

Amanda is also responsible for the Northern Rivers Adaptation Division of the Reconstruction Authority, working with all levels of government and the community to deliver the largest reconstruction, recovery and adaptation program ever delivered in NSW, in response to the devastating Northern Rivers floods of February 2022. Her responsibilities also include the development of a reconstruction capability for NSW in response to disaster events, working closely with Transport for NSW, Public Works and local governments to support a timely and co-ordinated response for impacted communities.

Amanda's previous role was as the Deputy Commissioner Capability and Risk with Emergency Management Victoria, where she was responsible for risk-based emergency management planning at the state, regional and local level, as well as critical infrastructure resilience and capability development across all hazards.

Prior to that, Amanda was Head of the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience where she led a program of work on behalf of the Commonwealth Government to support a disaster resilient Australia.

Amanda has worked in complex community and government environments, bringing together stakeholders across a diverse range of sectors, to deliver outcomes to reduce risk and support disaster resilience for communities.

12.25 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

PANEL

Lessons in collaboration

Georgia Whitbread (IAG)

Liz Connell (South Australia State Emergency Services)

Lara Beattie (Australian Red Cross)

In this insightful panel discussion, Georgia Whitbread from IAG, Lara Beattie from Australian Red Cross, and Liz Connell from South Australian State Emergency Service come together to explore the critical lessons in collaboration for disaster resilience. Recognising that no single organisation can address the complexities of disaster response alone, the panellists will draw on their

extensive experience across the insurance, humanitarian, and emergency services sectors to demonstrate how combining strengths through collaboration leads to impactful outcomes. Attendees will gain valuable insights into how these collaborations enhance community preparedness, response, and recovery efforts in the face of disasters and extreme weather events.



Georgia Whitbread is a social impact professional at IAG. Georgia works with a range of partners and on projects that are designed to create safer, more connected and resilient communities. She is passionate about the role business can play in addressing pressing societal issues. She job-shares with Jennifer Cobley, as Executive Manager Social Impact and together develop a social impact program that delivers both business value and positive societal change for our customers and broader community.



Liz Connell is the Deputy Chief Officer South Australian State Emergency Service. Liz previously held the role of General Manager State Emergency Service and has delivered programs in all hazards risk management, community engagement and communications. Liz has over her career worked at all levels of government predominately in local and state government in South Australia with a strong focus on strategy development, stakeholder engagement, collaboration and facilitation. Liz has had a long-term interest in climate change and its consequences for social and economic impacts, community and disaster management. As an avid and passionate gardener, Liz is a keen observer of the weather and changing patterns.



Lara Beattie is a dedicated and experienced professional in the field of community-led disaster resilience. She currently serves as the NSW Manager for Preparedness at the Australian Red Cross, where she leads emergency services delivery and supports disaster resilience programs across NSW. Lara has been with the Australian Red Cross for over three years, previously working as a Recovery and Resilience Officer, where she collaborated with communities and service providers in the Snowy Monaro and Queanbeyan-Palerang regions.

12.55 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

The value of resilience: lessening the risk for our community

Melanie de Kleyn, Ipswich City Council

For many residents of Ipswich, living through floods has become a way of life. Over and over again, the raising flood water turns our suburbs into islands and we watch, waiting for the waters to recede so we can start the arduous task of clean up once again. Many will move back in, often without basic amenities while they try to piece together their lives and find funds to rebuild and replace all they lost.

Some members of our community will get on with their lives, knowing it will happen again. For others, it becomes too much and they no longer stay to face another flood. In May 2022, the Resilient Homes Fund Voluntary Buy Back Program was established and provided our community with a new option: what could be more effective disaster reduction than to remove the risk completely? Through state and federal funding, residents could voluntarily register for their property to be

purchased by the council with the land rezoned to non-habitable use. This would eliminate the current owner's risk and any future risk for potential owners.

With a new program came the unknown – with limited resources, experience and no roadmap forward, how does a council buy, remove houses, and rehabilitate and re-zone land? Through collaboration with the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Ipswich City Council decided to focus on our residents and work together to share the roles and responsibilities of a program that would have such a positive impact on their future.

After 18 months of planning, implementing and working with the homeowners, we are discovering what has and hasn't worked. There have been many challenges and lessons learnt and we share these so that future programs of this nature can be successful in providing long-lasting resilience to disaster impacted communities.



Melanie de Kleyn is the Project Manager, Flood Resilient Homes for Ipswich City Council. One of the worst affected local government areas of Queensland during the February 2022 flood event, her role has seen the implementation, coordination and success of the Voluntary Home Buy Back program in Ipswich, and the subsequent acquisition of over 200 properties in the most at-risk flood areas of the city. With many years of experience in local government and stakeholder management, and a passion for collaboration to affect positive change, Melanie is proud to be a part of a program which has had such a positive impact for many Ipswich residents.

The Voluntary Home Buy-Back (VHBB) program is a jointly funded initiative under the Resilient Homes Fund, which has been delivered by the Commonwealth and State governments through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

The VHBB program was established following the 2022 South East Queensland flooding event and was designed for homes that were the most severely damaged or at the highest risk of future flooding.

11.55AM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Recipe for resilience

Vanessa Inkster, Miranda Hampton, Pia Charlton, Sophie Millsteed, Adelaide Hills Council

Join Adelaide Hills Council’s Community Resilience Team as they present their award-winning* recipe for community-led disaster resilience.

Ingredients:

- Tackling complex issues – consultation with community and key partner agencies to create a Bushfire Mitigation Strategy, clearly outlining council and community responsibility for land management to reduce overall risk.
- Practical support – offering grant funds to local community groups to establish Recovery Ready Halls, enhancing community connections in the process.
- Community education and empowerment – holding workshops with individuals and community groups to identify their strengths and vulnerabilities in disaster preparedness and creating clear plans to build resilience. Working to empower people with disability in becoming peer leaders, educating others on how to build a personal emergency safety plan.
- Organisational support – development of a Recovery Operations Manual to ensure council response following disaster is clear, community minded and effective.

- Community partnerships – collaboration with community networks to ensure local residents have a voice to council and are represented.

Method:

Although individual projects have been clearly defined from the outset, their implementation has been significantly shaped by the community. This part of the session will share examples of what community consultation has looked like, and how it has shaped positive results. It will also explore the ways in which new approaches are embedded into existing programs and initiatives, adding value and influencing systems change without increasing workloads- not unlike a parent hiding grated carrots in the bolognaise to increase its nutritional value.

This program is underpinned by the idea that there is no ‘one size fits all’ approach to community-led disaster resilience. Therefore, it will not be prescriptive, but focus on key learnings that can be used to shape other community-led approaches.

*This program was honoured to receive the 2023 Resilient Australia National Local Government Award.



Vanessa Inkster is the Project Support Officer (Community Resilience) at Adelaide Hills Council. Her role has included management of the ‘Recovery Ready Halls’ project, aimed at equipping local facilities to function as Recovery Support Hubs following emergencies, fostering social connection and resilience. She thoroughly enjoys working to increase community capacity and confidence in facing future challenges.



Miranda Hampton was appointed as the Community Recovery Officer for the Cudlee Creek bushfire in SA, in February 2020. Drawing upon a diverse background in community development, education, the arts and health, Miranda worked closely with the Adelaide Hills community to support a community-led recovery. Miranda continues to work with the fire impacted communities in the Adelaide Hills, focussing on building resilience and preparedness in her new role as Senior Community Resilience Officer at the Adelaide Hills Council, leading the Towards Community Led Emergency Resilience project and council’s first Community Resilience Team.



Pia Charlton works in Adelaide Hills Council’s Community Resilience team, where her role is Landscape Management Project Officer. This involves helping residents and other land managers to understand their bushfire risk and more effectively manage their own vegetation. She has coordinated the development of a comprehensive Bushfire Management Landscape strategy and several educational resources as part of this work, as well as contributing to the overall work of the community resilience program including workshop delivery and active community consultation.



Sophie Millsteed is the Community Resilience Officer at Adelaide Hills Council, living and working on Peramangk and Kurna land. Her role focuses on raising awareness of child-centered approaches to disaster preparedness, increasing psychological disaster preparedness, and strengthening community resilience. She also leads the Disability Inclusive Emergency Planning Project in Adelaide Hills. With over 15 years of experience in social work and community development, Sophie combines creativity, critical thinking, and compassion in her work, focusing on systemic change and community-led initiatives.

12.25 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Empowering youth in rural Victoria for disaster resilience: initial findings from Future Proof: Young People, Disaster Recovery and (Re)building Communities

Carla Hall, Youth Affairs Council Victoria

Fiona MacDonald, Victoria University

The Future Proof project was initiated by the Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic), with Victoria University as a research partner, in response to the 2019-20 bushfires. Future Proof is a collaborative effort involving multiple stakeholders who aim to bolster disaster resilience in rural Victorian communities. This presentation will share the initial findings of this innovative initiative, shedding light on its impact and effectiveness in building resilience among young people.

Future Proof is a collective impact endeavour, drawing on the strengths of its 14 diverse partners, including 14 Local Councils, NGOs, ACCOs, and Victoria University. The project's core objectives include empowering local youth to actively engage in disaster recovery efforts. A variety of activities and training, including qualification pathways, the establishment of youth advisory groups (YAGs), and specialised training for both young individuals and youth

workers, Future Proof fosters a culture of youth-led decision-making and community engagement.

Informed by a place-based approach, Future Proof focused on the needs of young people and considered the challenges they face in bushfire-affected regions in Victoria. By integrating youth work principles into resilience initiatives, the project aims to not only equip young people with valuable skills but also amplifies their voices in shaping resilient communities.

In this presentation, Youth Affairs Council Victoria and Victoria University aim to share insights captured across the Future Proof project that speak to young people's engagement in disaster recovery and community resilience. Valuable insights into the upskilling of young people in regional and rural communities in the aftermath of, and preparation for, disasters will also be shared.



Carla Hall joined the Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic) in mid-2020, working as the Rural Youth Projects Coordinator, prior to this Carla worked directly with the flame impacted community of East Gippsland throughout the 2019-20 bushfires in the evacuation centre and brings a lived experience of disaster to her work in this space. Carla's role involves the development of a youth-centred approach to bushfire recovery and mental health engaging directly with young people and community members in rural and regional areas about their experiences of, response to, and recovery from the devastating 2019-20 bushfires across Eastern Victoria. This provided young people, with the opportunity to share their ideas for recovery, rebuilding and preparation for a better future. For the past 15 years Carla has worked in the youth sector in local government, generalist youth work, employment, and homelessness. Carla lives and was raised on the lands of the Gunai Kurnai People and acknowledges that sovereignty was never ceded, and this always was, and always will be Aboriginal land.



Associate Professor Fiona MacDonald is Principal Research Fellow in the Institute for Sustainable Industries and Liveable Cities, VU Research, Victoria University. A sociologist, Fiona's research investigates the impact of contemporary social and cultural structures on the everyday lives of children and young people, both face to face and online. Taking a social justice perspective, Fiona focuses on the engagement and empowerment of young people. Working across disciplines, Fiona collaborates with community organisations, government and industry stakeholders, conducting research with practical outcomes and impact for young people and those who work with them.

Fiona has led research around young people in disasters, writing the IGEM Evidence from Experience report on young people's experiences of the black summer bushfires; led the VU research partnership for the Future Proof: young people, disaster recovery and (re)building communities bushfire relief and recovery project that brings together 14 partners across Victoria. Fiona is the joint research lead, on the newly funded Centre of Excellence in young people and disasters, a partnership between Victoria University and Youth Affairs Council Victoria that aims to bring together expertise around young people (12-24-year-olds), young participation and disasters.

12.55 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Tackling Australia’s silent killer: from hot policy to cool hubs

Beck Dawson, Resilient Sydney

Jon Swain, City of Sydney

Heat is Australia’s deadliest weather-related hazard. It is also increasingly recognised that heat-related deaths are under reported and the risk of heat-related disruptions is increasing as the number and duration of heatwaves increases in Australia. Since 2022, 30 organisations in Australia’s largest city have come together to form the Greater Sydney Heat Taskforce to create some hot policy to address the challenge. Meeting over 18 months, the Taskforce have developed a metropolitan-wide plan and key tools to reduce the impact of extreme heat and a warming climate on all 5 million people living and working in Greater Sydney. This innovative process is the first of its kind in Australia to develop a multi-sector, place-based heat adaptation plan for the benefit of the community. This presentation will give an overview of the process and plan development led by the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils and Resilient Sydney.

In the City of Sydney and all Australian cities, the risk of heat-related illness is higher for people experiencing homelessness due to a lack of access to cool places, and water, and the complex interactions between mental illness, medications and substance use disorder. The City responded in a partnership with emergency medical organisations and academics to develop the Mobile Cooling Hub. The Hub plays a key role in mitigating heat-related illness for people experiencing homelessness as an immediate responses to protect this vulnerable population from weather-related illness and death. The presentation will highlight the importance of cross government/academic/health partnerships, innovation, scalability and the critical importance co-design plays in developing emergency responses for people experiencing homelessness.



Beck Dawson is described as the “person paid to worry about Sydney”, Beck leads the Resilient Sydney program with all 33 local governments of metropolitan Sydney, hosted by the City of Sydney. Implementation of the first Resilient Sydney Strategy involves catalysing collaboration projects with state and local governments, businesses and communities to build local responses to global and city challenges from shock events and ongoing stresses.

Beck has successfully led strategic systems and organisational change programs for resilience and sustainability across government, property, business and the cultural sector in Australia and the UK. Beck holds a Masters of Sustainable Architecture and a Bachelor of Science with Honours.



Jon Swain is the Manager Homelessness at the City of Sydney and Jon has led homelessness, mental health and environmental teams at local, state and NGO level for the past 16 years. Jon oversees direct funding of Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS), service coordination, business and community education, policy design, public space management and coordination of emergency responses. Jon’s current focus is developing short long-term solutions for people experiencing homelessness against extreme weather events and is currently involved in the Mobile Cooling Hub pilot led by St Vincent Health and Sydney University.

2.35 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Community exercises: A collaborative approach to emergency preparedness

Sumarlinah Winoto, Nillumbik Shire Council

As part of our grant-funded community preparedness programming, Nillumbik Shire Council, in conjunction with community and various agencies, successfully piloted emergency exercises with residents from Strathewen, Arthurs Creek and St Andrews in October and November 2023. Agencies regularly perform drills, but community members rarely get opportunities to test their capabilities, even though they are often the first responders in an emergency. Our aim with these exercises is to bring community together to test their emergency planning and response, and support them to feel more confident should an emergency occur. Similar models have been successfully developed in other countries like Japan and New Zealand, and this pilot shows communities in Australia are keen to follow this trend towards emergency exercises conducted with the community.

The exercises were an opportunity for the community to test their thinking and responses during an emergency where they are isolated in town for a few days without

power. They were guided by a simple mission statement – “to keep the community safe, calm and informed”. Within the hour, participants gathered information, identified needs and resources at their disposal, and developed a plan for how they would manage a few days in this situation. We received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with participants able to identify assets and opportunities to help them be more prepared, and keen to participate in annual exercises.

We see this as a great opportunity to present our programming pilot and share our positive outcomes, so that local government, agencies and various organisations can look to adopt similar programming. We have found there is increased community interest for emergency preparedness exercises and that they bring many benefits for local communities, including increasing community connection, highlighting what community assets already exist locally, and creating opportunities for community to identify areas to be considered for improvement.



Sumarlinah Winoto is a Communities First Project Officer in the Emergency Management Unit at Nillumbik Shire Council. They have worked in community organising for around 10 years, and completed their Masters in Disaster, Design and Development at RMIT in 2023. Using an asset and strengths-based approach to community development, Sumarlinah is passionate about collaborating with communities to help them achieve their vision of community wellbeing. They are delivering programming as part of the Disaster Resilient Nillumbik project, which is funded by Australian Government in partnership with the states and territories under the National Partnership Agreement for Disaster Risk Reduction. Disaster Resilient Nillumbik is a co-designed disaster risk mitigation, community preparedness and resilience building project. A partnership between Nillumbik Shire Council, emergency management agencies and the Nillumbik community, Disaster Resilient Nillumbik aims to increase local risk awareness, build disaster resilience and arm Council, emergency management agencies and the community with the capability to reduce disaster risk in Nillumbik.

One aspect of the project is working with local residents and agency volunteers to run community emergency exercises to increase capacity and confidence in navigating future disasters.

3.05 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

The Coffs Coast Multi-Lingual Emergency Warnings Network; a community-government-NGO partnership for disaster communications in 22 languages

Luke Barbagallo, Biba Honnet and Erik Rau, City of Coffs Harbour

The Coffs CALD Emergency Grapevine is a community network on the Coffs Coast using WhatsApp to support culturally and linguistically diverse residents to access timely and accurate information before, during and after disasters. The Grapevine team consists of staff from St Vincent de Paul, Australian Red Cross, City of Coffs Harbour, DCJ and the NSW Police who witnessed the impact of poor communication on the CALD community during successive disasters. The Grapevine builds on the existing efforts of the Multilingual Information Co-Op (MiCO), which Australian Red Cross supports, and consists of volunteers from migrant and refugee backgrounds who translate, interpret, and record safety messaging in video format.

During disaster events, residents who are new Australians with low English literacy are at risk of being left behind before, during and after a disaster. Their ability to adequately prepare, respond and recover from disasters is to a degree reliant on their English proficiency. In our region, several languages and minority dialects are spoken, however, emergency messages are not presently translated into these languages.

Members of these communities rely on younger family members, service providers or trusted community leaders to navigate some aspects of daily life. This need is amplified among more recent migrants to Australia, especially when accessing government, health, education, banking or housing services. The City of Coffs Harbour is a Refugee Welcome Zone, and many of our CALD residents are also navigating complex traumas.

To address this need for accurate emergency information, in language, the Grapevine connects 22 distinct cultural group community leaders with Easy English emergency warnings that are then disseminated through WhatsApp, the most common messaging platform used locally by CALD communities.

Our presentation documents the community engagement process that established the network, and our advocacy to have the Grapevine recognised in the LEMC, and recorded in the City's Pre-Event Recovery Plan.



Luke Barbagallo is a disaster worker living on Gumbaynggirr Country, on the Mid-North Coast of NSW. Luke has a keen passion and interest in community-led disaster risk reduction and resilience, leading him to study the Master of Disaster, Design and Development at RMIT.

He joined Bellingen Shire Council shortly before the 2022 floods as a Community Resilience Officer, and moved to the City of Coffs Harbour later that same year to lead the City's Resilience and Recovery Service. Luke has led several significant PRR initiatives in this role, including the development of the joint Coffs-Bellingen LEMC Local Recovery Plan, delivery of a Local Recovery Exercise using the AIDR Toolkit, hosting a Disability Inclusive Emergency Planning (DIEP) Forum, and launching the P-CEP Connect Mid-North Coast community of practice. Luke is a person with a hidden disability, which informs his work in DIDRR.



Biba Honnet is a social development practitioner who has spent the past 16 years developing and delivering community projects in Australia and South East Asia. She is an advocate for place-based, strengths-focused and community-led approaches to engagement, development and service delivery. Biba holds a Master of Social Development with a focus in Forced Migration and a Bachelor of Community Welfare - International Development. In her current role she manages Vinnies' North Coast Settlement Service which holds the Department of Home Affairs contract to deliver humanitarian migrant settlement activities in Northern NSW.



Erik Rau is a welfare worker from Germany with a passion for cultural diversity and recently worked as a Recovery and Resilience Officer at the Australian Red Cross, based in Coffs Harbour. Currently he works as a case worker for the Settlement Services International. The focus of his role with Red Cross has been working with multicultural community and place-based organisations strengthening their resilience. Overall, his experience has given him a valuable insight into the coping strategies and resilience of individuals and communities when faced with great adversity in their daily lives as well as during and post disaster.

2.35 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Partnerships and practice guidance - supporting the workforce to respond to the unique needs of infants and children in disasters

Ruby Awram and Ben Rogers, Emerging Minds National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health

The increasing intensity and frequency of disasters means more Australian children and their families are at risk than ever before. Infants and children are among the most vulnerable populations in disaster. Disaster events can have significant impacts on children’s safety, mental health and development and, without the right support, can lead to lifelong difficulties.

Although there are positive outcomes for children who receive the help they need, this remains scarce for infants, children, and families in disasters. Recent events have highlighted several challenges regarding the implementation of coordinated and effective child-centred support.

New data from the Emerging Minds National Workforce Survey revealed a critical deficit in workforce self-rated skills and confidence to respond to the unique developmental needs of infants, children, and families in disasters. This highlights a clear need to enhance capacity.

Emerging Minds, in partnership with the Australian Child and Adolescent Trauma, Loss and Grief Network, has worked with leading practitioners and researchers across multiple sectors and listened to the voices of

children and families with lived experience to develop a comprehensive practice guide. The guide focuses on systemic and proactive approaches to support infants, children, and families through disaster preparedness, response and recovery. When used alongside resources for families, this evidence-informed best practice resource will strengthen collaborative approaches across sectors to help us build interconnected systems, practices, and structures that are essential to supporting our youngest Australians through disasters.

With a focus on responding to the needs of infants, children, and families in disaster, this presentation will explore:

- key learnings through partnerships with families, practitioners and researchers including the National Infant and Child Disaster Mental Health Advisory Committee
- new data on workforce capability
- holistic, collaborative approaches to address systemic risk and drive change using the guide
- examples of innovative practices.



Ruby Awram is a Child Mental Health Advisor at Emerging Minds. Her work focuses on expanding and deepening the capacity of professionals, organisations, sectors, and systems to respond to the needs of infants, children, and families in relation to disasters at the National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health. Drawing from her experience as a mental health occupational therapist, she has been involved in a range of capacity-building initiatives, including leading the development of the Practice Guide for supporting infants, children, and families in relation to disasters at Emerging Minds, implementation of the Community Trauma Toolkit, and developing content for the Be You online disaster recovery training for education leaders. Ruby is a member of the National Infant and Child Disaster Mental Health Advisory Committee (NICDAC) and recently established the Emerging Minds Child and Family Partner Disaster and Climate Advisory Network. She has published research informed by families impacted by parental mental health difficulties and is especially interested in advancing family focused mental health support in relation to disasters. Her commitment to supporting children, families, and professionals is informed by her own lived experience of severe cyclones, bushfires, floods, and gun violence.



Ben Rogers is the Manager of Digital Health at Emerging Minds’ National Workforce Centre for Child Mental Health. Ben is responsible for leading the development of resources and tools for parents, families, educators and other professionals on infant and child mental health. He manages the Emerging Minds disaster and climate change stream and has led the development of the Practice Guide for supporting infants, children and families in relation to disasters. Ben is a member of the National Infant and Child Disaster Mental Health Advisory Committee (NICDAC). A qualified Occupational Therapist, he has held positions in a variety of mental health and child and family services across Australia and the United Kingdom. This clinical experience has seen him focus on supporting rural and remote families as part of a telehealth assessment, therapy and capacity building service. With a track record of leading complex projects, including national mental health promotion initiatives and large-scale telehealth projects, Ben is dedicated to advancing child mental health support through innovation and collaboration.

3.05 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Bushfire babies: the Australian Breastfeeding Association's bushfire project, building disaster resilience in Eurobodalla Shire and beyond

Dr Michelle Hamrosi and Kate Turtiainen, Australian Breastfeeding Association

The 2019-20 bushfires were devastating for the people of Eurobodalla Shire on the NSW South Coast. Many pregnant women, new mothers and other caregivers of infants and young children were badly affected by this emergency. While local emergency responders and community members did their best to support very young children and their parents, it was evident that gaps remained. It was in this context that the Australian Breastfeeding Association (ABA) launched the Community Protection for Infants and Young Children in Bushfire Emergencies Project (Bushfire Project).

ABA has long-standing presence in Eurobodalla Shire and is a part of the fabric of the community. The organisation has an intimate knowledge and understanding of new motherhood and the needs of families and has long advocated that they be better supported in disasters.

This presentation will describe how the ABA Bushfire Project has worked to make a meaningful difference to disaster preparedness in Eurobodalla through an innovative combination of research, community engagement, and organisational collaboration (including at a local, state and national level). The many emergency preparedness resources for parents and emergency responders that have been developed as a part of the Bushfire Project will be shared.

The ABA Bushfire Project is the first of its kind in Australia and it is hoped that other communities will be able to take what has been learnt and the resources developed and apply them Australia-wide.



Dr Michelle Hamrosi is the Community Engagement Officer on the Australian Breastfeeding Association's Community Protection for Infants and Young Children in Bushfire Emergencies Project. Michelle is also a General Practitioner and an International Board Certified Lactation Consultant and a clinical lecturer for ANU Rural Clinical School. Michelle is also the group leader and volunteer breastfeeding counsellor for the Australian Breastfeeding Association Eurobodalla group. She is a member of Doctors for the Environment, Climate and Health Alliance and Parents for Climate. She loves spending time in nature, her garden and with her 3 children.



Kate Turtiainen is the local project officer for the Australian Breastfeeding Association's Community Protection for Infants and Young Children in Bushfire Emergencies Project based in Eurobodalla Shire on the NSW south coast. Kate experienced the 2019-20 bushfires up close and with her husband defended her home in Bateman's Bay. Since then, she has become mother, to a daughter now 3 years old. Kate is also a movement specialist, supporting and educating new mothers in recovery from childbirth complications. Kate is committed to ensuring that mothers and their children in Australia generally, and Eurobodalla specifically are enabled to be prepared for emergencies and, when an emergency occurs better supported during and afterwards.

4.25 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

PANEL

Masculinities, culture and disaster resilience: a panel discussion

Bhiamie Williamson, Monash University

John Richardson, Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

Steve O'Malley, Gender and Disaster Australia

Collin Sivalingum, Australian Red Cross

Isaia Piho, Fire and Emergency New Zealand

Dr Emma McNicol, Monash University

How does culture influence perceptions of masculinities? And how then, do these alternate and variable masculinities influence our perceptions of, and responses to, disasters? This panel explores these questions and more, beginning an overdue conversation on masculinities and disaster resilience.

Recognising the different ways in which disasters impact men, women, and gender diverse people(s) is essential in building sustainable, safe, and happy communities. Yet within gender and disaster discourses, commentary and investigations on men and masculinities has been limited to describing men's participation in front line combat agencies.

Recent research has demonstrated how both during and immediately after disasters women are at increased risk of experiencing domestic and family violence. Researchers have also found that when

gender discrimination is not a sector priority, recovery efforts risk reinscribing inequality. These findings are especially urgent in the context of increasingly severe, simultaneous, and cascading disasters.

A culturally diverse panel of varied ages, each representing different parts of the disaster resilience sector, will explore these urgent questions regarding culture, masculinities, and disaster resilience.

This panel seeks to identify priorities actions for researchers, policy makers, and community and non-government organisations as they seek to engage men and boys in disaster response and recovery. Crucially, the panel seeks to create new ways of thinking about masculinities and natural hazards and explore how disasters can be a space of transformative opportunities to address entrenched gendered inequality and rigid conceptions of gender.



Bhiamie Williamson



John Richardson



Steve O'Malley



Collin Sivalingum



Isaia Piho



Dr Emma McNicol

4.25 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Why and how we need to investigate and strengthen the resilience of lifelines

Lauren Rickards, RMIT University

For communities, it is often the way hazards disrupt and degrade the lifelines that sustain them that generate the worst impacts. Conversely, it is the effective functioning of established lifelines - and, in some cases, the unexpected emergence of informal lifelines - within disaster situations that often saves lives and reduces impacts. Yet how to analyse lifelines and their resilience in diverse situations is not clear-cut. Practice, policy and research continue to function within habitual boundaries that defy the reality of the sort of complex disasters that are proliferating around us.

Enabling more effective decision-making under increasing complexity and uncertainties requires practitioners, policy-makers, researchers and research-funders to become far better at systemic, imaginative, reflexive and cross-disciplinary forms of inquiry capable of illuminating, projecting and supporting lifelines.

This presentation shares the results from the Natural Hazards Research Australia funded project Resilience of Lifelines in Rural and Regional Australia. We will report on the sector-informed development of a conceptual framework (new ways of thinking about lifelines in disasters) and the associated research agenda that aims to advance understanding of and engagement with the issue across sectors and disciplines.

Understanding how lifelines function and how they could function better in the context of a wide range of external and internal stressors is vital to strengthening the resilience of Australian society under climate change.



Lauren Rickards is Director of the La Trobe Climate Change Adaptation Lab at La Trobe University, which is investigating the impacts of climate change on different types of work, and the work needed to respond to climate change. Lauren's research investigates the social complexities of climate change impacts, risks and adaptation, especially in relation to regional and rural communities. She leads the Natural Hazards Research Australia project Understanding the resilience of lifelines for regional and remote communities project with Adriana Keating and Paul Ryan.

4.55 PM | WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Making the case for climate and disaster resilience investment

Melinda Morris, Climate-KIC Australia

As climate change intensifies, disaster impacts on the economy, nature and communities continue to rise. Investing now in resilience can avoid future losses, and it can also create value across economic, social, environmental and governance domains. Despite the growing recognition of the urgent need to build resilience to the impacts of climate change and disasters, there remains a substantial shortfall in funding for resilience solutions.

The Resilient Futures Investment Roundtable is a coalition of public, private, research and not-for-profit organisations working to address this gap by developing resources to improve decisions around when, where and how to invest in resilience. This includes developing guidance and case studies to support organisations to develop a strong business case for climate and disaster resilience investment.

The guidance helps organisations to consider what an increasingly systemic response to their climate and disaster risk looks like. It provides a framework for

capability building, moving along a spectrum from a single asset approach, to integrating co-benefits, to acknowledging interdependencies and interconnections, moving towards an integrated systemic approach that delivers higher value and systemic resilience outcomes. The guidance allows organisations to imagine and compare how their resilience investment strategy can operate at an increasingly systemic scale.

To encourage a systemic approach, the guidance is underpinned by AIDR principles for systemic disaster risk. It aims to help organisations put these principles into practice, working from where they are now to identify a pathway towards systemic disaster resilience investment. Drawing on examples from practice, it provides a framework to think about what organisations can do differently and where to look for resources. Ultimately, it also allows organisations to make the opportunities, challenges and trade-offs of their climate and disaster resilience investment visible, enabling informed decisions about when, where and how to invest in climate and disaster resilience.



Melinda Morris specialises in climate adaptation, resilience and disaster risk reduction. Her experience in knowledge brokering, systems thinking and strategy underpins her work to develop solutions for a better future that is more sustainable, inclusive and equitable. She applies co-design processes and collaboration practice to deliver large, multi-stakeholder projects that take place-based and systemic approaches to build resilience and adapt to climate change.

Presentations and panels – Day two

11.20 AM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Community-led recovery: what do we agree on, disagree on and how can we make it easier?

Dr Kate Brady, University of New South Wales / Australian Red Cross / University of Melbourne

Dr Colin Gallagher, University of Melbourne

Community-led approaches to recovery is one of the national disaster recovery principles, and underpins much of the existing recovery doctrine and plans in Australia. As disasters become more frequent and widespread around Australia, locally based, community-led recovery initiatives will become increasingly important.

Despite this, there is very little agreement what ‘community-led’ recovery is or what it should be, and the level of input vs responsibility community members should have in recovery. While there is broad consensus that it is an important element of sustainable recovery, concerns about representativeness, opaque decision-making processes and burden shifting to disaster affected people have also been identified as challenges.

These difficulties point to the nature of community-led recovery as a ‘wicked problem’: it is urgent yet lacks a clear definition and a stopping point; it is socially complex, with changing needs and pressures that are difficult to recognise or assess.

From 2021 to 2024, the University of Melbourne and the University of New South Wales have been partnering with a range of organisations and communities to undertake a multi-phase body of research looking at differing perspectives on community-led recovery. This has included a range of input from disaster affected community members, government organisations and recovery workers.

In this presentation, we will present new research findings, including:

- What different players in disaster recovery consider community-led recovery to be
- Identifying challenges in community-led recovery approaches and how they can be addressed
- Presenting new tools that are being developed to make place based, community-led recovery easier for disaster affected communities.



Dr Kate Brady has had a distinguished career in disaster recovery operations, programming and research. Kate is the Senior Research Fellow for the UNSW How We Survive initiative, is an Honorary Senior Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne and is the Technical Adviser to Australian Red Cross Emergency Services, where she established and led the disaster recovery program for 12 years.

Most of Kate’s work focuses on what people find helpful and unhelpful after disasters. Throughout her career, Kate has had significant influence on state and national emergency management policy and has an international profile in collective trauma, resilience and in disaster recovery programming and policy. Kate is a co-author on the Australian Disaster Recovery Framework, the Australian Community Recovery Handbook and was an advisor in the development of the National Disaster Mental Health Framework. In 2021, she became the host for ABC’s podcast ‘After the Disaster’.



Dr Colin Gallagher is a Senior Research Fellow in Social Networks with the Disaster, Climate and Adversity Unit at the University of Melbourne. His research interests lie in the role of social networks in disaster recovery processes, including mental health, community-led recovery, and services delivery. This work often involves the application of advanced methods in social network analysis, including the use of complex statistical models for social network data, to infer patterns and processes that reflect collaboration and social support processes. His work also includes a substantial knowledge translation component, including the development of data platforms for collecting, visualising and reporting social network data in an accessible, timely manner.

11.50 AM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Tomorrow Ready Project: a place-based, grassroots initiative building resilience for spontaneous volunteers and disaster recovery

Jenni Beetson-Mortimer, Northern Rivers Community Gateway

Fiona Batterham, Northern Rivers Community Gateway

Northern Rivers Community Gateway is a place-based, community organisation with nearly 50 years delivering welfare and community-capacity-building programs.

Place-based, community-capacity-building programs have derivative benefits when working with vulnerability and disadvantage at the local community level. Place based organisations have been front and centre, changing gears for effective disaster response management. Located in the CBD of Lismore, Community Gateway know first-hand the impacts of the floods. Drawing on our strengths in delivery of disaster recovery and emergency relief services, our expertise as a volunteer resource centre - Community Gateway is undertaking a pilot program, Tomorrow Ready.

Community consultation following the 2017 flood highlighted real risks in relation to the absence of a framework to manage the thousands of spontaneous volunteers who step up immediately after a disaster. Community Gateway worked with Australian Red Cross, NSW SES, council and the NSW RFS to develop a framework for the management of spontaneous volunteers. These same issues were amplified in the

disaster of 2022. DRRF funded Community Gateway to implement its framework and to trial a project that will build the capacity of spontaneous volunteers.

This presentation will showcase the Tomorrow Ready program, a grass roots initiative aimed at building long term disaster resilience; providing spontaneous volunteers leadership training, police checks, and skill-matching to volunteer involving organisations.

Tomorrow Ready volunteers will not replace traditional volunteering, nor do they replace emergency services volunteers in disaster management. The uniqueness of Tomorrow Ready is offering volunteers true flexibility and keeping spontaneous volunteers connected, engaged and trained for the next disaster, irrespective of whether that's one, two or five years away.

Tomorrow Ready volunteers will value-add by delivering an effective and safe model of spontaneous volunteering.

Liz Ellis, former Australian netballer, is ambassador for the program. This presentation will explore our vision for expanding Tomorrow Ready across NSW.



Jenni Beetson-Mortimer is a descendent of the Ngemba people, originally from Brewarrina in Western NSW, and now lives in the NSW North Coast. Jenni is CEO of the Northern Rivers Community Gateway. She holds a Master of Leadership from Deakin University, a Bachelor of Social Science degree. She's a graduate of Social Leadership Australia and has completed post graduate studies in public sector management. Jenni is chair of the NSW Financial Inclusion Network, a Board member of NCOSS, a Professional member of the Planning Institute of Australia, the Australian Human Resource Institute, and Institute of Managers and Leaders. Jenni spent 15 years working in state and federal government in management, audit and project management roles. Since 2000 she has been employed in leadership roles within the NGO sector as CEO, manager, planner and community development worker. Jenni has a strong commitment to social justice, financial inclusion, and grassroots community support that provides true integrated, wrap-around services to disadvantaged people.



Fiona Batterham has 20 years' experience in both the community and employment sectors. For the past 8 and a half years she has been employed by Northern Rivers Community Gateway. Recently working across the programs and business development functions. Fiona holds two post graduate qualifications from Griffith University, in social work and employment relations. Fiona regularly volunteers in her local community and finds true purpose in volunteering roles that match her values base.

12.20 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Place-based recovery for real – lessons from the Resilient Towns Initiative

David Sanderson, University of New South Wales, **Andrew Rae**, NSW Reconstruction Authority

Joanne Murrell, Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT

The Resilient Towns Initiative (RTI), funded by Regional NSW, operated in several locations in NSW between 2021 and 2024, supporting disaster recovery and preparedness measures that were identified, prioritised and enacted by community members. RTI worked with youth, communities, emergency services and local businesses in 7 towns, asking ‘how can we make our communities safer?’ Activities included around 50 workshops, meetings, youth events, training over 400 people in accredited courses, and providing small grants to invest in people’s priorities.

The project’s place-based approach was pivotal, relying on local knowledge of location and community dynamics. The approach was innovative in several ways. Working with Disaster Relief Australia, we used huge satellite maps (20mx15m), printed onto durable material, which communities walked on to identify and discuss risks and opportunities. We employed action planning, drawn from international development, a ‘bottom up’ approach that employs serendipity, opportunism,

focusing on community-driven starting points (people prioritise what’s important, not outsiders) rather than pre-prescribed ‘top down’ outcomes from outsiders. Our partnership was novel, between communities, universities, NGOs and state and local government.

An independent evaluation concluded that the project ‘has had a positive impact on communities, fostering collaboration, transforming mindsets and empowering individuals to work together towards a safer and more resilient future’. The project was extended by the donor to two new regions of NSW, and its approach has been adopted by NSW Reconstruction Authority. RTI was also shortlisted in 2023 for a national award.

This presentation will outline the project’s activities, the underlying theory of change, and present lessons from practical experiences that can be scaled up and replicated elsewhere. We will present what worked, what didn’t, and what we learnt. Our presentation will be clear, lively, informative and engaging.



David Sanderson has over 30 years’ experience working across the world in development and emergencies. He worked for 12 years in NGOs and consultancy in all regions before joining academia in 2006. Since then he has held full Professorships in the UK, Norway and Australia, and visiting professorships in Spain, France and the USA (Harvard University). David has sat on several boards including the Norwegian Refugee Council and the Humanitarian Innovations Fund. David is author of the 2019 ODI/ALNAP ‘Urban Humanitarian Response Good Practice Review’ and the 2020 ‘Using the Sphere Standards in urban settings. Part Two’ and was co-editor of the 2016 IFRC ‘World Disasters Report’ focusing on resilience. David holds a doctorate in urban development and disasters.



Andrew Rae is a dedicated disaster recovery professional with extensive experience since the Black Summer bushfires. As Recovery Coordinator for Snowy Valleys Council, Andrew played a pivotal role in supporting impacted communities, walking alongside them on their journey to recovery.

Andrew’s career spans multiple levels of government, showcasing his versatility and deep understanding of disaster management. His collaborative efforts have facilitated effective recovery strategies, ensuring that affected areas receive the support and resources they need. Currently, Andrew brings his expertise to the NSW Reconstruction Authority, where he focuses on Regional Delivery. In this role, he continues to drive recovery initiatives, helping to rebuild lives and communities with a focus on sustainability and preparedness for future challenges.



Joanne Murrell is the Anglicare Bushfire Recovery Program Manager and also coordinates recovery efforts for the Snowy Valleys LGA that was directly impacted by the Dunn’s road Bushfire of 2019-20. Her hometown of Batlow was directly impacted on Saturday 4 January 2020 and was labelled as ‘undefendable’ by authorities.

For the past 4 years Jo has gained valuable experience in disaster recovery and relief by assisting residents throughout their journey, also networking with multiple agencies and the ongoing management and reporting for the success of the Bushfire Recovery Program as well as advocating for ongoing funding of valuable services like Anglicare’s.

11.20AM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Disaster resilience is built for the community by the community

Anne Crestani, Resilient Villages

Karen Cody, ABCD Inc.

Catherine MacNamara, ABCD Inc.

Many communities across the country are doing their bit to share responsibility for their own disaster readiness. The current state of play sees community stubbornly remain on the periphery of formal emergency planning and disaster governance. In addition, the specialised role of place-based community organisations are largely unrecognised and under utilised. The Association of Bell, Clarence and Dargan (ABCD Inc), represents residents across 3 villages located in the Upper Blue Mountains of NSW, who came together following the devastation of the 2019-20 bushfires.

In the midst of recovering from this disaster, ABCD Inc have taken the lead in building their community’s disaster readiness. Resilient Villages works alongside ABCD Inc (and other groups) to support their resilience goals. The positive impact of this partnership demonstrates the value and effectiveness of communities working together at the grassroots level to strengthen their disaster readiness. The ongoing risk to community disaster capability remains with the current model of disaster governance in NSW. Systemic change is necessary to fully optimise and embed the long-term benefits of community led disaster resilience.



Anne Crestani has been working in the community sector for over 25 years. Over the last 10 + years she has been leading teams and projects that are focused on supporting people and communities impacted by disaster events. This includes the Step by Step disaster recovery support services (2013 and 2019/20), the Walk With disaster preparedness E-learning tool, and the Step by Step Wellbeing and Community Resilience Projects. Anne is currently the Project Lead for the Resilient Villages project and is a passionate advocate and supporter of community informed and community led resilience planning and action. Anne is a recipient of both the Resilient NSW award (2019) and the NSW Premiers Community Service Award (2021).



Karen Cody is the Vice President of ABCD Inc. and was instrumental in forming the association and ensuring it’s activities reflected the community’s expressed needs. She designed and led a program of activities to prepare her community for the next bushfire event, using knowledge gained through 20 years of experience in federal policy and program management and as a volunteer with the local bushfire brigade.

The program of activities conducted included home and property bushfire risk assessments for residents together with the identification of cost-effective solutions to address those risks; a video series communicating the learnings from the bushfire assessments; emergency community mapping; community SMS messaging tool; a community led Resilience Action Plan to address the area’s very real risk of future bushfires; and more recently out of necessity, advocating for institutional change to ensure community-led bushfire risk-reduction priorities are reflected in institutional planning, prioritising and hazard reduction activities.



Catherine MacNamara is a co-founder of ABCD Inc. which was formed following the Gospers Mountain Bushfire that devastated the area in 2019. She saw a need for a local association to advocate for the community, apply for bushfire grant funding for the community and to connect residents trying to rebuild and recover from the disaster. She was motivated to ensure that local services were better prepared to help residents during future emergencies and promoted a community-led approach to building resilience and mitigating the risk of future bushfires.

Catherine’s career of over 30 years working in education allowed her to bring skills in communication, organisation, event management, graphic design and publication to ABCD Inc. projects.

Catherine is part of the communications team, moderates the local Facebook groups, is one of the editors of the community newsletter “The Lyrebird Local” and leads a local Storytelling Project. Her interest in nature and the environment and being an avid bird watcher, makes her an important member of the ABCD Inc. Environment and Biodiversity group. She is excited about one of ABCD Inc.’s biggest projects nearing completion - a new community hall! Catherine is proudest of how ABCD Inc. has been instrumental in creating greater community connectedness in the three villages of Bell, Clarence and Dargan. advocating for institutional change to ensure community-led bushfire risk-reduction priorities are reflected in institutional planning, prioritising and hazard reduction activities.

11.50 AM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

PANEL

Learning and systems change for innovative community funding models

Briony Rogers (moderator), Fire to Flourish

Lindsey Goodman, Fire to Flourish

Kizzy Nye, Fire to Flourish

John Walters, Cobargo Community Development Corporation

Sam Henderson, Northern Rivers Community Foundation

As communities seek to increase their disaster resilience, ready access to funding that can resource self-determined and collective priorities is the holy grail. While funding is not the only enabler of community resilience, it is a critical capacity for communities to take meaningful action in reducing their disaster risk, preparing for disaster and recovering well when disaster strikes.

Yet, the lived experiences from communities across Australia reveal flaws in current funding models. For example, grant scheme parameters that do not align with community priorities, bureaucratic procedures creating barriers to access for many people, funding timeframes that do not reflect community need, and schemes that pit community groups against each other to compete for scarce resources. It is clear that transformative change is needed in how direct community funding is approached if we are to truly empower community-led resilience.

Led by Fire to Flourish and involving diverse community members who have been directly involved in designing and implementing recent trials of innovative models, this panel discussion will explore lessons learned from the new frontier of community disaster funding. This includes Fire to Flourish’s experimentation with participatory granting, Northern Rivers Community Foundations’ rapid disaster response experiences and Cobargo’s community owned funding mechanism.

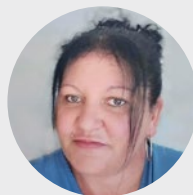
Through facilitated discussion, panellists will unpack what the models involve, how they were experienced by the community, how transparency and accountability was ensured, the benefits that were observed, and implementation challenges that were encountered. The panel will also explore the pathways for scaling community-led funding models, critically examining the system changes needed for communities everywhere to be able to readily access the resources they need to fund the priorities and projects they determine.



Briony Rogers
(Moderator)



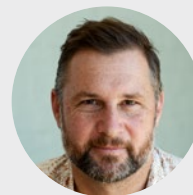
Lindsey Goodman



Kizzy Nye



John Walters



Sam Henderson

1.55 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Empowering communities: the role of Anglicare’s bushfire recovery program in effective rebuilding

Joanne Murrell, Liam McManus and Von Hutcheson, Anglicare NSW South, NSW West and ACT

Anglicare’s Bushfire Recovery Program offers valuable insights into the success of community-led recovery efforts. Originating from the lessons learned during Black Saturday, the program was initiated with a rebuilding advisory service to streamline the recovery process. Recognising the challenges of rebuilding in the aftermath of a disaster, Anglicare’s recovery program addresses the complex interplay of trauma, emphasising the need for comprehensive technical and social support. The program features rebuilding advisors and recovery coordinators working collaboratively to provide holistic assistance post-disaster.

The program’s impact has been significant, with a robust and sustained engagement from individuals seeking support in navigating planning applications, approvals, trade connections, and overall building management. Anglicare has framed our response in a caring trauma informed way and facilitated owner builder groups through informative ‘Deconstructing Construction’ events, empowering individuals to take charge of their rebuilding journey. This success story exemplifies an effective approach that recognises the inseparable connection between the social and technical aspects of rebuilding lives and homes.



Joanne Murrell is the Anglicare Bushfire Recovery Program Manager and also coordinates recovery efforts for the Snowy Valleys LGA that was directly impacted by the Dunn’s Road Bushfire of 2019-20. Her hometown of Batlow was directly impacted on Saturday 4 January 2020 and was labelled as ‘undefendable’ by authorities.

For the past 4 years Jo has gained valuable experience in disaster recovery and relief by assisting residents throughout their journey, also networking with multiple agencies and the ongoing management and reporting for the success of the Bushfire Recovery Program, as well as advocating for ongoing funding of valuable services like Anglicare’s. Joanne has a strong focus on preparedness, mental health and keeping community connected. She also enjoys a healthy lifestyle and long-distance running, and lives in Batlow with her husband.



Liam McManus is a carpenter with expertise in construction, project management and training. He holds a degree in Environmental Studies (UNSW) and has a keen interest in sustainability in the built environment. He has experience working in remote areas and sharing cross-cultural knowledge and communication. For the past 2 and a half years he has been employed by Anglicare as a Bushfire Rebuilding Advisor supporting people as they rebuild after the Black Summer bushfires.



Von Hutcheson is the Anglicare Bushfire Recovery Coordinator for the Eurobodalla and Bega Valley shires, dedicated to supporting bushfire-impacted individuals and community groups on their ongoing recovery journey. With over 4 years of professional experience in disaster recovery and a background in community engagement, she possesses a deep understanding of the complex issues that residents affected by bushfires continue to face. Von is adept at helping people access available support services and providing assistance where emerging needs are present.

In her work with individuals and community groups, Von fosters community connection and supports capacity building not only in the recovery but also in the preparedness space. As a long-term volunteer for community-driven events in the Eurobodalla region, her passion for her local community and the beautiful South Coast shines through in all her endeavours.

Von enjoys living on the NSW South Coast in Dalmeny with her husband, two teenagers, and their dog. Her commitment to helping others and improving her community underscores her work, making her a valuable resource and advocate for those still navigating the challenges of bushfire recovery.

2.25 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

PANEL

Placemaking as a catalyst for building resilience—using arts, culture and creative practices to co-design new social and spatial infrastructure for high-risk communities

Nikhila Madabhushi (Moderator), Professor Mel Dodd, Roxanne Smith, Cara MacLeod, Pamela Denise, Monash University

This panel brings together creative practitioners, Aboriginal leaders and researchers to share insights from their ongoing placemaking collaboration in the Clarence Valley in NSW.

‘Place’ is an unequivocal aspect of people’s experiences of disaster. From phenomena such as topophilia marking people’s love of place, and solastalgia capturing one’s sorrow of its destruction, processes that shine a light on rehabilitating places to build resilience and prepare for disasters are critical. These highly sensory and environmental experiences of disaster strongly relate to Aboriginal perspectives on caring for Country, and offer a decolonised view of space as inherently linked to time; a process, not only an outcome. Such ways of thinking about place supports and accelerates the movement towards place-based programs, and community-led processes.

The panel will begin with a short film capturing recent work in the Clarence Valley. Following this, panellists will discuss how their communities have come together to generate rich ideas for new or upgraded spaces, places and concurrent services that work in concert across multiple modes; for everyday social resilience as well as during emergencies. Doing so reveals that place-making is a relational process that uses participatory principles in place-based settings. It aims to support community resilience planning through a socially engaged process of co-creation of ideas for places, as well as through built and infrastructural outcomes generated from that process. The panel will explore how placemaking enhances resilience and how this project captures and communicates evidence of this approach.



Nikhila Madabhushi
(Moderator)



Professor Mel Dodd



Roxanne Smith



Cara MacLeod



Pamela Denise

1.55 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Home insurance affordability: drivers and policy solutions

Calise Liu, Sinead Keane, Saroop Philip, Finity Consulting

Home insurance is an important component of financial resilience following a natural disaster. In the context of disasters, home insurance provides the means to start the process of rebuild. However, rates of non-insurance and under-insurance, particularly in disadvantaged communities, is significant and growing. A key driver of this is increasing insurance affordability pressure, particularly in areas of high natural hazards risk, as insurers respond to more frequent and severe extreme weather events over recent years by increasing insurance premiums.

Insurance affordability is a focus area for many stakeholders, including regulators and governments. In 2022, the government-backed Cyclone Reinsurance Pool was established in order to improve the accessibility and affordability of insurance for households and small businesses in cyclone-prone areas. In November 2023, the NSW Government announced the removal of the Emergency Services Levy from insurance premiums. While these actions are significant steps, home insurance affordability remains a critical challenge, which is likely to be exacerbated by climate change.

The Actuaries Institute has developed an Australian Actuaries Home Insurance Affordability (AAHIA) Index to quantify home insurance affordability stress across Australia. We found that in 2023, 12% of Australians would need to pay more than 4 weeks of their household income on their home insurance premium. These communities tended to be disadvantaged households concentrated in areas with high exposure to flood risks.

We will also discuss the effectiveness of existing land use and planning regulations, which form an important part of the solution to improving home insurance affordability and disaster resilience. We do a systematic analysis of new properties in Australia over the past decade, the change in exposure in areas exposed to significant natural perils risk, and any interaction of these areas of high development with those households under insurance affordability stress.



Calise Liu is a qualified actuary specialising in general insurance and climate risk. She was a co-author of the Green Papers on Home Insurance Affordability, published by the Actuaries Institute in August 2022 and August 2023.

Calise directly supports a number of Appointed Actuaries, providing insight into the performance of a range of private and government insurance schemes. This includes modelling of property costs resulting from both working losses and from catastrophes, and the treatment of reinsurance cover in these events. She also conducts insurance liability valuations for motor, business liability, workers' compensation and CTP lines of business. Calise regularly prepares actuarial valuation reports and has supported a number of pricing projects.



Sinead Keane is a qualified actuary and a senior consultant in the perils and climate team. She is experienced in catastrophe and capital modelling and leads the maintenance and updates of Finity's proprietary suite of climate models. She has led the development of the model governance framework for the Finity climate and perils practice.

Prior to joining Finity, Sinead was the Group Capital Modelling Manager at QBE Group. In this role, Sinead led a team of analysts in the development and calibration of the Group Economic Capital Model.

Sinead is an active volunteer of the Actuaries Institute, including acting as the liaison between the Climate and Sustainability Working Group (CSWG) and the General Insurance Practice Committee (GIPC).



Saroop Philip is a qualified actuary and specialises in natural perils pricing and insurance affordability. He co-authored two reports on Home Insurance Affordability published by the Actuaries Institute in August 2022 and August 2023, and was involved in the Institute's 2020 paper on Property Insurance Affordability. These reports explore the socioeconomic impacts of climate change and the related affordability stress experienced by communities across Australia.

Saroop is also passionate about public policy and the role that actuaries can have in it. He is a member of the Actuaries Institute's Public Policy Council Committee, which is responsible for developing and ensuring expert commentary on issues where there is uncertainty over future financial outcomes.

2.25 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

PANEL

Resilience Ratings – practical adaptation technology delivering positive systems impact

Sharanjit Paddam, Finity Consulting

Kate Cotter, Resilient Building Council

Alix Pearce, Insurance Council of Australia

Vanessa Beenders, Actuaries Institute of Australia

Jennifer Cobley, NRMA Insurance

Jessica Forrest, NAB

The Resilience Ratings program has delivered innovative new technology that is enabling markets to recognise and reward effective risk mitigation action, disrupting the disaster cycle to reduce suffering and market failure risks such as access and affordability to insurance and finance.

The Ratings provide households with a customised action plan, specific to the vulnerability of their individual property and local risk, empowering them to make effective, data-informed decisions.

With over 1,000 users per week across 274 LGAs completing the Bushfire Resilience Rating home assessment, households are reducing the risk of their homes igniting in a bushfire by an average of 67%. This is the first time rapid, measurable resilience action is happening at scale – anywhere in the world.

The rapid adoption of the Resilience Ratings self-assessment app demonstrates how motivated people are to reduce risk to their lives, homes, livelihoods and communities. Empowering people, one-by-one, is changing our national story from vulnerable to resilient.

The Resilience Ratings system is the first program in the world to produce a whole of mortgage resilience discount (from NAB), with other banks following. Insurers are currently developing products to support the Multi-hazard Resilience Ratings program.

Providing transparent, clearly communicated residual risk information supports risk reduction action at every decision point; planning, development, repair/restoration, re-building, maintenance, insurance, finance and property sale/lease - to inform and enable action by all sectors.

Kate Cotter, CEO and founder of Resilient Building Council, will lead a panel that will discuss the systems change that is enabling resilience investment through the Resilient Ratings program, including multi-hazard case studies, insurance and mortgage discounts, novel research modelling resilience carbon abatement generated through resilience retrofitting, and their collaboration to activate global capital towards Australian disaster risk reduction.



Sharanjit Paddam



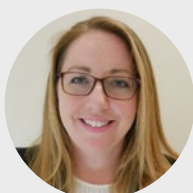
Kate Cotter



Alix Pearce



Vanessa Beenders



Jennifer Cobley



Jessica Forrest

3.30 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

CLOSING PANEL

Lived experience – reflecting and celebrating**Moderator: Jeremy Fernandez**, Journalist, TV Producer, News Anchor and MC

As emergency responders, we attend without hesitation life threatening emergencies, utilising our training, our skills, our knowledge, and in many cases, risking our lives to save the lives of others. We do it without hesitation, or seeking thanks, because it is what we do. Be that helping our community, the environment or reducing risk through mitigation activities, it all relies on our commitment, dedication and service. While we may be part of different organisations, or wearing different uniforms, the principles are the same – we are here to help others.

With concurrent disaster events, followed by community recovery and reviews, there is rarely time to stop, reflect and celebrate. Creating the opportunity for all emergency

service personnel to reflect on the positive actions and roles is a powerful mindset; and one that reaffirms our community worth and inspires us to lean forward.

This session is a journey of reflection through the personal accounts from emergency services and the members of the community that they have helped. This session will highlight the extraordinary work that our people do, their skills and commitment to duty.



Jeremy Fernandez loves people. He loves talking to people, finding out about their lives and getting insights into their minds. An accomplished journalist, TV producer and news anchor, he's interviewed world leaders about major events as well as every day heroes who have been impacted by the world around them.

Equally as comfortable on stage as he is in front of the camera, Jeremy Fernandez is a seriously professional MC, presenter, judge and facilitator. His talents have been showcased over a long list of engagements which include the 2014 NSW state reception for the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge; the 2015 and 2016 Australian of the Year Awards; The media launch for the City of Sydney's 2016 New Year's Eve fireworks; the 2014 & 2015 NSW Premier's Spelling Bee; and the 2015 NSW Premier's Multicultural Media Awards.

3.30 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

Future proofing Australia's resilience

Duncan Sheppard, Insurance Council of Australia

Australia is on the frontline of climate change impacts, with more severe bushfires, cyclones that are projected to intensify and possibly track further southwards, and an increase in rainfall intensity and associated flooding. These extreme weather events pose growing risks to our homes and businesses, and in high-risk areas, can make insurance increasingly unaffordable.

New research by the Centre for International Economics (CIE), commissioned by the Insurance Council of Australia has found Australian homeowners are losing about \$4 billion each year due to extreme weather events such as bushfires, cyclones and floods, highlighting the need for greater action to future proof Australia's resilience in the face of worsening weather.

The CIE analysis also found that strengthening the National Construction Code could reduce the current average annual building related costs estimated to be around \$2 billion per year for cyclones, \$1.475 billion per year for floods and \$486 million per year for bushfires.

These costs include rebuilding or repairing buildings damaged from extreme weather events, the cost of replacing and repairing home and contents, and disruption costs including temporary accommodation and impacts on employment. The costs are also projected to double by 2050, as bushfires, cyclones and floods become more severe and/or frequent in a changing climate.

To address this challenge, the Insurance Council of Australia is advocating for a strengthening of the National Construction Code to require that new homes are made more resilient to the impacts of bushfires, cyclones and floods.

Future Proofing Australia's Resilience will unpack this new research to make the case for a strong National Construction Code, and the benefits of broadening and expanding its scope to include building resilience.

The presentation will also discuss the need to avoid building new homes in vulnerable areas, including high-risk parts of the floodplain.



Duncan Sheppard is an experienced advocacy, communications and government relations professional with extensive experience in both the public and private sectors. His current role is Senior Advisor, Resilience at the Insurance Council of Australia. Prior to this he was Senior Policy and Communications Advisor at the Civil Contractors Federation, and has also held senior advocacy roles with the Australasian Railways Association and the Australian Logistics Council. His government background spans both federal and local governments. In the role of Senior Advisor, Resilience, Duncan drives the ICA's advocacy agenda for improved resilience in the built environment, with a focus on improving Australia's building codes and standards, investing in household and large-scale resilience measures and improved land-use planning arrangements - ultimately helping to maintain an insurable Australia. The Insurance Council of Australia is the representative body of the general insurance industry in Australia, with its members representing approximately 95 per cent of total premium income written by private sector general insurers.

4.00 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

PANEL

Driving systemic change in land use planning policy - the Queensland Resilience Policy Maturity Framework for Land Use Planning

Stephen Dredge, Meridan Urban

Anna Nottingham, QLD Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works

Queensland has entered its second decade of significant natural hazard events. Land use planning is becoming ever more important in creating safer and more resilient settlements that can sustainability promote social and economic prosperity.

Recognising this, the Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works (DHLGPPW) highlighted disaster resilience as a core innovation in the recently completed update to ShapingSEQ, the South East Queensland Regional Plan.

ShapingSEQ now includes the policy and implementation scaffolding to implement higher order resilience and risk reduction policy imperatives through regional land use planning – from the global Sendai Framework, the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework, and Queensland’s own Strategy for Disaster Resilience.

Utilising the CSIRO Q-RAPTA framework developed for the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, it provides the policy mechanism to help ensure SEQ’s housing and growth needs are well-located over time, helping to minimise risk-related insurability and financing issues for communities, and the repeated ongoing financial

obligation of government for disaster recovery and reconstruction. Key elements include:

- Potential future growth areas (PFGAs) needing to achieve an acceptable level of risk
- The concept of ‘no-go’ development areas – areas at intolerable risk that are incompatible with urban use or built form and should not be identified for development
- Integrating risk-based planning investigations and benchmarks into strategic planning, zoning and development decisions
- Supporting settlement-scale mitigation and adaptation planning envisaged by other processes like flood risk management or coastal adaptation
- A structured implementation framework for making sustained land use policy and practice change over time.

This is an innovative model for other regions around Australia to make the methodical and planned step-changes to land use policy and settlement pattern required by our state and national resilience and adaptation policy documents.



Stephen Dredge is the Director of Australian-based land use planning, resilience and adaptation firm Meridan Urban. He is a trusted advisor to all levels of government and communities across Australia in risk-based land use planning, resilient urban growth management, disaster risk reduction, and adaptation.

He has designed and delivered multi-year and multi-million dollar planning programs that have influenced for the better where and how our settlements develop, and has created, led or supported multiple significant risk-based land use planning policy programs undertaken in Australia since 2011.

He has developed and implemented disaster risk reduction, resilience and climate adaptation policy in the built and socio-economic environments at regional and local scales across Australia. He provides trusted advisory, thought leadership and technical support for specific settlements, broader governance reviews and strategic policy or regulatory system changes.



Anna Nottingham is the Director of the ShapingSEQ Delivery Office in the Queensland Government’s Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works. She is an urban and regional planner with 16 years of experience across a broad range of strategic planning, urban policy and statutory planning roles.

Anna is a strategic thinker and problem solver, leading innovative policy initiatives that address some of the most exciting opportunities, and challenging issues, facing our communities.

In her current role, Anna is responsible for overseeing the implementation of ShapingSEQ 2023 – the Queensland Government’s long-term vision for growth in South East Queensland to 2046. This means sustainably accommodating a growing population with well-designed communities supported by infrastructure, while creating a growth pattern that is resilient and able to cope with future natural hazard events.

3.30 PM | THURSDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

100 years of community resilience in Australia: lessons from Australian Red Cross

Andrew Coghlan, Australian Red Cross

This session will enable attendees to gain an understanding of community resilience, and what drives and supports resilience before, during and after emergencies and disasters.

Australian Red Cross is a leader in community resilience with more than 100 years' embedded in local communities, including providing support during and after times of crisis. In recent years our comprehensive, award-winning programs, underpinned by international and national research, evidence, and best practice, have assisted individuals, households and communities right across Australia to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies. Our experience and knowledge is unparalleled.

Red Cross has worked with and supported communities in drought, bushfire, flood, cyclones, storms, earthquakes, industrial and transport accidents, mass trauma and a wide range of other emergencies and disasters. From our work with individuals, families and community groups on the ground, and through evaluation of our work, we have gained significant insight into what drives and supports community resilience.

Red Cross also works closely with research institutions to identify what drives resilience, and to develop policies and programs that enable communities to build their resilience and provide support when it is needed.

In addition, we collaborate with other Red Cross organisations and the International Federation of Red Cross to incorporate community resilience experience, insights and evidence from across the world.

Drawing on this significant experience, Red Cross will share their experiences of working with communities, research and data on community resilience to explore with attendees:

- What works to help communities be prepared for emergencies?
- Why are some communities more resilient than others?
- How are communities coping with compounding and cascading disasters?
- What's needed to build community resilience into the future with climate change?

Attendees will gain a deep understanding of the drivers of resilience before, during and after emergencies and disasters.



Andrew Coghlan brings extensive experience in the emergency management sector. His current role is as Head of Emergency Services Strategy with Australian Red Cross. Prior to joining Red Cross, Andrew was the National Recovery Consultant with Emergency Management Australia, providing advice to both state and federal governments following a range of emergencies and playing a key role in coordinating recovery assistance to Australians impacted by events such as the Boxing Day 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami.

Andrew's career highlights include the refresh and growth of Red Cross role in emergency management in Australia, including psychosocial focus in prevention, response and recovery; development of Red Cross' Emergency REDiPlan project, a four step household preparation program aimed at fostering individual and community resilience throughout Australia; coordinating the Red Cross response to a range of major emergencies and disasters, including Cyclone Larry (2006), the Black Saturday Victorian Bushfires (2009) and Queensland Floods and Cyclone Yasi (2011) and the 2019-20 bushfires; development of Red Cross leadership role in long term, community based recovery; contributing to establishment of the Australian Business Roundtable for Disaster Resilience and the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience.

Andrew has also contributed to the establishment and management of public appeals in the aftermath of multiple disasters, including 2009 Black Saturday Bushfires, 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires, 2022 floods, Tasmanian bushfires, the Bourke Street tragedy, and the Dreamworld tragedy.

Posters and voting

AIDR Knowledge Centre poster voting

Vote for your favourite poster in the AIDR Knowledge Centre. Enter the number of the poster you like best using the AFAC24 Conference App.

How to vote:

Open the **AFAC24 Conference App**. Select the **'Poster Vote'** icon and choose the poster you'd like to vote for, then click **'Submit'**.

① Voting closes at the conclusion of the lunch break on Thursday 5 September. Poster winners are announced at the closing ceremony.

Posters in the Knowledge Centre have been aligned to the 4 priorities of the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework and its Second National Action Plan to demonstrate how they contribute to reducing disaster risk:

1. Understand disaster risk
2. Enhanced investment
3. Accountable decisions
4. Governance, ownership and responsibility

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
100	Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition Australia Strategy	Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition Australia	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
105	Tackling heat vulnerability with local solutions: Piloting Heat Interventions in Western Australia	Ms Carole Green Mr Jacob West	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
106	Enhancing Disaster Resilience: awareness and preparedness for NSW Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities	Ms Jacqueline Sergeant	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
107	Safety in the Game: Sport as an effective channel of communication within all communities!	Mr Elijah Chan	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
108	The importance of place-based community organisations in disasters: Reflections from 'The Wellbeing Project'	Mr Rajesh Bhusal Ms. Angela Van Dyke Ms. Margaret Tipper Ms Christina Klassen Ms Niki Baroy	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
109	Providing Vulnerable Groups with Equal Access to Early Warnings in Australia: A Basic Human Right	Dr Anuradha Madugalla	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
110	Connecting the dots - shifting from self-looping policy networks to genuine pathways for collective action.	Ms Tammey McAllan	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
111	Building local government and community resilience by managing systemic bushfire risk in Western Australia	Dr Chris Dunne	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
112	Out of the ashes	Ms Kooryn Sheaves Dr Terry Kirkpatrick Mr Jochen Spencer	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
113	A tool to enhance Aboriginal community recovery that centres culture, healing, and wellbeing.	Ms Brodie Werner	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
114	Non-Indigenous peoples' representations of Indigenous Cultural Fire Management	Gabrielle Miller Dr Andrea Rawluk Dr Rebecca Ford	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
115	The Whisper Networks Uncovering Community Lifelines in Environmental Disasters	Susan Atkinson	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
116	How can collaboration theory help us work better together in recovery	Louise Mitchell	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
117	Understanding conflict in disaster recovery collaborations	Danielle O'Hara	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
118	Verbatim Theatre for Recovery and the power of storytelling	Mr Luke Barbagallo	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
119	Post Disaster Temporary Housing Literature Review: Insights and Recommendations	Catherine Gearing - National Consultant Disaster Recovery	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
120	Irrigated Green Firebreaks Complement Wildfire Management in the Wildland Urban Interface	Jady Smith	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
121	Design Principles for Nature-Based Alternative-water Treatment Landscapes	Anna Durkin	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
122	Disability inclusion and disasters	AIDR	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
123	Impact of disasters on vulnerable populations	Ms Ruby Soin Ms Rosie Hill	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
124	Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DIDRR) project	Ms Sue Ford A/Prof Michelle Villeneuve	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
125	Our World Our Say	AIDR	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
126	Telecare to support children's recovery following natural disaster.	Ms Tayla Iellamo A/prof Michael Curtin	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
127	From Textbook to Practice: Applying the Five Essential Elements of Disaster Recovery	Dr Tracey Parnell A/prof Michael Curtin Ms Sarah Eagland	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
128	Co-designing a Community Health and Wellbeing Survey following the 2019-20 bushfires	Dr. Revathi N. Krishna	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
129	Mothers and babies in disasters. We can do better	Elena Skoko	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
130	Towards Resilient Urban Childhoods Developing a Future-focused Framework	Yunjin Winty Wang	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
131	'Resilience is Disaster Resilience and Vice Versa': Systemic Disaster Risk Reduction For Children and Families	Dr Andrea Baldwin	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
132	Flipping the script: Young people mobilise adults to increase youth participation in disaster risk reduction	Dr Timothy Heffernan	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
133	Children's voices are key to rebuilding trust and a more climate resilient future	Ms Freya Conomos Ms Sarah Eagland Rebecca Smith	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
134	Education for Young People	AIDR	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
135	Elevating youth voices and participation in disaster recovery program design	Ms Sophie Boyle, BA, MPubPol	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
136	Independent risk modelling to support community-led bushfire management	Mr Andrew Sturgess	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
137	Modelling Pine Needle Surface Fires A Comparative Analysis of up Slope Effects using a physics-based model	Mohamed Sharaf	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
138	Commercialisation is not a dirty word!	Mr Andrew Sbrizzi	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
127	From Textbook to Practice: Applying the Five Essential Elements of Disaster Recovery	Dr Tracey Parnell A/prof Michael Curtin Ms Sarah Eagland	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
138	Commercialisation is not a dirty word!	Mr Andrew Sbrizzi	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
139	Evidence, learning and health within an emergency service agency: CFA Health Services	Dr Chloe Begg	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
140	Review of the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection	AIDR	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
141	CFA's mental health literacy programs: Changing the conversation by moving beyond awareness to action through storytelling	Ms Cara McIntyre	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
142	Safeguarding wellbeing: Supporting allied health professionals involved in disaster recovery programs	Dr Tracey Parnell Ms Jessica Shonk A/prof Michael Curtin	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
143	Implementation of a resilience program in complex and diverse emergency service organisations: NSW SES experience	Mr Sam Robinson	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
144	Enhancing Mental Health in NSW Department of Primary Industries' Emergency Response Team	Dr Leigh Pilkington Dr Steve Eastwood Mr David Gorman	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
145	Online Psychological Intervention for Insomnia, Nightmares and PTSD in Bushfire Survivors: A Pilot Study	Ms Fadia Isaac	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
146	Australia Rotary: Emergency Services Community Awards	AFAC	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
147	Forging Resilience: The Networked Governance Approach in Western Hospital and Health Disaster Management	Mr Bob Khalsa Mr Peter McNamee Mr Cameron Tanner	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
148	iFire: Combining AI and Immersive Visualisation to Enhance Fire Training Sensemaking	Dr Carlos Tirado	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
149	Creating National Standards for Swiftwater and Floodwater Rescue, with focus on training and seamless capability	Mr Matthew Roser	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
150	Enhancing Flood Response	Mr Ashley Sullivan Mr Aapo Skorulis	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
151	Enhancing Rural Emergency Response: The Implementation of the Sandpiper Mass Casualty Bag by South West Hospital and Health Service	Mr Bob Khalsa	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
152	Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection	AIDR	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
153	Volunteer Assignment and Transportation Planning for Aged Care Centre Evacuations during Natural Disasters: Mathematical Modelling	Mr Seyed Mohammad Khalili	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
154	Strengthening Response Capacity: Building NSW Department of Primary Industries' Emergency Response Team	Dr Leigh Pilkington Ms Jackie Barker Mr Aaron McGifford Mr David Gorman	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
155	Spark Operational	AFAC	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
156	Achieving resilience in planning and delivering transport infrastructure in South East Asia	Liesl Keam	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
157	A Review of Australia's Emergency Management Policy	Mr Brad Slater MEmergMgt	4. Governance, ownership and responsibility
159	Small Grants=Big Impacts	Ms Nina O'Brien	3. Accountable decisions
160	A Collaborative Approach to Modernizing Canada's Disaster Financial Assistance	Ms. Carly Benson	3. Accountable decisions
161	An ecosystem services economy can build a Forever Economy with and for Martuwarra Living Waters	Oscar Metcalfe	3. Accountable decisions
162	What we learned about community connection through resilience investment	Ms Ayla Hope BHLthSci, GCSI	3. Accountable decisions
163	Disaster Resilient Future Ready Burnett Inland	Ms Nina O'Brien	3. Accountable decisions
164	The Disaster Ready Fund as a driver for community preparedness	Annie Robinson Annabell Shaw Rebecca Taylor	3. Accountable decisions
165	Risking it all through innovation	Ms Meena Patel	3. Accountable decisions
167	Optimising Emergency Response: A Data-Driven Approach to Fire Station Placement	Mr Russell Molaei	2. Enhanced investment

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
168	Digital solutions providing innovative maintenance and repair optimization	Dr Maren Wernicke	2. Enhanced investment
169	Australian Journal of Emergency Management	AIDR	2. Enhanced investment
170	Surf Life Saving NSW's journey of deploying learning to volunteer members through Canvas	Mr Andrew Chan Mr Paul Hardy	2. Enhanced investment
171	National Aerial Firefighting Centre	AFAC	2. Enhanced investment
172	New-age field ops: Navigating emergencies with real-time situational awareness	Mr Brandon Wilkinson	2. Enhanced investment
173	Bushfire simulation in the cloud - Increasing operational intelligence and organisational value	Mr Simon Webster	2. Enhanced investment
174	National Coordination Mechanism - creating shared situational awareness for complex and novel crises	Rachel Montgomery Ms Kimberley Wilson Mr Joe Buffone Ms Caitlin Bell	2. Enhanced investment
175	Pivot from pandemic to across government public information training program	Ms Cassandra Curtis Ms Alison Martin	2. Enhanced investment
176	Firefighting Capacity Mapping	Mr Matthew Cox Murray Mackne	2. Enhanced investment
177	Resilient and Collaborative Mitigation: Advancing Strategic Bushfire Management on Defence Land	Ms Jemma Dutton Mr Daniel Foot-Connolly	2. Enhanced investment
179	AFAC Data Governance	AFAC	2. Enhanced investment
180	Cell on Wheels Gen2 and VaaN: Innovation and technology systems maximising response capability and efficiency	Ms Monika Stedman	2. Enhanced investment
181	Developing Trainers: Building a Skilled and Agile Workforce for the Future	Mr Jaime Benjamin	2. Enhanced investment
182	Empowering Operational Efficiency: Member Capability Reporting Tool & Unit Classifications for NSW SES	Ms Sara Morgan Ms Suzanne Kennedy	2. Enhanced investment
183	Rapid Response: A Lightspeed Approach to Bushfire Risk Planning	Dr Simon Heemstra Mr Thomas Hart Melissa O'Halloran	2. Enhanced investment
184	From Crisis to Collaboration: NSW DPI's Two-Decade Odyssey in Emergency Response	Dr Leigh Pilkington Dr Steve Eastwood Ms Joanne Loughlin	2. Enhanced investment
185	Technologies Creating a Safer & Smarter Future in Firefighting	Dr James Mullins	2. Enhanced investment
186	Capability planning: FRV's risk-based approach to service demand planning	Ms Tyler Olney	2. Enhanced investment
187	Drill Night Live - Learning together	Mr Adam Richards	2. Enhanced investment
189	Department of Fire and Emergency Services Volunteer Sustainability Strategy 2023-2026 'A Vital Future'	Dr Catharine Phillips	2. Enhanced investment
190	Transition in modernisation - Ensuring the focus on tomorrow does not impact today through a connected, informed, modern system	Mr Richard Ward	2. Enhanced investment
191	Supporting our employee-led-networks to thrive	Ms Naomi Peacock	2. Enhanced investment
192	Breathing easy tackling the toxic exposure threats to wildland firefighters	Kiam Padamsey	2. Enhanced investment
193	Empowering Australian communities on their resilience journey with the Energy Ready Toolkit	Dr Caroline Valente Dr Sarah Niklas	2. Enhanced investment
194	Burning Down the House: A disruptive approach to fuelling fire safety	Ms Anna Gordon Mr Chris Kennedy	2. Enhanced investment
195	The Country Fire Authority's Journey to Emission-free Capability in Road Crash Rescue Vehicles	Mr Rick Owen AFSM	2. Enhanced investment
196	What about my animals?	Mr David King	2. Enhanced investment
197	Embarking on a Canine Water Search Capability – VRA Rescue NSW Search Dogs	Ms Sue Pritchard CF	2. Enhanced investment

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
198	Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub	AIDR	2. Enhanced investment
199	Aquatic Medical/Emergency Response Training in Haikou, China – a collaborative approach	Mr Andrew Chan Mr Chris O’Rorke	2. Enhanced investment
200	Harnessing Technology to Build Legal Resilience	Melanie Saunders Tom O’Doherty Emily Malone	2. Enhanced investment
201	Data-Driven Decision-Making in Mining Emergency Response: A Critical Review	Mr Andrew White	2. Enhanced investment
202	Using a Power BI App to improve capability decisions across CFA	Ms Anne Colling	2. Enhanced investment
203	Challenges of Remote Area Firefighting - Adaptable Strategies and Constructive Capabilities	Mr Chad Bergersen	2. Enhanced investment
204	National, State and Agency opportunities from combining AI with other new capabilities for emergency management	Mr Jerome Thevenon Dr Jon Morris Ms Galen White	2. Enhanced investment
205	Emergency Management Community of Practice - Driving improvement through collaboration	Mr Andrew Stanbury	2. Enhanced investment
206	Developing Our Values Together: Embedding Core Values in Fire Rescue Victoria Post-Reform	Ms Gemma Patford	2. Enhanced investment
207	Building diverse and inclusive teams through a unified leadership development approach	Ms Delwyn Neill	2. Enhanced investment
208	Contemporary Leadership for a Contemporary Workforce	Mr Dean Tucker	2. Enhanced investment
209	Exploring the role of Emotional Intelligence	Syed Adeel Akhtar	2. Enhanced investment
210	Fires, floods and plagues: Bringing together infectious disease and emergency management stakeholders	Dr Claire Leppold	2. Enhanced investment
211	Fostering diversity and resilience: The Australasian Women in Emergencies Network	Ms Bridget Tehan Ms Amanda Lamont Ms Helen Giggins	2. Enhanced investment
212	Can transformational leadership enhance hospitals and staff resilience in disasters	Heba Mohtady Ali	2. Enhanced investment
213	The future Emergency Manager - designing and implementing a future model for the sector	Mr Russell DIPPY CSTJ LEM CEM TQC FACEM CESM	2. Enhanced investment
214	How networked leadership can drive collaboration, resilience, new ideas and solutions for future disasters	Mr Matt Linnegar	2. Enhanced investment
215	Amplifying Community Voices: A Place-Based Disaster Resilience Approach	Liz Mackinlay Ms Naomi Toole	2. Enhanced investment
216	Connect-Learn-Change: Building Resilience through community voices, stories and knowledge – The DisasterWISE Communities Network	Ms Alison Stone Mrs Sabrina Davis Mr Scott Lamshed Kate Fawcett	2. Enhanced investment
217	Youth in Emergencies Development Program	Ms Ness Wiebford	2. Enhanced investment
218	On The Edge of Transformation Transforming Disaster Resilience Education in Schools	Belinda Davis	2. Enhanced investment
219	Understanding multicultural communities in Australia - challenges and opportunities for inclusive resilience building for disasters	Dr Lai Heng Foong Mr Len Morris	2. Enhanced investment
220	Barriers to Parent Engagement in Pro-Environmental Behaviour	Mrs Laura Burman	2. Enhanced investment
221	Mitigating Fire Risk For Ageing And Disability Population in our Communities	Mr Paul Dorin Mrs Kate Faith Mr Andrew Walker	2. Enhanced investment
222	From Vulnerability to Strength: Reimagining Emergency Planning for People with Disabilities through Person-Centred Approaches	Mrs Angela Cook Mrs Fyowna Norton	2. Enhanced investment
223	Strengthening Australia's Emergency Preparedness to consider and include the Deaf and Hard of hearing community	Ms Debbie Celenza	2. Enhanced investment
224	Auslan Emergency	Ms Debbie Celenza	2. Enhanced investment

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
225	Australian Emergency Management Library	AIDR	2. Enhanced investment
226	Heritage & Disasters - Advancing Collaboration	Ms Johanna Garnett (DPublicSafety C, MEmergMgt, GradCTerrorism, BA Hon)	2. Enhanced investment
227	Organising for resilience and justice in the face of disasters	Mr Amir Hossein Pakizeh Naderpajouh Nader Peyman Habibi Moshfegh	2. Enhanced investment
228	Horses, Pets, Livestock and Landholders - a collaborative animal centred approach to preparedness in the Hunter Region	Ms Heidi Chappelow Mr Robert Henderson Professor Temitope Egbelakin	2. Enhanced investment
229	Building Community Partnerships and Connections with a Big Map	Ms Shari Bent	2. Enhanced investment
230	Ways of Working. The Cultural Fire Program at the Bushfire Centre of Excellence	Ms Bec Pianta	2. Enhanced investment
231	NRMA Lifeline Support Toolkit	Michael Lupi Sophia Davison Dr Ally Nicolopoulos Summer Land	2. Enhanced investment
232	Navigating the Flames: Understanding the Complex Interplay of Factors Influencing Householders' Self-Evacuation Decision	Dr Olufisayo Adedokun	2. Enhanced investment
233	Homeowners do not maintain their bushfire protection measures, leading to higher risk of property damage and life loss	Catherine Ryland	2. Enhanced investment
234	Theory will only take you so far– a behaviour change lens for bushfire community engagement	Ms Elissa Jans	2. Enhanced investment
235	Hi Neighbours: Promoting community connection and cohesion in high density residential apartments	Miss Susan Chen	2. Enhanced investment
236	Are we ready for the next big shake: integrating new research for improved decision making	Ms Jane Sexton	2. Enhanced investment
237	Prepare, Communicate and Integrate: the keys to engaging farming communities	Mr Heath Stimson	2. Enhanced investment
238	Strengthening Outdoor Resilience: The Role of the National Centre for Outdoor Risk and Readiness (NatCORR)	Nicky Hanson	2. Enhanced investment
240	Lessons & Continuous Improvement: Providing a Blueprint for an Uncertain Future	Kimberly Wilson Mr Joe Buffone Ms Caitlin Bell	1. Understand disaster risk
241	Community-Centred Lessons Management: Learning for community resilience	Dr Adriana Keating Dr Emma McNicol Aunty Helen Duroux	1. Understand disaster risk
242	Impact of organisational strata on lessons management in the WA emergency services sector	Mrs Jennifer Medbury	1. Understand disaster risk
243	NSW SES Community Capability Measurement, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Dashboards: Improving Community Disaster Risk Reduction Engagement Activities	Ms Emma Davis Ms Michelle Bouvet	1. Understand disaster risk
244	Assessing Impact Evaluation Methodologies in Emergency Management: A Comprehensive Review of Literature	Ms Patrice Higgins	1. Understand disaster risk
245	NSW Department of Primary Industries' Lessons Management Framework for Enhanced Emergency Response	Dr Leigh Pilkington Dr Steve Eastwood Miss Alex Murray	1. Understand disaster risk
246	Lessons from the Bush Rat: Community outrage turns to praise through strengthening relationships and adaptability	Ms Jasmine Cassell	1. Understand disaster risk
247	Using Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Traditional homes in South Pacific to build cyclone resilient housing	Mr Daniel Bonatti	1. Understand disaster risk

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
248	National Bushfire Intelligence Capability (NBIC) - bring people together around common data and goals	Mr Justin Leonard	1. Understand disaster risk
249	HeatWatch: A Co-designed Application for Personalised Heat Health Risk Management	Dr Federico Tartarini	1. Understand disaster risk
250	Embracing Technological Innovation to Meet Escalating Risks	Mr Matthew White	1. Understand disaster risk
251	Modelling post bushfire debris flow to improve resilience for management of Sydney's drinking water catchment	Neda Sharifi Soltani	1. Understand disaster risk
252	Fires in the Feed: Using Social Media for Early Detection of Bushfires	Ms Olivia Breed	1. Understand disaster risk
253	Building the next generation of post bushfire survey tools	Dr Raphaelae Bianchi	1. Understand disaster risk
254	The Frequency of High-Intensity Fires has Increased in the Last ~200 years	Rebecca Ryan	1. Understand disaster risk
255	The Australian Fire Danger Rating System: Technology Improvements	Dr Alex Holmes	1. Understand disaster risk
256	The Unified Watchtower: Multi-Source Intelligence for Remote Fire Detection & Risk Assessment	Ms Olivia Breed	1. Understand disaster risk
257	Development and evaluation of an Australian specific camera-based smoke detection database and algorithm	Dr Nicholas Wilson	1. Understand disaster risk
258	Understanding junction fire physics and scaling laws in order to mitigate the consequences of this severe wildfire eve	Ahmad Hassan	1. Understand disaster risk
259	Advancing Fire Severity Analysis Object - Based Image Classification with Landsat 8 on Kangaroo Island	Jiyu Liu	1. Understand disaster risk
260	How can Tasmania's endangered Pencil Pine teach us better bushfire management strategies	Sarah Cooley	1. Understand disaster risk
261	Reconstructing historic bushfire evacuations in SPARK and SEEKER	Dr Dharendra Singh	1. Understand disaster risk
262	ARENA Heavy Plant	AFAC	1. Understand disaster risk
263	ARENA: Celebrating 10 years of excellence in firefighting operations	AFAC	1. Understand disaster risk
264	The sensitivity of fuel moisture content (FMC) to forest structure effects on microclimate	Dr Tegan Brown	1. Understand disaster risk
265	Innovative applications of AI/ML technology in the realm of fire/severe weather forecasting and alerting	Mr Martin Katzmann	1. Understand disaster risk
267	Navigating Bushfire Risk: A Geoprocessing Approach to BAL Assessment in Development Applications	Dr Samantha Le May	1. Understand disaster risk
268	National Fire Area Data: A jurisdictional review of historic and current data creation capabilities	Ms Naomi Withers Mr Ryan Lawrey	1. Understand disaster risk
269	DBI - a new long-term forecast methodology for bushfire severity	Mr David Dennison	1. Understand disaster risk
270	School Adaptation to Bushfire Risk	Ms Trish van Tussenbroek Ms Cara Graham Mr Rhys Gilmour	1. Understand disaster risk
271	Floods and Bushfires: Investigating the Vulnerability of Animal Emergency Safe Places in the Hunter Region, NSW, Australia	Mr Alexander Omoraka	1. Understand disaster risk
272	Detecting Wildfires Before They Become Destructive	Ms Andrea Santy Mr. Jay Stalnacker	1. Understand disaster risk
273	Tauranga City Council Earthquake and Tsunami Virtual Reality Module	Mr Isaac Orchard Mr Daniel Pearce	1. Understand disaster risk
274	When innovation and collaboration collide : mapping flood extents in near real time	Ms Jodi Smith	1. Understand disaster risk
275	Redefining Flood Risk Management: Integrating StoryMaps, Geospatial Data, and Community-Led Innovation	Ms Melissa Daley	1. Understand disaster risk
276	Improving free topographydata for more reliable flood modelling in data-scarce regions	Michael Meadows	1. Understand disaster risk
277	Communicating uncertainty in flash flood events	Ms Victoria Heinrich	1. Understand disaster risk

No.	Title	Authors	Aligned to Priority
278	Straight to the source: Designing Queensland's warnings future	Ms Jennifer Kerr	1. Understand disaster risk
279	What's New in Knowledge	AIDR	1. Understand disaster risk
283	The Power of GIS: Democratised Emergency Geointelligence for 162 Agencies in a Singular Spatial System	Mr Chad Ajamian	1. Understand disaster risk
284	Understanding the Risks & Hazards of Solar PV	Mr James Sturch	1. Understand disaster risk
285	InfoBuddy: A system for enhanced emergency management intelligence collection	Dr Jacqueline (Jackie) Craig AM FTSE Dr Mark Rice	1. Understand disaster risk
287	Computational-Based Approaches to Critical Infrastructure Research	Cameron Atkinson	1. Understand disaster risk
288	Thinking about extreme natural hazards and how to manage their impact	Mr Craig Ridep-Morris	1. Understand disaster risk
289	Untangling Trends: Analysing the Varied Impact of Population Growth on Emergency Incident Demand in Queensland	Ms Doris He	1. Understand disaster risk
290	Preparing dairy farmers for future climate disasters through the use of a risk assessment tool	Dr. Sarah Mac Mr. Michael Pretorius	1. Understand disaster risk
291	Data-driven community outreach models – collaborating to design targeted programming across government and non-profit partners	Ms Lauren Holmes	1. Understand disaster risk
292	Australia's Riskscape in 2022-23	AIDR	1. Understand disaster risk
293	Resilient Lismore: Harnessing Digital Tools for Disaster Recovery and Enhancing Community Resilience through monday.com	Ms Elly Bird Ms Carly Giltrap	1. Understand disaster risk
294	Results from holistic, community-based disaster resilience measurement: Enhanced decision-making at community and system levels	Ms Zoe D'Arcy	1. Understand disaster risk
295	Impact of disaster, disadvantage and remoteness on resilience of children: A spatial analysis	A/Prof Rachel Whitsed A/prof Michael Curtin	1. Understand disaster risk
296	Motherhood as an intersectional status in emergencies: Findings of the Babies and Young Children in the Black Summer (BiBS) Study	Dr Karleen Gribble Dr Michelle Hamrosi Dr Susan Tawia	1. Understand disaster risk
297	Social Capital and Social Infrastructure in Action: How Libraries and Pubs can Save the Day	Renae Hanvin Prof. Danie Aldrich	1. Understand disaster risk
298	Social Capital and Response Experiences Associated with Psychological Outcomes After the 2019-20 Bushfires	Miss Greta Amorsen	1. Understand disaster risk
299	Can we understand disaster preparedness and community resilience using a wellbeing lens?	Dr Melinda (Mel) Mylek	1. Understand disaster risk
300	Early insights for more resilient communities	Professor Jacki Schirmer	1. Understand disaster risk
301	Systemic Disaster Risk	AIDR	1. Understand disaster risk
302	Identifying and Analysing Australia's Priority Climate Risks through Australia's first National Climate Risk Assessment	Dr. Andrew Watkins	1. Understand disaster risk
303	Disasters are not natural	AIDR	1. Understand disaster risk

Find more on the Knowledge Hub

All conference proceedings and posters will be made available online via the Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub. Explore collections, resources and research curated by the AIDR: www.knowledge.aidr.org.au

Venue map

ICC Sydney, Level 4



Drawing subject to change without notice. Released 09/09/2019.

* Correct at time of print.

General information

Venue

ICC Sydney, 14 Darling Drive, Sydney, NSW.

Exhibition opening hours

Tuesday 3 September | 1:00pm - 8:00pm

Wednesday 4 September | 9:00am - 5:00pm

Thursday 5 September | 9:30am - 3:00pm

Registration desk

Registration desks are located on the ground floor of the Convention Centre.

Name badges

Delegates are required to wear their badges to all conference and catering sessions. Uniformed security will be staffing the doors of the Exhibition and conference rooms, and badges are required to gain access.

To aid in the collection of contact details for exhibitors, each name badge has been printed with a unique barcode. Some exhibitors may have scanners which can record the contact information of visitors to their stand. Exhibitors will ask for permission before badges are scanned.

Join the conversation

Keep up-to-date with the latest conference news on social media by following **AIDR on LinkedIn and Facebook**.

Inspired by a session? Want to share something thought-provoking that a speaker said with other delegates? Did a panel session spark your imagination? Let us know what you think using the hashtag **#ADRC24**.

Please ensure any content shared on social media is respectful of speakers and other delegates.

Delegate feedback

AIDR and our conference partners – AFAC and Hannover Fairs Australia – are determined to continually improve and refine the conference for delegates. After the conference, you will receive an invitation to complete our online post conference delegate survey. We value your feedback and hope you will take the time to fill in the survey, as the results are used to inform the planning of future events.

Cloakroom

Cloakrooms are available at both Customer Service desks located on the ground floor of the Convention Centre and Level 2 of the Exhibition.

Social program: Networking Function

All delegates are invited to attend the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference Networking Function on Wednesday 4 September 5.30-7.00pm.

The Networking Function will be held in the AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ exhibition, near Resilience Lane and the Solutions Theatre.

Conference sustainability

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference is proud to be working with our conference partners to deliver our greenest conference yet. AFAC24 powered by INTERSCHUTZ has partnered with Trace – a sustainability consulting company that removes the barriers to climate action and empowers businesses to take immediate steps forward.

At the conclusion of the event, the conference team will examine the event data to calculate our carbon footprint using the Trace program. Credits will be purchased to offset this impact and contribute towards a variety of sustainability initiatives.

Accessibility and inclusion

For information on venue accessibility, please visit: <https://iccsydney.com.au/about/venue-information/accessibility-and-inclusion-for-visitors>

Sunflower Room

The conference has a sensory-friendly space, offering delegates with hidden disabilities a space to help rest, regulate and reset. If you need some privacy and space, you can find the Sunflower Room at Business Suite 1.1 on Level 1.

Other information

Wi-Fi

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference delegates are welcome to use ICC Sydney's complimentary Wi-Fi, available throughout the entire venue.

Insurance

The hosts and organisers are not responsible for personal accidents, any travel costs, or the loss of private property and will not be liable for any claims. Delegates requiring insurance should make their own arrangements.

Smoking

Smoking is not permitted in the venue.

Mobile phones

Please ensure your mobile phone is turned to silent during any session you attend.

Disclaimer

The opinions of the speakers do not reflect the opinions or position of AIDR, AFAC or Hannover Fairs Australia.

