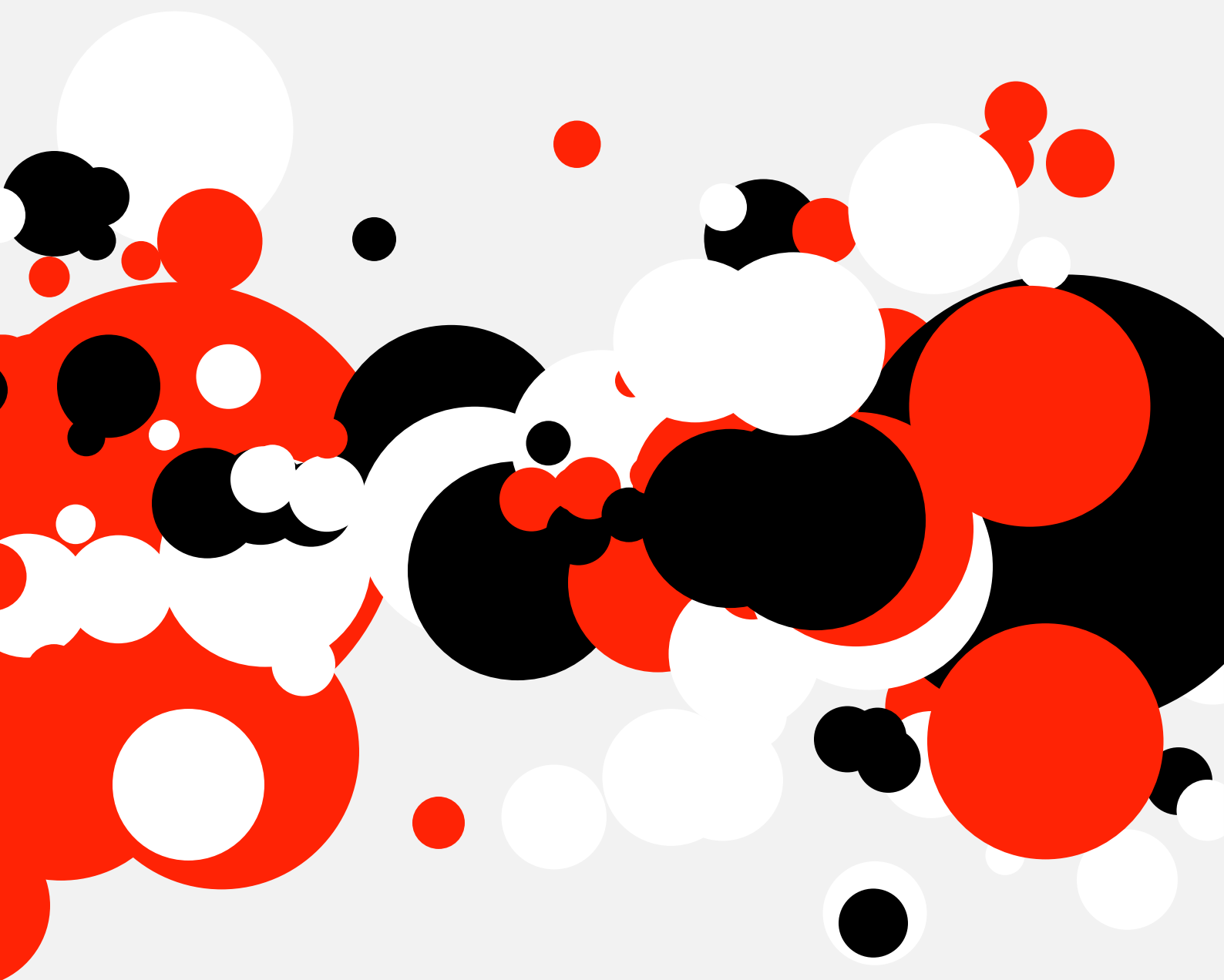


Pinery Fire Recovery

Evaluation Framework



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Glossary

ANZEMC RSC	Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee Disaster Recovery Sub-Committee
ANZSOG	Australia and New Zealand School of Government
CFS	Country Fire Service
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
DCSI	Department of Communities and Social Inclusion
DECD	Department of Education and Child Development
DEWNR	Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources
DPTI	Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure
DSD	Department of State Development
F2F	Face-to-face
ICA	Insurance Council of Australia
IDI	In-depth interview
LFS	State Logistics Functional Service
LRC	Local Recovery Committee
NEMP	National Emergency Management Projects
NRM	Natural Resources Management
PIRSA	Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia
SAFECOM	South Australia Fire and Emergency Services Commission
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SEMP	State Emergency Management Plan
SERF	State Emergency Relief Fund
SRC	State Recovery Committee
SRO	State Recovery Office
UTS:IPPG	University of Technology Sydney: Institute for Public Policy and Governance

1 Introduction

1.1 The Pinery Fire

The Pinery Fire situation

The 2015 Pinery Fire was a catastrophic bushfire that burned from 25 November to 2 December 2015, and primarily affected the Lower Mid North and west Barossa Valley regions immediately north of Gawler in the Australian state of South Australia. At least 86,000 hectares (210,000 acres) of scrub and farmland in the council areas of Light, Wakefield, Clare and Gilbert Valleys, and Mallala were burned during its duration.

On 25 November, during the major run of the Pinery Fire, two people died and a further 90 people were hospitalised as a result of the fire.

The Pinery Fire destroyed 97 houses, and damaged a further 49. It caused significant damage or destruction to sheds, outbuildings, farm equipment and vehicles. More than 18,000 sheep, 54,000 poultry and 600 other livestock were lost, and an estimated \$30 million worth of fodder and unharvested grains were destroyed. Communities affected by the fire included Daveyston, Barabba, Freeling, Greenock, Hamley Bridge, Kapunda, Magdala, Mallala, Nain, Nuriootpa, Owen, Pinery, Pinkerton Plains, Redbanks, Roseworthy, Stockport, Tarlee, Templers, Wasleys and Woolsheds.

The Pinery Fire recovery

The recovery process for the Pinery Fire affected communities was supported by a range of initiatives and activities with objectives and planned outcomes across four domains that underpin successful recovery:

- Reconstruction of infrastructure and built environment
- Restoration of emotional, social and physical wellbeing
- Restoration of the local economy
- Restoration of the natural environment

The Pinery Fire Strategic Recovery Plan presented a broad framework of issues and associated actions for the period 1 July 2016 to 1 December 2017. From June 2017 formal arrangements to coordinate recovery ceased, as it was judged that the community was ready to manage ongoing recovery locally without the need for formal arrangements. Beyond that transition, government services are being provided as part of normal service arrangements.

Whilst this plan reflects the activities for medium to long term recovery, a significant amount of work was undertaken during the first seven months of the recovery phase, especially with respect of re-establishment of damaged infrastructure, demolition and removal of debris and rebuilding of fences.

1.2 The National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs

Evaluations of disaster recovery efforts to date have been unsystematic and sporadic. When they have been conducted, they have tended to focus on the *process* of disaster recovery, rather than *outcomes*, and have not been consistent in their broad approaches.

In response to recommendation 6(a) of the *Review of Commonwealth and State/Territory Relief and Recovery Payments: Report to COAG/SCPEM from the National Emergency Management Committee Recovery Sub-Committee (2012)*, which was endorsed by COAG in 2012, a Draft National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Framework has been developed by ANZSOG. The Framework will provide overall guidance and context for the evaluation of disaster recovery programs to allow assessment of the efficacy of post disaster recovery assistance.

The Draft National M&E Framework provides a basis for a consistent approach in the evaluation of any individual disaster recovery program. It is hoped that this will allow the lessons learned from each program evaluation to contribute to an evidence base that will improve subsequent disaster recovery programs.

To help ensure the Draft National M&E Framework is fit-for-purpose, UTS is testing its appropriateness and utility by applying it an evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery. Given this, the framework for the evaluation of the Pinery Fire is based on the overarching principles, outcomes and indicators of success outlined in the Draft National M&E Framework.

Consequently, in addition to delivering an evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery, UTS will also provide feedback to ANZSOG about the practicality of the Draft National M&E Framework when applied in a real disaster recovery context, and offer suggestions for its improvement moving forward.

1.3 Evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery

The framework for the evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery draws on the draft National M&E Framework and the Pinery Fire Strategic Recovery Plan to:

- Determine what successful disaster recovery 'looks like' in the Pinery Fire context
- Develop a program logic for how the activities associated with the Pinery Fire recovery contribute to the intended recovery outcomes in the built environment, economic, social and natural environment domains
- Determine a list of evaluation questions, aligned to the evaluation objectives and program logic, that will be addressed in the Pinery Fire recovery evaluation
- Guide the indicators of successful recovery that will be measured and analysed to answer the evaluation questions
- Identify the data sources for those indicators
- Identify and describe the methods to analyse that data

The framework will guide the assessment of the effectiveness, implementation and governance of the Pinery Fire recovery process and will be undertaken between August 2017 and February 2018.

This will support Government of South Australia Department of Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI), State Recovery Office (SRO) to assess the success of the Pinery Fire recovery effort and guide any future decisions about the way recovery is implemented and evaluated across South Australia.

1.4 This document

This document presents the evaluation framework for assessing the achievements and impact of the Pinery Fire recovery. It is based on review of the Draft National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs, the Pinery Fire Strategic Recovery Plan and consultation with SRO' Director and Deputy Director.

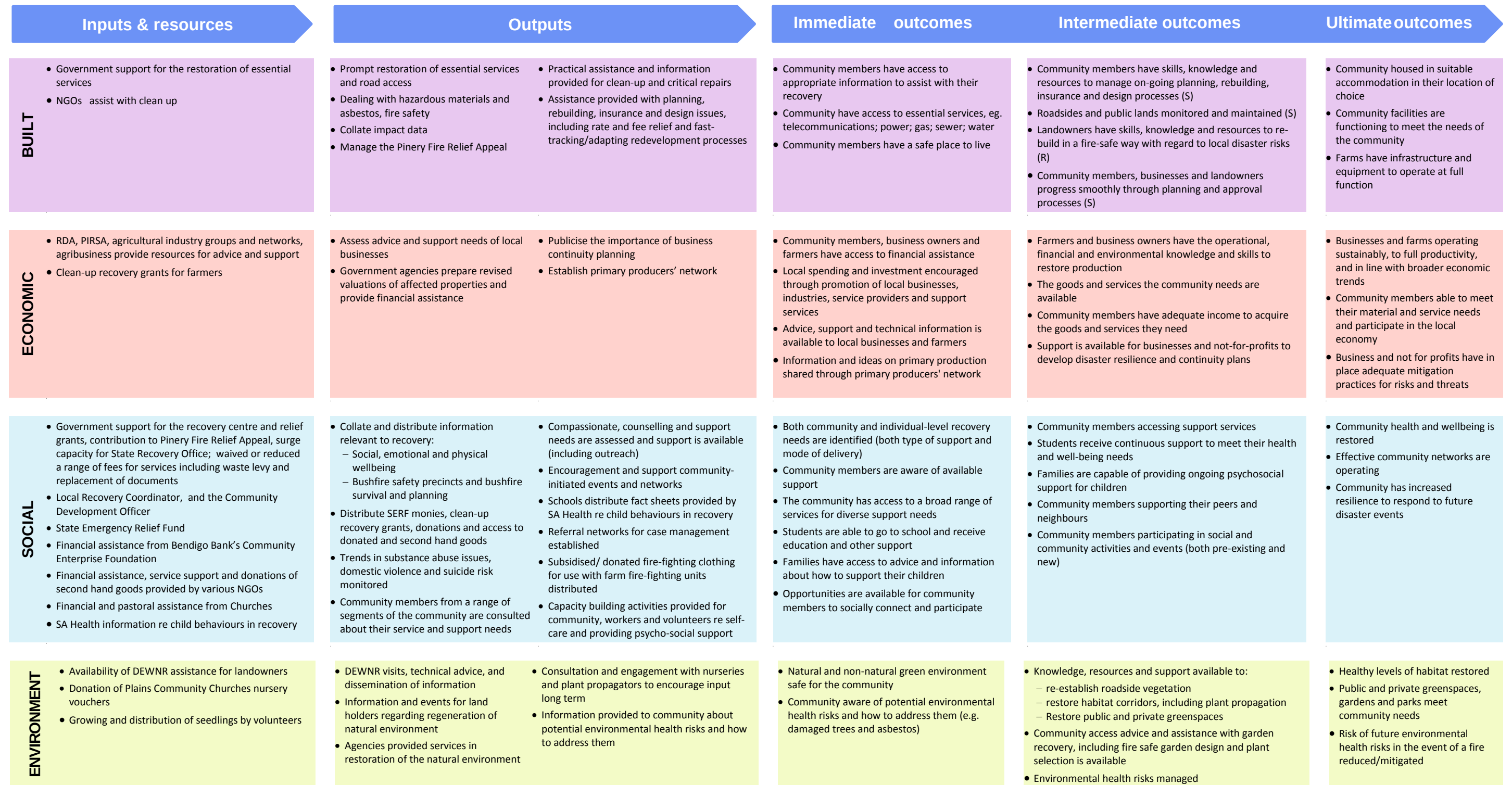
In summary this document consists of:

- Program logic (Section 2)
- Key evaluation questions (Section 3)
- Evaluation plan (Section 4)
- Evaluation methods (Section 5)
- Ethics (Section 6)
- Implementation plan (Section 7)
- Deliverables (Section 8)
- Risks (Section 9)
- Communication (Section 10)

2 Program logic

Figure 1 presents high-level program logic for the Pinery Fire recovery, providing a 'map' of the key elements that constitute the recovery program, and how they contribute to the intended recovery outcomes in the built environment, economic, social and natural environment domains.

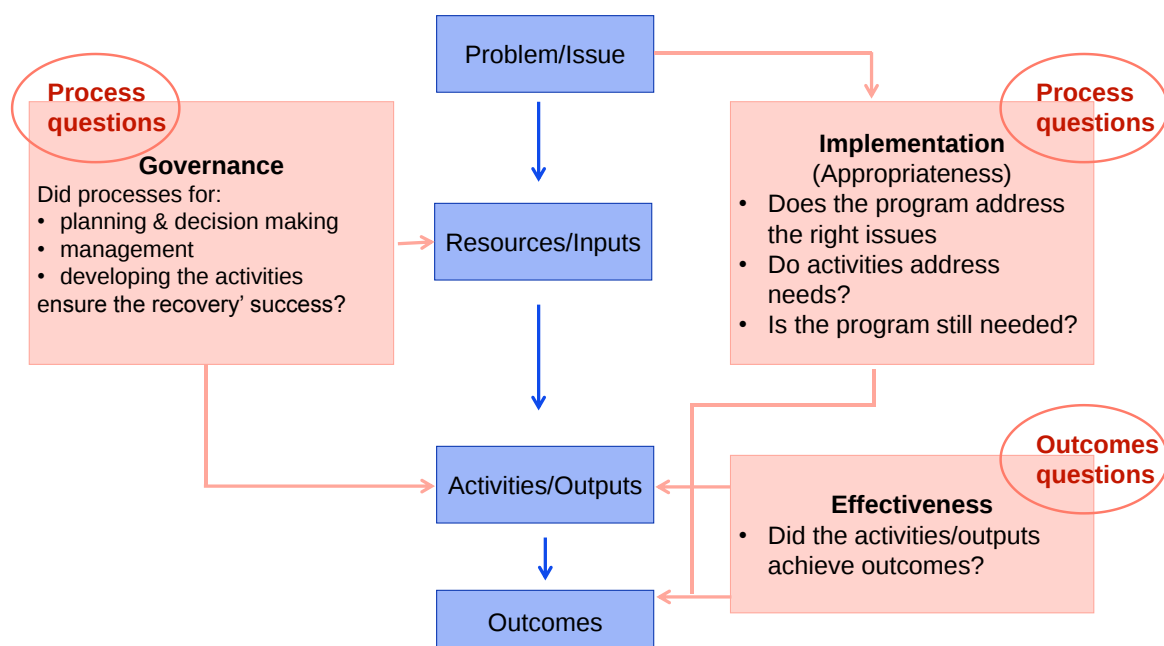
Figure 1: Program logic for Pinery Fire recovery



3 Key evaluation questions

The Draft National M&E Framework presents a broad set of key evaluation questions that should be addressed in specific disaster recovery evaluations that fall under the following broad areas:

Figure 2: Key evaluation question areas from the Draft National M&E Framework



UTS have considered these domains, as well as the specific desired outcomes for the Pinery Fire recovery outlined in the Program Logic (see section 2) and developed the following list of broad key evaluation questions for the evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery.

Table 1: Key evaluation questions

Key evaluation question (KEQs) for the Pinery Fire recovery	
KEQs: Overarching evaluation questions	1. Has the recovery been implemented in accordance with the Strategic Recovery Plan? 2. How satisfied are the community, land owners and businesses with the recovery process and the extent to which their needs have/are being met? 3. What impact did governance arrangements have on the recovery process? 4. To what extent has the recovery achieving its intended outcomes, in the context of external factors? (ie Qs 5-13)
KEQs: Built infrastructure recovery	5. Are facilities and infrastructure appropriate and functioning to meet the current and ongoing needs of community members, business owners and farmers? 6. Have the housing needs of the community been met?
KEQs: Economic recovery	7. To what extent has the local economy operating as an effective and sustainable system? 8. How resilient is the local economy to future risks and threats?

KEQs: Social recovery	9. Are the health and wellbeing needs of the community being met? 10. Does the community have access to effective and appropriate psychosocial support? 11. Has the recovery process fostered increased community resilience to respond to future disaster events
KEQs: Natural environment recovery	12. Are healthy levels of biodiversity and habitat being maintained? 13. To what extent has the risk of adverse impacts of a future disaster been minimised?

4 Evaluation plan

Table 2: Built infrastructure

Built infrastructure recovery					
• Issue: Post-fire clean up and re-building is beyond the financial, physical and emotional capacity of some community members and businesses • Issue: Landowners need support to expedite the rebuilding and restoration of burnt infrastructure					
Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Ultimate outcome					
Farms have infrastructure and equipment to operate at full function	5. Are facilities and infrastructure appropriate and functioning to meet the current and ongoing needs of community members, business owners and farmers	Farms have necessary equipment to support operations	Focus groups (F2F & online) Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive
Community facilities are functioning to meet the needs of the community		Community satisfied that facilities (especially damaged facilities) meeting their needs	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
Community housed in suitable accommodation in their location of choice	6. Have the housing needs of the community been met?	Community report that current housing situation meets their needs	Focus groups (F2F & online) Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive
		Residential vacancy rates	RP data	UTS	Secondary analysis
		Rebuilt properties have increased fire safe design	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
Intermediate outcome					
Roadsides and public lands monitored and maintained (S)	See Q5 in Ultimate outcome	Roads cleared of fire debris, road furniture replaced, verges cleared, sand drift on roads and ongoing critical repairs	Documents Interviews Focus groups (F2F & online) SEMC logs LRC	UTS/SRO UTS UTS SRO SRO	Descriptive Thematic Thematic Secondary Descriptive
		Time taken for roads to be re-opened to support community business and activities	SEMC or SRC	SRO	Secondary analysis

Built infrastructure recovery

- Issue: Post-fire clean up and re-building is beyond the financial, physical and emotional capacity of some community members and businesses
- Issue: Landowners need support to expedite the rebuilding and restoration of burnt infrastructure

Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Landowners have skills, knowledge and resources to re-build in a fire-safe way with regard to local disaster risks (R)		Landowners have effective knowledge, skills and resources to build fire safety	DPIT – website link sent by Ronnie CFS Online survey	UTS SRO to provide access/UTS to analyse UTS	Descriptive
Community members have skills, knowledge and resources to manage on-going planning, rebuilding, insurance and design processes (S)	See Q6 in Ultimate outcome	Support given	Documents	SRO	Descriptive
		Satisfaction with and utility of support given	Online survey	UTS	
Immediate outcome					
Community have access to essential services, e.g. telecommunications; power; gas; sewer; water	See Q5 in Ultimate outcome	Time taken to return services to previous levels within agreed standards	Engineering Functional Service	UTS	Descriptive Secondary analysis
Community members and landowners have access to appropriate information to assist with their recovery		Community members have access to a range of information they need via various mediums	Documents Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online)	SRO UTS UTS	Descriptive Thematic
Community members have a safe place to live	See Q6 in Ultimate outcome	Temporary housing options available and used as necessary	Documents - SA Housing	UTS	Secondary analysis
		Satisfaction with practical accommodation assistance provided	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive

Table 3: Economic recovery

Economic recovery					
- Issue: Regional economy and local government have suffered losses, including revenue and labour impacts and the cost of providing support to affected individuals, families and businesses - Issue: Primary producers, ag and non-ag businesses have suffered losses due to direct fire damage or consequent impacts					
Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Ultimate outcome					
Businesses and farms operating sustainably, to full productivity, and in line with broader economic trends	7. To what extent is the local economy operating as an effective and sustainable system?	Area under production relative to pre fire	PIRSA docs/data/interviews	UTS (with introductions from SRO)	Descriptive Thematic Secondary analysis
		Livestock numbers relative to pre-fire	PIRSA docs/data/interviews		
		Farms / business owners confident about profit outlook	Qual in-depth interviews (IDIs)/ focus groups with farmers & business owners Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive
Community members able to meet their material and service needs and participate in the local economy		Community satisfaction that adequate goods and services are affordable and accessible	Focus groups (F2F & online) Online survey	UTS	Thematic
Business and not for profits have in place adequate mitigation practices for risks and threats (R)	8. How resilient is the local economy to future risks and threats?	Proportion of farmers, business owners, not-for-profits who have developed dynamic disaster resilience and continuity plans	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
		Likelihood of using business plans in the future / perceptions of benefits from business plan programs in the future	Focus groups (F2F & online) / IDIs Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive

Economic recovery

- Issue: Regional economy and local government have suffered losses, including revenue and labour impacts and the cost of providing support to affected individuals, families and businesses
- Issue: Primary producers, ag and non-ag businesses have suffered losses due to direct fire damage or consequent impacts

Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
		Proportion of businesses with adequate insurance in place relative to pre fire	Online survey Insurance Council Australia data	UTS	Descriptive Secondary analysis
Intermediate outcome					
Farmers and business owners have the operational, financial and environmental knowledge and skills to restore production	See Q7 in Ultimate outcome	Self-reported knowledge and skills	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
		Satisfaction (perceptions of effectiveness) of farmers, business owners, not-for-profits with information, assistance and support provided to restore/maintain production and profitability	Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online) / IDIs	UTS	Descriptive Thematic
The goods and services the community needs are available		Local businesses operating	Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online) / IDIs	UTS	Descriptive Thematic
Community members have adequate income to acquire the goods and services they need		Pre/post-employment rates and income levels relative to pre-fire and broader economy	Department of State Development	UTS	Secondary analysis
Support is available for businesses and not-for-profits to develop disaster resilience and continuity plans	See Q8 in Ultimate outcome	People access assistance (online, brochures)	Department of State Development	UTS	Descriptive
		Satisfaction and perceived utility of support	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
Immediate outcome					
Advice, support and technical information is available to local	See Q7 in Ultimate outcome	Advice, support and info available in	Document review: incl LRC's final report	UTS	Descriptive

Economic recovery

- Issue: Regional economy and local government have suffered losses, including revenue and labour impacts and the cost of providing support to affected individuals, families and businesses
- Issue: Primary producers, ag and non-ag businesses have suffered losses due to direct fire damage or consequent impacts

Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
businesses and farmers		range formats	& recovery summary reports		
		Satisfaction with advice, support and info provided	Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online)/in-depth interviews	UTS	Thematic
Local spending and investment encouraged through promotion of local businesses, industries, service providers and support services		Recovery service providers shop locally (spend money locally)	Focus groups (F2F & online)/in-depth interviews	UTS	Thematic
		Community spending			
Information and ideas on primary production shared through primary producers' network	See Q8 in Ultimate outcome	Information shared through networks	Document review: incl LRC's final report & recovery summary reports	UTS	Descriptive
		Farmers have access to information and ideas on post-fire recovery and operations	Primary Industries documents	UTS (with introductions from SRO)	Descriptive

Table 4: Social recovery

Social recovery • Issue: The trauma of the fire and stress associated with its aftermath lead to physical and psychological health issues for some people • Issue: Trauma, stress and displacement can weaken social links or cause fractures in communities • Issue: Some community members must deal with significant whole-of-life changes another fire • Issue: Some community members are experiencing financial distress • Issue: Some people want to be better prepared in the event of					
Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Ultimate outcome					
Community health and wellbeing are consistent with pre-fire levels	9. Are the health and wellbeing needs of the community being met? 10. Does the community have access to effective and appropriate psychosocial support? 11. Has the recovery process fostered increased community resilience to respond to future disaster events	Instances of trauma related psychosocial issues return to pre-event levels (DV, violence, substance abuse, gambling, suicide, mental health issues)	Police data Community health data Interviews with service providers (gov and non-gov) Online survey	UTS	Secondary analysis Thematic Descriptive
Effective community networks are operating		Community networks functional and supportive	Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online)	UTS	Social network analysis
Community has increased resilience to respond to future disaster events		Community members have increased capacity and capability to deal with future events (eg. Insurance; Firebreaks; Rebuilding; How to operate equipment; Fire safe precincts and places of last resort; support sources; how to survive & response plans)	Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online)	UTS What does capacity look like – CFS website	Thematic

Social recovery

- Issue: The trauma of the fire and stress associated with its aftermath lead to physical and psychological health issues for some people
- Issue: Trauma, stress and displacement can weaken social links or cause fractures in communities
- Issue: Some community members must deal with significant whole-of-life changes another fire
- Issue: Some community members are experiencing financial distress
- Issue: Some people want to be better prepared in the event of

Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Intermediate outcome					
Community members accessing support services	See Qs 9-11 in Ultimate outcomes	Satisfaction with the range of support services (type and channel) Satisfaction with access to these services	SRO survey	UTS	Secondary analysis
Students receive continuous support to meet their health and well-being needs		Support available outside of school term	Online survey Interviews	UTS	Descriptive Thematic
Parents/families connected to psychosocial support via schools		Range of services that are available that are accessed	Interviews Focus groups (F2F & online) School level stats	UTS	Thematic Descriptive
Community members supporting their peers and neighbours		Self-reported peer/neighbour support	UTS:IPPG Online survey Focus groups (F2F & online) SRO survey	UTS	Descriptive Thematic
Community members participating in social and community activities and events (both pre-existing and new)		Participant numbers and community segments engaged	Program data	UTS	Secondary analysis
Immediate outcome					
Both community and individual-level recovery needs are identified (both type	See Qs 9-11 in Ultimate outcomes	Needs identified	Documents Data	UTS	Descriptive

Social recovery

- Issue: The trauma of the fire and stress associated with its aftermath lead to physical and psychological health issues for some people
- Issue: Trauma, stress and displacement can weaken social links or cause fractures in communities
- Issue: Some community members must deal with significant whole-of-life changes another fire
- Issue: Some community members are experiencing financial distress
- Issue: Some people want to be better prepared in the event of

Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
of support and mode of delivery)					
Community members are aware of available support		Awareness of psychosocial support	Focus groups (F2F & online) Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive
The community has access to a broad range of services for diverse support needs		Broad range of service available	Documents Data	UTS	Descriptive
Students are able to go to school and receive education and other support		Schools (alternative arrangements) open and psychosocial support for students available)	School data and reports DECD	UTS	Secondary analysis
		Pupil-days disrupted (if available)	Schools DECD	UTS	Secondary analysis
Families have access to advice and information about how to support their children and their own psychosocial recovery		Info provided/made available to parents	Schools DECD	UTS	Descriptive
Opportunities are available for community members to socially connect and participate		Groups/events run at convenient times	Focus groups (F2F & online) Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive
		Groups/events etc. promoted across community via a range of media/channels	Focus groups (F2F & online) Online survey	UTS	Thematic Descriptive

Table 5: Natural environment recovery

Natural environment recovery					
- Issue: The fire caused significant loss of native flora and fauna - Issue: Public health risk from damaged trees and burnt asbestos containing materials - Issue: Greening the landscape will aid psychological recovery					
Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Ultimate outcome					
Healthy levels of natural habitat exist in the region	12. Are healthy levels of biodiversity and habitat being maintained? 13. To what extent has the risk of adverse impacts of a future disaster been minimised?	Natural habitat supports healthy levels of biodiversity	DEWNR/NRM Boards Conic data	UTS	Secondary analysis
Public and private greenspaces, gardens and parks meet community needs		Satisfaction that needs are being met	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
Risk of future environmental health risks in the event of a fire reduced/mitigated		Potential future risks identified and appropriate strategies implemented	SA Health (Public Health documentation and interview)	UTS (with introduction from SRO)	Descriptive
Intermediate outcome					
Knowledge, resources and support available to: - restore habitat corridors, including plant propagation - restore public and private greenspaces (e.g. roadside vegetation, parks and gardens)	See Qs 12-13 in Ultimate outcomes	Advice, resources and info available	State Government Councils Private/nurseries	UTS (with introduction from SRO)	Descriptive
Community access advice and assistance with garden recovery, including fire safe garden design and plant selection is available		People access available advice, resources and info	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
		Satisfaction	SRO survey	UTS	Descriptive

Natural environment recovery

- Issue: The fire caused significant loss of native flora and fauna
- Issue: Public health risk from damaged trees and burnt asbestos containing materials
- Issue: Greening the landscape will aid psychological recovery

Outcomes hierarchy	Key evaluation question	Indicators	Data sources	Role	Analysis
Parks and recreational facilities fully operational		Satisfaction	Online survey DEWNR	UTS	Descriptive
Environmental health risks managed		Environmental health risks (e.g. damaged trees and asbestos etc.) managed so as to pose acceptable level of risk to the community	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive
Immediate outcome					
Natural and non-natural green environment safe for the community	See Qs 12-13 in Ultimate outcomes	Fire-related debris removed or contained in safely	DEWNR Councils	UTS	Descriptive
Community aware of potential environmental health risks and how to address them (e.g. damaged trees, asbestos)		Information disseminated about potential environmental health risks	SA Health: documentation and interviews Councils: documentation and interviews	UTS	Descriptive
		Information reaches the community	Online survey	UTS	Descriptive

5 Evaluation methods

5.1 Analysis of demographic, economic and other data

5.1.1 Demographic data

To understand the socio-economic context of post-disaster recovery UTS will conduct a baseline demographic and economic analysis of pre-disaster area affected by the Pinery Fire, using ABS demographic data. This will tell us what the community was like prior to the fire and be a baseline for the evaluation.

5.1.2 Geographic and environmental conditions

UTS will investigate the geographic and environmental conditions of the region. This will involve reviewing existing data and documentation, including:

- Maps and images: map showing fire scar with LGA boundaries; cadastral map of fire scar area showing properties that might include a dwelling; aerial photo post-fire; map of fire scar area showing damage
- DEWNR/NRM Boards data around pre-fire levels of biodiversity and existence of environmental health risks

5.1.3 Economic and development context

UTS will establish an understanding of the economic and development context of the disaster location prior to the disaster event. This will be done by reviewing existing data and reports as well as discussions with key stakeholders. This will provide a baseline comparison for the evaluation. Data sources will include:

- RP data: residential vacancy rates
- SA Housing: temporary housing options, take-up and availability
- PIRSA documents and data to assess the area under production relative to pre fire; livestock numbers relative to pre-fire
- Insurance Commission of Australia: insurance status of households and businesses
- Department of State Development: businesses with / seeking support with disaster resilience and continuity plans

5.1.4 Social health data

UTS will access police, community health and DECD data examine the extent to which rates of psychosocial issues return to pre-fire levels, for example domestic violence, substance abuse, gambling, suicide and mental health issues).

UTS will access school-level statistics to record

5.2 Investigation of governance context

To understand the governance context for the disaster, UTS will investigate to governance processes for post-disaster recovery. This will involve discussions with key stakeholders and reviewing documentation of the disaster event and recovery process.

5.3 Document review

UTS will analyse available records and reports of the Pinery Fire recovery process and outcomes to extract data for the evaluation. These will include, but not be limited to:

1. Recovery summary reports: State Recovery Office (SRO) prepares these reports on behalf of the State Recovery Committee (SRC), with input from all agencies involved in recovery. The reports are primarily for the Duty Minister for the event – historically the Minister for Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI), to whom SRO normally reports. The summary reports are also provided to members of the SRC, staff of the SRO and the Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC)
2. Pinery Fire recovery report – final: upon cessation of production of the recovery summary reports, SRO starts providing a monthly report to the Duty Minister. Each report contains a full set of recovery information
3. Local Recovery Coordinator's (LRC) final report: incorporates the observations of the initial LRC and the material from the interim report
4. Pinery Fire Community Recovery Fund Quarterly Reports
5. Pinery Fire Strategic Recovery Plan: SRO prepared the plan to guide coordinated and integrated activities to support the medium to long term recovery of the affected communities
6. Pinery Recovery Newsletters (and other info): these were a key source of communication with the affected community sent by email and delivered broadly across the fire scar
7. Analysis of the Pinery Fire recovery survey undertaken by SRO

The purpose of analysing these documents is for the project team to gain a better understanding of the Pinery Fire recovery implementation prior to field work. SRO has made these documents available to UTS.

5.4 Site visits and stakeholder engagement

UTS will undertake site visits to a selection of communities affected by the Pinery Fire. The selection of communities will be based on consideration of the fire scar, intensity of damage and loss incurred, and the location of a range of recovery initiatives and activities. The selection of communities will ensure the evaluation captures a diverse range of recovery experiences, and will be decided in collaboration with the SRO to ensure that other internal considerations unknown to UTS are factored into the decision.

During site visit UTS will conduct a range of activities detailed in table 6 below:

Table 6: Site visits and stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement	
Engagement of residents in communities affected by the Pinery Fire	• Three 2-3 hour workshops/ focus groups with community members. These consultations will focus on residents' experience and satisfaction of the Pinery Fire recovery process and the extent to which their needs have/are being met. This will include discussion on housing needs; the effectiveness and resilience of the local economy; health and wellbeing needs; psychosocial support; community cohesion and resilience • An online focus group will also be explored which will broaden the reach of the qualitative research • Participants will be offered a cash-equivalent voucher to thank for their time • Additional evaluation feedback from community members will be captured through an online discussion forum (see section 5.5) and online survey (see section 5.6 below).

Engagement with farmers across the fire scar	• In-depth, semi-structured interviews and/or a workshop/focus group with farmers • These consultations will focus on the experiences, and outcomes of the Pinery Fire recovery effort in terms of appropriateness and functionality of facilities and infrastructure to meet current and ongoing production needs; and the perceived effectiveness, sustainability and resilience of the local agriculture industry, and local economy • Participants will be offered a cash-equivalent voucher to thank for their time • Additional evaluation feedback from business owners will be captured through an online survey (see section 5.6 below).
Engagement with members of the business community affected by the Pinery Fire	• A 2-3 hour workshop/focus group with representatives of the business community, including small business owners. The workshop will investigate the impact of the Pinery Fire on their business and the outcomes of the Pinery Fire recovery process, particularly business confidence and the perceived effectiveness, sustainability and resilience of the local economy • Participants will be offered a cash-equivalent voucher to thank for their time • Additional evaluation feedback from farmers will be captured through an online survey (see section 5.6 below).
Engagement of key stakeholders involved in implementing the Pinery Fire recovery	• Consultations with key stakeholders involved in implementing the Pinery Fire recovery will investigate the process and outcomes of the Pinery Fire recovery and their individual experiences, for example, how the risk of adverse impacts of a future disaster have been managed; the implemented relative to the Strategic Recovery Plan; how the recovery is achieving its intended outcomes; the influence of external factors on recovery; and the impact of governance arrangements on the recovery process • Key stakeholders involved in the Pinery Fire recovery including but not limited to the Local Recovery Coordinator and Community Development Officer and representatives of: SAFECOM; LFS; SEMC; SRC; CFS; SA Housing; SA Health; DCSI, DECD, DEWNR, NRM Boards, PIRSA, DPTI, DSD, ICA, Volunteering SA&NT; Habitat for Humanity; Samaritan's Purse; Mormon Helping Hands; BlazeAid; Toyota Landcruiser Club; churches; St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) Inc; Tzu Chi Foundation; Country Women's Association; the Lions Club; Rotary Club; Red Cross; Disaster and Recovery Ministries; Global Care; Bendigo Bank • It is assumed that SRO will provide a list of stakeholders to be interviewed within key government agencies, and UTS would work with the LRC to identify key community/NGO stakeholders in the affected communities. Snowball sampling will be applied to ensure that a comprehensive range of stakeholders are consulted, and where possible group interviews will be organised for efficiency • Consultations will involve both interviews and workshops: – In-depth, semi-structured interviews undertaken face-to-face during site visits, or by telephone depending on location and availability (predominantly government stakeholders) – A half day workshop with representatives of NGOs or community groups involved in the Pinery Fire recovery. The workshop will focus on the experience of those with direct involvement in the recovery process • Vouchers will not be offered to these stakeholders as it is expected that they will be participating as part of their professional capacity (exception may be Club-level participants) • Additional evaluation feedback from key stakeholders involved in implementing the Pinery Fire recovery will be captured through an online survey (see section 5.6 below)

5.5 Online discussion forums

To broaden the reach of the qualitative research UTS proposes 1-2 online discussion forums with community members and/or farmers. These will be conducted over time (4-10 days) which enable asynchronous participation because participants don't all need to be available at the same time. Online discussion boards also overcoming geographic and scheduling constraints and can help address the respondent bias or non-disclosure that can be present in traditional face-to-face groups.

The online discussion forums will be promoted via the online community survey (see section 5.6 below), via the South Australia Recovery website, and through social media (Facebook and Twitter).

5.6 Online community survey

Online survey with community members

Community members will be invited to participate in a 12-15 minute online survey. The survey will track progress against the findings from an initial community survey conducted by the SRO in 2016. Additionally the survey will explore:

- The extent to which facilities and infrastructure are appropriate and functioning to meet the current and ongoing needs of community members, business owners and farmers
- The extent to which the housing needs of community members have been met
- Skills, knowledge and resources to re-build in a fire-safe way with regard to local disaster risks
- Access to, satisfaction with, and utility of information, assistance and support given: accommodation assistance; re-building;
- Effectiveness and sustainability of local economy
 - Business confidence and economic outlook
 - operational, financial and environmental knowledge and skills to restore production (knowledge and skills; satisfaction with advice, support and information provided)
 - Affordability and accessibility of local goods and services
- Resilience of local economy to future risks and threats
 - Disaster resilience and continuity plans (existence of; knowledge and skills; satisfaction with advice, support and information provided)
 - Adequacy of insurance relative to pre-fire
- Extent to which health and wellbeing needs of the community are being met
- Access to effective and appropriate psycho-social support
 - Community awareness
 - Community satisfaction: access, range and utility of support
- Community resilience to respond to future disaster events
 - Effectiveness and capacity of community networks and support
- The extent to which public and private greenspaces, gardens and parks are operational and meet community needs
- Satisfaction with and access to advice, resources and information garden recovery

The online survey will help inform a broad view of the communities' perspectives of the appropriateness and efficacy of the recovery process.

The survey will be sent to the 1000+ email addresses of people who registered with the Pinery Fire Recovery Centre. It will also be promoted on the South Australia Recovery website, and through social media (Facebook and Twitter). UTS will also explore the feasibility of Local Councils sending out the survey link to residents.

UTS will incentivise the survey with a prize/prizes draw for responding. In collaboration with SRO, UTS will also develop promotional materials about the evaluation activities for local media and community services to distribute.

Forums

The online survey will also be used to recruit participants for the qualitative face-to-face and online focus groups/workshops conducted as part of the site visits (see Table 6 in 5.4 above). These will be held to discuss in more detail the themes explored in the online survey. The advantage of forums is that they allow more nuanced discussion of the experiences and perspectives of the Pinery Fire recovery in an interactive environment, thus capturing richer qualitative data than the survey alone.

Online survey with stakeholders

An additional survey will be developed specifically for representatives of organisations/agencies involved in implementing the Pinery Fire recovery will investigate the process and outcomes of the Pinery Fire recovery; the implemented relative to the Strategic Recovery Plan; how the recovery is achieving its intended outcomes; the influence of external factors on recovery; and the impact of governance arrangements on the recovery process

5.7 The processes and protocols to maintain trust and confidentiality of stakeholders

The UTS team has significant experience in managing complex social research projects in organisationally, culturally and strategically sensitive environments and have an outstanding record in managing community engagement, small- and large-scale consultations as part of participatory research projects. These projects have generated insights and perspectives which have been utilised and integrated in government strategic planning and policy development.

UTS endorse the 'Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research' and implement it in the UTS 'Responsible Conduct of Research Policy' through the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) and Associate Deans (Research). Data Management is mandated in the Vice Chancellor's Directive on Research Data Management which requires researchers to create data management plans (DMP) for research projects.

Qualitative data will be collected as primary data and will be stored in textual form. All data will be properly stored and there will be no way to link a completed survey to a respondent. In the reporting of data all interviewees will be de-identified.

Mechanisms and processes will be put in place for how a respondent can seek assistance or request that they be contacted if they need assistance with an issue arising from participation in evaluation activities.

5.8 Analysis

5.8.1 Qualitative analysis

Thematic analysis of the qualitative research findings will be conducted in order to identify patterns of meaning across the qualitative interviews and group discussions and provide an answer to the evaluation objectives.

Documents and qualitative data captured from stakeholder interviews, focus groups and open ended survey questions will be analysed using NVIVO. This will enable the identification of key themes to emerge and the richness of the qualitative data to be explored.

The data will be organised based on the final evaluation questions and key words and themes within the summarised data identified using NVIVO's auto-coding function. This enables the objective identification of key themes, whilst minimising the inherent bias associated with manual coding.

5.8.2 Social network analysis

As a framework to understanding the relationship between social factors and community resilience, UTS will explore the use of social network analysis to assess how the community functioned during the Pinery Fire and during the recovery, and the extent to which social interactions exacerbated or mitigated the strains associated with the Pinery Fire.

5.8.3 Geo-spatial mapping

UTS will explore the feasibility of using geospatial imagery and satellite data as tools to assess changes in the structure and assets of the communities affected by the Pinery Fire.

5.8.4 Community survey responses

Descriptive statistical analysis of the survey results will be conducted. The results of all analyses will be reported at the community level, and where appropriate, by demographic variables. Data will be cleaned and analysed in statistical software package SPSS version 22.

5.8.5 Data triangulation

Data from all the qualitative and quantitative components of the evaluation will be synthesised and all data sources will be utilised to consolidate key evaluation findings. Specifically, the approach to analysis will be one of concurrent triangulation. The purpose of this approach is for multiple methods to be utilised to overcome the weaknesses of using one method, and to ensure the breadth of perspective and data sources are used to inform valid, robust and credible analysis.

5.9 Collaborative outcomes workshop

UTS will conduct a collaborative outcomes workshop with the SRO Director and Deputy Director, and other identified key stakeholders, to collectively discuss emerging themes.

The workshop will be conducted in Adelaide after initial analysis of evaluation data, but prior to preparing the draft report.

The workshop provides an opportunity for those directly involved in implementing the recommendations from the evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery to review the evaluation findings and discuss the implications. In particular, the workshop will explore the extent to which outcomes have been achieved across the built infrastructure, economic, social and natural environment domains, and the effectiveness, implementation and governance of the Pinery Fire recovery. These assessments will provide guidance to future decisions about the way recovery is implemented and evaluated across South Australia.

The format for the workshop will involve a presentation of the results from the document and data analysis, community survey and qualitative consultations in order to further validate the findings, and a collaborative process to consider and prioritise implications and recommendations.

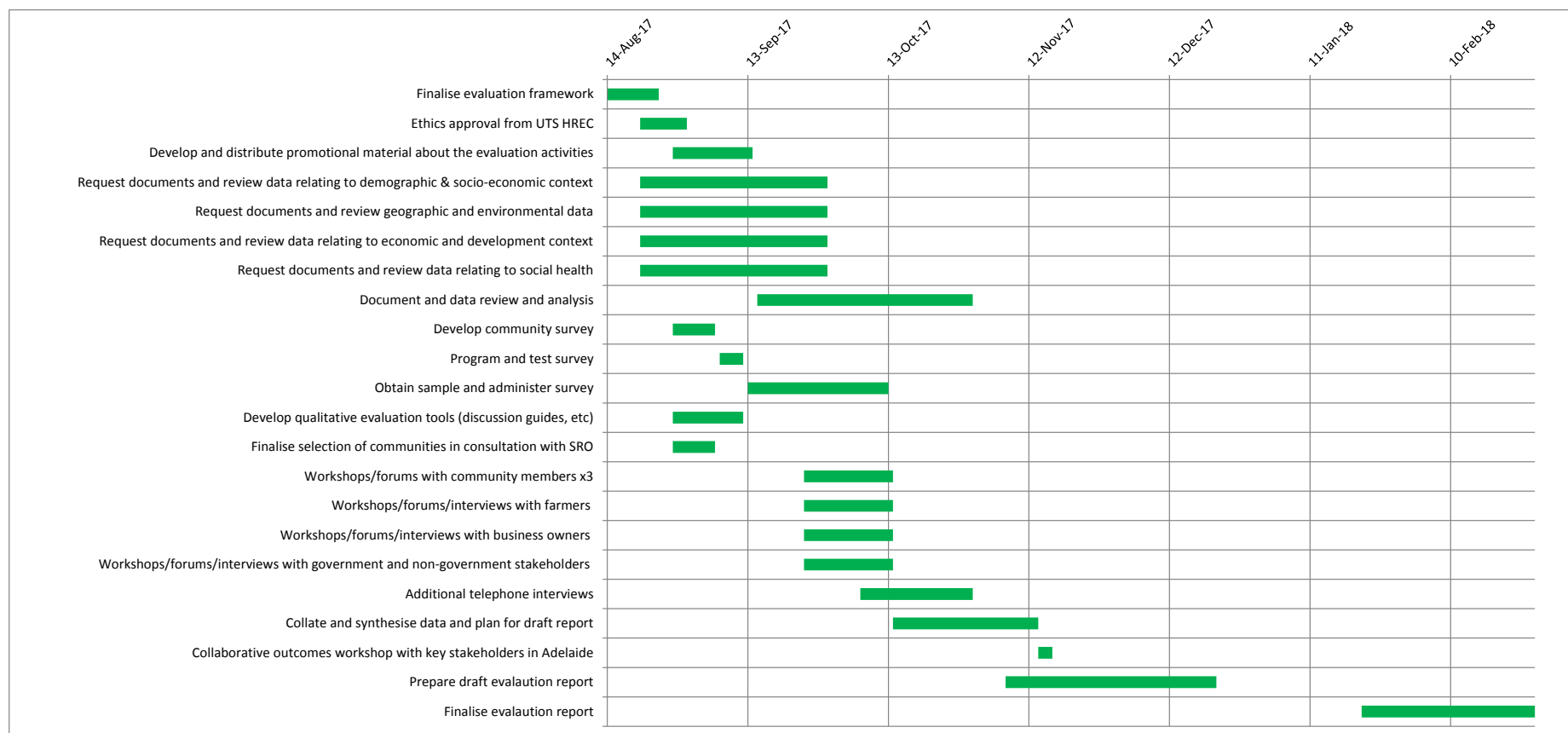
6 Ethics approval

UTS will apply for ethics approval for the evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery through an internal UTS:IPPG review process that provides delegated authority for low-risk projects from the UTS Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). The application will be submitted and reviewed in August 2017 to allow commencement of data collection in September 2017.

7 Implementation plan

Figure 3 provides our proposed implementation plan and project timeline based on a completion date of 28 February 2018.

Figure 3: Implementation plan



8 Evaluation deliverables

Table 6 outlines the content of each evaluation deliverable required in the consultancy agreement.

Table 7: Schedule of deliverables

Deliverable	Content	Due date
Final evaluation framework	▪ Evaluation plan ▪ Implementation timeline	30 August 2017
Collaborative outcomes workshop	▪ Presentation of preliminary analysis of evaluation findings ▪ Collaboratively arrive at key findings and associated implications/opportunities	Mid Nov 2017
Draft evaluation report	▪ Analysis of demographic, economic, geographic, social health, governance and other data ▪ Analysis of qualitative data from site visit, online forum and other stakeholder engagement ▪ Analysis of online survey ▪ Recommendations for future recovery programs	22 Dec 2017
Final evaluation report	▪ Incorporating consolidated SRO/stakeholder feedback from draft report	28 Feb 2018

In order for UTS to meet the above dates for final deliverables we request one round of consolidated feedback from SRO within four weeks of submitting the draft report (not including end of year office closures).

9 Risk and mitigation strategies

Table 7 outlines key risks to the project timeline and the achievement of the intended evaluation objectives.

Table 8: Project Risks

Risk	Impact	Mitigation strategy
Incomplete email addresses of community members registered with the Recovery Centre	Low number of responses to the online survey	To supplement this sample, UTS will promote the survey more widely (eg. through social media, Recovery website). UTS will also explore working with Local Councils to promote the survey link.
Low engagement/lack of willingness of community members, business owners, farmers, govt and non govt stakeholders to participate in focus groups, and/or on-representativeness of participants	Inability to draw conclusions about the appropriateness, effectiveness and experiences of Pinery Fire recovery activities and the outcomes they derived	UTS will prepare community engagement and promotional materials that address burden issues, and clearly articulate the purpose of the proposed evaluation activities, the benefits of involvement, that participation is voluntary, and how evaluation findings will be used. Community participants and respondents will be offered an incentive for participation (cash-equivalent voucher for focus groups/in-depth interviews, and prize-based incentive for online survey).
Lack of suitable recovery data to establish recovery outcomes	Inability for the State Recovery Office to be able to report on the achievements and impact of the Pinery Fire recovery, limiting the capacity for the evaluation to inform future recovery planning	A range of data sources have been identified in the evaluation methodology, and will be utilised to consolidate key evaluation findings. Data from multiple methods will be triangulated to overcome the weaknesses of specific methods, and to ensure the breadth of perspective and data sources are used to inform valid, robust and credible analysis.
Low engagement and delayed provision of data and documents	Inability for UTS to obtain relevant information to meet the agreed deliverables	The UTS project manager will maintain constant communication with SRO and ANZSOG stakeholders about project status, dependencies and the likely impact of challenges on project timelines. UTS have the ability to allocate additional resources where necessary.
Members of the project team leaving UTS within the evaluation timeframe	Decrease in the capacity of the project team to deliver the project.	UTS have an extensive number of suitably qualified researchers and professionals to deliver the evaluation objectives. Approval will be sought from ANZSOG and SRO before changes to the team are confirmed.
Internal delegated ethics approval not granted	Inability for UTS to meet the agreed timeframe for deliverable	If internal UTS:IPPG classifies the evaluation as high-risk, UTS will obtain specific ethics approval from the UTS Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC). In this case the application would still be submitted and reviewed by the Committee in late August /early September 2017 to allow commencement of data collection from late September 2017

10 Communication

Project management

The UTS project manager will send fortnightly email updates on progress to the SRO Director and Deputy Director, and telephone catch-ups as required. These catch-ups may include additional members of the UTS evaluation team depending on the stage of the project.

Managing community expectations and consultation fatigue

UTS is cognisant that there may be community concerns about the passage of time that has passed between the Pinery Fire and the proposed evaluation activities, as well as research burden among community members given the survey and consultation activities that have already been conducted by local agencies.

To mitigate the effects of this UTS will prepare community engagement and promotional materials, in collaboration with DCSI's communications team, that address burden issues, and clearly articulate the purpose of the proposed evaluation activities, the benefits of involvement, that participation is voluntary, and how evaluation findings will be used.

Communicating evaluation findings

Once initial analysis of evaluation data has been carried out, and prior to preparing the draft report, UTS proposes a collaborative outcomes workshop with SRO (and other key stakeholders identified by SRO) to review and validate the evaluation findings, and collectively discuss and prioritise the key implications and recommendations arising from the evaluation (see section 5.9).

This workshop also provides an opportunity to agree on the most appropriate structure for the final evaluation report to ensure it both answers the evaluation questions and is a usable document for key stakeholders directly involved in implementing the recommendations from the evaluation of the Pinery Fire recovery.

UTS and SRO will agree on the most appropriate mechanism for communicating the evaluation findings back to the communities affected by the Pinery Fire. This may be a brief, plain-language evaluation overview, a community presentation, etc.

Communicating evaluation findings

UTS will also provide regular feedback to ANZSOG about the appropriateness and utility of the Draft National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, in the context of the evaluation Pinery Fire recovery, in order to inform its continuous improvement and refinement.



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