

ENGAGEMENT MATTERS WORKSHOP

ACTIVITIES – PLANNING TOGETHER

Social Context - Understanding the potential participants

1. **Social network analysis.** In pairs imagine a small country town say of 200 people. Name the town. Identify different organisations and show as nodes, now link up with lines, noting that all maybe not linked. Include an emergency agency e.g. local CFA/RFS brigade. Strong links can be unbroken and weak links broken lines. Now put in a family to the side and link them into the organisation network.

DE-BRIEF: Linkages – use as well as community profile, social research to understand community and identify participants – other techniques? Social network analysis is also used for social media (online) communities.

MATERIALS: Paper, marker pens

DURATION: 20 mins

2. **Social capital formation.** All involved and standing up. For the imaginary country town, allot each person an organisation and or person. Link them with string. Have a few not linked e.g. newcomers, cultural differences. Demonstrate the different types of social capital. Imagine the town is impacted by a hazard, how does the social capital hold up? Show by tugging on strings.

DE-BRIEF: Why is social capital formation important before, during and after an emergency/disaster? Why is it important to consider when encouraging participation in emergency planning? How can those excluded or with weak ties be included?

MATERIALS: 3 balls of string

DURATION: 10 mins

Some techniques - Participation in emergency management planning

3. **Crowdsourcing.** In pairs, ask them to go outside and provide five pieces of information that tell me about what is going on. Could take photos using smartphone, write notes, draw pictures etc. Then come back and briefly report to all on findings.

DE-BRIEF: How can crowdsourcing be used in emergency management planning? What are the benefits? Issues? Acceptance by emergency agencies?

MATERIALS: Paper, Marker pens

DURATION: 20 mins

4. **Participatory mapping.** Provide case study of flooding in Narrabri. In small groups (up to 5), using a map of flood extents in the town, prepare evacuation plan and advice for residents and RSL club (located in centre of floodwaters). Use the map as main planning tool. Show results to other groups.

DE-BRIEF: Usefulness of this method? How can community members participate?

MATERIALS: Maps of Narrabri flood history, Marker pens

DURATION: 20 mins

5. **Oral histories.** In groups of three, use smartphones to record memories of a disaster in a hypothetical country town. If no smartphones then people can narrate script. One person could film whilst the others give memories. Share examples with the whole group.

DE-BRIEF: How can oral histories be used in emergency management planning? Usefulness? Issues? Examples?

MATERIALS: None

DURATION: 25 mins

- 6. Scenarios and role playing.** In whole group, provide scenario of tropical cyclone going to hit Hunter region. Assign workshop participants different roles including residents, business owners, emergency agency staff, local council, special landuses (e.g. caravan parks) and community group reps. Facilitate discussion outlining roles/issues in response as 'cyclone' makes landfall.

DE-BRIEF: How could this technique be applied to emergency management planning? How could it be used in mitigation, preparedness and recovery? Examples? Issues? What happens if you flip the existing roles?

MATERIALS: Mock-up maps of Hunter cyclone scenario

DURATION: 25 mins