An agency-based framework for community engagement for preparedness

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Introduction:
- Map preparedness community engagement approaches by Australian agencies and organisations.
- Develop a community competency index that allows consideration of particular contexts in developing CE plans.
- Develop a process to match techniques to the context.

Method:
- Interviews with 30 agency/organisation CE practitioners.
- Review grey and peer literature of engagement techniques tested in EM.
- Review of resulting models in a series of practitioner workshops – making sure it’s workable – changes made along the way.

Insights:
- The need to empower local communities to initiate, lead, tailor preparedness action - for sustainable engagement programs.
- Understanding community networks imperative.
- Not everyone can be shifted from apathy.
- Agency practice firmly based on tested frameworks – which they often adapt.
- No guides to applying frameworks, so agencies inventive. We mapped this in terms of context.

Outcomes:
- The Australian generative model of community engagement for preparedness.
- A competency index to guide use of most effective engagement techniques.
- A Community Engagement Techniques toolkit (most of which have been empirically tested in EM, found in academic and grey literature).
- A Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit from the community engagement/community development field.
- A generative process for...
  ✓ empowering communities to lead
  ✓ building and understanding capacity
  ✓ shared responsibility

Context is King

Monitoring and Evaluation...
  ✓ provides the foundation and structural support
  ✓ embeds measurement in engagement practice