BUSHFIRES AND NATURAL HAZARDS - A SIMPLE EQUATION?
BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE POLICY AND THE PRACTICAL

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OVERVIEW

A simple matter of adding all hazards to Bushfire?
1) A little history
2) Scope
3) Some drivers for change
4) The partner dimension
5) The research response
BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC

1) Research to build a disaster-resilient Australia
2) Building upon a decade of Bushfire CRC achievements
3) From 1 July 2013 under Australian Government CRC Program $47m over 8 years; total funds $130M (cash and in-kind)
4) Fire, Emergency service, policy and land management agencies from all states and territories and NZ
5) Research partners including Universities, BOM and GA
WHAT IS A CO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH CENTRE

1) A joint venture between Commonwealth, End-users and researchers
2) Pooled value model – sum of the parts greater than individual efforts
3) 2003-2010 Bushfire CRC; 2010-2013 Bushfire CRC Extension
4) 2013-2021 Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC
   a) New entity, new partners, new agenda.
   b) $130M cash and in-kind
GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1) National focus
2) Large scale of problem
3) Multi hazard
4) Filling a gap in knowledge
5) Sizable impact
6) Likelihood of adoption
JUST A SIMPLE MATTER OF SCOPE?

But what else? – what about health impacts, pandemics, locust plagues...?
But with the roughly the same money
SOME OTHER DRIVERS
Some international influences on CRC program

- UNISDR (The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction)
- ICSU (International Council for Science)
- ISSC (International Social Science Council)
- IRDR (Integrated Research on Disaster Risk)
- UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction
- NHRP (Natural Hazards Research Platform)

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Australia-New Zealand Emergency Management Committee

DISASTER RESILIENT AUSTRALIA

Australian Government Productivity Commission

AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE for Disaster Resilience & Safer Communities

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Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC Research

Bushfire CRC Research

Reduction
State, Cwlth Govt, LGA and Community
Large scale community engagement

Readiness
Traditional State Response Agencies

Response
Mainly conducted internally, little community involvement

Recovery
State and Cwlth Govt, LGA and Community
Large scale community engagement

$  $$$  $$$$$$$
COMPLEXITY IN INTERESTS
END-USERS OF RESEARCH

Volunteering Qld

Government of South Australia
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

Government of South Australia
Department for Communities and Social Inclusion

Government of South Australia
Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources

ACT Government

Government of South Australia

DFES
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

State Government of Victoria

Department of Environment and Primary Industries

Office of Environment & Heritage

NSW Government

SA Water

afac
Australian Fire and Emergency Service Authorised Organisations

FPA Australia

New Zealand Fire Service

Queensland Fire and Rescue Service

MFB

RSPCA Queensland

Government of South Australia

South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission

Tasmania Fire Service

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PARTICIPANTS - RESEARCH PROVIDERS

Australian Government
Geoscience Australia

The University of Melbourne

Macquarie University

ANU
The Australian National University

James Cook University

Deakin University
Queensland University of Technology
Brisbane Australia

Monash University

The University of Adelaide

University of Western Sydney

University of New England

University of Wollongong

Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology
SOME CHALLENGES TO USE OF RESEARCH
Commonwealth Govt

COAG

AFAC

State Govt and Agencies

Local Government

NGOs and community groups

Communities

National & International Policy

National Co-ordination

Delivery

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OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND STAKEHOLDERS

• Social service and crisis response organisations
• Local government
• Insurance industry
• Australian Business Roundtable for Disaster Resilience and Safer Communities
• Ministerial Council and ANZEMC
NEW CHALLENGES

• Multiple end-user types and stakeholders
• End-user participants and stakeholders, with diverse roles and mandates
• Diverse needs for relevant information for decision-making and operations
• Varying capacities to define research needs, to participate, and to adopt results
• All the time balancing the needs of research partners
RESEARCH PROGRAM AND THEMES

- Economics, Policy and Decision Making
- Resilient People, Infrastructure and Institutions
- Bushfire and Natural Hazard Risks
RESEARCH THEME 1

- Governance and Institutional Knowledge
- Scenarios and Loss Analysis
- Economics and Strategic Decisions
- Economics, Policy and Decision Making
- Resilient People, Infrastructure and Institutions
- Bushfire and Natural Hazard Risks
RESEARCH THEME 2

- Resilient People, Infrastructure and Institutions
  - Communications and Warning
  - Understand and Measuring Social Resilience
  - Hardenings Buildings and Infrastructure
- Economics, Policy and Decision Making
- Bushfire and Natural Hazard Risks
  - Emergency Management Capability
  - Sustainable Volunteering
RESEARCH THEME 3

- Resilient People, Infrastructure and Institutions
- Economics, Policy and Decision Making
- Bushfire and Natural Hazard Risks
  - Coastal Management
  - Monitoring and Prediction
  - Next Generation Fire Modelling
  - Prescribed Burning and Catchment Modelling
FUNDING FOR THEMES

40%  18%  42%
ANOTHER WAY TO SLICE IT ...

- **60%** on projects that are truly multi-hazard in nature, (Economics, Policy and Decision Making and the Resilience themes)

- **40%** on projects that are hazard-specific
EDUCATION AND INTERNATIONAL LINKAGES

1) BNHCRC scholarship program is open, offers top-up and Full Scholarships (www.bnhcrc.com.au/education)

2) The work of the centre is also seeking to link with other groups around the world, building on the relationships developed by the Bushfire CRC.
WANT TO KNOW MORE?

1) See us at the BNHCRC and AFAC stand
2) Talk to us over the rest of the day
3) Go to our website bnhcrc.com.au register for Hazard News and Hazard Notes
4) Like us on Facebook @BNHCRC
5) Follow us on Twitter @bnhcrc
6) Email us firstname.lastname@bnhcrc.com.au
7) Give us a call 03 9412 9600
IT IS YOUR CRC – GET INVOLVED!

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