

## International Centre of Excellence, Community Resilience

### End of Year update: December 2015

Dear all ICoE members and interested colleagues,

We hope you have had a good six months since our last email update. The IRDR ICoE: Community Resilience in Wellington has had a very busy time during the second half of 2015, including running our workshop on Citizen Science, helping to facilitate student research, launching the Disaster Hub at Massey University, and continuing to develop the Community Resilience Planning programme.

Since our last email, we have now published a practice update report of the Knowledge Sharing workshop in the Australasian Journal of Disaster and Trauma Studies, which can be found here: [http://trauma.massey.ac.nz/issues/2015-2/AJDTs\\_19\\_2\\_Doyle.pdf](http://trauma.massey.ac.nz/issues/2015-2/AJDTs_19_2_Doyle.pdf). This is a great summary of our 2014 workshop, highlighting key perspectives of the ICoE community on how to effectively transfer knowledge for community resilience between communities, practitioners and researchers; including identified challenges and ways to overcome them. Thank you to all the participants for their contributions to the workshop and this report!

In August 2015, we launched the Disaster Hub at Massey University, this is a joint venture between the Joint Centre for Disaster Research (Massey U/GNS Science), Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office, the ICoE, EQC and the New Zealand Red Cross. This Hub represents a strategic step forward to ensure that current and future disaster risk management partner organisations have a shared space to work together, connecting practice to research and research to practice, and providing a facility for collaborations between staff of all public and private organisations, universities, and training entities with an interest in emergency management. You can read more about this exciting venture here: [http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-massey/news/article.cfm?mnarticle\\_uuid=09D2A3C9-96AF-B98E-D64A-9FD009950F13](http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-massey/news/article.cfm?mnarticle_uuid=09D2A3C9-96AF-B98E-D64A-9FD009950F13).

In November 2015, we ran the Citizen Science in Disaster Risk Management Workshop, at WREMO. We had a great turnout for this event with over 45 attendees, who came together to discuss the benefits and challenges of Citizen Science initiatives, and considerations such as co-creation, ethics, engagement, and management of Citizen Science initiatives. A brief summary report is currently being written and will be available in due course. We envision that the great ideas shared on the day will help inform future development of a website for sharing Citizen Science resources.

The ICoE, via WREMO, has also been involved in the development of the NZ Red Cross Hazard App, which launched in November 2015. This app, which is a development of an existing International Red Cross product, has been tailored for the NZ environment and messaging. As such, it will help people in the community identify, prepare and respond to hazards in New Zealand, and is pre-loaded with information about hazards including floods, earthquakes, tsunami, fire, weather and biosecurity risks. The app helps users prepare an emergency response kit and plan, and guides them through what to do during an emergency and into recovery. The app also allows alerts to be sent in

emergencies and/or the user to receive information direct from agencies such as MetService and the NZ Transport Agency. More information about the app can be found here:

<https://www.redcross.org.nz/what-we-do/in-new-zealand/emergency-operations/hazard-app/>

Other recent and future activities include:

- The ICoE was represented by our coordinators at Wellington City Council's 100 Resilient Cities meeting in September 2015. This meeting launched Wellington as one of The Rockefeller foundations 100 Resilient Cities, and was the kick-off workshop for developing Wellington's resilience strategy.
- As part of one of the core goals of the ICoE, which is to enhance research to practice and practice to research, the ICoE helped facilitate Massey University PhD student Alan Kwok's workshop in November 2015 on developing Social Resilience Indicators for Communities. Participants came from across the ICoE, including researchers, policy makers, private sector, and community members; and we thank them all for assisting in Alan's research.
- In collaboration with WREMO, Kate Daellenbach at Victoria University has conducted a qualitative study to evaluate the Community Led Response Planning Process currently undertaken by WREMO. A report of this study is available at:  
[http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/learning/departments/school-of-psychology/research/disaster-research/research-projects/icoc/icoc\\_home.cfm](http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/learning/departments/school-of-psychology/research/disaster-research/research-projects/icoc/icoc_home.cfm).
- A further evaluation of the use of open spaces post event is currently being conducted with Penny Allen of Victoria University, as WREMO and the ICoE aim to ensure our community resilience activities are evaluated and effective as possible.
- The next Emergency Management Summer Institute, run at Massey University and organised by Massey U., GNS Science, and the ICoE, will be from 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016. This short course provides a theoretical and practical introduction to selected emergency management topics including planning, effective all-hazard warning systems, public education, community engagement and public participation, community resilience, and evacuation planning and welfare. More details can be found here:  
[http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/fms/Colleges/College%20of%20Humanities%20and%20Social%20Sciences/Psychology/Disasters/outreach/2016\\_Summer\\_Inst%20reg.pdf](http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/fms/Colleges/College%20of%20Humanities%20and%20Social%20Sciences/Psychology/Disasters/outreach/2016_Summer_Inst%20reg.pdf)

We are looking forward to a continued growth of the ICoE in 2016! So, if you have any ideas for activities or want to connect your event or initiative to the ICoE, please do contact us. For now, Season's greetings and wishing you all a relaxing summer break,

Regards

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