

International Centre of Excellence, Community Resilience

Email update on Activities: May 2016

Dear all ICoE members and interested colleagues,

We hope you have had a good five months since our last email update in December. The IRDR ICoE: Community Resilience in Wellington has been continuing to work towards its goals of enhancing the evidence base for the Community Resilience Strategy, sharing international good practice in community resilience, and encouraging active collaborations between individuals, organisations, and communities in the Wellington Region.

So far this year we have been involved in a number of activities and collaborations which we wanted to share with you all, including:

- Boulder, CO have adopted WREMO's Community Resilience model, programmes and tools wholeheartedly for implementation as part of a national pilot through AmeriCorps. They are paying to fly out WREMO staff to help them think through this and train their team in "the Way of the WREMO" (<https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2015/08/19/resilience-ameri-corps-announces-ten-cities-its-pilot-program-support>). This is also being promoted across the 100 Resilient Cities network and is central to their resilience strategy. (<https://bouldercolorado.gov/resilience> - see page 28 of their draft resilience strategy for further details).
- WREMO are working with Oregon state to help them implement their own version of Wellington's Tsunami Blue Lines: http://theworldlink.com/bandon/news/defazio-kicks-off-tsunami-blue-line-project/article_85ca93f0-998e-561f-b328-29f5c15ffba5.html
- WREMO's Community Response and Resilience Planning process is wrapping up the planning guide for communities. The process has been four years in development and the guide is the output which all the local planning is put into. This is fundamental to WREMO's work in the coming years and they are very proud of this initiative. As a result of the process, WREMO are looking at rebranding the term Civil Defence Centre so that it better reflects the ownership by the community and the expectations of services they will receive.
- ICoE members are actively involved in research and outreach connected to and funded by the newly launched QuakeCore: Centre for Earthquake Resilience (<http://quakecore.nz/>). The Centre for Earthquake Resilience was selected for Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE) funding last year by the Tertiary Education Commission and the Royal Society of New Zealand. The centre brings together researchers from the University of Canterbury, University of Auckland, Victoria University, GNS Science, Massey University, the University of Waikato, Resilient Organisations and the Building Research Association of New Zealand. QuakeCoRE aims to establish and link multi-institutional national research programmes that are internationally networked. The research programmes will advance the science and implementation pathways of earthquake resilience through system-level science with highly integrated collaborations coordinated across the physical, engineering and social sciences and relevant research institutions.
- 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. Since then, Alan has written a report on this workshop, entitled '*What is 'social resilience'? Perspectives of disaster researchers, emergency management practitioners, and policymakers in New Zealand*'. This has just been submitted to the International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction for consideration for publication. We again thank the many ICoE members that helped Alan with his work, and continue to support Alan's work in understanding the important role of Social Resilience in Community Resilience. When published, we will forward Alan's publication to the ICoE community.

- Since our November 2015 Citizen Science in Disaster Risk Management Workshop, held at WREMO with the support of the ICoE community, we have written a brief report of the minutes of the day. This has now been published as a GNS Science Miscellaneous report, which I have attached for your reference. This workshop had over 45 attendees, who came together to discuss the benefits and challenges of Citizen science, issues such as co-creation, ethics, engagement, and management. We hope that the ideas shared on the day, and captured in this report will help inform future discussion and development of Citizen Science resources and guidance.

We are looking forward to a continued growth of the ICoE! So, if you have any ideas for activities or want to connect your event or initiative to the ICoE, please do contact us.

Regards

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