

International Centre of Excellence, Community Resilience, Wellington

Email update: November 2014 – for Workshop participants

Dear ICoE Workshop Participant,

Thank you for joining us in the workshop that we held few weeks back to help take the first step toward answering the challenge, "*how do we help make our communities more resilient to future disasters?*". We had high hopes for the day. However, our expectations were exceeded when we saw half of you still chatting nearly 30 minutes after the workshop ended.

It was a really great day. We were all incredibly inspired by the ideas that you generated and your enthusiasm to work together to build more connected and prepared communities.

Over the last few weeks, our friends at the JCDR/GNS have been going through all of your many, many ideas and aggregating them into a single document. This information will feed into what we plan for future as well as provide the basis for a "white paper" to be developed by the JCDR and WREMO teams. The white paper will help frame the challenge of the day's activities and provide an initial pathway forward for the International Centre of Excellence in Community Resilience.

We're also developing a framework for Active International Centre of Excellence (ICoE) Members. We envision something akin to signing up to the Resilience Toolbox and checking-in with the Centre once or twice a year with a brief update of your activities. It's important that we capture the awesomeness occurring across the region, but do so in a way that isn't a time or resource demand for the Active Member. We'll be in touch in the near future with a defined framework for this.

What's next???

First, we hope each of you decide to **become an Active Member**. The benefits of membership will be

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- the ability to leverage off of local, national and international networks in the resilience space from both practitioners and researchers
- the opportunity to showcase your work and help others do good things
- the chance to have your work published in Australasian Journal of Disaster and Trauma Studies

Second, **sign up your organisation to the Resilience Toolbox** and load up some of your projects that will help others, even if they are small! Contribution is the first step towards collaboration. Don't underestimate the great work you are doing!

www.resiliencetoolbox.org

Finally, please **begin sharing this opportunity with any organisation, researcher or community group you believe has something to offer**. We know there are all kinds of great initiatives, big and small, occurring across the region, New Zealand and the rest of the world.

Let's all do our small bit to help make our communities more resilient to future disasters by helping and collaborating with others trying to solve the same challenges you are.

Many of you have asked to share the contact list. If you would prefer your email is not shared with anyone else, can you please let us know by Friday next week and we will ensure it does not go out. If you would like a copy of the list of attendees and invites, let us know and we'll share it after we give everyone a chance to opt out.

If you have any questions or ideas, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you again for being a part of the solution!

All the best

Dan

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