

# DISASTER CHALLENGE

WHAT IT IS, WHERE IT'S AT, AND WHERE IT'S  
HEADING

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**INNOVATIVE RESEARCH  
FOR WICKED PROBLEMS**

**CALLING ALL EARLY CAREER  
RESEARCHERS, POSTGRADUATE  
AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS**

**LEARN MORE AT  
[DISASTERCHALLENGE.COM.AU](https://disasterchallenge.com.au)**



## TESTIMONIALS

“The Disaster Challenge gives participants the opportunity to work together across universities and disciplines around the country. They get to take on a challenge, be imaginative, creative and collaborative, with guidance from some brilliant mentors.”

***Professor Cheryl Desha, Griffith University Disaster Management Network***

“The great thing about the Disaster Challenge is that it really gives us the opportunity to hear from early researchers about some new and innovative ideas. As a disaster management sector, that gives us the opportunity to really push the limits and think about what is new and fresh coming our way that we can incorporate in to the way we do disaster management.”

***Kath Ryan, Executive Manager Public Information and Warnings, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. 2022 Disaster Challenge Final judge.***



## **PHASE 1: ENTER BY 25 MAY**

The judges will then review and select the best entries for the Disaster Challenge Final using the judging criteria. Up to three finalists will be selected.

## **PHASE 2: PITCH DEVELOPMENT FOR FINALISTS, FROM 3 JULY**

To bring your ideas to life, finalists will be supported with academic and industry mentors to assist them to take their idea to the next level. If required, finalists will have access to equal financial, academic and creative support to get the best out of their ideas, as well as support for up to three members of each finalist team to attend the Disaster Challenge Final.

## **PHASE 3: DISASTER CHALLENGE FINAL**

Finalists will come together in Melbourne at a special public event for the UN International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction on 12 or 13 October to pitch their brilliant ideas to a judging panel of disaster management experts.



# WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

- **Focused** - identifies a specific, real-world example of this wicked problem in practice that the submission seeks to address
- **Informed** - demonstrates why this specific example needs new and innovative solutions
- **Impactful** - Australia needs this now and the benefit is clear
- **Credible** - based on sound academic principles
- **Innovative** - no-one else has tried this or combining ideas in a new way in Australia
- **Affordable** - this could be realistically achieved with a reasonable budget
- **Adaptable** - it could work in different places in Australia
- **Scalable** - good for big and small disasters
- **Achievable** - there is a clear pathway to bring your approach to life, at least as a proof of concept.

**Your understanding of the problem**

**'Must haves' in your proposed solution**

**'Nice to haves' in your proposed solutions**



## WATCH THE 2022 FINALIST PITCHES

### WINNER

#### TOURIST AND TOURISM WORKER EDUCATION USING WI-FI PORTALS

Mark Owens (Country Fire  
Authority) and Dr Kamarah Pooley  
(Fire and Rescue NSW)

[WATCH](#)

### RUNNER UP

#### BEACONS OF HOPE

Jane Toner, Sheridan Keegan,  
Ahmed Qasim, Lynn Lue-Kopman,  
Yunjin Wang, Manori Dissanayaka  
(Griffith University) and Cris  
Hernandez-Santin (RMIT)

[WATCH](#)

### RUNNER UP

#### MOBILISING LOCAL CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE STAKEHOLDERS AND GATEKEEPERS

Jyoti Khatri K C and Mohammed  
Alqahtani (Queensland University  
of Technology)

[WATCH](#)







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