

Awareness, education and communication for compound natural hazards

A research project for NHRA by
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Natural hazard events are increasing in frequency and/or intensity under climate change

- Awareness, education and communication are crucial for preparedness, response and recovery
- There is no established best practice framework for communicating on compound natural hazards with vulnerable communities
- This project aims to fill that gap by co-creating a tailored communication framework with communities and responders





Compound natural hazards are...two or more extreme disaster events occurring simultaneously or successively; combinations of extreme events with underlying conditions that amplify their impact; combinations of events that are not themselves extreme but which collectively lead to extreme impacts.



Seneviratne et al. (2012)

Changes in climate extremes and their impacts on the natural physical environment. In: *Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation*, Field, C.B. et al. (eds.). A Special Report of Working Groups I and II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, pp. 109-230.



This project

- A desktop literature review to establish global best-practice communication on compound natural hazards
- Social research in disaster-affected communities to establish communication needs pre/during and post hazard events
- A conceptual framework for emergency management/recovery agencies to guide communication for awareness, resilience and preparedness



Project case study locations

- Ayr, QLD
- Dandenong Ranges, VIC
- Tenterfield, NSW

Case study locations have been selected against a set of criteria including: type of hazard, geographical spread, social diversity, local media presence and avoiding over-researched locations.



Social research methodology

- Invited research forum for community members and local emergency management/response agencies
- Survey
- Semi-structured interviews
- Online focus group with research forum members for feedback on draft framework



Working with local media

- Local media can be important advocates for the needs of communities.
- This project will also work with local media both to convey the research project to local communities, to invite participation, and to publish results.



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