

FRANCE AND AUSTRALIA

Bushfire Science Workshop

A virtual workshop to
promote French-Australian
research collaboration
in bushfire research

Tuesday 15 – Thursday 17 September 2020

DAY 1: TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

AEST
4pmCEST
8am

WELCOME

Introduction and Welcome to the Workshop

FACILITATOR: BORIS TOUCAS, FRENCH EMBASSY

Welcome

Acknowledgement of Country

Opening statements and purpose

- **Christophe Penot**, The Ambassador of France in Australia
- **Dr Richard Thornton**, CEO Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC
- **Professor Margaret Gardner AC**, President and Vice-Chancellor Monash University, Chair Go8

Speakers to discuss the imperatives for coming together to discuss bushfire research and collaboration.

4.20pm

8.20am

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AT THE TIME OF A BUSHFIRE CRISIS

This session will focus on the immediate situation at the time of the bushfires, the experiences of the responders, and how they use or draw on innovations – built from research – to effectively combat threats. Discussion will include how Australian and French responders can assist each other during their respective crises and what more is needed in terms of joint effort.

Panel 1: Innovations and collaboration from responders' perspective

How may science and international collaboration help responders face the new challenges of bushfires, using novel research informed techniques and capability?

CHAIR: PROFESSOR MATTHEW GILLIHAM, DIRECTOR WAITE RESEARCH INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE, GO8

- **Colonel Bruno ULLIAC**, Head of European and International relations at the General Directorate for Civil Protection and Crisis Management (DGSCGC), *Experiences during his visit to Australia during the 2020 fire season and ways for bilateral collaboration*
- **Dr Stuart Matthews**, New South Wales Rural Fire Service, *NSWRFS efforts in science and future opportunities and the Australian Fire Danger Rating system*
- **Alen Slijepcevic**, Country Fire Authority, *Response and impacts of 2019-20 fires in Victoria.*

5.10pm

9.10am

Panel 2: Wildfire Science

The science of extreme fire: access to and use of complex data, fire weather and fire behaviour.

CHAIR: JEAN BAPTISTE FILIPPI, FIRECASTER PROJECT, LABORATOIRE SCIENCES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT

- **Professor Paul-Antoine SANTONI** Director of the Environmental Sciences Laboratory, University of Corsica *Forest fire modelling*
- **Solène Turquety**, Laboratory for dynamic meteorology, *Impacts of fires on air quality*
- **Dr Jeff Kepert**, Bureau of Meteorology and Project Leader Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, *Fire weather, pyro-cumulonimbus development and fire brand spotting*
- **Professor Jason Sharples**, University of New South Wales Bushfire Research Group, Project Leader Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and Go8, *Complex weather and fire.*
- **Dr Marta Yebra**, Australian National University, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and Go8, *remote sensing and flammability of landscape.*

6.30pm

10.30am

Wrap up of day

FACILITATOR: BORIS TOUCAS, FRENCH EMBASSY

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2020

AEST
4pm

CEST
8am

RISK REDUCTION AND NEW CHALLENGES

This session will examine various aspects of risk, and the research advances needed to better respond to and recover quickly from bushfire.

Introduction

FACILITATOR: PROFESSOR ROBYN LANGHAM, HEAD OF SCHOOL, MONASH RURAL HEALTH, MONASH UNIVERSITY, GROUP OF EIGHT

Panel 1: Managing the land, forests and urban zones

Land management strategies for mitigation of bushfire risk and impact; how to plan or prepare built environments and communities, for example in peri-urban areas.

CHAIR: SEBASTIEN LAHAYE, PROJECT COORDINATOR AT SAFE CLUSTER (LEAD PROJECT EU FIRE-IN) AND ADJUNCT SENIOR LECTURER, UNSW CANBERRA *BOTTOM UP INITIATIVES TO IMPLY THE POPULATION IN RISK MANAGEMENT*

- **Eric Rigolot**, INRAE Avignon URFM, *Agricultural use of Fire in Europe*
- **Ondine Le Fur**, INRAE Aix-en-Provence, ex IRSTEA, *Bushfire risks at the interfaces forest-urban zones*
- **Professor Alan March**, University of Melbourne, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and Go8, *Urban planning and disaster risk reduction*
- **Michelle Ward**, PhD Candidate, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, The University of Queensland

5.10pm

9.10am

Panel 2: The hidden costs of Bushfires

Health, economic, and environmental costs of bushfires and strategies for recovery

CHAIR: VICKI THOMSON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, GROUP OF EIGHT

- **Dr Antoine Belgodere**, Univ corse, *Economy and bushfire crises*
- **Dr Pierre Souvet**, Association Health and Environment, *Health and environment*
- **Dr Veronique Florec**, University of Western Australia, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and Go8, *Cost benefit of hazard reduction burning using Western Australia as an example*
- **Professor Lisa Gibbs**, University of Melbourne, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and Go8, *Beyond Bushfires and Recovery Capitals CRC project, mental health of community issues*
- **Associate Professor Gabby Walters**, University of Queensland, *Tourism crisis market recovery – costs, behaviour and marketing.*

6.25pm

10.25am

Wrap up of day

FACILITATOR: PROFESSOR ROBYN LANGHAM, GROUP OF EIGHT

DAY 3: THURSDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2020

AEST
4pm**CEST**
8am

OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

This session will discuss the potential for further collaboration between French, European and Australian counterparts, focussing on the capabilities and tools that can be shared and future opportunities to work together.

Introduction

FACILITATOR: DR JOHN BATES, RESEARCH DIRECTOR, BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC

Panel 1: Environmental restoration

Restoration of burnt landscapes and fire impacts on biodiversity.

CHAIR: PROFESSOR KATHY BELOV AO, LEAD AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE GENOMICS GROUP, PRO VICE CHANCELLOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT, UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

- **Dr Adam Ali**, University of Montpellier, *Paleoecology, Fire Ecology, boreal Forest Ecosystem*
- **Dr Florent Mouillot**, Centre d'ecologie fonctionnelle et evolutive
- **Dr Adam Leavesley**, ACT Parks Service, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, *Restoration of forests post fire.*
- **Associate Professor Tina Bell**, Associate Professor in Fire Ecology, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Sydney, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, *Impact of fire on organisms and ecosystem processes*

5pm**9am**

Panel 2 Future Risks

A focus on what will drive the future wildfire risk in both countries, highlighting areas where joint research could benefit both nations.

CHAIR: DR JOHN BATES, RESEARCH DIRECTOR, BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC

- **Dr Adrien Bertaud**, head of the environment unit of the Observatory for the Environment in New Caledonia
- **Mr Fabien Albouy**, director of the Observatory for the Environment in New Caledonia
- **Professor Holger Maier**, University of Adelaide, Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC and Go8, *How to factor in climate, environmental and demographic uncertainties into future decision making.*
- **Professor Nerilie Abram**, ARC Future Fellow, Research School of Earth Sciences, Australian National University

6pm**10am**

Panel 3 Looking for French-Australian collaboration

Discussion on opportunities for collaboration

CHAIR: DR RICHARD THORNTON, CEO, BUSHFIRE AND NATURAL HAZARDS CRC

What opportunities are available, both in Australia and in France/Europe?

- **Nishant Shandilya**, Euraxess
- **Nathalie Simenel**, French Embassy
- **Sarah Brown**, Chief of Staff – Office of Australia's Chief Scientist; and incoming Counsellor (Europe) – Industry, Science, Energy and Resources

Wrap Up and Close

Final comments from French Embassy, Group of Eight, and Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC

- **Thierry Corrège**, French Embassy
- **Professor Kathy Belov AO**, Lead Australian Wildlife Genomics Group, Pro Vice Chancellor Global Engagement, University of Sydney
- **Dr Richard Thornton**, CEO Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC