

Cluster: Governance and Institutional Knowledge

Project: **P**olicies, **I**nstitutions and **G**overnance of
Natural Hazards

(The "**PIGS** of natural hazards" – project update and
(almost) end of project report)

B&NH CRC RAF, Perth, 4/2017

Our mascot, Squeak: a **resilient** piggy, **sharing responsibility**. (... soon available: need a project mascot?)



BNHCRC PIGS Project, RAF Perth April 2017

The team:

- Michael Eburn, Lead Researcher) (Law, ANU)
- Steve Dovers (Fenner, ANU) (Cluster Lead Researcher)
- Karen Hussey (GCI, UQ)
- Jamie Pittock (Fenner, ANU)
- Anna Lukasiewicz (Law/Fenner, ANU)
- Caroline Wenger (Fenner, ANU – CRC's first submitted PhD)
- Sue Hunt (CRC PhD, Fenner ANU).

- John Schauble, EMV: lead end user.

Update: Project theme #1

- **What is 'community' and how can governments share responsibility with communities as well as individuals?**
- Universal policy goal “shared responsibility” but widespread confusion (and cynicism?) over what it means – and, how policy can define and enforce shared responsibility.
- New paper: Lukasiewicz, Dovers & Eburn. 2017. “Shared responsibility: the who, what and how.” *Environmental Hazards*.

-- a framework matching **who** (is responsible?), for **what** (actions?), and **how** (do we select the **policy instrument** to make it happen?).

The SR matrix (Lukasiewicz et al 2017)...

- **Who** might/should take “responsibility” – firms large or small, various agencies of the state, “communities” (no), households, heads of households, NGOs, local social institutions, etc?
- For **what** – warnings, numerous preparatory actions, coordination, relief provision...
- And **how** – statutory responsibility, incentives/disincentives, social sanction or expectations – policy instrument choice (many options).
- And, most importantly, can the who be held to account for their “responsibility”, how and by whom – how **hard** can the policy instruments we use be? **Please discuss...**

Update: Project theme #2

- **How can insurers play a more active role in communicating risk and encouraging hazard mitigation?**
- There are perversities in use of insurance as a policy tool, *per se* and in combination with other policy settings.
- Paper submitted: Hussey et al. "Perverse Incentives in Disaster Insurance Policy: Propagating Mitigation".
- Re fire, often argued that insurance could include assessments and vary premiums/coverage to encourage mitigation – would it be worth the effort for the companies? **Please discuss...**

Update: Project theme #3

- **Is there a better process or institution for effective lesson sharing after natural hazard events?**
- Following first phase work by Eburn and Dovers on litigation and limits to RC's and other quasi-judicial processes (*see previous reports and publications*).
- Eburn currently in UK collaborating on post-disaster inquiry and restorative justice research.
- Paper presented by Eburn at IWF conference, Barcelona, to be presented at UK Emergency Planning College.
- **CRC discussion paper** out for comment – analysis of current post-event processes, and proposal of **restorative justice**-based processes.
- Will politicians, agencies, the media and angry public embrace civilized post-event lesson-drawing and reconciliation? **Please discuss...**

Other stuff that the CRC has helped happen, in and around our project themes...

- March & Dovers (forthcoming). 'Mainstreaming urban planning for disaster risk reduction'. In: Vella and Sipe (eds). *Austn handbook of urban and regional planning*.
- Eburn, M. (2016) 'The International Law of Wildfires' in Breau and Samuel (eds), *Research Handbook on Disasters and International Law*.
- McDonald, F., Eburn, M. & Smith, E. (2016) 'Legal and Ethical Aspects of Disaster Management' in FitzGerald, Tarrant, Aitken and Fredriksen (eds), *Disaster Health Management: A Primer for Students and Practitioners*.
- Steele, Hussey and Dovers. (2017) 'What's critical about critical infrastructure'. *Urban Policy and Research*. (Project themes 1 & 2).
- Eburn forthcoming papers for ASPI ('Coordination of Federal, State and Local Disaster Management Arrangements in Australia – Do we need a Civil Contingencies Act?') and for Risk Frontiers ('Allowing fire affected communities to rebuild').

Forthcoming, submitted, still being worked on...

- Lukasiwicz, Eburn and Dovers developing a framework/paper on the theme of 'disaster justice' (cross-project themes).
- Sue Hunt's PhD proceeding.
- Hunt and Eburn paper under development 'How can business share responsibility for disaster resilience' (project themes 1 & 2).
- Publications arising from Caroline Wenger's thesis on flood management.
- Whatever comes out of the restorative justice discussion paper and feedback (project theme 3) – Eburn paper at AFAC.

And what happens next?

- PhDs finish and go off and do Good Things.
- Michael Eburn continues with his research, blog, legal advice, etc.
- Steve Dovers joins the urban planning project, amongst other retirement hobbies...
- *The scales fall off the eyes of governments all over Australia and they implement many of the excellent policy prescriptions developed by the team.*
- (Which raises the issue of the **uptake of policy research** – Dovers paper at AFAC.)