

Using transformative scenarios in a climate-challenged world



RESEARCH TEAM

Nicola Moore, NHRA
Katelyn Samson, AIDR
Matthew Dyer, QFES
Liza Gelt, Collaborative Consulting Co

SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

Project duration: 12 months

Background

The Transformative Scenarios in a Climate-challenged World resources were developed with and for the emergency management sector as a tactical research project under the former Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC (the CRC).

These resources are available [here](#). The resources are intended to support organisational leaders to take the four plausible future scenarios, consider the future risks of hazards, apply probable climate change, and then use these scenarios to stress-test their organisation's existing strategies and plans.

This allows leaders to explore how well their businesses will deliver services in 2035 under each of the plausible futures, and to test the likely effectiveness of adaptation strategies.

However, broader feedback has indicated a range of barriers impacting further end-user agency application of the current resources. EM partners have expressed the need for a set of more user-friendly, interactive resources that they can promote and apply in their own organisations.

Project description

This project aims to further develop the translation and utilisation of the Transformative Scenarios in a Climate-Challenged World resources. This project will develop, test and evaluate professional development modules and user-friendly train-the-trainer applications.

A highly collaborative approach for this project will ensure that the transformative scenarios and supporting materials realise their intended benefits with sector partner agencies.

This project will involve engaging with EM and other invited sector partners to understand the barriers and opportunities agencies have experienced in apply existing resources, and determine suitable application pathways, including appropriate design and development of training resources and materials.

Additionally, this project will also work closely with EM and other sector partners to co-design a communications and engagement plan to promote and socialise the resources.

Intended outcomes

The outcomes of this project will be a more dynamic, informed, and prepared EM sector, capable of responding to the unpredictable events that occur in a climate-impacted world with confidence and strategic foresight.

Unlike traditional scenario planning, which primarily prepares organisations to adapt to various possible futures, transformative scenario planning empowers stakeholders to proactively shape these futures.

Building on the foundation of previously developed transformative scenarios by Reos Partners and RMIT University, this project will further enhance the EM and other sector's capacity to navigate the complexities of a climate-challenged world.

By integrating these established scenarios with practical toolkits and online guides, we aim support EM and other sector teams to be proactively engaged in creating safer, more resilient communities in the face of climate change.

A notable application of the original resources was by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), who utilised them to enhance their 2030 strategy. The outcomes demonstrated the scenarios' efficacy in engaging leaders and decision-makers, encouraging them to consider novel, less comfortable signals of change and prepare for future uncertainties.

Further information

For full project details head to: <https://www.naturalhazards.com.au/research/research-projects/utilisation-transformative-scenarios-climate-challenged-world>

Or contact nicola.moore@naturalhazards.com.au

© Natural Hazards Research Australia, 2022
Disclaimer:

Natural Hazards Research Australia advise that the information contained in this publication comprises general statements based on scientific research. The reader is advised and needs to be aware that such information may be incomplete or unable to be used in any specific situation. No reliance or actions must therefore be made on that information without seeking prior expert professional, scientific and technical advice. To the extent permitted by law, Natural Hazards Research Australia (including its employees and consultants) exclude all liability to any person for any consequences, including but not limited to all losses, damages, costs, expenses and any other compensation, arising directly or indirectly from using this publication (in part or in whole) and any information or material contained in it.

All material in this document, except as identified below, is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial 4.0 International Licence.

Material not licensed under the Creative Commons licence:

- Natural Hazards Research Australia logo
- Any other logos
- All photographs, graphics and figures

All content not licensed under the Creative Commons licence is all rights reserved. Permission must be sought from the copyright owner to use this material.



Translation and implementation potential

This project directly aims to translate and implement the resources developed from NHRA's previous project, Transformative Scenarios in a Climate-challenged World.

This project seeks EM and other sector professionals to engage with these transformative scenarios in a hands-on manner, so that they will be prepared to adapt to future challenges and will also be equipped to actively shape these futures. Thereby, bridging the gap between the theoretical scenarios and their practical application.

This project will focus on translating high-level scenarios into tangible, actionable techniques that EM and other sector practitioners can readily apply.