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February 2021 | No. 24

Happy New Year and welcome to the second e-version of IGEM Connect. This edition provides updates on IGEM priority work underway, as well as information on new resources, upcoming events and the 2021 IGEM Champion of Change Awards.

The beginnings of 2021 have already seen the first cyclone of the season – Tropical Cyclone Kimi, bringing widespread rainfall to the gulf and North Queensland communities, Queensland’s continued response to COVID-19, and work is well underway on IGEM’s K’gari Bushfire Review.

I’d like to pay tribute to the many police, fire and emergency services, health and local government staff and volunteers who have continued to keep Queensland safe over the past year as well as over the recent holiday period. Every day, officers, staff and volunteers serve our community in so many ways, including dangerous situations, to ensure we live in a safer Queensland. We say thank you for your efforts and your sacrifice.

Many of these frontline disaster management personnel across many parts of the State have been activated for extended periods and this can take its toll on both individual’s energy levels, but also on our ability to plan and prepare. Ongoing efforts to continue our disaster planning, exercising and lessons management will, throughout the year, continue our collective focus on improving disaster management and community safety outcomes.

I’d like to also acknowledge the impacts of recent bushfire events on our local communities and thank all of the individual community members who have participated in recent community forums for the K’Gari Bushfire Review, and those that provided public submissions to the review.

From the team here at IGEM, we look forward to continuing our collaborative efforts with the sector in driving the continuous improvement of our disaster management arrangements throughout the year.

K’Gari Bushfire Review

The K’gari Bushfire Review is underway with the Office hosting community and business forums at Orchid Beach, Happy Valley, Kingfisher Bay, Urganan and Rainbow Beach.

The Office also hosted an online forum with academics and researchers to incorporate academic research, examples of best practice, and learnings from other jurisdictions into the review. Later this month, IGEM will host a community forum in partnership with the Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation in Hervey Bay.

IGEM received a strong response to its call for public submissions which has now closed.

[Find out more >>](#)



Orchid Beach Community Forum



Happy Valley Community Forum

Expressions of Interest for Research Forum close Friday February 19, 2021

IGEM is pleased to host our inaugural Queensland Disaster Management Research Forum on 14 July 2021. The theme is: looking back, being present, looking forward. Planning for this event is well underway, including exploring flexible delivery options – to ensure a COVID-19 safe approach.

Expressions of Interest from both practitioners and researchers, are open for:

- 15-minute presentations showcasing research/sector collaborations
- Posters and case studies from early career researchers
- Vox pops (2-3 minutes)

[Submit your EOI](#) on line by 19 February 2021.

[Registration is free and essential for this event >>](#)

Nominations open for the 2021 International Women's Day IGEM Champion of Change Awards

Do you know someone doing amazing things in the disaster and emergency management sector?

The IGEM Champion of Change Awards are open to both women and men, in addition to volunteers and full time personnel in the Emergency Management sector who actively champion change and demonstrate excellence.

There are three award categories this year:

- Excellence in Disaster Management
- Culture of Learning
- Research & Engagement

[Nominations close on 19 February 2021 >>](#)

2021 Queensland Disaster

Management Conference

This year, IGEM is partnering with the Local Government Association of Queensland, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Queensland Police Service and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, to jointly host the Queensland Disaster Management Conference.

The conference will be held from 9 – 11 June at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.



Further information is available via LGAQ

Emergency Management Assurance Framework and the Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland

A range of new resources are now available on the IGEM Website to the disaster management sector in applying the Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland.

These educational resources are intended to support a shared understanding of the Disaster Management Standard and its Outcomes.

[View the online resources >>](#)

2021 Disaster Management Plan Assessments

Planning for this year's disaster management plan assessments is underway.

The Office of IGEM will soon be seeking feedback from stakeholders on a process for 2021 with the intention of rolling out the process by mid-March.

Out and about with IGEM

IGEM with
Butchulla
Aboriginal
Corporation
Land and Sea
Rangers



IGEM team cooling off in Eli Creek on K'Gari with representatives from Butchulla Aboriginal Cooperation

Follow us on social media

Don't forget to follow IGEM on and Twitter, for all the latest news and information about Queensland's disaster management sector.



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