

The Art and Science of Engaging Communities in Coastal Adaptation: Real people, engaged through successful strategies

Tuesday 3rd June 1.30- 5.00 pm Griffith University, Gold Coast Campus

Registration: \$85 + GST pp

Theme Creative Coastal Engagement for Adaptation – Practice and Reflection

Abstract

The work of those involved in community engagement is as much art as science and designing engagement requires an approach tailored to the local context. Through a review of the CoastAdapt community engagement manual, a panel comprised of local government managers, consultants and academics across Australia and New Zealand shared their experiences and expertise. This process revealed stories and case studies of leading practice that will provide inspiration to novice and experienced coastal managers.

Adopting a social learning approach and working through a six-step cycle will enable strategic action. But that's just the mechanics of it. Adopting a creative approach to design of engagement processes and actions can deliver powerful results through effectively engaging with current community leaders and activities, planning for and communicating a variety of opportunities for consultation throughout the adaptation journey, and ensuring the process engages both with 'rationality and human emotions and feelings' (Coyne 2005). Thoughtfully seeking opportunities for participants to express challenging concepts and values creatively can engage and provide meaningful interaction.

Importantly, viewing coastal adaptation as part of complex systems change where progress is not necessarily linear, requires viewing both social and coastal systems as an integrated whole and creatively exploring opportunities for change.

Workshop outcomes: Participants will:

- gain insights into the changing nature of coastal communities
- experience case examples of successful creative coastal engagement techniques
- be provided with practical and effective techniques to engage and processes to facilitate adaptation

Who should attend: Coastal managers and engagement practitioners and others who want to better understand and plan for effective engagement

Agenda

Time	Focus	Participants
1.30	Welcome and introductions	Engage on a coastal activity
1.45	Vision for engaged communities and successful coastal adaptation.	Share knowledge and experiences about the vision for community coastal adaptation. Explore a case study of a Council's ten-year journey in adaptation
2.10	Where are we now? Current practice. Progress on implementing strategic action Challenges we face in engaging communities.	Data on changing nature of communities. Experiences of the review team in designing and implementing engagement processes. Participants share their experiences of engaging with communities in context of coastal adaptation.
2.40	What else? Creative new approaches via case studies and hands on creative experiences	Engage in case study contexts. Choose two of three options for activity. Engage in the activity, explore creative potential. Interactive experiences, for examples: Interactive waves.

		Fictional beach role play. Draw the coast.
4.40	Reflection on experiences and shared stories.	Creative capture of workshop experiences.
5.00	Next steps	

Workshop facilitators:

Kathleen Broderick- Broderick and Associates and Fenner Affiliate, Australian National University ACT

Anne Leitch- Climate Action Beacon, Griffith University, Gold Coast, QLD Jane Lofthouse- Tweed Shire Council, NSW

Fiona Chandler- Alluvium (Consulting), QLD

Claire McGarry- Byron Shire Council, NSW

Hayden Forrest- Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, VIC

With input from:

Anna Kelderman- Shape Urban (Consulting), WA

Jayne Richardson- Break O'Day Council, TAS

References

CoastAdapt IM09 Community Engagement Manual

https://coastadapt.com.au/sites/default/files/information-manual/IM09_community_engagement.pdf

Note the updated manual will be released before this conference and we will provide access to updated version.

Coyne, R. (2005) Wicked Problems Revisited. Design Studies, 26, 5-17.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.destud.2004.06.005>

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