

Overview

- There can be gaps between the concept of emergency risk management implemented by emergency teams, and how Indigenous people see the safety of their community.
- Emergency risk management requires thinking about future incidents that may not occur, whereas many Indigenous communities have immediate concerns relating to social issues occurring on a daily basis.
- Lack of understanding about emergency management is not about the ability to understand the concept, or willingness to engage with it, but about its relevance to day-to-day living.
- The Kiwirrkurra evacuation demonstrated that there are ways in which to work with communities that can benefit both the community and the emergency teams, and ensure optimal outcomes in an emergency situation.



Lesson 1

Building trusted relationships enables two way communication and understanding



Lesson 2

Good, established communication channels and working within community decision making structures is vital



Lesson 3

Understanding and respecting country and culture will improve outcomes and recovery



Lesson 4

Education and training offers benefits to community members and emergency teams in terms of building resilience, improving planning and preparations, assisting recovery and community development and capacity building



Lesson 5

Self reliance, preparation and planning are important for communities, especially those remote and distant from emergency services



Lesson 6

Emergency teams and emergency service workers need to work with communities in the recovery process



For More Information

Please see the Fact Sheet Series for Emergency Managers and Emergency Workers on the Kiwirrkurra Project Website at www.ema.gov.au



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