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# TEAM MONITORING, DECISION MAKING & ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING

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An Australian Government Initiative





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- A/Prof Christine Owen – University of Tasmania
- Heather Stuart – NSW State Emergency Service
- Mark Thomason – SA Country Fire Service
- Sandra Whight – Tasmanian Fire Service
- Dr Peter Hayes – CQUniversity
- Dr Steve Curnin – University of Tasmania



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- **Team Monitoring** – Chris Bearman
- **Decision Making** – Benjamin Brooks
- **Organizational Learning** – Chris Owen



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# TEAM MONITORING



## TEAM MONITORING TOOLS

- Emergency Management Aide Memoire (EMBAM)
- Team Process Checklist (TPC)





## WHO CAN USE THEM?



- Team Members
- Team Leaders
- Team Supervisors
- Independent Observers



## HOW CAN THEY BE USED?



- As a Health Check
- To Identify Problems
- As a Debrief Tool
- After Action Reviews
- As a Way To Build Better Teamwork



## WHEN CAN THEY BE USED?

- Real Time Performance Monitoring
- Reflection During Quieter Times
- After the Incident





## HOW CAN I GET THEM?

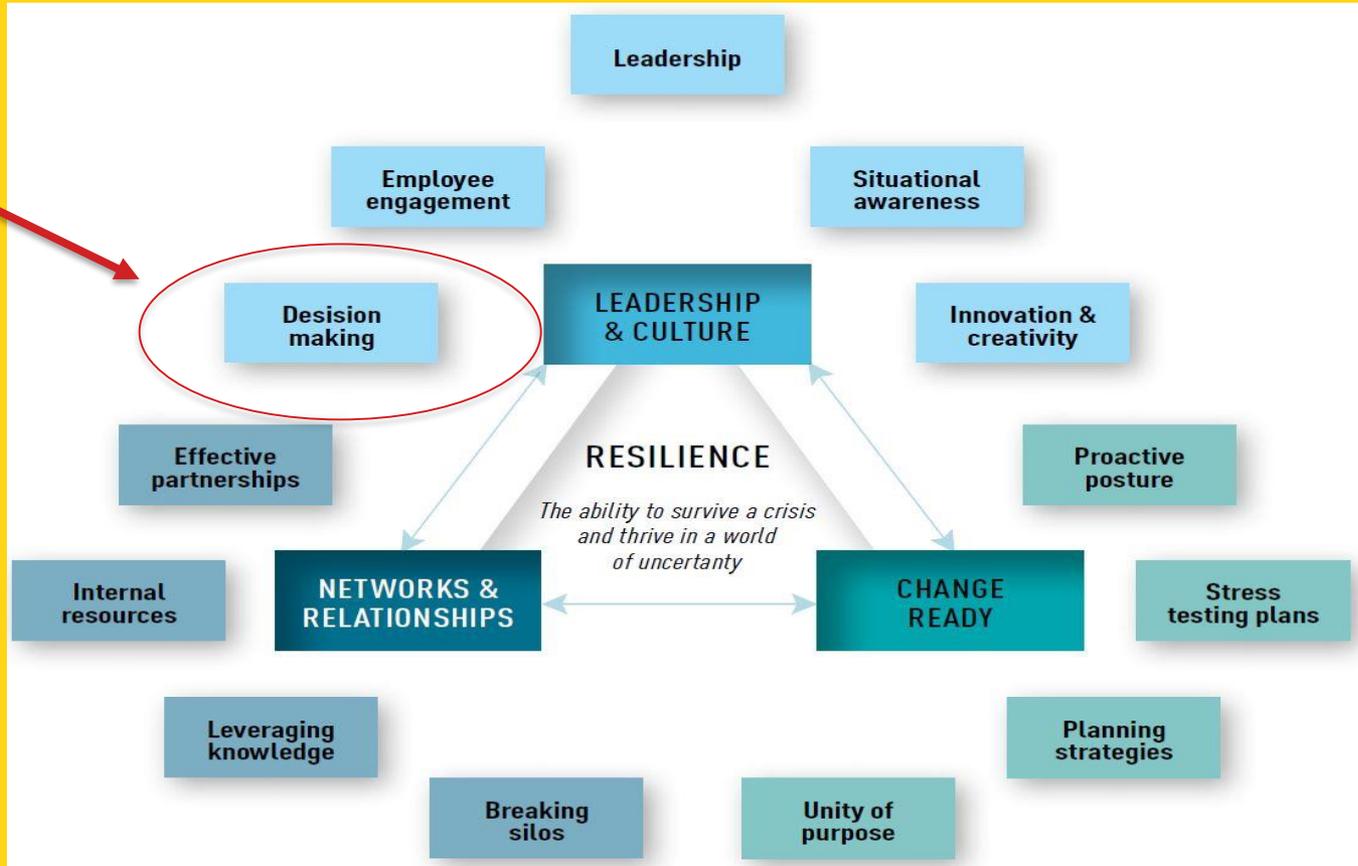
- Come to the break-out session for more information
- Email me at [c.bearman@cqu.edu.au](mailto:c.bearman@cqu.edu.au)





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# DECISION MAKING



# DECISION-MAKING AS PART OF A BROADER APPROACH TO ORG RESILIENCE



Worst & Most likely  
Case Scenario  
Planning

Anticipatory thinking  
and situational  
awareness

Managing Pressure and Avoiding Bias

Building , Maintaining and Retrieving  
Psychological Safety

**TRAINING PROGRAM DEVELOPED TO SUPPORT  
EM DECISION-MAKING**



UNIVERSITY *of*  
TASMANIA

AMC  
Australian Maritime College



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## CHECKLIST 1: Decision & Option Analysis

1. **CONFIRMATION BIAS:** Are we favouring intelligence that confirms our understanding or preferred options.
2. **ANCHORING BIAS:** Our decisions can be anchored by early intelligence. Have we assessed credibility of the intelligence to the same standard throughout?
3. **AUTHORITY BIAS:** Have we deferred to or given greater weight to the opinions of people in authority without assessing those opinions rigorously?
4. **AVAILABILITY BIAS:** Are we making decisions based on our previous experience of similar incidents and if so, are these incidents really the same?
5. **CURSE OF KNOWLEDGE:** Have we made efforts to make sure everyone truly understands the decision and reasons for it?



# SUMMARY

- From the available literature and our own research a training course in emergency management decision-making has been developed.
- The course is suitable for anyone who makes highly complex, high consequence decisions in these environments.
- A set of checklists (aides memoir) have been developed and are linked to the training modules.
- These have been tested in exercise-based scenarios for their usability.



## STAGE 2 OF THE PROJECT

The next phase of the research (2018-2020) will investigate the challenges around flexibility, creativity and divergent thinking during complex, high consequence decision-making.

Digging deeper into issues such as options analysis and unexpected changes in incident dynamics. Building tools to support decision-making in this space.



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# ORGANIZATIONAL LEARNING



## KEY PURPOSE

- To assist agencies to learn how to learn from experience (their own and other's, including research)



## WHY?

- **Organisational Resilience** = innovation + learning including through utilising evidence to inform practice
- Utilisation of research outputs not taken-for-granted



## WHEN UTILISING RESEARCH WORKS WELL IT ENABLES

- the pace of adoption processes to be accelerated
- the number of adoptions possible from conducted research to be increased
- the quality of research implementation to be enhanced
- the use of worthy innovations
- the research effectiveness at agency and sector levels to be demonstrated



## WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

- Developing a tool for agencies to self-evaluate their own research utilisation maturity
- Developing resources to assist in moving utilisation forward



# WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE SELF EVALUATION FRAMEWORK?

<b>Element of research utilisation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Product</b>	The outputs from research available for agencies to utilise
<b>Structure and governance</b>	The organisational processes and structures in place to support utilisation, including role responsibilities and structures for review, monitoring and reporting through the organisation
<b>People</b>	The human resource development in place to support people in their capacity to develop and enhance the skills needed to support utilisation, including research literacy
<b>Culture</b>	The degree to which utilisation is collectively valued within the cultures of the organisation
<b>Support systems and processes</b>	The financial, physical and resources to enable people to be able to make use of research; the policies procedures and doctrine supporting utilisation and the communication and engagement affordances in utilisation participation.



## WANT TO KNOW MORE?

- Come to the workshop this afternoon (or tomorrow) on research utilisation and
- Be here early tomorrow morning for an overview of insights so far