Lessons and Reforms from Recent Disasters

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: Australia
Lessons and Reforms from Recent Disasters

APEC Emergency Preparedness Working Group
24-25 February 2018
Overview

• Tropical Cyclone Debbie 2017
• Recent events 2018
  – Cyclones
  – Heatwave
• Lessons and Reforms
  – National Mitigation Framework
  – Recovery
Tropical Cyclone Debbie

28 March – 7 April 2017

- Category 4 – Severe Tropical Cyclone
- Queensland – 50% disaster declared
- New South Wales – severe flooding
- Damage cost – $A 2.4 billion – Insured - $A1.61 billion
- Impact on infrastructure, tourism, agriculture.
Recent Events

2018 Cyclones

Cyclones Joyce and Kelvin:

- Broome - twice annual average rainfall in two months
- Main transport link closed
- Isolated communities
Recent Events

Heatwaves are responsible for more deaths in Australia than from all other natural disasters put together. (Coates-Haynes-et-al 2014)
National Mitigation Framework

Initiative to:

• Reduce existing risk
• Avoid creating new risk
• Ensure required information is available.

Five-year plan with a focus on:

• National disaster risk information platform
• Identifying the country’s highest priority natural hazards risks
• Embedding disaster risk reduction into decision-making, processes
Recovery reforms

Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements reforms:

Key Benefits:

- Early certainty of eligibility and funding
- Reduced red tape and streamlined administration
- Incentives for disaster mitigation funding
- Greater assurance of eligible state expenditure for Government asset reconstruction cost.
Thank you

(A victim of Cyclone Debbie)