

Program

Lessons Management Forum 2026

Day one | Tuesday 19 May 2026

Time (AEST)	Presentation	NZST	ACST	AWST
8.00am	Registrations open	10.00am	7.30am	6.00am
9.00am	Welcome and opening - Welcome to Country - Housekeeping	11.00am	8.30am	7.00am
9.15am	Opening remarks: Alistair Dawson APM, Inspector-General of Emergency Management	11.15am	8.45am	7.15am
10.00am	Keynote: Katarina Carroll APM, National Emergency Management Agency	12.00pm	9.30am	8.00am
10.45am	Morning tea (30 minutes)	12.45pm	10.15am	8.45am
11.15am	Lessons to leverage: Bringing frameworks to life Erin Pelly, Australian Red Cross and Lauren Lombardi	1.15pm	10.45am	9.15am
11.35am	Generating participative value in the lessons process through positive language Paul Margetts, Paul Margetts Consulting	1.35pm	11.05am	9.35am
11.55am	Implementing a successful lessons management framework across multiple major disaster events Kelli Hudson and Troy Gersback, City of Gold Coast	1.55pm	11.25am	9.55am
12.15pm	From lessons identified to lessons learned: Copilot supported after action reviews in Victorian public health incident management Priya Rangarajan, Victorian Department of Health	2.15pm	11.45am	10.15am
12.35pm	The future of lessons management: Learning systems for Australia's emerging risk landscape Mikaela Mbonzi Geach, National Emergency Management Agency	2.35pm	12.05pm	10.35am
12.55pm	Lunch (40 minutes)	2.55pm	12.25pm	10.55am
1.35pm	Enhancing real-time monitoring, evaluation and continuous improvement during sustained operations Luke Purcell, Emergency Management Victoria	3.35pm	1.05pm	11.35am
1.55pm	From stories to systems: Turning tacit recovery know-how into lessons identified—and learned Dr Patrick Fong, Griffith University	3.55pm	1.25pm	11.55am

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2.15pm	Learning at the speed of recovery: Rethinking lessons management in recovery in Western Australia Donna Carter, Department of Fire and Emergency Services, WA	4.15pm	1.45pm	12.15pm
2.35pm	Embedding risk, learning, and trust: The Queensland Police Service journey in disaster lessons management Courtney Russell, Queensland Police Service	4.35pm	2.05pm	12.35pm
2.55pm	The hitchhikers guide to lessons management Mark Cuthbert	4.55pm	2.25pm	12.55pm
3.15pm	Afternoon tea (30 minutes)	5.15pm	2.45pm	1.15pm
3.45pm	Learning from recovery: Peer-led lessons management for heatwaves Marika Kontellis, Inner Sydney Voice	5.45pm	3.15pm	1.45pm
4.05pm	Turning lessons into practical change on biosecurity responses Bryar Clayton, Ministry for Primary Industries	6.05pm	3.35pm	2.05pm
4.25pm	Queensland Corrective Services - Embracing the challenge M.Sc. Lisa Cameron de Vries, Phoenix Resilience and Eden Hughes-Barbour, Queensland Corrective Services	6.25pm	3.55pm	2.25pm
4.45pm	From insight to impact: How ERV turned lessons into lasting change Grace Grech and Dana Hehir, Emergency Recovery Victoria – State Capability and Operations	6.45pm	4.15pm	2.45pm
5.05pm	Key insights and lessons emerging from recovery focused events and operations in New Zealand Stefan Michie, National Emergency Management Agency NZ	7.05pm	4.35pm	3.05pm
5.30pm-7.30pm	Networking session (in-person only)			

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Day two | Wednesday 20 May 2026

Time (AEST)	Presentation	NZST	ACST	AWST
8.30am	Registrations open	10.30am	8.00am	6.30am
9.00am	Keynote: Dr Alastair Stark, University of Queensland	11.00am	8.30am	7.00am
9.45am	Finishing well: How lessons drive strategy, strengthen practice, and enable purposeful exits Erin Pelly, Australian Red Cross and Dr Claire Leppold, University of Melbourne	11.45am	9.15am	7.45am
10.05am	Closing the loop: Positioning the lessons management framework as a risk management tool Alex Murray, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	12.05pm	9.35am	8.05am
10.25am	Morning tea (30 minutes)	12.25pm	9.55am	8.25am
10.55am	Bridging strategy and implementation: Lessons management in Queensland's disaster recovery sector Alistair Dawson, IGEM and Simon Dorrington, Queensland Reconstruction Authority	12.55pm	10.25am	8.55am
11.15am	Stories of Jasper Kate Bertola, Mareeba Shire Council	1.15pm	11.45am	9.15am
11.35am	Why we keep relearning the same lessons: Enablers and barriers to lessons management in the Western Australian emergency services sector Jennifer Medbury, Edith Cowan University	1.35pm	11.05am	9.35am
11.55am	Why do lessons fail to stick? Superintendent Mark Langhorn, Victoria Police	1.55pm	11.25am	9.55am
12.15pm	Lunch (40 minutes)	2.15pm	11.45am	10.15am
12.55pm	Lessons Management Award – winning presentation: Turning Lessons Into Action: Advancing Organisational Resilience Post-TC Alfred Coralie Muddle and Susanna Imarisio, City of Moreton Bay	2.55pm	12.25pm	10.55am
1.25pm	Lessons Management Award – highly commended presentation: Sector wide lessons implementation Gemma Parkin, NZ Land Search and Rescue	3.25pm	12.55pm	11.25am

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1.45pm	Making lessons stick Dr Tracy Hatton and David Parsons ESM, Resorgs/RRANZ	3.45pm	1.15pm	11.45am
2.05pm	Tailored for rigour, challenged by tempo: Releasing lessons in continuous operations Sanna Verhoef and Chris Jacobson, Transport For NSW	4.05pm	1.35pm	12.05pm
2.25pm	How lessons learned from 2021-2023 NSW Floods significantly improved field data insights, and understanding of flood impacted communities in 2025 Melissa Daley, NSW State Emergency Service	4.25pm	1.55pm	12.55pm
2.45pm	Afternoon tea (30 minutes)	4.45pm	2.15pm	12.45pm
3.15pm	Impressions from a Churchill Fellowship investigating lessons management, NSW Rural Fire Service Superintendent Dan Meijer, NSW Rural Fire Service	5.15pm	2.45pm	1.15pm
3.35pm	Evolving RPAS (drones) from observation to intelligence in Queensland Fire Department operations Dean West, Queensland Fire Department	5.35pm	3.05pm	1.35pm
3.55pm	Insight or illusion? Ensuring accuracy in AI powered lessons management Dorothea Huber, AMSA	5.55pm	3.25pm	1.55pm
4.15pm	Beyond resilience: Agricultural recovery by design — From lessons identified to lessons embedded Leanne Kruss, Australian Integrated Agriculture	6.15pm	3.45pm	2.15pm
4.35pm	End of forum	6.35pm	4.05pm	2.35pm