

Closing comments by Scott Losee, Sustainability & Climate Change Director, AECOM

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It has been a relief to have been able to attend a climate change forum that got to the pressing issues of adaptation without discussing the CPRS ad nauseum.

It has been a wonderful gathering of researchers, academics and teachers; federal, state and local government representatives; and consultants and solution providers.

We share an intellectual interest in climate change adaptation and a personal concern for action to occur.

I have drawn out a range of themes and challenges that seem to have emerged from the day.

Theme: Fragmentation, piecemeal, interconnected impacts, holistic responses, integration, collaboration

Challenge: Put some shape around an integrated or holistic response.

Theme: Decision making, prioritisation, change, cost, acting and doing nothing

Challenge: Develop useful decision making frameworks and tools

Theme: Risk, uncertainty, probability, options

Challenge: Evolving past risk management approaches

Theme: Local level, detail, seasonality, differential effects

Challenge: Better local information

Theme: Infrastructure, land use planning, community, social, health

Challenge: Find effective strategies that address the complexities of these areas

There is a great deal of excellent work going on. Participants here have gained a better appreciation of the breadth of current efforts. Our challenge is to continue this collaboration to constantly improve our understanding and response to climate change.

I would like to thank the speakers for their contributions, thank the participants and supporters of the day. Finally I would like to thank Athol Yates and his colleagues at Security Research Centre.

Scott Losee

Sustainability & Climate Change Director

Australia New Zealand

T +61 7 3858 6739 M +61 404 467 228 F +61 7 3858 6705

scott.losee@aecom.com

AECOM

12 Cribb Street, Milton QLD 4064 Australia

PO Box 1823, Milton QLD 4064 Australia

www.aecom.com