

## Introduction and Overview of the Asia-Pacific Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction Research Group

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**Speaker:** Assoc Professor Dale Dominey-Howes  
School of Geosciences, The University of Sydney

**Chair:** Dr Chris Gouramanis  
Department of Geography, NUS

**Date/Time:** Friday, 8 September 2017, 3.30pm – 5.00pm

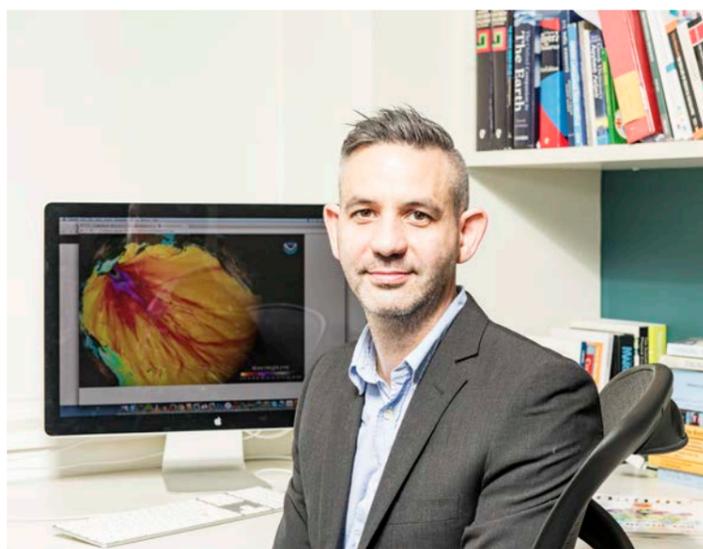
**Place:** Earth Lab, AS2-02-03, NUS

### Abstract

In this talk I will provide a brief overview of the Asia – Pacific Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk Reduction Research Group in The School of Geosciences, The University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia. The group comprises a collection of interdisciplinary risk science researchers utilising the risk assessment and management framework to investigate, quantify and tackle a variety of risk problems at a range of scales from the local to the global. Our work lies within the discipline field of Geography and spans the interface between the earth, environment and natural sciences and the human and policy sciences domains of risk management and risk reduction. I'll cover our Mission and outline the goals of our work before outlining who we are, what tools, methods and theories we use.

I'll then provide examples of current and recent projects to provide a flavour of our interests and expertise paying attention to our productivity and critically, impact on society and policy-making. This will touch on projects as diverse as the experiences of people with disabilities in disasters in SE Asia; the marginalisation of minority groups to disasters; the risk from antibiotic resistance and its connection to pandemic planning; disaster governance; tsunami-engineering resistance assessment and climate change impacts and adaptation. The presentation will conclude with some ideas about where to next.

### About the Speaker



**Dale** holds a BSc (Hons) and PhD in Geography. His interests and expertise are in natural hazards, hazard, risk and vulnerability assessment, disaster and emergency management. He is particularly interested in the interconnections between biophysical systems and the socio-economic contexts in which disasters unfold and considers 'natural hazards' in terms of coupled human-environment systems and policy. He has worked on natural hazards such as earthquakes, river floods, tropical cyclones, tsunami, volcanic eruptions and bushfires in places as diverse as Australia, New Zealand, Bangladesh, India, Greece, Turkey, Ireland, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Thailand, Iceland and the Maldives.

At the present time, he is involved in a variety of externally funded research projects across the globe and has completed research projects and consultancies for organisations as diverse as the United Nations, The World Bank, major insurance and reinsurance companies, State and Federal government departments and risk/disaster management agencies. Dale is an ongoing advisor to State and Federal disaster and emergency service organisations and he is

Chairman of the United Nations UNESCO-IOC Post-disaster Policy and Protocols Working Group (2010 – present).

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ADMISSION IS FREE – ALL ARE WELCOME