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PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT for SURVEY

(1) What is the study about?

In the context of growing uncertainty and concern about the vulnerability of coastal Australia to the impacts of enhanced climate change, and consensus about the need for strong planning frameworks to help coastal communities adapt, this project aims to:

- Review the specific, multi-dimensional issues faced by coastal Australia in adapting to climate change;
- Examine the current legislative, planning and policy framework for addressing these issues across the Australian States and Territories and at the national level;
- Undertake an audit of established and emerging responses to climate change adaptation at local and regional scales in coastal Australia, and identify other relevant Australian or international models for potential emulation; and,
- Identify priorities for further policy, practice, and research development and support.

(2) Who is carrying out the study?

The study is being conducted by Associate Professor Nicole Gurrán, University of Sydney.

(3) What does the study involve?

The project approach involves a number of data gathering methods including an e-survey of coastal councils in non metropolitan coastal Australia.

You are invited to participate in the e-survey.

(4) How much time will the study take?

The survey will take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

(5) Can I withdraw from the study?

Being in this study is completely voluntary and you are not under any obligation to consent to complete the questionnaire/survey. Submitting a completed questionnaire/survey is an indication of your consent to participate in the study. You can withdraw any time prior to submitting your completed questionnaire/survey. Once you have submitted your questionnaire/survey anonymously, your responses cannot be withdrawn.

(6) Will anyone else know the results?

All aspects of the study, including results, will be strictly confidential and only the researchers will have access to information on participants. A report of the study may be submitted for publication, but individual participants will not be identifiable in such a report.

(7) Will the study benefit me?

There is no remuneration for participation in this study. Results from the study can be made available to you.

(8) Can I tell other people about the study?

You are free to discuss this study with other people.

(9) What if I require further information?

When you have read this information, Associate Professor Nicole Gurran will discuss it with you further and answer any questions you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage, please feel free to contact Nicole by telephoning 02 9351 7729.

(10) What if I have a complaint or concerns?

Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of a research study can contact The Manager, Human Ethics Administration, University of Sydney on +61 2 8627 8176 (Telephone); +61 2 8627 8177 (Facsimile) or ro.humanethics@sydney.edu.au (Email).

This information sheet is for you to keep