

The Complex Network within Bushfire Investigation Strategy

An international comparative analysis of communicational dynamics between post-bushfire investigative Departments

Marco De Sisto

Bushfire CRC PhD Scholarship Holder, School of Management, RMIT University, Victoria

Supervisors: Prof. Peter Fairbrother & Prof. John Handmer

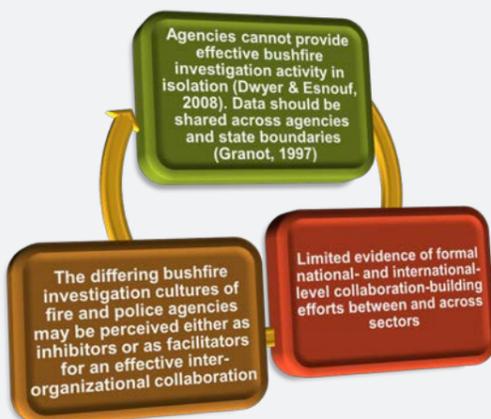
THE OVERVIEW

Whether known as bushfires, brushfires, or forest fires, the incidence and impact of such blazes in Australia and globally has increased over the past several decades. It is now reporting approximately 350 million hectares of land a year (FAO, 2006).

In this sense, the confinement of bushfires represents an extremely significant issue from a sociological, criminological and environmental perspective. This is understood and dealt with by the different countries through instruments of investigation, preparedness, targeted prevention activity and interventions against fires.



THE ISSUE



CENTRAL QUESTIONS

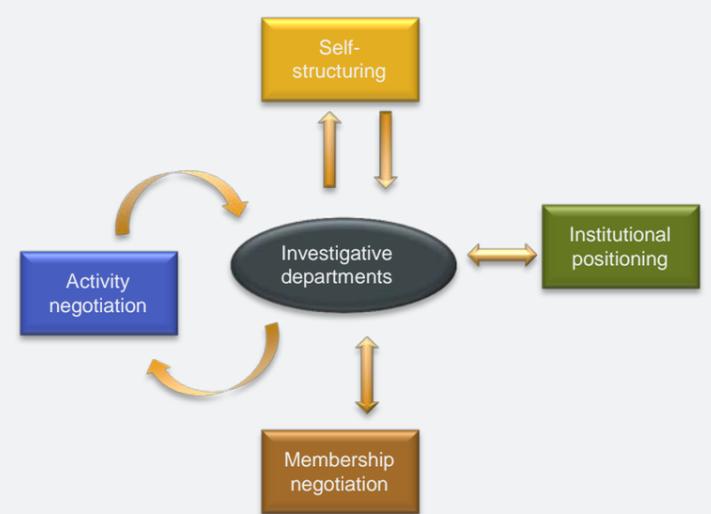
- How do organizations deal with post bushfire investigation?
- How can organizations structure themselves to deal effectively with a post bushfire investigation?
- Should there be an international dimension to such investigation actions?
- What are the conditions that enable or prevent effective collaboration in bushfire investigation?
- How does professional communication within and between organizations lead to a successful collaboration?

AIM

To: identify strengths and weaknesses of the sharing of knowledge between bushfire investigative related agencies.

By: conducting an international comparative analysis through the lens of the professional communication dynamics.

METHODOLOGY



(McPhee & Zaug, 2000)

In conducting this research we have been undertaking a thematic exploration of the extent and quality of professional communication among six fire investigative departments – in Italy and Victoria – taken as six different case studies.

OUTCOMES

The findings of the entire project will represent a starting point in offering agencies a better coordination in the bushfire investigation process.



REFERENCES

- ✦ FAO (2006). Fire management : voluntary guidelines : principles and strategic actions. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Forestry Department. Rome, [Italy].
- ✦ Granot, H. (1997) "Emergency inter-organizational relationships", Disaster Prevention and Management, Vol. 6 Iss: 5, pp.305 – 310
- ✦ MCPHEE, R.D.; ZAUG, P., (2000). The communicative constitution of organizations: a framework for explanation. Communication Institute for Online Scholarship, P.O. Box 57, Rotterdam Jct., NY. USA.