

Local Voices, Global Goals: Building climate resilience through inclusive engagement

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The relationship *is* the project

- ▶ Sustainability is not just targets, technology, and tools. What lies underneath is community.
- ▶ Blacktown City has over 180 nationalities and over half the population speaks a language other than English at home.
- ▶ How can we connect people to place and each other?
- ▶ How can we make climate action real and relevant ?



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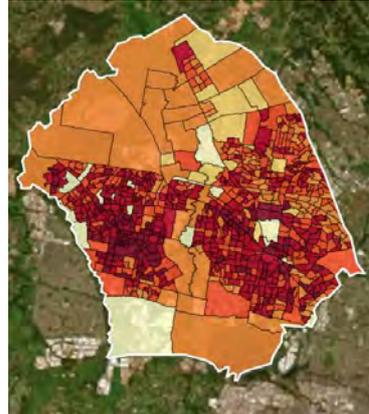
We don't need to simplify the science we need to amplify the story

How can we connect people to place and each other to build community resilience?

How can we help build connection and collective agency ?

Engagement should be:

- ▶ localised, place-based
- ▶ creative
- ▶ inclusive, across ages, languages and cultures.



Heat vulnerability index (HVI) across Blacktown City. Pfautsch, S., A. Wujeska-Klaue, A. Madden, J.R. Walters. 2024. Benchmarking Summer Heat across Blacktown's diverse urban landscapes

Storytelling as a climate tool



When people see themselves in the story, they can join the journey



If we want to reach net zero, we have to start from zero with empathy, inclusion, and a sense of home



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***'Join our ideas together'
'We have to know what we are facing to tackle it'
'Its important for our ideas to be out there'***



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and made the finals of the Keep Australia Beautiful Awards.



Education is the most powerful seed we can plant for a sustainable future



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**Shape pathways to net zero, not just through goals and plans,
but through meaning and connection
It's not top-down or bottom-up, it's together-out**



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