

# EVALUATING IMPACT

Evaluating the relevance and effectiveness of AF8 since the programme began in 2016.

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## OBJECTIVES + SCOPE

AF8 [Alpine Fault magnitude 8] is a programme of scientific modelling, coordinated response planning and community engagement designed to build collective resilience to the next Alpine Fault earthquake, across the South Island.

AF8 is a collaboration between science and the six South Island Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) groups, it began in 2016. Now in its fifth year, it is timely to conduct an evaluation of the programme to identify:

- the extent to which it is contributing to its intended outcomes
- any other unintended outcomes (positive and negative)
- lessons learned, that could be usefully applied to other similar types of projects

2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-BEYOND
Scientific modelling to develop the most credible hazard scenario for a large earthquake on the Alpine Fault.	Development of the SAFER Framework, applying the scenario to a coordinated response across the South Island for the first seven days after a severe Alpine Fault earthquake.	Engagement, planning and preparing by launching the SAFER Framework and engaging stakeholders and communities.	Building collective resilience, through a programme of engagement and communication activities.	Continue to build collective resilience across the South Island, and continue to share the information and learnings widely.

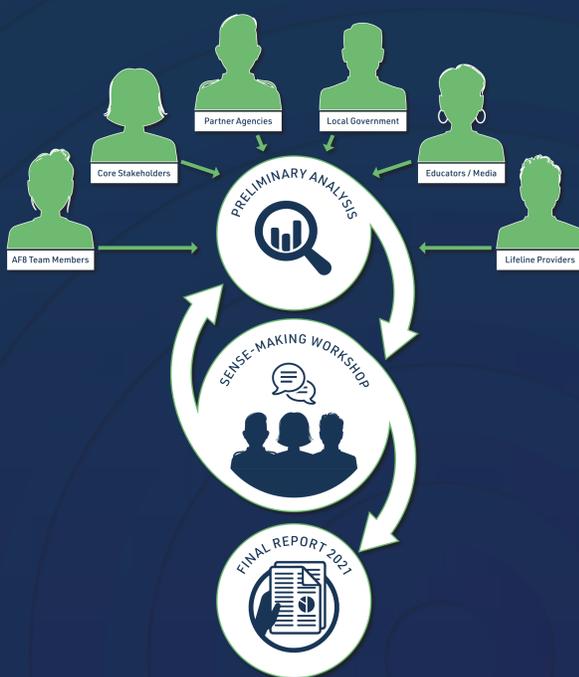
**SCOPE:** The evaluation encompasses all the activities covered in the above timeline, with the greatest focus being the work following the production of the AF8 Hazard Scenario and SAFER Framework (2018 - 2020).

## METHODOLOGY

A total of 27 semi-structured individual and group interviews were carried out with members of the AF8 team and programme stakeholders. Participants were identified in consultation with the AF8 evaluation project team.

Following a preliminary analysis of feedback, key participants were invited to a sense-making workshop to: elicit initial reactions or responses to the preliminary findings, provide additional feedback and provide an opportunity for key recommendations to be collaboratively identified.

An evaluation report detailing the findings from the preliminary analysis and the sense-making workshop will be finalised in early 2021.



How are we doing?

What difference does it make?

*"A great example of translating the science so that people can understand."*

*"The SAFER Framework has really set a fantastic foundation for the ongoing work in the South Island and [in] at the national level [and] we wouldn't have done it [AF8] hadn't pulled all those inter-disciplinary groups together and had those discussions had the scientific background for it, we wouldn't have got a plan like that, that is robust...based on the science that we know at that moment."*

## OUTCOMES MODEL

An outcomes model was created to support an understanding of:

- The key inputs that have gone into the AF8 project
- The activities and outputs (the things a project has done and produced)
- And then the outcomes (changes) AF8 intends to contribute to in the short and longer term.

The model captures the intent of the programme, and what is required to achieve this. It also provides a useful frame of reference when interviewing participants around what has/hasn't happened, where aspects were more or less successful (and why), and also to help identify unintended outcomes.

<b>Longer term outcomes</b> – what we want to see happen.	Strengthen New Zealand's trust in earthquake and hazard science	Increased societal resilience to earthquakes in South Island: Stronger relationships, building networks and comms between agencies (e.g. Science, Policy and Practice), raising awareness and coordinated regional planning	Increased societal resilience in New Zealand to other natural hazards and events				
<b>Medium term outcomes</b> – the changes AF8 has contributed to.	Provide a vehicle to demonstrate effective ways to apply science to real world problems and inform Alpine Fault science, (UUU)	Enable a more integrated cross-agency approach	Local government and other relevant agencies are prepared to immediately mobilise a coordinated, mutually supportive, sustainable South Island wide response to a major Alpine Fault earthquake (AF8 mission)	Inform the development of a National Earthquake Framework	Improved coordinated CDEM planning for large earthquakes across South Island		
<b>Short term outcomes</b> – what's happened because of AF8's work.	Learnings/scenarios are transferred and applied to other scenarios and emergencies	Key relationships are strengthened, creating a stronger network of knowledge that is easily accessible/available	AF8 scenario is used for community preparation/plan development	The community is talking about the AF8 scenario and can do so in a way that is "iterate" People are talking about it as a "normal" thing and proactivity (even when no emergencies have happened)	AF8 scenario supports better infrastructure planning		
<b>Activities/ outputs</b> – what has AF8 done and produced?	Providing a coordinating mechanism to strengthen the network across organisations	Growing capacity in public education and planning	The scenario and SAFER Framework are accessed	Increased awareness and understanding of hazard and impact science			
<b>Inputs</b> – what has gone into and guided the project?	Science publications	Planning and exercises to test SAFER Framework	Science engagement and risk communications: Forums, presentations, roadshow, digital media	Co-creation of resources (inc workshops) that are accessible and usable	Modelling and data sharing	Advocacy	Ad hoc advice and information/data sharing with other interested parties
	Funding QuakeCore, RF, co-funding from regional CDEM, EOC	People - "donated" from RNC, CDEM "donating" their time, dedicated project team (paid)	A clear need/ motivation for action	AF8 scenario document and SAFER Framework	The Act and associated policies and guidelines	Steering group/ governance structure	Networks / relationships (national and international)

*"Individually, none of [the local councils] could tackle [this], because of the scale and the scope."*

*"It's been a great way of highlighting [the] what's going to happen, and getting a team up to speed, all of those things, but actually it needs now to join up with a strategic approach to response planning."*