EMPA Awards for Excellence – judging criteria



Recovery

Operational Objectives - measuring the right things (Principle 1)	 What were the objectives of the program or activity? How were they determined? How did they align with other agency, community, or stakeholder objectives? How was measurement of success undertaken in a meaningful way?
Collaboration (Principles 1, 2 & 5)	 Show evidence of the range of stakeholders, groups, agencies, and individuals who were part of this work or partners connecting to it. Has the project or activity provided a foundation for further relationships or built substantially on an existing network? Discuss the way a range of stakeholder objectives or needs were met.
Building Capacity and Supporting Teams (Principle 3)	 What plans or decisions supported the creation of effective and well-resourced teams to undertake this program or activity? What training or other capacity building was undertaken before during or after this program? What checks of the team's wellbeing were built into the process?
Community focus (Principle 4)	 How was the target community/ies researched and understood in the development of the project or activity? How was the messaging and channels suited to the characteristics of the local community? What evidence was there of communication considering groups that we might consider vulnerable or outliers with specific needs? What mechanisms were used to empower the community to make decisions, solve problems and take control of processes? How did the project or activity recognise the diversity within a community and then accommodate diversity in communication strategies? What evidence of impactful community development was there? What were the shortcomings of the project or activity – and how will these be used in lessons learned in future?
Channels for story telling (Principle 6)	 How did the program or activity use conventional media, social media or other mechanisms to share stories and messages? Were there examples of trust between the agency and media/ other channels that had benefits for the community? Were innovative channels created or used to achieve objectives?