



# Participant Information Sheet

**PROJECT TITLE:** Development of the TEDI survey tool

**HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE APPROVAL NUMBER:** H-2023-049

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:** Professor Emma Baker

Dear Participant,

You are invited to participate in the research project described below.

## What is the project about?

This research project is about developing a survey tool that can be used to determine mental health impacts of events impacting communities (such as floods, fires, or pollution events). A tool will be delivered to communities, who may then choose to provide feedback on their experience using the survey tool. The purpose of this is to refine the survey tool, with the ultimate goal that the Environment Protection Authority will use it as part of their day to day function.

## Who is undertaking the project?

This project is being conducted by:

1. Prof. Emma Baker – Project lead  
University of Adelaide
2. Dr Kristine Peters – Project manager  
KPPM Strategy
3. Dr Cynthia Barlow – Primary community contact  
University of Adelaide
4. Assoc. Prof. Miri Forbes – Specialist input  
Macquarie University
5. Assoc. Prof. Megan Moskos – Specialist input  
University of Adelaide

## Why am I being invited to participate?

You are being invited as you are over the age of 18 years and live in an area potentially impacted by an environmental or pollution event.

## What am I being invited to do?

You are being invited to....

1. Fill in an online survey relating to issues that may be relevant to your community (eg. floods, fires, pollution) and to any levels of stress that you may feel as a result.
2. Fill in additional questions (optional) inquiring after your experience of using the survey tool (ease of use, length, any feedback you may have). These will be used to refine the survey.

## How much time will my involvement in the project take?

The survey and follow-up questions will take approximately 10 minutes each.



### **Are there any risks associated with participating in this project?**

As you consider community issues, you may experience concern or stress. Please contact EPA Victoria if you have a specific concern about pollution or the effects of a flood/fire event etc:

EPA Victoria 1300 372 842 (24 hours), [contact@epa.vic.gov.au](mailto:contact@epa.vic.gov.au)

For more general stress, the following contacts may be useful:

Beyond Blue <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/>

Lifeline 13 11 14

### **What are the potential benefits of the research project?**

Information gained in this project will be used to refine surveys to be used by the EPA when liaising with communities affected by floods, fires, pollution etc. These will enhance the EPA's ability to recognise and address community needs and to connect affected individuals and communities with appropriate resources.

### **Can I withdraw from the project?**

Participation in this project is completely voluntary. If you agree to participate, you can withdraw from the study at any time until the survey has been completed.

### **What will happen to my information?**

Storage: Responses will be stored against a participant ID number, to ensure confidentiality. These data will be stored on secure university servers for five years.

Sharing: Only the named researchers will have access to primary data, with summarised and de-identified data only being made available to other parties.

Publishing: Summarised and de-identified data will be used to prepare advice for the Victorian EPA and may also be used in academic publications as well as reports intended for the community or media. Scientific and community reports will be made available on the project website ([ua.edu.au/tedi](http://ua.edu.au/tedi)).

Your information will only be used as described in this participant information sheet and it will only be disclosed according to the consent provided, except as required by law.

### **Who do I contact if I have questions about the project?**

This project is being conducted by:

1. Prof. Emma Baker – Project lead  
University of Adelaide  
[emma.baker@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:emma.baker@adelaide.edu.au)  
[\(08\) 8313 5208](tel:(08)83135208)
2. Dr Cynthia Barlow – Primary community contact  
University of Adelaide  
[cynthia.barlow@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:cynthia.barlow@adelaide.edu.au)  
[\(08\) 8313 5208](tel:(08)83135208)
3. Dr Kristine Peters – Project manager  
KPPM Strategy  
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4. Assoc. Prof. Miri Forbes – Specialist input  
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[\(02\) 9850 7111](tel:(02)98507111)



5. Assoc. Prof. Megan Moskos – Specialist input  
University of Adelaide  
[megan.moskos@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:megan.moskos@adelaide.edu.au)  
[\(08\) 8313 5208](tel:(08)83135208)

### **What if I have a complaint or any concerns?**

The study has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee at the University of Adelaide (approval number H-2023-049). This research project will be conducted according to the NHMRC National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research 2007 (Updated 2018). If you have questions or problems associated with the practical aspects of your participation in the project, or wish to raise a concern or complaint about the project, then you should consult the Principal Investigator. If you wish to speak with an independent person regarding concerns or a complaint, the University's policy on research involving human participants, or your rights as a participant, please contact the Human Research Ethics Committee's Secretariat on:

Phone: +61 8 8313 6028

Email: [hrec@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:hrec@adelaide.edu.au)

Post: Level 3, Rundle Mall Plaza, 50 Rundle Mall, ADELAIDE SA 5000

Any complaint or concern will be treated in confidence and fully investigated. You will be informed of the outcome.

### **If I want to participate, what do I do?**

Participation is via the online survey [ua.edu.au/tedi](https://ua.edu.au/tedi).

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Emma Baker, Dr Kristine Peters, Dr Cynthia Barlow, Assoc. Prof. Miri Forbes and Assoc. Prof. Megan Moskos.