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## Informed.City: Big Data Analytics for Climate Change Adaptation Planning – A Governance Approach

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**P**lanning for the impacts of climate change is a complex and challenging issue. Solutions can only be driven through informed decision-making and to date there is little evidence to suggest that this is occurring in any meaningful way in most of the cities around the world. For local and city governments managing climate change is complex and fraught with challenges associated with resource constraints, community buy-in, legal risks and political positioning. At the moment it seems that there is an over-emphasis on the risk assessment approach to climate change adaptation – which more often than not results in stagnant reports that lead to responses that are cherry-picked and tend to align with available resources or political allocations of the day.

Focusing on climate change adaptation governance is about the core system that supports climate change adaptation actions. It includes institutional arrangements, resource allocation, executive and interdepartmental support, inclusion in strategic planning, financial planning and any other activity that will enable climate change adaptation to be mainstreamed into a city council's activities.

Donovan Burton has created a suite of indicators to help cities step away from the risk-assessment first approach. The Informed.City<sup>m</sup> process allows decision makers at the municipal level to take stock of where they are at in regards to climate change adaptation. Think of the process similar to climate change adaptation genomics. Like genomics in the sciences the Informed.City<sup>m</sup> process allows the organisation to identify areas that may experience future shocks, identify markers that require modification and help local and city governments transition towards mainstreaming adaptation. This presentation highlights the results from over 50 Cities.

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## Comprehension and perception of international and domestic tourtists and Far North Queensland residents in the presence of Irukandji Jellyfish warning signs

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The Irukandji jellyfish sting can cause a range of symptoms from cramping and nausea to death. Aside from the health implications, marine based industries such as fishing and tourism can be negatively impacted. The aim of the current study was to assess comprehension of a sign used to warn the Irukandji danger. One hundred and nine local residents and tourists who visit Palm Cove beach, on Australia's Great Barrier Reef coastline, and Irukandji hot-spot, were interviewed during the main Irukandji season to assess their understanding of the warning sign and their perceptions of swimming safety. Over 70% of participants saw the sign, but many still thought it was safe to swim inside purpose-built marine stinger nets. Those that knew it was unsafe to swim in the nets were unsure why. The message on the sign was found to be unclear as to what the actual danger was and the potential risk posed by an Irukandji sting. Some words and colours were inconsistent with beachgoers expectations of a danger sign. With regards to Irukandji risk, signs should include a brief overview of the Irukandji, consequences of being stung, how to avoid being stung and what to do if a sting occur. In addition, fifty seven various signs were counted in the immediate area perhaps resulting in signage overload. Other strategies could be employed in the local area to keep people safe, including comprehension reviews *in situ* to improve warning signs, escalating warnings during peak Irukandji times and distributing additional educational materials to visitors.

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