

Participant Information Sheet

Project Title:

Next Generation Engagement Program:
8th Annual State of Infrastructure and Engagement Survey: 2024-2025

Hello!

You are invited to participate in the Next Generation Engagement Program's 8th Annual State of Infrastructure and Engagement Survey. The Survey is available online, here:

[8th Annual State of Infrastructure and Engagement Survey: 2024-2025](#)

The research is being led by Professor Sara Bice of the Crawford School of Public Policy at the Australian National University.

Project Outline:

Aim and method

The purpose of this survey is to help to **identify and address the infrastructure industry's knowledge gaps in engagement, social risk management and social licence**. In doing so, our aims are to:

- **build understanding of best practice** to improve community and environmental outcomes from major infrastructure delivery
- deliver the **tools and evidence base to improve decision-making and project outcomes**
- **support the professionalisation** of engagement as a discipline.

Participants:

You are being invited to participate because of your experience with the infrastructure industry, and your relationship with communities affected by the industry. This survey expects to recruit about 100 participants and is publicly available and we are asking professionals working in the infrastructure sector to take part.

Should you wish to participate, the survey will take **less than half-an-hour to complete**.

Use of Data and Feedback:

- Survey results will provide the foundation for industry discussions, and academic publications, such as journal articles and conference papers. A summary of findings will be presented publicly by December 2025 and the final report will be shared publicly by March 2026.
- If you wish to receive a summary report of the survey findings, there will be space at the end of the survey for you to provide your contact details. Your name and contact details will be kept in a separate, password-protected computer file from any data that you supply, and no attempt will be made to connect your survey response with your contact details. All responses are confidential.
- Project data is electronic and will be collected via secure Qualtrics survey software with data stored in a shared, encrypted Sharepoint site, accessible to the researchers. Data will be stored securely for five years from the time of the last publication arising from the project or until such time as no further analysis is being undertaken. After five years, data will be securely archived, as this is a longitudinal study and prior years' data

will continue to be used for comparison and trend purposes.

Project Funding:

- This study is funded by the ANU with the support of I2S industry partners. It is part of a broader program of work with industry partners. View our partners on our website: www.nextgenengagement.org

Participant Involvement:

Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:

Participation in this survey is completely voluntary. Participation in the research is not an expectation of your employment or professional relationship/association with the research team or any affiliated organisation, and your choice will not affect your relationship with any party. Responses are confidential. Data will only be used if you complete the first section of the survey. Participants will not be able to withdraw data after a survey is submitted.

What does participation in the research entail?

- The survey will ask you for some demographic details. This information helps us to better understand who the respondents are and to create a clearer picture of the professionals working in the sector. The majority of questions focus on your professional experiences in the sector, especially as they may relate to community engagement.
- Should you wish to participate, the survey will take **less than half-an-hour to complete**.

Location and Duration:

This is an online survey ([weblink available here](#)) using Qualtrics survey software. Average response time is less than half an hour.

Risks:

Participation in this survey is low risk. Responses are confidential and, based on prior years, we expect a total response rate of at least 100 individuals. To ensure confidentiality, particularly in open-ended responses, participants are advised to avoid disclosing information that is confidential, defamatory or that could otherwise harm themselves or others.

Benefits:

This survey is a direct response to industry requests for more information on these topics. It has been delivered annually since 2017, creating an important data set for the sector.

The results of this survey will help the infrastructure sector to:

- build understanding of best practice to improve community and environmental outcomes from major infrastructure delivery
- deliver the tools and evidence base to improve decision-making and project outcomes
- support the professionalisation of engagement as a discipline.

It is unlikely that you will personally benefit from participating in this research.

Confidentiality:

The confidentiality of your responses will be protected to the fullest possible extent, within the limits of the law. If

you elect to receive a 'research summary', your name and contact details will be kept in a separate, password-protected computer file from any data that you supply.

Data Storage:

Where: Data will be stored online in encrypted Qualtrics survey software, licensed to the ANU. Downloads of survey data, for purposes of analysis, will be stored in password protected Sharepoint files, accessible only to the NextGen Engagement research team.

How long: Data will be stored securely for at least five years after project completion or until such time as no further analysis is being undertaken.

Handling of Data following the required storage period: This is an annual survey that is longitudinal. For that reason, data will be archived in password protected electronic files after the initial 5 years of storage. Data may be used for future research projects.

Privacy Notice: Australian privacy law requires the ANU to comply with the Privacy Act 1988 in relation to any personal information collected. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at: https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppf/document/ANUP_010007. The Policy explains how you can access or seek to correct any personal information you may provide and also how to complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

Queries and Concerns:

- **Contact Details for More Information:**

For further requests for information or queries regarding this survey, please contact Professor Sara Bice on: sara.bice@anu.edu.au or +61410705214.

Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol 2023/234). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University Telephone:
+61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au