



MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGO: 00:01 GMT +2 MAY 21, 2019

Australian tech company wins international recognition for work in climate risk and adaptation analysis.

HEIDLEBERG, GERMANY, International Conference on Climate Action: XDI Sydney, a project run by The Cross Dependency Initiative (XDI) and the NSW Department of Planning, has today received international recognition from the German Government as a one of five winners in the Better Together Awards.

The Better Together Award champions innovative collaborations between government and SMEs that provide local solutions to climate change for cities and communities around the world. Funded by the German Federal Ministry of Environment and supported by the German Department for International Cooperation, it received applications from all over the globe, but only five were chosen as winners.

Commenced in 2017, the XDI Sydney project brings together decision makers from service providers in water, power, telecoms and transport to assess the impacts of climate change to critical infrastructure and to understand where the shared risk between the providers lays. The project quantifies climate risk to each provider but most importantly identifies where cross dependent relationships lead to shared risk of cascading failure across more than one provider.

“It’s not often that Australia leads the Europeans on climate technology, but this is a world first,” said Rohan Hamden, XDI CEO. “We’re thrilled with the support the NSW Government has shown in backing the Cross Dependency Initiative and our Climate Risk Engine technology. This partnership with critical infrastructure providers is showing cities around the world how to create safer and more resilient cities.”

Early stages focused on data agreements and security arrangements, as the technology was bringing together extensive confidential asset data from numerous parties. New archetypes were created to cover the breadth of asset types from varied sectors to be included in the climate risk analysis. Most recently the project has mapped cross dependent relationships and identified opportunities for collaborative adaptation.

“The XDI Sydney project has built a bridge between cutting edge climate change modelling from UNSW and CSIRO, and decisions being made by engineers about how to manage their assets,” said Dr. Karl Mallon, Head of Science and Systems. “This work is ground breaking and it’s great to receive recognition of that.”

“It’s taken steadfast commitment from all project partners who saw the value of the work even before they could understand how it would be done. It’s been a hugely productive journey and the results now show their faith was well placed. We’re excited to be invited to Berlin to explain how we’ve done it.”

Winners from Nigeria, Italy, Germany, India and Sydney will travel to Berlin to undergo an innovation journey with Impact Hub, and present in a dedicated session at the International Climate Change Adaptation conference in Heidelberg.

More info: www.xdi.systems

Dr Karl Mallon (+61) 412 257 521

Rohan Hamden (+61) 422 394 679

<https://www.bettertogetheraward.org/>