



AMANDA TAYLOR-SHORT

CONSULTANT



Amanda has developed a broad understanding of public policy from her academic and professional career that she effectively applies to the field of evaluation. She combines her skills in problem solving and strategic thinking with a passion for listening to people and their stories to synthesise data and think about policy problems in unique ways.

As a pragmatic big picture thinker, Amanda is driven to communicate impactful findings and recommendations that can deliver achievable and sustainable change for people and environment.



I believe in the power of evaluation to uncover and communicate the complexity of change, weaving together stakeholder stories and experiences with data to drive better social and environmental outcomes. By centering evaluations around people and their experiences, we can create a more holistic understanding of value to inform positive policy change.

ENVIRONMENT AND DISASTER RECOVERY

Having conducted her Masters Dissertation on NSW waste management policy, Amanda is passionate about the intersection of people and environment. Since joining ARTD in 2023, she has enjoyed using her understanding of government and environmental policy, and skills in communication and research to engage with evidence and contribute to high quality evaluations of different scales.

- >> **Overarching Bushfires Evaluation** (Resilience NSW, 2023-ongoing): Informed by a triple rubric approach, Amanda conducted and led the coordination of a targeted desktop review of program documentation across 13 programs. She has led a series of interviews with government stakeholders and contributed to the drafting of key findings for the interim-report. Amanda also conducted in-person fieldwork to produce a case study for a bushfire affected community in NSW.
- >> **Evaluation of the Environmental Research Grants** (NSW Environmental Trust, 2023): Amanda conducted interviews with grantees, applicants and program staff and led the quantitative analysis of survey data of applicant's experiences to inform findings and recommendations about what's working and what could be improved.

WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH

Amanda is experienced in interviewing, data analysis and project management. She has demonstrated the breadth of her skills in supporting several projects within the wellbeing and mental health space.

- >> **Independent Evaluation of the Employ My Ability Disability Employment Pilots** (Department of Social Services, 2023-Ongoing): Amanda led group interviews with pilot program providers. She also led the coordination of ethics for Human Research Ethics Committee review and approval.
- >> **Mental Health Implementation** (National Emergency Management Agency, 2023-ongoing): Amanda supported interviews with government, peak body and academic stakeholders and conducted qualitative analysis of interview data to inform the development of scoping materials on the public, health mental health and disaster management environment across Australia.
- >> **National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Evaluation Framework and Sharing Guidelines** (Department of Health and Aged Care, 2023): Amanda coordinated a desktop review of state and Federal requirements and guidelines for evaluation. She also led the coordination of stakeholder consultation and supported group interviews with government, non-government and lived experience stakeholders.
- >> **Evaluation of the Towards Zero Suicides Initiative** (NSW Ministry of Health, 2023): Exercising a trauma-informed approach, Amanda worked with peer researchers to conduct a qualitative analysis of interview data using NVivo software and synthesised findings to provide timely feedback on six initiatives delivered by the Ministry.