

## The Australian Early Warning Network (EWN)

# Global Multi-Hazard Early Warning System

This presentation provides a brief description of EWN's operational early warning system. The system sends out thousands of alerts on a daily basis. It is the only one of its kind.

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### **About the Australian Early Warning Network (EWN)**

EWN provides a free emergency alert service that covers everything from tsunami through to severe weather and fire. EWN tracks severe events alerting people directly in the path of a storm with potential for hail, flash flooding or damaging winds etc. To accomplish this mission EWN has developed a sophisticated but easy to use multi-hazard, multi-channel geographic notification system.

Using the map below, click a point on the map to start drawing an area selection. Click at each new point to add to the area.  
Members in your polygon selection will be sent this alert.

#### Find Location

Street

Suburb / Town

Boonah

#### Polygon Tools

Show recent polygons 12 Hours

Show Weather Radars

Fill Area

Remove Point

Clear Polygon

# EW System Brief

EWN is capable of sending one or many millions of alerts to threatened populations and individuals.

EWN's multi-hazard, multi-channel geographic early warning system is designed to instantly and simultaneously broadcasts alerts and notifications to individuals, groups, or persons in selected areas over multiple communication mediums. Alerts are sent via SMS, phone, email, desktopALERT™ and any other electronic gateway available.

**Type:** Geographic Notification and Information System (GNIS)

# How It Works

Notifications or alerts can be sent using one of four methods:

1. GIS
2. Group
3. Quick
4. Saved alerts

## GIS Alert

A GIS alert, as in the example to the right, is where an operator or alert manager selects or draws an alert area on the map. After creating the message and selecting the channels in which to send it through, everyone registered within that area will be alerted.

## Group Alert

A group alert is sent to pre-defined lists.

## Quick Alert

A quick alert is used to send to individuals or groups selected from a directory.

## Saved Alert

This is an alert that is saved, normally setup up for an area or community that is vulnerable to a known risk. Saves time and confusion in emergency situations.

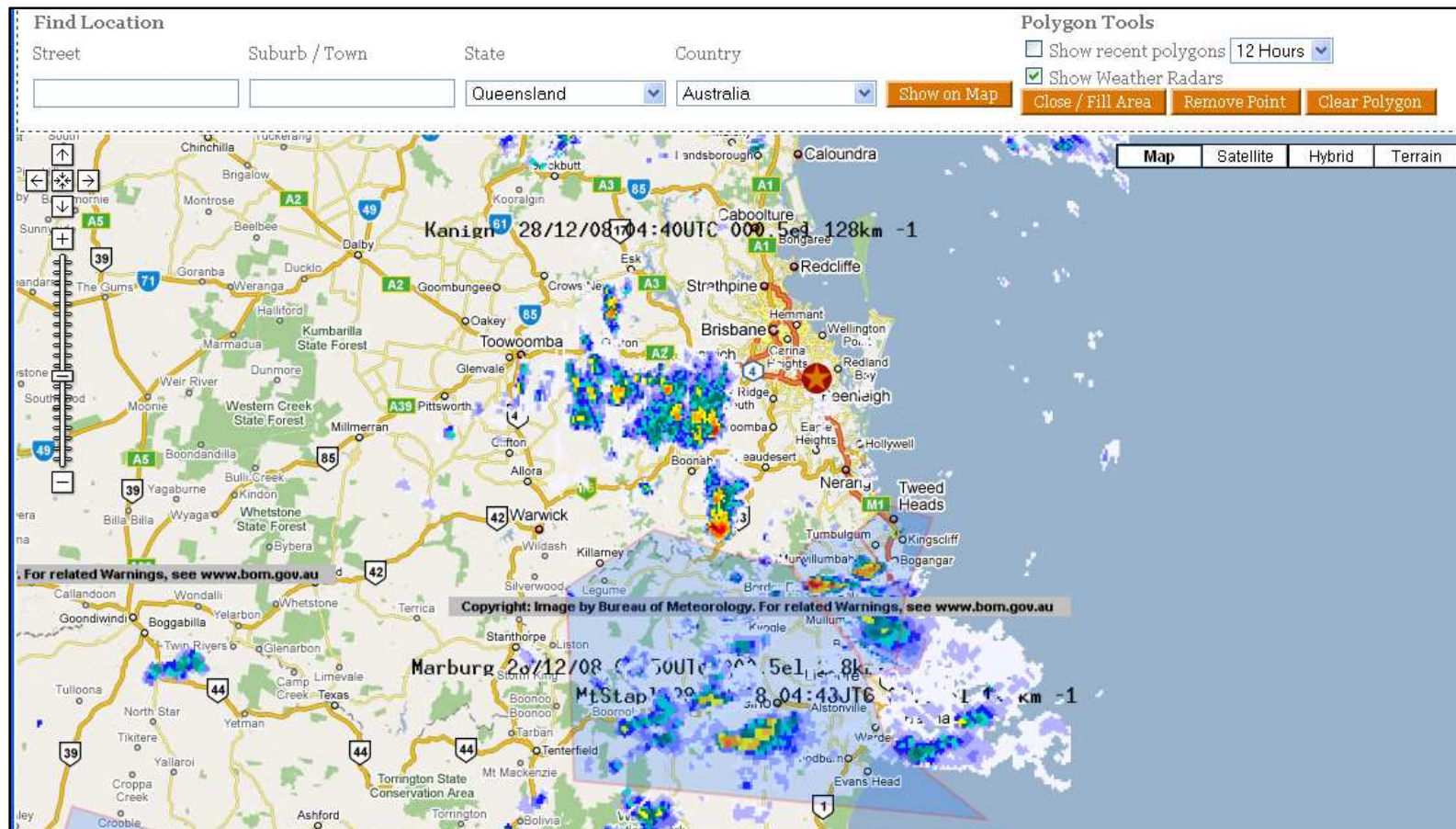
The screenshot displays a web-based GIS alert configuration interface. At the top, there is a 'Find Location' section with input fields for Street, Suburb / Town, State, and Country. The Country field is set to 'Papua New Guinea'. To the right, there are 'Polygon Tools' including 'Show recent polygons' (set to 12 Hours), 'Show Weather Radars', and buttons for 'Close / Fill Area', 'Remove Point', and 'Clear Polygon'. Below this is a map of Papua New Guinea with a red polygon highlighting an alert area. The map includes navigation controls, a scale bar (20 mi / 50 km), and a 'Map' menu with options for 'Map', 'Satellite', 'Hybrid', and 'Terrain'. A watermark for 'THE EARLY WARNING NETWORK' is visible on the map. Below the map, there is a form for creating an alert. The form includes a 'Website, E-Mail and DesktopALERT Message Content' section with a large text area containing the number '3'. Below this, there are 'Delivery' options: 'EWN DesktopALERT', 'EWN Website', 'Email', 'Phone', 'Mobile - Select txt to voice', 'Mobile - SMS', and 'Media'. The 'To:' field is set to 'Public', the 'Status:' is 'Red', and the 'Subject:' is 'Tsunami Alert'. The 'Expires In:' is set to '30 min'. At the bottom, there is a rich text editor with various formatting tools.



# Geospatial Data

The systems GIS alerting is accurate to within three meters. For best results recipients are geo-located as accurately as possible.

To increase the accuracy of alerts, other geospatial data is overlaid in real time into the GIS control panel.



# Populating the Alert Database

Directories or address and contact details can be imported and automatically geo-coded by the system.

Alternatively listings can be geographically grouped or located as per screen above.

The system also allows people to login and register themselves.

**1 Login Details**  
Please enter your email address and a password.

Email Address

Password

Confirm Password

**2 Who you are**

Mr

Your First Name

Surname

**3 Your Location**  
Use your organisation, company, or community groups street address if appropriate.  
We use this information to customise our service for you. We only send you Alerts for events happening in your area.

Street

Suburb / Town

Postcode

State

Country

**4 SMS Alerts**  
Receive FREE emergency alerts on your mobile phone when they are issued.

Mobile Number

Phone Number

I agree and accept the [User License Agreement](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

**5 Optional Information**  
In order to help emergency services responding to an urgent situation at your home/business or near you, you can enter additional information here.

Is there a pool

How many people live there

Number and type of animals

Are there any disabilities

Are there gas bottles? Please describe location

Alternate Contact Details

Information You think responders might need

**6 List of Other Services In Your Area**

Neighbour Hood Watch  
Schools  
Council  
[List](#)

# EWN desktopALERT™

desktopALERT™ is the preferred method by members for receiving daily and detailed notifications

In addition to emails and phones EWN can force a desktop popup.

The screenshot shows the EWN desktopALERT interface. On the left is a sidebar with navigation options: UPDATE ALERT PAGE, Weather Radar, Emergency Contacts, Maps, Emergency Procedures, SETTINGS, Edit Registration Details, Save a Friend, Support, Submit a Story, Submit Image, Register your club or group to use EWN, and LOGIN. The main content area has tabs for ALERTS, WEATHER WARNINGS, FORECAST, and NEWS. The ALERTS tab is active, displaying a "SEVERE HAILSTORM WARNING" with a lightning bolt image. The text reads: "GREATER METROPOLITAN for LARGE HAILSTONES, DAMAGING WIND, VERY HEAVY RAINFALL and FLASH FLOODING". It details the affected areas (Pittwater, Warringah, western parts of the Sydney Metropolitan, Hawkesbury, Wyong, Blue Mountains Local Government Areas) and the time of issuance (5:05 PM today). It also states that the Bureau of Meteorology weather radar detected severe thunderstorms near Windsor, the Putty Road north of Colo Heights, Gosford, Hornsby, Sydney City, the Sydney Harbour Bridge, Mangrove Mountain and Katoomba, and that these storms are moving towards the southeast. A forecast of severe thunderstorms is given for Blacktown, Baulkham Hills, Parramatta, Holroyd and Auburn by 6:00 PM. A final paragraph notes that large hailstones, damaging winds, very heavy rainfall and flash flooding are possible, with thunderstorms today having already produced large hail [2-3 cm] in the Illawarra, Central Tablelands and up to 3-4cm hail in the Metropolitan Area. At the bottom of the main area are buttons for Print Map, Index, and My Services. The footer features the Interactive Advertising Bureau logo.

Example of orange alert.

The screenshot shows an alert configuration window. At the top, there are checkboxes for EWN DesktopALERT, SMS / Pager, EWN Website, Media, Email, and Phone. Below this is a form with fields for To: Terranora, Topic: Child Safety Threat, Status: Red, and Subject: Child Safety Alert. A text area below the form contains the alert message: "Please enter the Alert text you wish to send. This text will be shown to users with the client, displayed on the website, and sent in HTML emails." Below the text area is a rich text editor toolbar with various icons for text formatting, alignment, and insertion. The main content area of the alert shows the following text: "Please be advised that an attempt to lure a child into a car has been made in the last five minutes on Simeoni Drive. If anyone has seen a 1976 yellow Falcon, driven by a male, caucasian with a grey beard, please contact local police immediately." Below this text is a small image of a yellow Falcon car. To the right of the image is the text: "Do not approach the vehicle or attempt to talk to the occupant as he is believed to be armed and dangerous. Any member of the public with any information on this matter are encouraged to call and may do so anonymously."

The public can register into the system online or via DesktopALERT™

# Joining the System

When people join using either method, the system checks their location for other services they can elect to receive.

Our experience is that people freely provide additional information. This information is useful to emergency personnel responding to a situation.

The screenshot shows the 'EWN Registration' window with the 'Service Notification Selection' tab active. The window title is 'EWN Registration'. The main heading is 'Service Notification Selection'. Below this, it says 'The following groups provide Alerts for your area. Please select the Groups you wish to receive Alerts from:'. There are two columns of checkboxes. The first column includes: General (checked), Severe Weather (checked), Schools (checked), Community (checked), Emergency (checked), Terror (checked), Essential Services (unchecked), Local Services (unchecked), National Services (unchecked), and TEST (unchecked). The second column is titled 'Local Services' and contains 'EWN Updates' (checked). Below the checkboxes is a 'HotKey' section with the text 'If your school or community group has given you a HotKey, enter it here:' followed by an empty text box and a 'Find' button. At the bottom, there is a 'Notify me when new groups become available in my area' checkbox which is checked. Navigation buttons at the bottom include 'Cancel', 'Privacy Policy', 'Previous', 'Next', and 'Finish'.


The screenshot shows the 'EWN Registration' window with the 'Additional Emergency Information' tab active. The window title is 'EWN Registration'. The main heading is 'Additional Emergency Information'. Below this, it says 'Please provide us with the following details. They may be vital for emergency services:'. There are three input fields: 'Number of People in Household' with the value '2', 'Swimming Pool' with a checked checkbox, and 'Pets (No and type)' with the value '2 small dogs'. Below these is an 'Any Disabilities?' field with the value 'No'. A text area below asks 'Add any information emergency authorities might need to know. (ie. Difficult drive for fire trucks, two story etc):' and contains the text 'Long narrow sealed driveway 150m'. Navigation buttons at the bottom include 'Cancel', 'Privacy Policy', 'Previous', 'Next', and 'Finish'.

**NOTE: DesktopALERT™ is about to be replaced with a new version.**

Information is collected according to responder needs – ie 'Where are the gas bottles?' a common request by fire fighters responding to a blaze at 2am in the morning.

# A Country Can be Setup in Minutes

There is no software to install. Administrators can access and manage their system from any internet connection.



Welcome, kerry@ewn.com.au. [Logout](#)

- [-] **EWN Administration**
  - [Send Group Alert](#)
  - [Send GIS Alert](#)
  - [Send Quick Alert](#)
- [-] **Reporting**
  - [Alerts Sent](#)
  - [Quick Alerts Sent](#)
- [-] **Group Administration**
  - [Add Group](#)
  - [Edit / Delete](#)
  - [Edit Group Members](#)
  - [View Group Members](#)
- [-] **Members**
  - [Search / Edit / Delete](#)
  - [Add Members](#)
  - [Import Members](#)
- [-] **Super Admin**
  - [Default DesktopALERT Message](#)
  - [Show/Hide Latest Alerts on Website](#)
  - [Add New Content Provider](#)
  - [Add New User to Existing Content Provider](#)
  - [Custom Banners](#)

### Send Alert

**Send an Alert to All Group Members**

Please select how you wish to alert recipients

EWN DesktopALERT     SMS / Pager  
 EWN Website         Phone  
 Email

To:

Subject:

Expires:

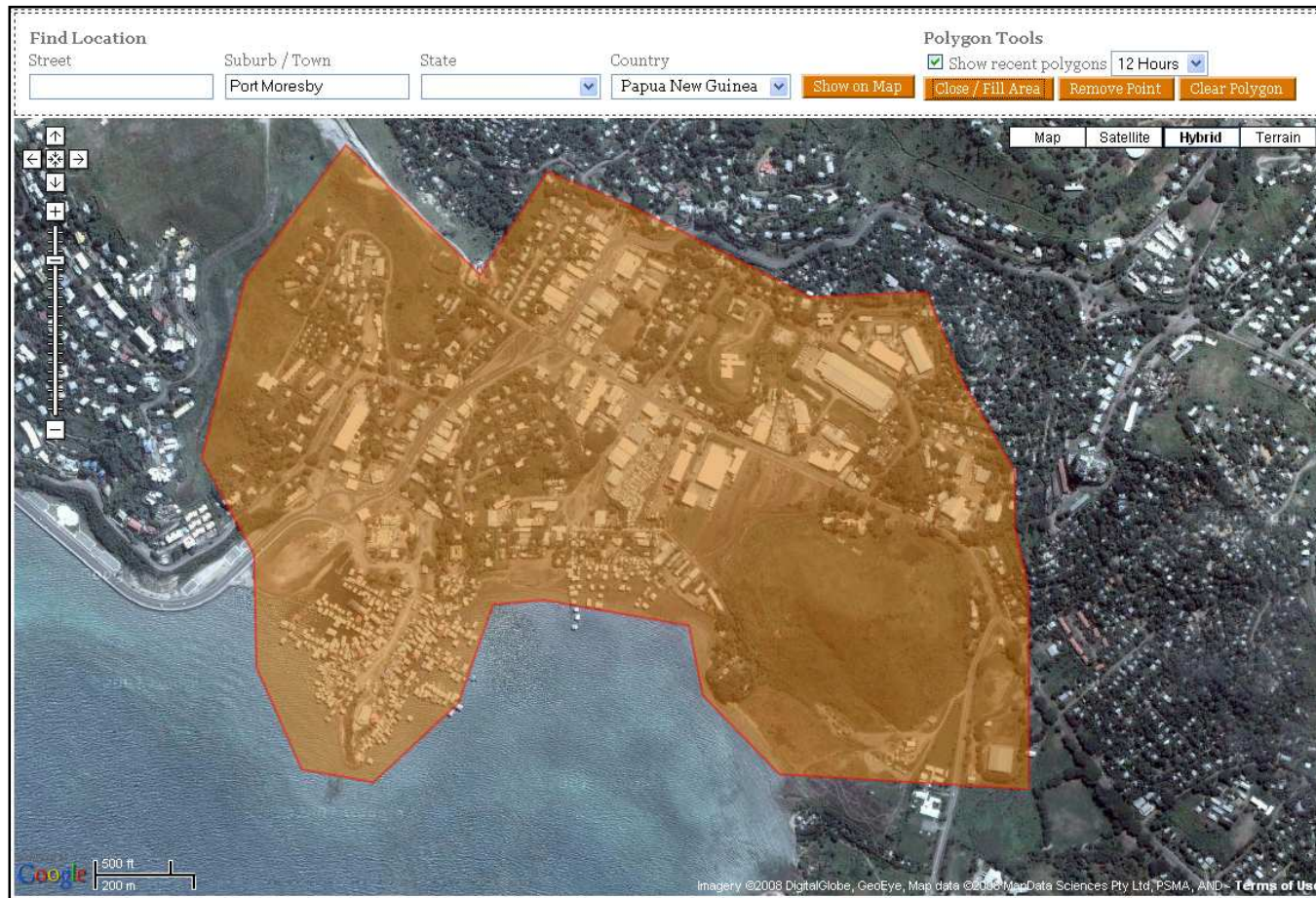
Status:

**Website, E-Mail and DesktopALERT Message Content**

Please enter the Alert text you wish to send. This text will be shown to users with the client, displayed on the website, and sent in HTML emails.

# Ready to Send Alerts

Within minutes a new user (country or other entity) could be sending alerts to everyone, a state, a city...



# Anyone, Anywhere

Or to a building or individual...


Find Location

Street  Suburb / Town  State  Country

Polygon Tools

Show recent polygons

Map Satellite **Hybrid** Terrain

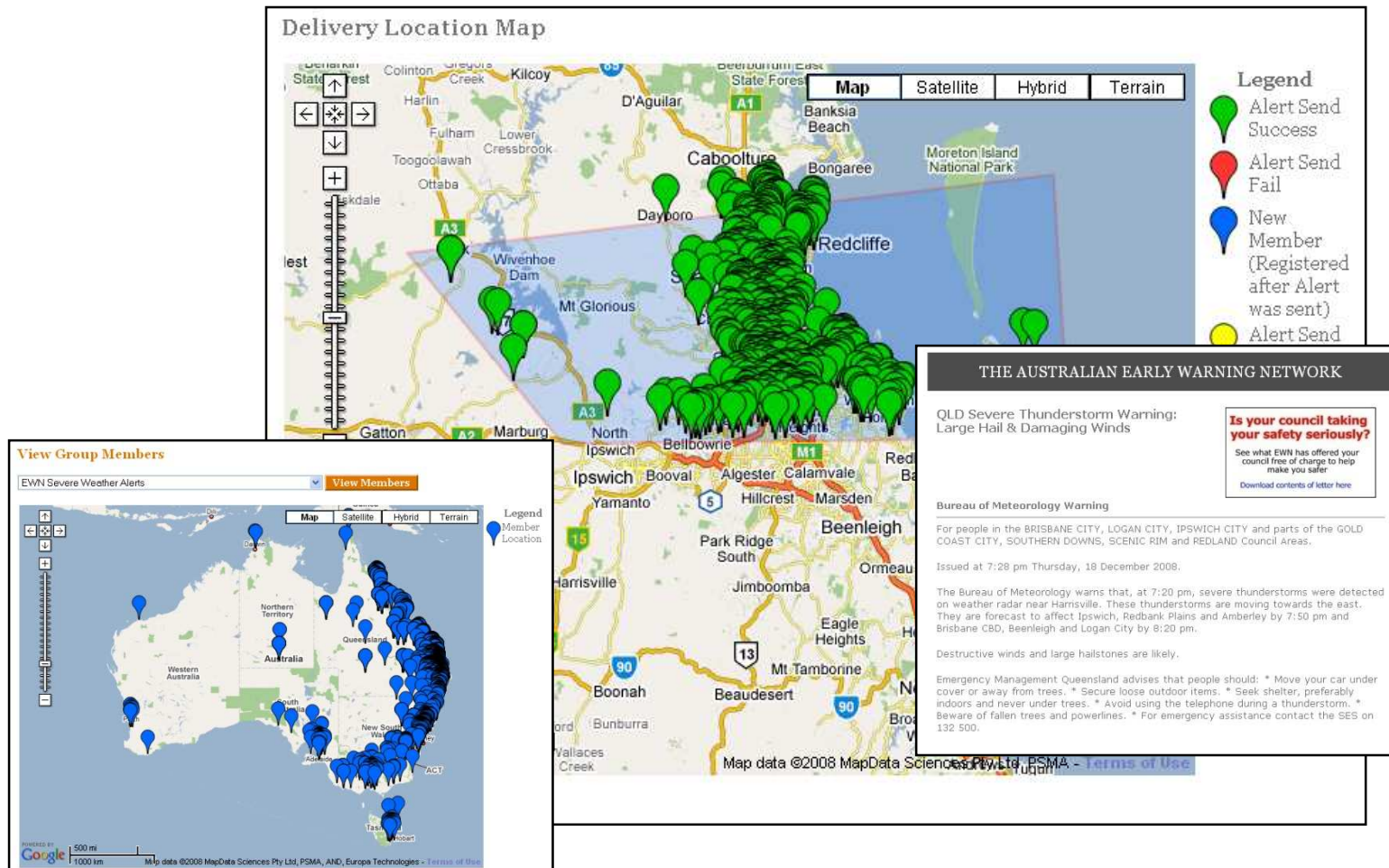


200 ft  
50 m

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# Management & Administration

The GNIS features substantial management and administrative features driven from experience in daily operations. The system is designed to be operated by one or many alert managers at a time. All activities are recorded, immediately visible, graphically displayed and available in numerous reports.



We could go on... but by now I think you will have got the point.

An extremely capable system is available right now free of charge that can save lives.

There are no strings attached to this offer. EWN will provide source code to secure operations and is keen to work with any party to jointly improve the system. Users of the system are free to change to any other system at any time. But right here, right now is something that can save lives.

The greatest danger to the public is more talk and no action.