



Australian Government
National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience 



2021-22

Annual Report





Front cover images clockwise from top left: AIDR presents at UN Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, 2021 Resilient Australia Photography Award Winner 'Still Standing – We and the Trees' by Virginia Eastman, Lessons Management Forum, Volunteer Leadership Program.

An aerial photograph of a riverbank with trees and a blue text box. The text box is a solid blue rectangle with a yellow semi-circle on its top-left corner and a yellow zigzag line on its bottom-right corner. The background shows a river on the left, a rocky bank, and dense green and brown trees on the right.

The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to lands, waters and culture. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

Contents

1

NEMA Foreword

2

AIDR Foreword

3

The Australian Institute
for Disaster Resilience

5

Influencing Strategy –
Networks

7

Influencing Strategy –
Capability

9

Influencing Strategy –
Knowledge

11

Influencing Strategy –
Thought Leadership

13

Impact and engagement

15

Professional development
events

17

Developing Australia's
Second National
Action Plan for Disaster
Risk Reduction

19

Australian Disaster
Resilience Conference

21

Australian Disaster
Resilience Handbook
Collection

23

Education for Young
People

25

Volunteer Leadership
Program

27

Australian Journal of
Emergency Management

28

Major Incidents Report

29

Australian Disaster
Resilience Knowledge Hub

30

Glossary, Database and
Library

31

Resilient Australia Awards

Brendan Moon

Coordinator-General, NEMA



Beginning in the eastern states, the impacts of flooding have enveloped almost the entire country.

Australians, all the way from the Kimberley region at the top end of Western Australia and down to the towns that are on and around the Meander and Tinimarakuna/Macquarie River in Tasmania, have experienced record flooding that has damaged their households, communities and economies.

The country-wide flood crisis has been complicated and compounded by Australia's third consecutive La Niña. This crisis follows a global pandemic that shut down all corners of the country, the 2019-20 Black Summer Bushfires which engulfed more than 24 million hectares, and the 2019 North Queensland Monsoon Trough which flooded around 15,000 square kilometres of the state.

Our communities are fatigued, our ecosystems are damaged, and our capability and capacity to respond and recover is stretched.

Our country is standing on a flooded platform, and our systems need to evolve. They need to absorb our challenges, adapt to changing conditions, and be ready to function in the face of a future filled with more frequent and intense disasters and emergencies.

This is why the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has been established.

NEMA coordinates, drives and enables collective, strategic action before, during and after disaster. We partner with households and communities, businesses and industries, and governments and NGOs, so that we work together as a nation to charge up our capabilities, strengthen our systems, and support Australians to feel stronger, safer and more connected.

The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) is one of our partners in action.

Across the 2021-22 financial year, AIDR has overcome the challenges and constraints of competing, consecutive and compounding disasters to keep communities, domestic and international governments, and emergency management experts conversing, connecting and collaborating.

AIDR hosted the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference on a state-of-the-art virtual platform for more than 500 domestic and international attendees in October 2021. AIDR also coordinated and hosted the From Risk to Resilience Summit in June 2022.

They enhanced the capabilities of Australia's emergency management experts by delivering 80 professional development and training courses to over 5,500 participants.

They inspired action and innovation in disaster risk reduction through the National Resilient Australia Awards, which in December 2021 saw winning and highly commended projects recognised across 6 award categories.

These achievements are a testament to the commitment, expertise and experience of the small, capable team behind AIDR, under the impressive leadership of former Executive Director, Amanda Leck, and current Executive Director, Dr Margaret Moreton.

As the first Coordinator-General of NEMA, I congratulate AIDR on another successful year, and look forward to continuing our work as partners in action, to help Australian communities to be safer, stronger and more connected.

Dr Margaret Moreton

Executive Director, AIDR

(With gratitude and acknowledgement of the work of the entire AIDR team of 2021-22, including the Executive Director at that time, Amanda Leck)



Dr Margaret Moreton



Amanda Leck

The changing climate continued to result in severe, frequent, and compounding disasters and emergency events across Australia during 2020-21. The *Major Incidents Report* identifies 8 major incidents in this reporting period, including catastrophic flooding across Queensland and NSW, bushfires in Western Australia, and severe storms in Victoria and South Australia. Australian communities continued to live in a COVID-19 affected environment, with many experiencing lockdowns while preparing for, responding to, or in recovery from successive emergency events. AIDR continues to work with our partners to enhance Australia's capacity to build resilience, and to prepare, withstand and recover from these complex events.

Each Australian jurisdiction is part of AIDR's network, and we work with and support all levels of government, not-for-profit groups, emergency management agencies, various charitable organisations, research and academia and the private sector. We have continued to support a growing, inclusive, connected, and informed network of practitioners through the development and provision of high-quality knowledge, resources, and professional development opportunities. Despite the challenges of the third successive COVID-19 impacted year, AIDR continued to work in a hybrid way, conducting events both face-to-face and in the virtual environment.

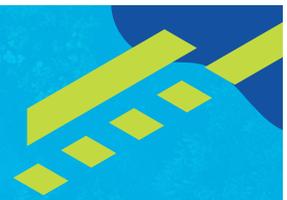
There are several areas of AIDR'S work that are 'stand outs' for this reporting period, and are described in more detail in this Annual Report, including:

- Working closely with government, non-government and community-based partners and stakeholders, to support the development of the **2nd National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction**.
- The **Australian Disaster Resilience Conference** which successfully pivoted to an online event due to heightened COVID concerns during August 2021.

- Enhancing the way we **communicate our messages** with a growing audience, including through webinars, briefs and our presence on social media.
- The **Resilient Australia Awards** which celebrate and promote initiatives that build whole of community resilience to disasters and emergencies around Australia, as well as images capturing resilience in action.
- The **AIDR Knowledge Hub** which continued to grow in both its content and reach.
- AIDR's submission to the review of the **Australian Curriculum 9.0** (released in May 2022).
- AIDR support for the National Aerial Firefighting Centre (NAFC) and Emergency Management Australia by facilitating a competition for school students to name **Australia's National Large Airtanker**. The winning schools all proposed the name "Phoenix" and are excited that their name was chosen.

AIDR continues to work with our partners and stakeholders to develop resources, to build capability, to celebrate successes and to support the work of practitioners throughout Australia. We thank you all for your support in the development and delivery of knowledge products, information, networks and services. We also thank the National Recovery and Resilience Agency (subsequently the National Emergency Management Agency), AFAC, and the Red Cross for their continued partnership in our shared effort to strengthen a disaster resilient Australia.

The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience



Our purpose

The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) is the National Institute for disaster risk reduction and resilience.

We collaborate across sectors to strengthen the resilience of Australian communities to disasters.

AIDR creates, grows, and supports a range of networks; provides opportunities for learning, development, and innovation; shares knowledge and resources to enable informed decision making and action; and facilitates thought leadership through national conversations.



Our partners

AIDR is a consortium managed by AFAC as a business unit and supported by its partners: the Australian Government National Recovery and Resilience Agency and the Australian Red Cross. AIDR delivers a range of products and services on behalf of the Australian Government to support a disaster resilient Australia.



Influencing change

AIDR contributes to a more disaster resilient Australia through 4 key influencing strategies that encapsulate AIDR's work:

- Actively supporting, growing and sustaining a range of networks across sectors and jurisdictions.
- Enabling those with a role in disaster risk reduction and resilience to come together to learn, develop and innovate.
- Collecting, developing, curating and sharing knowledge to educate and promote good practice in disaster risk reduction and resilience.
- Providing a central focus point for national thought leadership on disaster risk reduction and resilience.



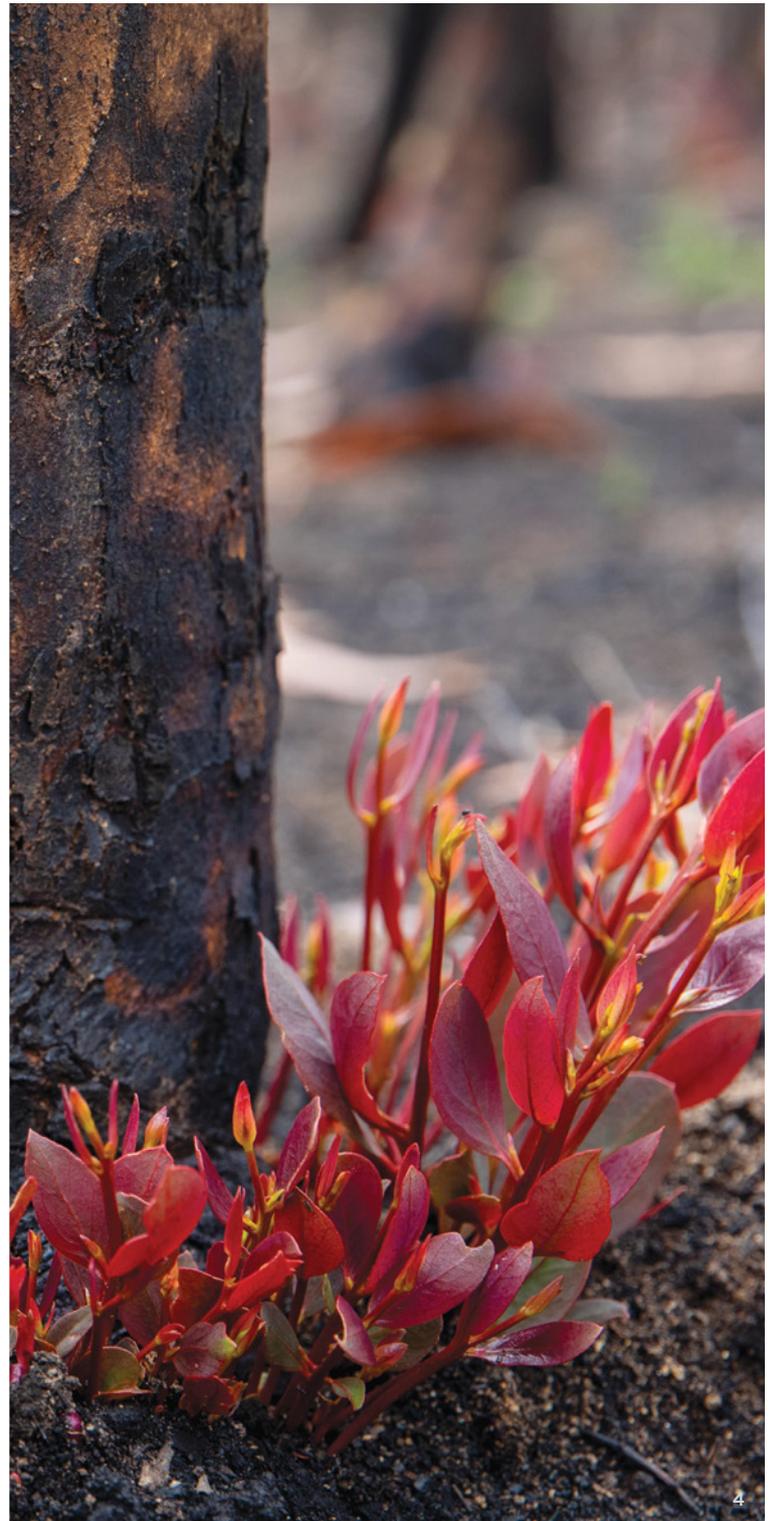
Our stakeholders

- Academia and education
- Business, insurance and finance
- Commonwealth, state and local governments
- Community and volunteer organisations
- Crisis and emergency management
- Emergency services and defence
- Environment and infrastructure
- Health and community care
- Media and communications
- Not-for-profits, NGOs, member bodies and peak bodies



Service areas

- Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection
- Professional Development Events
- Education for Young People Program
- Volunteer Leadership Program
- Knowledge Management products and services (Australian Journal of Emergency Management, Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub, Disaster Mapper)
- *National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines*
- Australian Emergency Management Library
- Resilient Australia Awards
- National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database
- *Major Incidents Report*
- Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary



Influencing Strategy – Networks

Actively support, grow, and sustain a range of networks across sectors and jurisdictions.

5 active networks

- Disaster Resilient Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN)
- Disaster Resilient Education Strategy Group (DRESG)
- Jurisdictional Emergency Management Education Network (JEMEN)
- Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum (AEMVF)
- Recovery Community of Practice

Highlights

- In-person DRANZSEN events returned
- 10 Recovery Community of Practice ‘Possibility Labs’
- 730+ members in DRANZSEN
- New membership additions to AEMVF
- 2 JEMEN Meetings

As in previous years, AIDR’s networks have continued to grow, develop, and collaborate across sectors to achieve a shared goal – reducing disaster risk and increasing disaster resilience throughout Australia.

AIDR supports five active networks, delivering events and engaging in consultations with participating members across these networks. Every Australian jurisdiction is represented in AIDR’s network membership with representatives from all levels of government, not-for-profit groups, emergency management agencies, various charitable organisations, and the private sector.

AEMVF continues to evolve and grow to support the ever-changing landscape of volunteering in Australia. In 2021, the forum welcomed new representatives from Disaster Relief Australia, Australian Local Government Association and St John Ambulance Australia. AEMVF continues to champion the voice of volunteers in the emergency management sector and provided their perspective to the development of Volunteering Australia’s National Strategy for Volunteering (due for release in 2023).

Events run by AIDR have enabled ongoing connection with network members, ensuring that we are responsive to member needs and priorities, as well as providing opportunities for input and participation. The 6th National DRANZSEN Forum was run online in September 2021 and in-person DRANZSEN events returned in 2022 for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic started, with events in Hobart and Brisbane.

AIDR maintained its partnership with the Social Recovery Reference Group to host 10 Possibility Lab Recovery Community of Practice sessions. Topics discussed included coordination, cooperation and collaboration; community-led recovery; resources and grants; personal frameworks for recovery; local government planning for COVID-19; cumulative community led recovery; recovery assessments; and person-centred approaches in emergency management for people who have disabilities. Participants attended from the most Australian states and territories, as well as New Zealand. Two guest presenters from Canada also participated.

JEMEN Chairperson, Peter Norman (EMV) will be resigning in late 2022 and the group thanks him for his dedicated service.



EXIT

2022 DRANZSEN Forums

GIRLS ON FIRE

Bronnie Mackintosh
Founder, Girls on Fire
Station Officers, Fire and Rescue New Zealand



Australia Institute for Charter Resilience

www.aicr.org.au



PACIFIC MARITIME CENTRE

PACIFIC

Influencing Strategy – Capability

Enable those with a role in disaster risk reduction and resilience to come together to learn, develop and innovate.

- More than 5,500 people connected from a broad range of sectors and jurisdictions
- 80 professional development events
- 10 Volunteer Leadership Programs

AIDR seeks to support a growing community of people who are more connected, informed, knowledgeable and capable of evidence and values-based decision making for improved disaster resilience. The capability development focus area of AIDR's work continues to grow and strengthen. Alongside the professional development events program, opportunities associated with our Handbooks, Education for Young People Program, Volunteer Leadership Program and the Resilient Australia Awards enable people to come together to acquire knowledge, make connections and ultimately advance progress in national disaster risk reduction and resilience initiatives.

AIDR successfully pivoted to an online presence during the peak of COVID-19 in 2020-21. This model of delivery was carried over to 2021-22, which saw AIDR significantly expand its presence through the delivery and facilitation of 80 events and 10 Volunteer Leadership Programs. The return to face-to-face events was also positive with an increase in attendance numbers across all 80 events. While face-to-face events continue to be highly valued by AIDR stakeholders, online events have enabled AIDR to reach a wider range of audiences.

Feedback Quote

Feedback received after the online Australian Disaster Resilience Conference supported an ongoing mode of both online and in-person events: *"Great, that is was virtual as it allowed me to attend which I wouldn't have been able to if it was in person."*

In light of recent disaster events and projections that these are likely to significantly increase in number, AIDR acknowledges those new to this area of practice. In connecting practitioners both new and old across sectors and jurisdictions, AIDR aims to elevate the collective knowledge base and encourage decisions and actions informed by evidence, experience and values.

Feedback Quote

The desire for these services is strong, with feedback received that what stakeholders most value in attending AIDR events is the opportunity to: *"Connect with others in the space, learn what others are doing and collaborate better for DRR going forward"* and *"To meet people in the sector and understand the latest thinking on resilience/disaster management"* – From Risk to Resilience Summit

In 2020-21 AIDR began collecting information in post event surveys about participants' key takeaways from AIDR events, including how participants intend to use this knowledge in their work. The results obtained during 2021-22 indicated:

- strong support of community-led approaches
- realisation that DRR and resilience are key to better recovery outcomes in the long-term
- understanding that organisations, agencies and jurisdictions need to collaborate for greater capability
- awareness that the DRR environment is changing.

Participants commonly express that AIDR events provide them with a more informed evidence base on which to build their work; have broadened their considerations, in particular about community engagement; encouraged them to look for additional information; generated new interests; and provided them with insights into future research projects.



National Recovery and Resilience Agency

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

From Risk to Resilience Summit

Welcome and Introduction

Hannah Wandel OAM
 A/g Executive Manager, Policy and Programs,
 National Recovery and Resilience Agency

SYDNEY MASONIC CENTRE

Australian Government
 National Recovery and Resilience Agency

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

adrr.gov.au | @adrr | #adrr

Influencing Strategy – Knowledge

Collecting, developing, curating and sharing knowledge to educate and promote good practice in disaster risk reduction and resilience.

AIDR continues to drive the development and promotion of knowledge and good practice for disaster resilience, delivering new, cutting-edge resources through AIDR's handbook and events programs and invested heavily in enhancing outreach and the utilisation of existing highly valued knowledge products. AIDR's knowledge products and services are valued as credible and useful.

Over 533,500 people accessed materials across the 3 AIDR websites, with 2,233,844 pageviews on the Knowledge Hub, 305,318 pageviews on the corporate AIDR website and 33,682 page views on the Education for Young People website. The Australian Disaster Mapper was the most accessed resource with 306,285 pageviews. The most downloaded documents were the *Australian Emergency Management Arrangements handbook*, *National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines*, and the *Emergency Planning handbook*.



AIDR published two new handbooks, including Australia's inaugural *Systemic Disaster Risk* handbook. The handbook has received positive attention from domestic and internal audiences and has been downloaded 1,291 times from the Knowledge Hub. AIDR also published 4 companion resources, a series of Knowledge-into-Action Briefs and key messages related to emergency planning, and curated 2 new disaster resilience collections on the Knowledge Hub. AIDR hosted 2 handbook showcase webinars with participation from 599 individuals across 23 different sectors.

The *Australian Journal of Emergency Management (AJEM)* published 4 editions in 2021-22, including a new viewpoints series and a themed edition on gender justice in disaster.

AIDR continued to work with leading subject experts to design and deliver a highly successful repertoire of professional development events. Post event surveys indicate that 87.57% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that their knowledge was improved.





CATALYSING CHANGE

WORKSHOP 7 & 8

Focussing on the future Rotations 2

For 7 mins

1. Now partner with another person to form groups of 4
2. Compare your post-it, start in group and theme, and fill gaps

Influencing Strategy – Thought Leadership

Provide a central focus point for national thought leadership on disaster risk reduction and resilience.

- Representation on 10 national committees to influence change
- 10 conferences, panels and workshops where AIDR provided input
- 2 radio interviews
- 11 print/online interviews

AIDR continues to influence strategic thinking and systemic change by leading and participating in international and national forums on disaster risk reduction (DRR) and resilience. AIDR's Executive Director and members of the AIDR team are active members of multiple national committees, influencing DRR and resilience outcomes. In this reporting period, these included:

- Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) Consultative Group, hosted by the Australian government in Brisbane, Queensland
- Resilience Valuation Initiative, in partnership with key business, government and NGO partners
- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal Program Advisory Committee
- Creative Recovery Taskforce
- P-CEP Peer Leadership Advisory Group (Disability inclusive DRR – person centred emergency planning)
- National Infant and Child Disaster Mental Health Advisory Committee
- Community-led Resilience Program (Minderoo Resilient Communities Mission)
- CAP-AU (Common Alert Protocol) Stakeholder Group in our capacity as secretariat for the National Public Information and Warnings Group.

AIDR also contributes by producing innovative guidance materials, including the inaugural *Systemic Disaster Risk* handbook, which has received positive attention from domestic and internal audiences. The handbook was presented at the UN Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Bali in May 2022.

AIDR is a strategic partner with the National Emergency Management Agency and together coordinated consultations and a national summit as part of the process to develop the Second National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction.

AIDR spoke at several conferences, workshops and panels:

- The Commission on the Status of Women, the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. The topic was, *Voices from the Pacific: highlighting the powerful role of women's action and leadership in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation and resilience building*,
- National Action Plan Summit
- International Women's Day presentation on resilience for Rotary International
- Urban Resilience workshop at the OneConsult conference
- Local Government SA – Emergency Management seminar
- Fire Australia conference and panel
- ANU Youth Climate Summit panel
- GAP Summit: New Normal - A Vision for Australia 2021
- QLD Disaster Management Research Forum
- Health and Social workshop for national climate resilience and adaptation
- Resilience Valuation Initiative workshop with CSIRO and VAP.

IGNITE STAGE

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience 

Shifting Mindsets and Action for Systemic Disaster Risk

MELISSA MATTHEWS

Manager, Knowledge Impact and Capability
Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

Evidence of Impact

"Just wanted to pass on my very sincere thanks for your participation in CSW66 Australian side event last week. I appreciate your contribution to discussion on how we can empower women and girls to take a full and equal role in tackling the challenges arising from climate change and disaster risk reduction in our region. Big shout out to the presenters and speakers for contributing your valuable insights to the event." Kaylene Zakharoff, First Assistant Secretary, Office for Women, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

"The impact of natural disasters on people, the environment and our communities is so relevant to the world we live in these days. Thanks again for providing such a compelling and informative speech and for your contribution towards making the morning so successful." Rotary International Women's Day Planning Committee, Mornington Peninsula

Impact and engagement

Events



80

professional development events, connecting 5,500 people



90%

of participants increased their knowledge



54

online events



24

face-to-face

Record

514

conference delegates



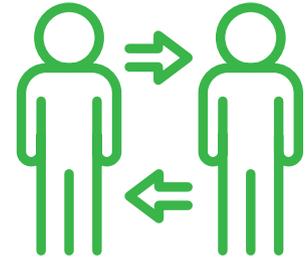
2 hybrid events



Engagement

27 Sectors across **9** Australian jurisdictions engaged

35 Requests to participate in or provide input into forums



10,164

Stakeholders engaged

Knowledge Hub

470,108

Users



20

Working group, steering committee and focus group meetings

2,233,844



Page views

Professional development events



- 80 Professional development events held
- More than 5,500 people connected through events

During 2021-22 AIDR delivered 80 professional development events, including:

- Australian Disaster Resilience Conference
- Lessons Management Forum
- Resilient Australia Awards National Ceremony
- Australian Disaster Resilience Index Workshop
- DRANZSEN National and Teacher Forums
- Recovery Capitals resources launch webinar
- International Heat Action Day webinar
- 5 Recovery Matters webinars
- 2 Handbook Showcase webinars
- 10 Recovery Community of Practice sessions
- 38 Masterclasses
- 3 Skills Clinics

Online events continued to be the primary method of delivery, alongside the transition back to face-to-face events. In total 54 events took place online, 24 were held face-to-face and 2 were delivered as hybrid events. Attendance numbers were positive with over 5,500 people attending these events.

Participants came from all states and territories, as well as overseas. The top three sectors represented were:

- **State government (14%)**
- **Local government (12.1%)**
- **Commonwealth government (9.2%)**

Other key sectors were emergency management (9.1%), emergency services (8.9 %) and not-for-profit organisations (7.2%).

Post event surveys indicate that attendees continue to highly value AIDR's professional development events, with an average of 93.3% of participants stating that they agree or strongly agree the event they attended increased their knowledge. An average of 90.8% of participants rating the event they attended a 4 or 5 out of 5, and an average of 94.8% of participants suggested they would recommend the event to others.

Recovery Community of Practice

- **10 Recovery Community of Practice sessions were held**

In 2021-22 AIDR again partnered with the Social Recovery Reference Group to host a monthly online recovery community of practice, the 'Possibility Lab'. An average of 26 attendees attended each of the 10 sessions. Several topics were discussed including coordination, cooperation and collaboration; community-led recovery; resources and grants; personal frameworks for recovery; local government planning for COVID-19; cumulative community led recovery; recovery assessments; and person-centred approaches in emergency management for people who have disabilities.

Masterclasses in Queensland

- **10 Leadership in Disaster, Crisis and Adversity masterclasses**
- **10 Disaster Planning in Dynamic Environments masterclasses**

AIDR is pleased to continue providing masterclasses under contract with the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. The masterclass sessions are designed to extend learning and build on the core level of training provided through other disaster management courses. In 2022, the Disaster Planning in Dynamic Environments masterclass was launched and successfully delivered to 197 practitioners from local government, emergency services, state government and non-government organisations in 10 locations.

2021 Australian Disaster Resilience Conference:

91% would recommend

Resilient Australia Awards: **182** entrants

Lessons Management Forum:

174 Hybrid attendance

Australian Disaster Resilience Index Workshop:

100% state their knowledge was improved

2021 National DRANZSEN Forum: attendees from every Australian state and territory

2021 DRANZSEN Teachers Forum:

38 online attendances

DRANZSEN Forum: 100% rated the forum a **4 or 5 out of 5**

Recovery Capitals resources launch: improved 100% of feedback participants knowledge

International Heat Action Day webinar:

228 online attendances

10 x Recovery Community of Practice Sessions - 'Possibility Labs'

2 Handbook Showcases:

- Disaster Resilience Education for Young People
- Systemic Disaster Risk

Masterclasses:

- 7 Meteorology for disaster managers masterclasses
- 8 Decision making under pressure masterclasses
- Leading and managing high performing teams masterclasses
- 2 Building multi-functional team effectiveness masterclasses
- 10 Leadership in disaster, crisis and adversity masterclasses
- 10 Disaster planning in dynamic environments masterclasses

5 Recovery Matters webinars:

- Indigenous perspectives of disaster recovery
- Exploring the 10 years beyond bushfires report: Mental health recovery after disaster
- Exploring the 10 years beyond bushfires report: Social networks and disaster resilience
- Exploring the 10 years beyond bushfires report: support recovery for children, families and school
- Putting the 'community' in community recovery committee

Skills Clinics:

- 3 Facilitating debriefs skills clinic

Developing Australia's Second National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction

Throughout the first half of 2022, AIDR supported the National Emergency Management Agency (then operating as the National Recovery and Resilience Agency), to engage a broad range of voices and sectors in strategic consultations to inform the development of Australia's Second National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction. Consultations began in March 2022 with a set of exploratory online dialogue sessions. This was followed by a webinar, workshop, discussion paper, survey and a succession of 7 thematic 'deep dives' from April through to June. The final consultation event was the From Risk to Resilience Summit hosted in Sydney on 29-30 June 2022.

In total, 873 participants attended the consultation sessions. Across the 12 consultation sessions the top 3 sectors in attendance were Commonwealth government, local government and state government. Attendees identified as coming from all Australian states and territories, as well as from New Zealand. An average of 89.5% attendees stated their knowledge was increased, 96.5% stated they would recommend the event to others, and 97% rated the event they attended a 4 or 5 out of 5.

The richness of the discussions, key themes and contemporary thinking and directions captured are available online. in the Disaster Risk Reduction collection on the Knowledge Hub, in both written and visual formats.



FROM RISK TO RESILIENCE SUMMIT



We respectfully acknowledge the Eora Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land and their Elders past, present & emerging across Australia.



What is the big, stepped change needed for the complete system change to reduce risk to resilience?



We cannot keep talking about WHY WE ARE AFFECTED and need to move to what? How WE ARE MOVING FORWARD

Connect & Sharing data

EMERGING KEY THEMES FOR THE NAP

Genuine engagement & Voice of Community

Inclusive of diverse groups

Consider town codes for built environment

Embed Invest in Carving infrastructure for nature-based solutions & research

What are the actions & how we think about disaster resilience?

Increase in severity & frequency
2/3rds
of Councils are currently in Recovery

QLD IS A STATE OF RECOVERY

We are sprinting to just keep up NOW & we know the change will be difficult & focus at the local level!



Calling out Include Resilience Justice Base Resilience Matters! Forward thinking leaders

What are your ideas? Participate fully & tell us the levels of change & your role to play.

Action Orientated Inspiring & show where you are. Not starting from a blank slate.

Australia's commitment that CLIMATE CHANGE IS HERE & REAL and we will reach NET-0 by 2050

OUR DATA MODELING WITH LIMITED INPUTS STALLED

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST NAP ACTION? Adaptation insurance Reduce emissions and moving away from coal or gas. Not at local level

OUR CHALLENGES ARE CONNECTED 140% Increase

WHAT ARE THE RISK TO INSURANCE SOVEREIGNTY

RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE ROOM ACCEPT THE INHERENT RISK WE HAVE THE DATA - USE IT!

BUDDY UP WITH A COUNCIL! HOW DO WE ENABLE CAPITAL FOR RESILIENCE? Do we have the RIGHT ORG STRUCTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE?



As the new Minister I want all of us to do things differently for true transformational change to reverse the changing climate. We need to think about these Communities where been affected by unprecedented disasters.

OUR DATA MODELING WITH LIMITED INPUTS STALLED

WHAT IS YOUR FIRST NAP ACTION? Adaptation insurance Reduce emissions and moving away from coal or gas. Not at local level

OUR CHALLENGES ARE CONNECTED 140% Increase

WHAT ARE THE RISK TO INSURANCE SOVEREIGNTY

RIGHT PEOPLE IN THE ROOM ACCEPT THE INHERENT RISK WE HAVE THE DATA - USE IT!

BUDDY UP WITH A COUNCIL! HOW DO WE ENABLE CAPITAL FOR RESILIENCE? Do we have the RIGHT ORG STRUCTURE FOR TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE?

SWIFT MINDSETS FROM A: SINGLE EVENT TO CASCADING EVENTS TO EXTENSIVE RESILIENCE

We all have a role to play and bring back the spirit of collaboration! A dedicated fund that will invest in resilience for the future.

QUESTIONS Not being adequately prepared despite these things were coming Dispirited by the BLAME GAME Instead of coming up with solutions.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ABOUT INSURANCE? REG that large parts of Australia are uninsured. Dear home: disaster mitigation investment will bring down premiums.

Foster discussions across Governments? How will you bring community to discussions? share power? We are looking at processes and ways to do this.

HOW WILL YOU USE THE RESILIENCE FUND? Use the fund 200 mil for mitigation & resilience

THE WORLD IS NOT ON TRACK TO REDUCE RISK

WHAT DO WE VALUE? How do we measure the impacts, consequences & consequences? Funding future?

WE NEED TO DESIGN SYSTEMS TO FACTOR IN HOW HUMANS MAKE DECISIONS AROUND RISK

YOUR #1 ACTION IMPROVE GOVERNANCES INVEST \$4.5 MILLION IN THE HIGHEST RISK HOMES TO BE SAFER GENUINE LISTENING & PARTNERSHIPS MAKE IT INHERENT TO THE PROCESS

HOW DO WE BALANCE SOCIETY INFRASTRUCTURE BRING IT TOGETHER TO FIND A BALANCE



National Recovery and Resilience Agency

DAY 1 - 29 JUNE 2022

Carving the Dayna Recovery



Australian Disaster Resilience Conference

The 2021 Australian Disaster Resilience Conference was set to return as an in-person event, however with the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 the conference was once again transformed into a virtual event.

On 6-7 October 2021, the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference was hosted on a state-of-the-art, feature-rich interactive virtual platform. The theme of the conference was *'Meeting in the middle: community voices and complex choices'*. In the context of intersecting crises and cascading societal impacts from long term drought, bushfire and pandemic, the conference explored the interface between top down and bottom up approaches to resilience.

A record number of 514 delegates attended the conference.

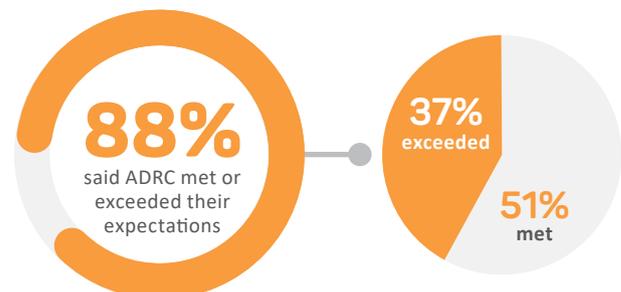
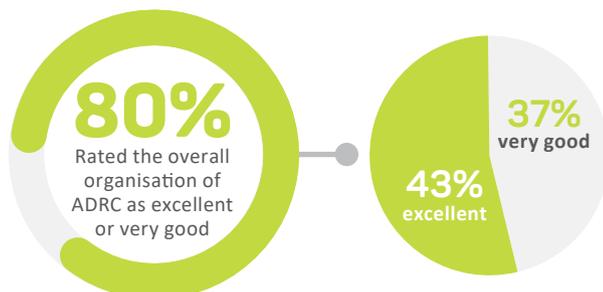
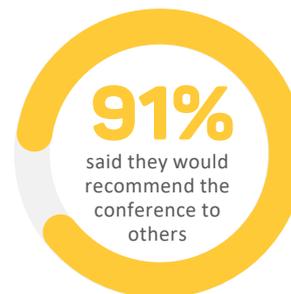
Feedback Quote

"This was my first virtual conference, so I appreciated the ease of use of the platform as well as the interactions it provided."

"Great program, just a shame we couldn't do it in-person. Next time!"

"Excellent presentations from around Australia on the interesting topics and fantastic keynote speakers."

The conference evaluation survey returned very positive results:





adrc 21

Australian Disaster
Resilience Conference

IS GOING VIRTUAL

**MEETING IN THE MIDDLE: COMMUNITY
VOICES AND COMPLEX
CHOICES**

#ADRC21

Attend the virtual conference on
6 - 7 OCTOBER 2021

Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection

The Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection provides a national focal point to coordinate, develop, and endorse national principles that set the standard for good practice in disaster risk reduction and resilience across Australia.

In 2021-22 AIDR published 2 new handbooks and a series of companion guides to support the utilisation of the wider Handbook Collection at a local level. Each handbook was developed through a rigorous process of national consultation with key stakeholders and subject experts from diverse sectors across Australia.

New handbook titles published:

- *Systemic Disaster Risk*
- *Disaster Resilience Education for Young People*

Revised handbook titles:

- *Public Information and Warnings*

There were 2 handbooks submitted to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for endorsement: a new handbook on *Incident Management* and a minor review of *Australian Emergency Management Arrangements*.

New companion guides include a series of case studies supporting the *Systemic Disaster Risk* handbook. The companion document *Warning Message Construction: Choosing your words* was updated to support the *Public Information and Warnings* handbook, in addition to new companion documents on the *Australian Warning System* and *Application of the Total Warning System to Floods*. Knowledge into Action Briefs related to *Emergency Planning* were also published. AIDR partnered with the NEMA in late 2021 to develop a Recovery Exercise Toolkit which is scheduled for launch in early 2023.

In the 2021-22 financial year AIDR hosted 2 Handbook Showcase webinar events. The showcase events engaged 599 individuals. The *Systemic Disaster Risk* handbook was also presented at the UN Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Bali in May 2022.

AIDR also scoped 3 future handbook themes: *Disaster Resilience in the Urban Context*, *Animals in Disaster*, and *Ecosystem Disaster Resilience*.

Key Data – Top 5 Handbook Downloads:

Australian Emergency Management Arrangements: **2,225**

National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines: **1,803**

Emergency Planning: **1,769**

Community Recovery: **1,642**

Managing Exercises: **1,359**





Education for Young People

AIDR provides strategic support for stakeholders from the education sector, emergency services, and youth-focused organisations to facilitate networks and professional learning around disaster resilience education for children and young people.

The Disaster Resilience Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN) has remained stable at over 700 members and 2021 saw the return of in-person events with DRANZSEN Forums in Brisbane and Hobart. The Disaster Resilience Education Strategy Group (DRESG) continues to provide strategic direction to the Education for Young People program and welcomed new members in 2022.

AIDR coordinated the National Aerial Firefighting Centre and Emergency Management Australia to run a competition for school students to name Australia's National Large Airtanker. The competition received entries from every Australian state and allowed young Australians to contribute to Australia's disaster resilience. The 3 winning schools all proposed the name 'Phoenix'. Students from the schools said that it is "a symbol of renewal and rebirth", that the National LAT "is curing the land with its tears by putting out fires" and that it will allow "new life rising from the ashes".

As part of the ACARA Australian Curriculum Review, AIDR provided a submission lobbying for the inclusion of disaster resilience education across Foundation to Year 10. The Australian Curriculum 9.0 was

released in May 2021 and had an increase of approximately 150% in areas applicable to disaster resilience education. In addition to an increase in content and skill descriptors and elaborations in the Humanities and Social Sciences and the Health and Physical Education curriculums, there are exciting new areas of the Mathematics, Digital Technologies, and Design and Technologies curricula covering bushfire, land management, fire danger ratings, and flood emergency messaging.

The majority of materials accessed on the Education for Young People website were teaching resources, which demonstrates AIDR's ability to provide materials to stakeholders who engage and educate young people in disaster risk reduction activities. To support these stakeholders, AIDR developed a teacher professional development unit on how to teach a unit on fire and flood resilience in partnership with the Minderoo Foundation.

Feedback Quote

"This looks amazing. I don't have anything to contribute but do want to tell you how grateful I am for this." – Sioux Campbell, Cairns Regional Council, on the Australian Curriculum 9.0 Mapping



LAT Competition joint winners from Bishop Druitt College, Coffs Harbour and St Patrick's College Campbelltown





LAT Competition joint winners from Christian College Geelong - Highton Campus

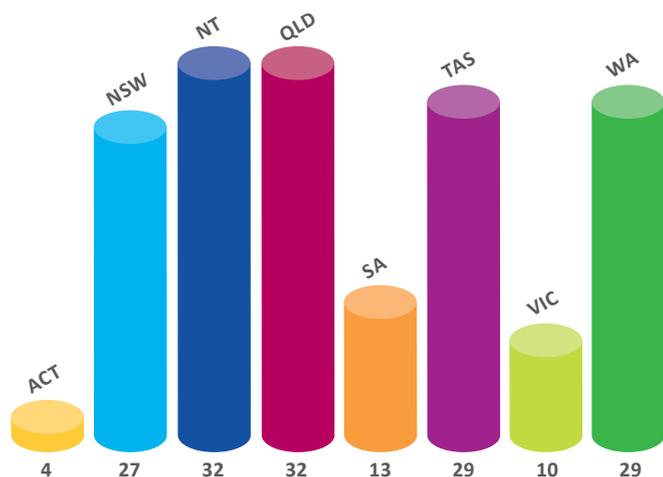
Volunteer Leadership Program

AIDR's Volunteer Leadership Program (VLP) supports the local leadership capability of disaster resilience and emergency management volunteers.

The VLP provided opportunities for volunteers from communities across Australia to network, learn and build their capability as leaders in disaster resilience. The VLP also assists volunteers to build, support and grow their networks in local communities to strengthen disaster resilience at the local level.

Throughout the reporting year, AIDR delivered 8 VLPs, with 7 of those hosted in-person, where local COVID-19 restrictions allowed. Programs were held in Adelaide, Darwin, Perth and the Sunshine Coast. To accommodate those unable to attend the in-person events due to restrictions, AIDR also hosted a Leading Volunteers webinar.

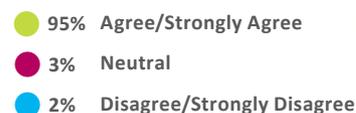
Participation by jurisdiction – number of people



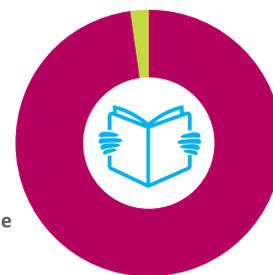
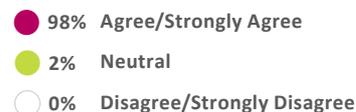
Attendance by gender



Increased local leadership



Improved knowledge





QUOTES – Key learning

“There are subtle differences when leading volunteers, as opposed to leadership as a professional.” – Perth, May 2022

“I found many useful ways to handle my position as acting leader and new ways that I had not thought of how to handle certain problems.” – Canberra, April 2022

“I need to mentor my team and can't just expect them to pick everything up and run with the coaching.” – Townsville, October 2021

“Better awareness around personality types/approach to decision making and processes of organisational change.” – Hobart, November 2021

QUOTES – Using learnings in work/practice

“Will use when preparing for difficult conversations.” – Darwin, June 2022

“Being a leader is a constantly evolving process that requires mindfulness.” – Port Macquarie, May 2022

“Being able to understand people better and customising my leadership style to the individual” – Sunshine Coast, September 2021

“Observe and get a better understanding of myself and the people I currently engage. To share knowledge learned at VLP to coach volunteers and team members.” – Darwin, August 2021

QUOTES – General comments

“The AIDR Program fortified my previous knowledge. It allowed me to get a better understanding of what I have learnt in practice before. For me it was an invaluable experience with invaluable people. Thank you.” – Darwin, August 2021

“Great to have a mix of agencies and ages groups with different levels of Leadership experience - made for some really interesting discussions.” – Hobart, November 2021

“This program was incredibly insightful, engaging and gave me real life information that I can incorporate in all volunteer activities and my professional work life. Would highly recommend anyone in management or a leadership role to attend.” – Mt Gambier, March 2022

“This is by far the best leadership program/course I have ever attended, the facilitators were fantastic at presenting the course I hung off every word. I would totally recommend others to apply for this course next year.” – Perth, May 2022

Australian Journal of Emergency Management

The *Australian Journal of Emergency Management* (AJEM) is Australia's premier journal for emergency management. It is peer reviewed, published quarterly and features news, reports and research from all areas of emergency management theory and practice, with a focus on risk reduction, readiness, response and recovery.

Four editions of AJEM, including two themed editions, were published and are freely accessible on the Knowledge Hub:

- The July 2021 issue centred on the management of animals in emergencies and featured content from the inaugural Global Animal Disaster Management Conference that was conducted online in February 2021.
- The January 2022 issue focused on the important issue of gender justice in disasters. The issue included proceedings from the 2021 Gender Justice in Disaster Conference and supports AIDR's commitment to provide thought leadership on important issues affecting emergency managers and those supporting disaster resilience across a range of sectors.

The April 2022 issue of AJEM included a new series called Viewpoints, which examined the challenges of mainstreaming disaster risk reduction across policy sectors. Emeritus Professor Stephen Dovers contributed a seed article, and six eminent practitioners were invited to respond. This new series supports AIDR's commitment to provide thought leadership on important issues affecting emergency managers and those supporting disaster resilience across a range of sectors.

Online subscriptions have remained steady ranging between 4710 - 4864 while open rates ranged between 31 - 38%, with the January edition most popular.

Top AJEM downloads:

1. AJEM July 2021, full issue - 281 downloads
2. AJEM Contributor Guidelines - 217 downloads
3. AJEM October 2021 full issue - 160 downloads
4. A 'conceptual models' approach to organisational resilience, Dr Carl A. Gibson and Michael Tarrant - 152 downloads
5. AJEM January 2022 full issue - 151 downloads



Top AJEM pageviews:

1. Firebombing at night – why not!, Richard Alder AFSM - 7,724 pageviews
2. Public information management in Christchurch following the February 2011 earthquake: Lessons learned, Michele Poole - 7,172 pageviews
3. Experiences of individuals with physical disabilities in natural disasters: an integrative review, Jennifer Quail, Associate Professor Ruth Barker and Associate Professor Caryn West - 6,393 pageviews
4. Ten years after the Black Saturday fires, what have we learnt from post-fire research?, Dr Joshua Whittaker - 5,183 pageviews
5. Tropical Cyclone Oma: a near miss for Brisbane, Dr Thomas Mortlock and Lucinda Coates - 5,018 pageviews

Major Incidents Report

AIDR published the *Major Incidents Report 2020-21* in September 2021.

The 5th edition of the report provides an overview of 8 major incidents regarded as nationally significant by the emergency management sector over the financial year.

The report provides background information about each incident, the impact, the response to it and, where identified, observations to assist the emergency management and disaster resilience sectors identify key themes for improvement in practice at a national level, across all hazards and jurisdictions.

The report also provides a contextual snapshot of the novel environment the fire and emergency services operated within during the COVID-19 pandemic period in addition to the La Niña climate phenomenon that delivered above average rainfall and erratic weather conditions across many parts of eastern Australia and other locations.

In the 2021-22 financial year following publication of the report, the report was downloaded 1043 times from the AIDR Knowledge Hub. The report was showcased by the Director General Emergency Management Australia during Emergency Management Australia's pre-season briefings.

Observations from the 2020-21 report have been included in the *Incident Management* handbook to demonstrate the value of exercises and simulations. Stakeholder feedback also indicates that the *Major Incident Report* is used as a key educational resource in the Bachelor of Emergency Management with Charles Sturt University.

"The report looks fantastic, and my team have used it as a training aide leading into this HRWS." Sandon Morrell, A/g Assistant Secretary National Crisis Operations Branch, Emergency Management Australia.

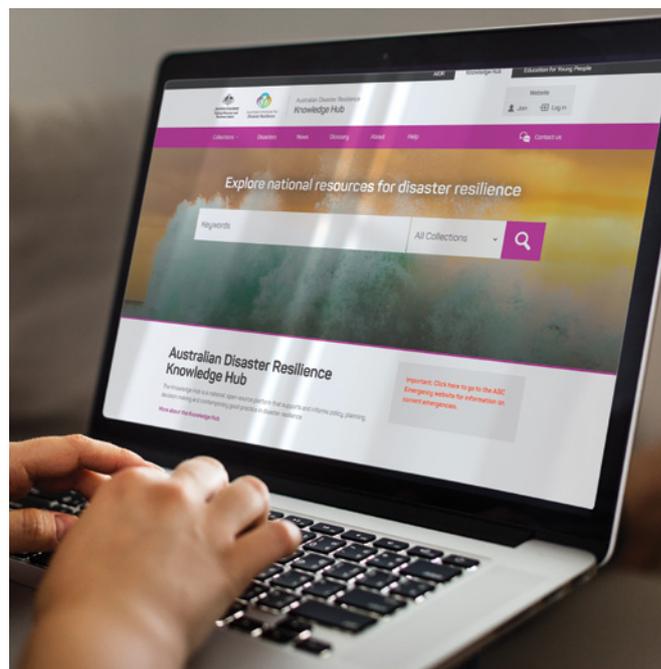


Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub

The Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub is a national platform that supports and informs policy, planning, decision making and contemporary good practice in disaster resilience. It is home to curated collections on disaster resilience topics and themes, as well as the Australian Disaster Mapper, the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management*, the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection and Glossary, and the National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database. It is also a gateway to the Australian Emergency Management Library.

In the 2021-22 financial year, disaster recovery and disaster risk reduction were key areas for content expansion on the Knowledge Hub. Several updates were made to the Recovery collection, such as the addition of new webinars, podcasts, and resources for flood recovery. A large body of knowledge and contemporary thinking focused on disaster risk reduction in Australia was generated through consultations on the development of Australia's Second National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction. Workshop and summit reports, a discussion paper, webinar and a versatile range of graphic recordings are available as ongoing resources for those seeking to apply leading national thinking to disaster risk reduction planning and initiatives.

Between July 2021 and June 2022, the Knowledge Hub was accessed over 2.2 million times by more than 470,000 people. This is a significant increase as compared to around 300,000 people accessing the site in 2020-21.



The Disaster Mapper was the single most accessed resource on the Knowledge Hub with 306,285 pageviews. The top five disaster events that were accessed on the Disaster Mapper in 2021-22 were:

Indian Ocean
Tsunami (2004)

87,379

PAGE VIEWS

Black Summer
Bushfires (2019-2020)

77,817

PAGE VIEWS

Queensland Floods
(2021-2011)

54,999

PAGE VIEWS

Christchurch
Earthquake (2011)

52,980

PAGE VIEWS

Black Saturday
Bushfire (2009)

45,300

PAGE VIEWS

Glossary, Database and Library

Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary

The Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary is an integrated online glossary of over 3,000 disaster resilience and emergency management terms and definitions. The glossary incorporates key terms from national and international glossaries. From July 2021 to June 2022 the glossary was viewed 13,698 times by those seeking consistent, authoritative definitions for words and terms. This remains consistent with the previous reporting period in which the glossary was viewed 13,833 times. Over the 2021-22 financial year, the top 5 searched terms were: recovery, disaster, resilience, emergency, and coordination.

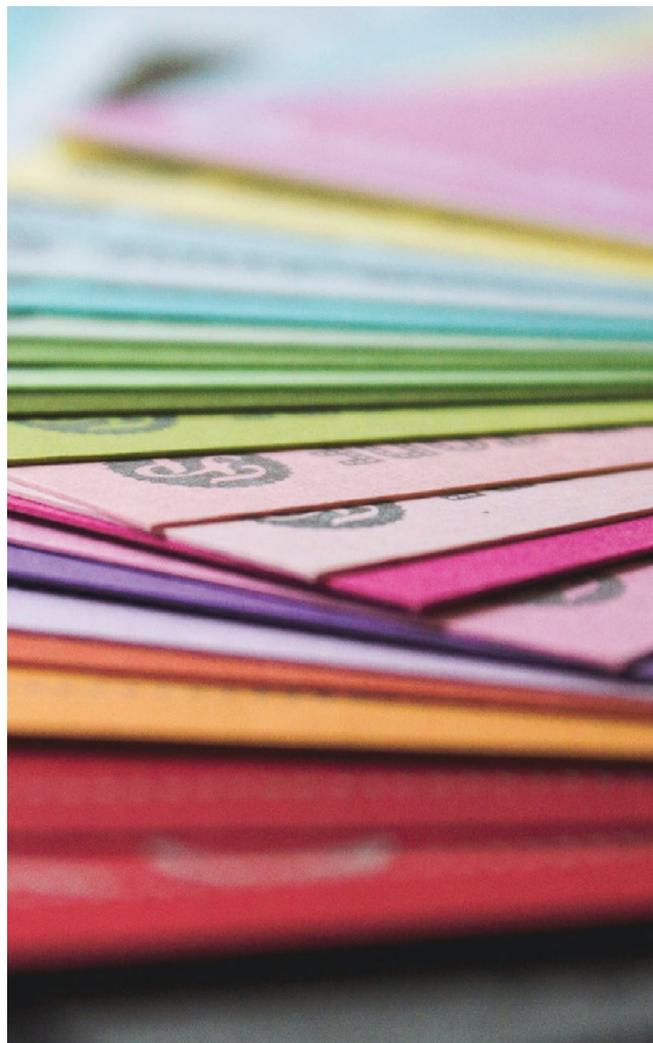
National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database

The National Monitoring and Evaluation (N, M and E) Database is a tool to help design and evaluate disaster recovery programs drawing on the evidence base for successful recovery. It provides a consistent approach to the evaluation of any individual disaster recovery program and is a key tool through which knowledge is captured and made available to help those involved in the design of disaster recovery programs.

In 2021-22, pages associated with the N, M and E Database were viewed on the Knowledge Hub 2,478 times.

Australian Emergency Management Library

The Australian Emergency Management (AEM) Library introduced new borrowing systems in late 2021. The new system is a web-based, scalable library management software which enables library patrons to efficiently browse the catalogue and borrow items. The AEM Library patronage continues to grow and now includes members from every Australian jurisdiction and New Zealand. Users accessed EBSCO and AEM Library resources 30,030 times via the Knowledge Hub during the 2021-22 financial year. AIDR completed the digitisation of over 200 archival audio-visual items including analogue-film reels, VHS, and microfilm. The digitised footage will be used to support existing AIDR products including Knowledge Hub collections and AIDR handbooks.



Resilient Australia Awards

The Resilient Australia Awards celebrate and promote initiatives that build whole of community resilience to disasters and emergencies around Australia, as well as images capturing resilience in action. The awards recognise collaboration and innovative thinking across all sectors.

The Resilient Australia Awards are proudly sponsored by the Australian Government in partnership with the states and territories and managed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR).

Each year the awards program celebrates state and territory winners at the National Awards Ceremony. Winners of state and territory awards are automatically considered finalists across national award categories, with winners and highly commended announced during the ceremony.



2021 Resilient Australia Awards

The 2021 awards program attracted another record number of submission, with 182 projects and images submitted from across Australia. 48 of those projects won awards at the jurisdictional level and became finalists for the six national award categories.

The 2021 Resilient Australia National Awards Ceremony was held on 8 December at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne. The National Awards Ceremony was host by AIDR Executive Director, Amanda Leck, who was joined by Senator the Hon. Bridget MacKenzie, Minister for Emergency Management and National Recovery and Resilience.

The awards ceremony was once again live streamed, for those unable to travel due to COVID-19 related travel restrictions.

AIDR introduced the National Mental Health and Wellbeing Award for the first time, which will become a jurisdictional award category in future years.



2021 Resilient Australia Photography Award submission 'Ember Rain' by Nikki Woods.



Australian Government
National Recovery and
Resilience Agency

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA
AWARDS

2021 RESILIENT AUSTRALIA AWARDS

SPONSORED BY SUNCORP

Date 08.12.2021

Pay *Royal Far West*

The sum of *Five thousand dollars only* \$ 5,000.00

200 300 6 2 2021

Suncorp Resilient Australia National Community Award

HEALTH
JENG
RD

LOCAL GOV
AWARD

SENIOR
AWARD

COMMUNITY
AWARD

DRnews

AIDR_n

aidr



Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

Level 1, 340 Albert St, East Melbourne VIC 3002

📞 +61 3 9419 2388

✉ enquiries@aidr.org.au

🌐 aidr.org.au 🌐 knowledge.aidr.org.au

f AIDRnews 🐦 AIDR_news in aidr