

## Applying the principles of systemic disaster risk

### Speed read

- The principles of systemic disaster risk are high level and are designed to guide the evolution of good practice and innovative thought leadership.
- The principles are relevant to all sectors, extending beyond those traditionally responsible for emergency management.
- This brief provides examples of ways to apply the principles of systemic disaster risk in practice.

### Key points

This visual shows the principles of systemic disaster risk.

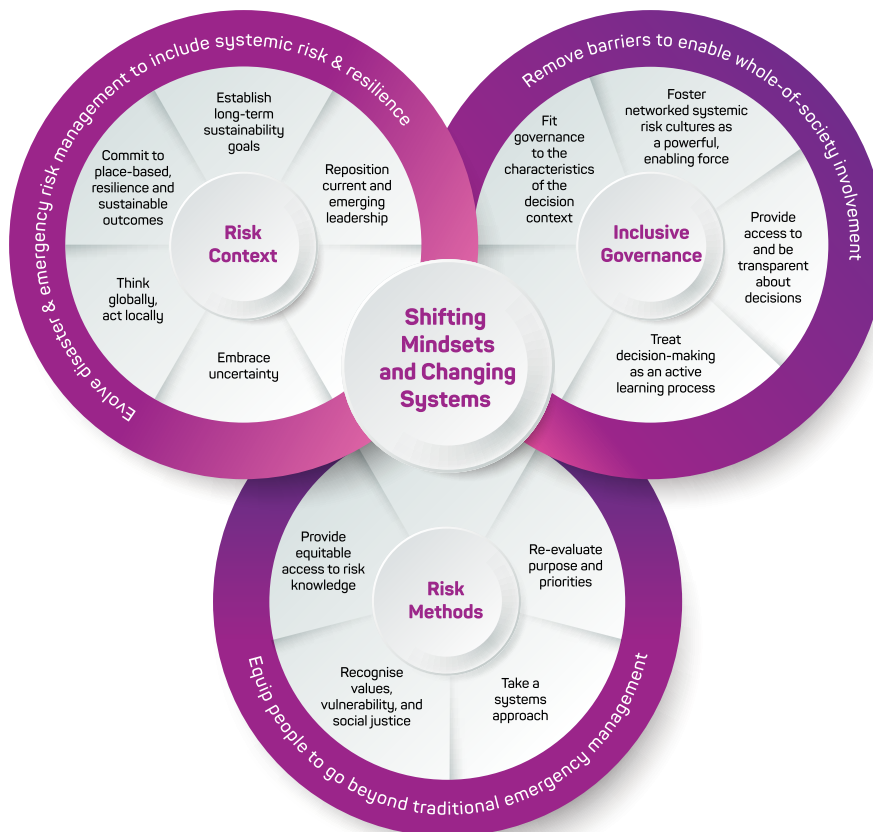


Figure 1: Systemic Disaster Risk Principles

- This table shows how you might apply the principles of systemic disaster risk in practice.
- The following are just examples, you might find other ways to incorporate the principles in ways that are relevant to you and your role.

1	<b>Embrace uncertainty</b> Use inclusive governance and systems thinking. Use techniques such as forecasting, horizon scanning or scenario planning to help people imagine what they have never seen and work through these uncertainties.
2	<b>Think globally, act locally</b> Recognise local community expertise and support meaningful engagement. Trust is critical.
3	<b>Place-based, systemic resilience and sustainable outcomes</b> Commit to place-based, systemic resilience outcomes and use systems thinking to understand the complex moving parts that make up a resilient society. Apply social capital and build social ties. Use place-based planning as a tool for scenario building and testing.
4	<b>Establish long-term sustainability goals</b> Consider and establish long-term goals and a way to monitor, review, and evaluate progress regularly.
5	<b>Reposition current and emerging leadership</b> Re-think approaches to education, skills development, risk context, and inclusive practices to support current and emerging leaders.
6	<b>Fit governance to the characteristics of the decision context</b> Recognise trends and diagnose the causes and potential effects to inform the governance required to better enable decision makers. Coordinate and steer efforts towards policies that build competencies and enable progress that suit the decision context.
7	<b>Foster networked systemic risk cultures as a powerful, enabling force</b> Establish incentives, provide resources, and encourage leaders to build a strong disaster risk culture.

8	<b>Provide access to and be transparent about decisions</b> Learn the art of collaboration to help build trust and a greater awareness of the risk landscape by connecting diversity of knowledge and experience. Consciously and actively broaden engagements to be more inclusive.
9	<b>Treat decision-making as an active learning process</b> Learn to use different approaches to decision-making. Monitor, review, evaluate and revise approaches regularly.
10	<b>Re-evaluate purpose and priorities</b> Continually refine purpose and priorities using a rapid diagnosis of the decision context and inclusive governance arrangements.
11	<b>Take a systems approach</b> Attain stakeholder input into any disaster risk reduction, resilience management and systems mapping activities to surface all available knowledge.
12	<b>Recognise values, vulnerability, and social justice</b> Create a safe space to discuss novel and broad concepts.
13	<b>Provide equitable access to risk knowledge</b> Break down complex risk information and any technical materials into digestible pieces, using straightforward language if possible.

## Take action

- Watch the *Systemic Disaster Risk: case study profiles* videos for more examples on how to apply the systemic risk principles in practice <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/handbook-systemic-disaster-risk/#case>

## More information

- Community Engagement for Disaster Resilience (AIDR 2020) <https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/resources/handbook-community-engagement>
- Words Into Action Guidelines: National Disaster Risk Assessment, Governance System, Methodologies And Use Of Results (UN-DRR 2017) [www.undrr.org/publication/words-action-guidelines-national-disaster-risk-assessment](http://www.undrr.org/publication/words-action-guidelines-national-disaster-risk-assessment)