



Australian Government
National Emergency
Management Agency



Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



adrc 26

Australian Disaster
Resilience Conference

19-20 Aug 2026

Mindset matters:
Practical pathways
to equitable resilience

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre

Delegate Handbook



Running in partnership with AFAC26
powered by INTERSCHUTZ

[AIDR.ORG.AU/ADRC](https://aidr.org.au/adrc)



Acknowledgement of Country

AIDR acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first inhabitants and Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, work and learn. As part of the trans-Tasman organisation AFAC, AIDR also acknowledges the Māori as the Tāngata Whenua and Treaty of Waitangi partners in Aotearoa New Zealand. We pay our respects to their ancestors and Elders, past and present.

AIDR recognises the importance of reconciliation in creating stronger, safer, more inclusive and resilient communities. Through AFAC's partnership with Reconciliation Australia, and embodied in our Reconciliation Action Plan, we hope to make a meaningful contribution to honouring the histories, cultures and contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Foreword

Welcome to Melbourne, a city of laneways, dark clothes, cool music, good food, AFL, bleak weather, and this year's Australian Disaster Resilience Conference.

The mindset we take into the challenge of reducing the risk of disasters is paramount. At ADRC26, we invite you to reimagine resilience through both mindset and action. Let's look ahead, move beyond focusing on hazards, instead examine the deeper, systemic causes of risk, such as inequity, exclusion, and the far-reaching impacts of our decisions in an increasingly uncertain world.

To do this, we offer you the best available disaster resilience knowledge and practice through presentations, panel discussions, stories, the AIDR Knowledge Centre, and networking opportunities.

It's not Melbourne without a laneway. Take a walk through Resilience Lane, made possible again by NRMA, and see community focused organisations showcase their work and services that strengthen community resilience.

Swing past and have a chat with our friendly AIDR staff at our stand directly opposite the AIDR Knowledge Centre.

We have many of the tools we may need in the future. Our challenge is to put them into place, collectively, to enable a world where hazards don't become disasters. ADRC26 is your opportunity to learn, to connect, to create.



John Richardson

Executive Director,
Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience thanks the following organisations for participating in the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference program committee:

National Indigenous Disaster Resilience (NIDR), Monash University, Gender and Diversity Australia, Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic), Australian Red Cross, Municipal Association of Victoria, Victorian Council of Social Services (VCOSS), National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH), Inspector General Emergency Management (IGEM), National Hazards Research Australia (NHRA), Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association.

AFAC26 sponsors/event partners

Thank you to the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2026 sponsors and partners.



Event Partner



Australian Government

**National Emergency
Management Agency**

AIDR Funding Partner



ADRC26 Industry
Partner Sponsor



**A Help
Company**

AFAC26 Resilience Lane
Sponsor



**NSW Reconstruction
Authority**

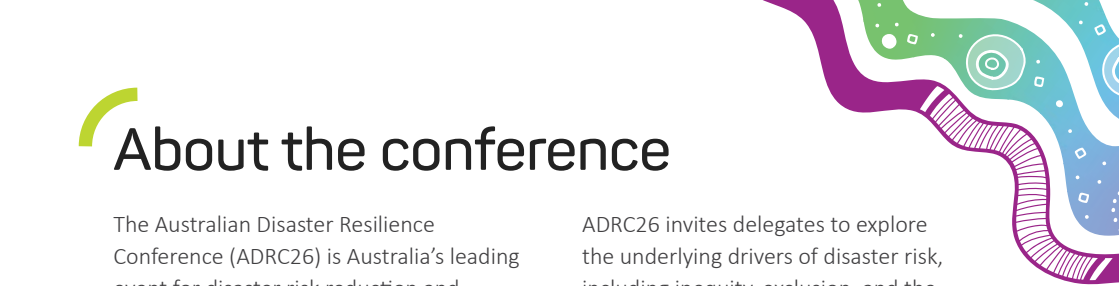
AFAC26 Roundtable
Breakfast Sponsor



ADRC26 Community
Partner Sponsor



ADRC26 Knowledge Stream Sponsor



About the conference

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference (ADRC26) is Australia's leading event for disaster risk reduction and resilience, bringing together practitioners, researchers, policymakers, community leaders, volunteers, and people with lived experience from across Australia and beyond.

This year's theme, Mindset Matters: Practical Pathways to Equitable Resilience, recognises that resilience begins with how we think. The choices we make as individuals, organisations, and systems shape risk, influence vulnerability, and create opportunities to build a safer and more equitable future.

ADRC26 invites delegates to explore the underlying drivers of disaster risk, including inequity, exclusion, and the cumulative impacts of our decisions. Through presentations, panel discussions, networking opportunities, poster displays, Resilience Lane, and professional development programs, delegates will share ideas, challenge assumptions, and learn from diverse perspectives.

Held in partnership with AFAC26 powered by INTERSCHUTZ, ADRC26 supports whole-of-sector collaboration to strengthen disaster resilience across Australia.

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference is proudly presented by AIDR.

About AIDR

AIDR is the national institute for disaster risk reduction and resilience. It creates, curates and mobilises knowledge, promotes shared language and responsibility, and strengthens sector capability and collaboration. As a knowledge broker, AIDR builds trust, removes barriers and supports connected knowledge systems for informed decision making before, during and after disasters.

AIDR recognises that disaster risk reduction encompasses preventing and reducing risk, enhancing preparedness for effective response, and supporting recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction that builds back better. By minimising risks, disaster risk reduction helps prevent

hazards from becoming disasters. When risk is understood, governed and managed inclusively, losses can be reduced and resilience strengthened. These efforts make communities safer, protect wellbeing, and enable social and economic life to continue with minimal disruption.

AIDR strengthens disaster risk reduction and resilience across policy, planning and practice by supporting governments, organisations and communities through curating knowledge, building shared understanding and capability, and connecting people and systems for informed decision making.

Keynote speakers

DAY 1 | 9.40 AM | WEDNESDAY 19 AUGUST

Craig Foster AM

Former Socceroo captain, broadcaster, adjunct professor, author, filmmaker and human rights activist



Former captain of the Socceroos, Craig Foster is now known for his roles as a broadcaster, social justice advocate and human rights campaigner. He is a Member of the Order of Australia for services to multiculturalism, sport and refugees, the Australian Football Hall of Fame, served as Chair of the Australian player's association where he led the push for gender equality, is the face of various anti-racism campaigns, an outspoken and committed advocate for multiculturalism and Member of the Australian Multicultural Council under the Department of Home Affairs.

DAY 2 | 8.30 AM | THURSDAY 20 AUGUST

Professor Jenny George

Dean and Director, Melbourne Business School



Professor Jenny George is shaping leadership in modern Australia in industry and academia. She drives operational, digital and cultural transformation and uses data, analytics and AI in new ways to drive innovation and outcomes. She heads Australia's leading business school, home to a world-ranked MBA program and the largest executive portfolio in the southern hemisphere.

DAY 2 | 9.15 AM | THURSDAY 20 AUGUST | PANEL

Layla Wang

Young Ambassador, UNICEF Australia



Layla is a UNICEF Australia Young Ambassador who is currently studying a Bachelor of Arts in Politics and International Relations.

DAY 2 | 9.15 AM | THURSDAY 20 AUGUST | PANEL

Lincoln Ingravalle

Young Ambassador, UNICEF Australia

Lincoln played a key role in shaping the 2025 National Child and Youth Statement on Climate Change which he presented to Members of Parliament in Canberra and to the UN Secretary General at COP30 in Brazil.



DAY 2 | 9.15 AM | THURSDAY 20 AUGUST | PANEL

Anica Renner

Young Ambassador, UNICEF Australia

Anica is a UNICEF Australia Young Ambassador who has experience in grassroots organising across climate activism and political campaigning.

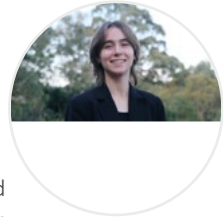


DAY 2 | 9.15 AM | THURSDAY 20 AUGUST | PANEL

Adriel Appathurai

Young Ambassador, UNICEF Australia

Adriel is a medical student with a Sri Lankan Tamil refugee background who is passionate about ensuring young people and communities with lived experience are meaningfully included in the decisions that affect them.



DAY 2 | 3.30 PM | THURSDAY 20 AUGUST

Dr Jorian Kippax

Emergency Doctor, 2026 Tasmanian of the Year

Dr Jorian (Jo) Kippax was part of a specialist team of rescuers tasked to save Valdas Bieliauskas, a Lithuanian whitewater rafter, from the Franklin River in 2024. The clinical team amputated Valdas's leg underwater, allowing him to be freed and saving his life.

The President of Lithuania, Gitanas Nausėda, awarded the country's Life Saving Cross award to Jo, which he humbly accepted on behalf of his team. The rescue of Valdas is just one chapter in Jo's long career in emergency medicine, disaster response, and search and rescue.



Professional Development Program

AIDR is offering two workshops as part of the Professional Development Program. The workshops are opportunities for conference delegates to extend their conference experience, deepen their learning, and engage with colleagues and networks.

9.00am to 3.30pm, Friday 21 August 2026, Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Workshop one

Unpacking disaster risk reduction: Building practical approaches to identify and reduce risks

Facilitator

Professor JC Gaillard

Ahorangi o te Matawhenua | Professor of Geography, Waipapa Taumata Rau | The University of Auckland and Research Fellow at the University of the Philippines Resilience Institute



Workshop two

Disaster recovery for all

Facilitator

Dr Kate Brady

Disaster recovery researcher and practitioner



How to register

Scan the QR code which will take you to the AFAC26 Conference registration page. Here you can browse the Professional Development Programs available on Friday 21 August.

Complete the registration form to book your place in the Professional Development Program workshop of your choice.



Resilience Lane

Visit Resilience Lane in the AFAC26 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Exhibition Hall. Resilience Lane provides a dedicated place for community-focused groups and organisations that work with communities to build resilience and reduce disaster risk.

2026 Resilience Lane exhibitors:

- Australian Red Cross
- Bushfire Resilience Incorporated
- Creative Recovery Network
- Disaster Legal Help Victoria
- Financial Counselling Australia
- Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal
- Gender and Disaster Australia
- Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund Inc
- GIVIT Listed Ltd
- Humanitarian Advisory Group
- MacKillop Seasons- Frenchs Forest
- Multicultural Emergency Management Partnership
- National Indigenous Disaster Resilience
- National Centre for Outdoor Risk and Readiness
- Northern Rivers Community Resilience Alliance
- NRMA Insurance | A Help Company
- NRM Regions Australia
- Resilient Building Council
- RSPCA NSW and RSPCA Victoria
- Social Recovery Reference Group
- The Resilience Canopy
- Uniting NSW.ACT

Resilience Lane is
proudly sponsored by



A Help
Company



Venue map



Map Legend

-  **afac26**
-  Sunflower room
-  AFAC streams
-  Media room
-  Speaker prep
-  Volunteer room
-  IFE
-  WAFAC
-  Gala dinner

AFAC26 Trade Exhibition

powered by INTERSCHUTZ

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference delegates have full access to the AFAC26 powered by INTERSCHUTZ Trade Exhibition, Australasia's largest emergency management exhibition, showcasing the industry's most impressive range of exhibitors covering all facets of emergency management equipment, technology and services.

The exhibition includes:



AIDR Knowledge Centre

Discover the latest in research and best practice through an extensive poster display, as well as the chance to meet conference speakers and vote for your favourite poster.



Solutions Theatre

Hear 20-minute practical and educational presentations from manufacturers, supplies and industry professionals.



Resources Rescue Theatre

Tackling challenges in remote medical care, interoperability, safety, volunteer rescue, technology, emerging hazards, and professional skills. Each 75-minute session includes presentations, audience Q&A, and panel discussions, combining local and global expertise.



Resilience Lane

A space where not-for-profit and community-focussed organisations can showcase their work and services that strengthen community resilience.

Resilience Lane is sponsored by



A Help
Company



Demonstration Zone

Showcasing live displays of new emergency management technologies and best practice examples of emergency management situations.

Exhibition opening times

Tuesday 18 August | 1.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday 19 August | 9.00am - 5.00pm
Thursday 20 August | 9.00am - 3.30pm

AFAC26 Exhibition opening times:

Wednesday 19 Aug 9:00am – 5:00pm

Thursday 20 Aug 9:00am – 3:30pm

Sponsored by

ISUZU
AUSTRALIA

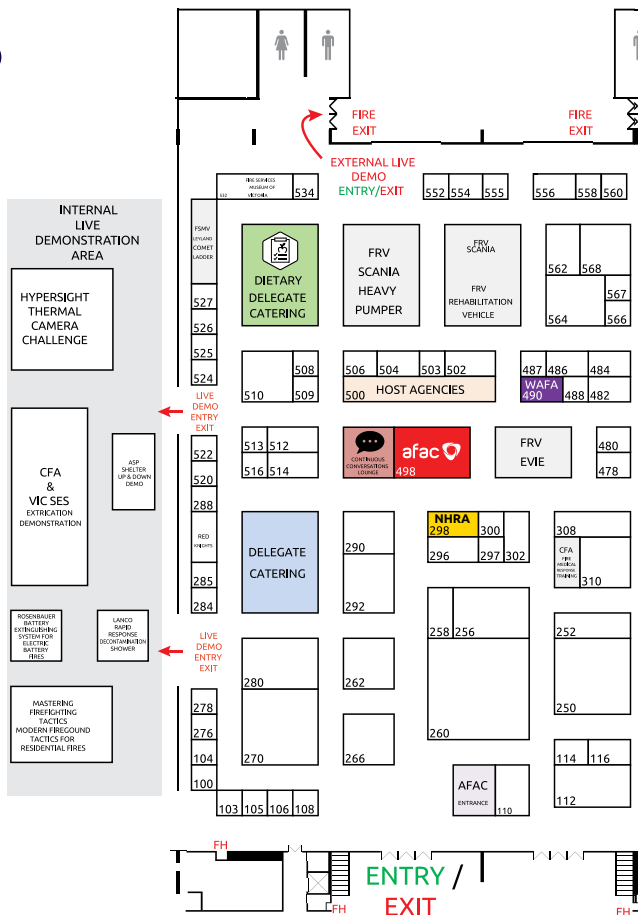
Tuesday 18 August



Continuing Conversations Lounge

**DELEGATE
CATERING**

**Dietary
Requirement
Catering
Station**



12



*Information correct at time of printing.

Time	PLENARY 3
8.30am	Opening ceremony
9.40am	Keynote From the pitch to the community – Leadership, culture and the power of belonging <i>Craig Foster</i> - Former Soccerroo Captain, Broadcaster, Adjunct Professor, Author, Filmmaker and Human Rights Activist
10.30am	Morning tea and poster viewing

MEETING ROOM 212

Shifting mindsets for disaster resilience

11.30am	Does anyone have a crystal ball? Shifting mindsets for the future of Queensland disaster management <i>Kate Retzki</i> (Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management)
12.00pm	Practicing the transformational community resilience mindset through partnerships <i>Dr Adriana Keating</i> (Monash University)
12.30pm	Are we preparing for disasters? <i>Dr Kate Brady</i> (HowWeSurvive, University of New South Wales)
12.55pm	Lunch and poster viewing

Nature and systems for resilience

2.00pm	An adaptive and systems-based mindset: Lessons from South Australia's harmful algal bloom <i>Miriam Lumb</i> (Department of the Premier and Cabinet, SA)
2.30pm	Nature for resilience: Innovative disaster resilience solutions through nature <i>Sarah Hoyal, Dr Bek Christensen</i> (NRM Regions Australia), and <i>Dr Rachel Morgain</i> (Melbourne University)
3.00pm	Energy resilient community hubs: Fusing infrastructure with social capital <i>Justin Murray and Nick Grant-Collins</i> (Bass Coast Shire Council)
3.30pm	Afternoon tea and poster viewing

Young people in action for disaster resilience

4.15pm	Panel Opening your mind(set): Taking action with young people for disaster resilience and risk reduction <i>Lucinda Gibson and Jasper Francis</i> (Centre of Excellence: young people and disasters) <i>Shelby Robinson</i> (Curtin University) <i>Prof Lisa Gibbs</i> (University of Melbourne) Facilitator: <i>Silkorn Powell</i> (Centre of Excellence: young people and disasters)
5.10pm	Conference sessions close

*Information correct at time of printing. Please check the AFAC26 conference app for latest updates.

LOCATION KEY



AFAC26 Plenary, PLENARY 3



MEETING ROOM 212



TRADE EXHIBITION
(allow five minute transition time)

Time	PLENARY 3
8.30am	Opening ceremony
9.40am	Keynote From the pitch to the community – Leadership, culture and the power of belonging <i>Craig Foster</i> - Former Socceroo Captain, Broadcaster, Adjunct Professor, Author, Filmmaker and Human Rights Activist
10.30am	Morning tea and poster viewing



MEETING ROOM 213

Local leadership for equitable resilience

11.30am	The power of local – How councils are partnering with communities to build equitable disaster resilience <i>Amy Crawford</i> (Australian Local Government Association)
12.00pm	Locally led, community powered: Transforming recovery governance through the Douglas Recovery Resilience Sub-Plan <i>Annette Plowman</i> (Douglas Shire Council)
12.30pm	Is the 'global' missing in the 'local'? <i>Dr Iftekhar Ahmed</i> (University of Newcastle)
1.00pm	Lunch and poster viewing

Adaptive resilience and shared responsibility

2.00pm	Shifting disaster funding power: Community-led resilience in the Northern Rivers <i>Jennifer Cogley</i> (NRMA Insurance), <i>Kathie Heyman</i> (Northern Rivers Community Resilience Alliance) and <i>Lindsey Goodman</i> (Monash University)
2.30pm	Lessons in resilience: Organisational and community adaptation in Melbourne's West (2019–25) <i>Dr Kate White</i> and <i>Dr Tehreem Chaudhry</i> (Centre for Just Places, Jesuit Social Services)
3.00pm	From emergency management to shared responsibility: Partnerships that shift systems for people most at risk <i>Kathy Mickan</i> (South Australian Council of Social Service) and <i>Sonya Gray</i> (Australian Red Cross)
3.30pm	Afternoon tea and poster viewing

Justice and equity in disaster law

4.15pm	Panel Shifting the scales: Embedding justice and equity in Australia's disaster law system <i>Dr Bronwyn Lay</i> (Disaster Legal Help Victoria) <i>Dr Monica Taylor</i> (Queensland University of Technology) <i>Bridget Tehan</i> (Australian Red Cross) <i>Jack Piper</i> (Australian Red Cross Justice) Facilitator: <i>Andrew Coghlan</i> (Australian Red Cross)
5.10pm	Conference sessions close

*Information correct at time of printing. Please check the AFAC26 conference app for latest updates.

LOCATION KEY



AFAC26 Plenary, PLENARY 3



MEETING ROOM 213



TRADE EXHIBITION
(allow five minute transition time)

Time	PLENARY 3
8.30am	Keynote Human/AI decision making: how is the world changing? <i>Prof Jenny George</i> - Dean and Director, Melbourne Business School
9.15am	Keynote panel From data to lived experience: What disasters mean for young people <i>Layla Wang, Lincoln Ingravalle, Anica Renner and Adriel Appathurai</i> - Young Ambassadors, UNICEF Australia
10.05am	Morning tea and poster viewing

MEETING ROOM 212

Indigenous leadership and cultural resilience

11.15am	Maintaining and promoting dignity for Aboriginal communities in preparedness and recovery <i>Michelle Rogers (Guthrie) and Carlin Stanford</i> (NSW Reconstruction Authority)
11.45am	Embedding cultural heritage protection into disaster planning and response <i>Tom Robinson and Damien Skurrie</i> (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action)
12.15pm	Vulnerable to valued: A national framework to enhance the resilience of Indigenous people and communities <i>Nell Reidy and Bhiemie Williamson</i> (Monash University)
12.50pm	Lunch and poster viewing

Resilience through arts and stories

2.00pm	Don't forget the arts! Harnessing creative pursuits that build resilience <i>Natalie Egleton</i> (Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal) and <i>Karen Revie</i> (RANT Arts)
	Lightning storytelling: Tales from accidental disaster resilience advocates
	From lived experience to professional practice <i>Sabrina Davis</i> (Australian Red Cross)
	How and why the Keep Calm Committee became resilience advocates for Mount Beauty <i>Trish Dixon</i> (Mount Beauty Neighbourhood Centre)
2.30pm	From bushfire risk to community power: An accidental path into resilience leadership <i>Maureen Halit</i> (Millgrove Residents Action Group)
	Accidental resilience advocate <i>Hayat Doughan</i> (Al-Emaan Women's Support Group)
	Turns out my admin superpowers were disaster skills after all <i>Rebecca Johnson</i> (COORDINARE)

Building social cohesion amid converging crises

3.30pm	Panel Converging threats: Building social cohesion in the context of multiple disasters, disinformation and extremism <i>Dr Mark Duckworth</i> (Deakin University), <i>Zena Armstrong</i> (Cobargo Folk Festival) Facilitator: <i>Prof Lisa Gibbs</i> (University of Melbourne)
4.25pm	Conference sessions close

*Information correct at time of printing. Please check the AFAC26 conference app for latest updates.

LOCATION KEY



AFAC26 Plenary, PLENARY 3



MEETING ROOM 212



TRADE EXHIBITION
(allow five minute transition time)

Time	PLENARY 3
8.30am	Keynote Human/AI decision making: how is the world changing? <i>Prof Jenny George</i> - Dean and Director, Melbourne Business School
9.15am	Keynote panel From data to lived experience: What disasters mean for young people <i>Layla Wang, Lincoln Ingravalle, Anica Renner and Adriel Appathurai</i> - Young Ambassadors, UNICEF Australia
10.05am	Morning tea and poster viewing



MEETING ROOM 213

Long-term recovery and wellbeing

11.15am	Separation in a bushfire and its long-term effect on mental health: Longitudinal findings <i>Dr Colin Gallagher</i> (University of Melbourne)
11.45am	Long-term health impacts of the 2019-2020 bushfires in regional communities <i>Prof Jane Fisher AO and Dr Revathi Nuggehalli Krishna</i> (Monash University)
12.15pm	Resilient Lismore: Rebuilding homes, restoring wellbeing and enhancing resilience through trust-based community-led recovery <i>Elly Bird</i> (Resilient Lismore)
12.50pm	Lunch and poster viewing

Diverse communities, shared resilience

2.00pm	When multicultural communities' leadership leads, systems follow <i>Richard Ogetii</i> (Albury Wodonga Ethnic Communities Council)
2.30pm	Shifting disaster resilience in ageing populations: What can we learn from other countries? <i>Sunny Nguyen</i> (University of Melbourne) and <i>Yuxuan Yao</i> (The University of Osaka)
3.00pm	Collaboratively supporting healthy childhood development, wellbeing and resilience in disaster settings: Thriving kids in disasters <i>Alisha Chand and Anita Egginton</i> (Queensland Kids Partnership)

Navigating relocation and retreat

3.30pm	Panel Relocation and retreat in practice: What's working, what's hard, what's next <i>Dr Annah Piggott-McKellar</i> (Queensland University of Technology) <i>Rebecca Price</i> (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action) <i>Prof Paula Jarzabkowski</i> (University of Queensland) <i>Narelle Poole</i> (Water Technology) Facilitator: <i>Jess Van Son</i> (Queensland University of Technology)
4.25pm	Conference sessions close

*Information correct at time of printing. Please check the AFAC26 conference app for latest updates.

LOCATION KEY



AFAC26 Plenary, PLENARY 3



MEETING ROOM 213



TRADE EXHIBITION
(allow five minute transition time)

How to use Slido

Ask your questions to our speakers using **Slido**

This conference will be using an audience interaction platform called Slido. Slido allows you to submit your questions as well as upvote the questions of other participants. Questions with the highest number of votes will be preferred by our conference moderators.

1.



Go to slido.com

2. Enter **#ADRC26** or **scan the Slido QR code**, which will be displayed on the slideshow of each presentation.
3. Once you are in the presentation Q&A page you can ask your questions to our speakers.

About the AFAC26 conference app

1. **Scan the AFAC26 Conference App QR code** or search '**entegy events**' in your app store to download the AFAC Conference App.
2. Enter the Event Code: **AFAC26**



Apple store



Google Play store

3. Use your login details to sign in

If you experience issues with the app, please visit the registration desk.



Conference information

Delegate passes

Delegates are required to wear their delegate pass to gain access to conference events and sessions. Your delegate pass will reflect any dietary requirements you indicated when you registered.

ADRC Networking function

ADRC26 delegates are welcome to attend the Networking Function hosted by AIDR in Resilience Lane in the Exhibition Hall.

5.15pm - 6.45pm, Wednesday 19 August.

AFAC26 Gala Dinner

If you registered to attend the Gala Dinner, this will be indicated on your delegate pass.

Accessibility and Inclusion

For information about accessibility at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre visit the MCEC website: www.mcec.com.au/plan-your-visit

Sunflower Room

The Sunflower Room is a quiet space for conference delegates with non-visible disabilities. The Sunflower Room will be available during daytime conference hours.

Join the conversation

Keep up-to-date with the latest conference news on social media by following AIDR on LinkedIn and AIDR on Facebook.

Share your conference inspiration and reflections using #ADRC26. Please ensure any content shared on social media is respectful of speakers and other delegates.

Delegate feedback

AIDR and our conference partners – AFAC and Hannover Fairs Australia – are committed to continuously improve the conference for delegates. We appreciate your feedback, so please complete the survey sent to you after the conference, all feedback helps us plan for future events.

Conference sustainability

ADRC and AFAC26, are partnering with Trace to manage, offset and reduce emissions.

To find out more about our offsetting efforts to deliver a net zero emissions conference, visit Trace's website: www.our-trace.com/brand/hannover-fairs-australia-pty-ltd

Insurance and liability

The hosts and organisers are not responsible for personal accidents, travel costs, or the loss of private property, and will not be liable for any claims. Delegates requiring insurance should make their own arrangements.

Disclaimer

The opinions of the speakers do not necessarily reflect the opinions or position of AIDR, AFAC, or Hannover Fairs Australia.

Supporting people with diabetes in disasters



People living with diabetes face additional risks during natural disasters. Having a plan in place can help reduce these risks, support continuity of care, and improve outcomes before, during, and after an emergency.

Natural disaster resources

A suite of practical resources, including our emergency services booklet, supports disaster planning and response for people living with diabetes, emergency services, councils, and health professionals.

Together, these resources help strengthen community resilience by ensuring the needs of people with diabetes are considered in disaster preparedness and response.

Download the emergency services booklet and explore all resources



NDSS Helpline 1800 637 700 ndss.com.au



ADEA is a National Health Professional Body Agent for the NDSS.

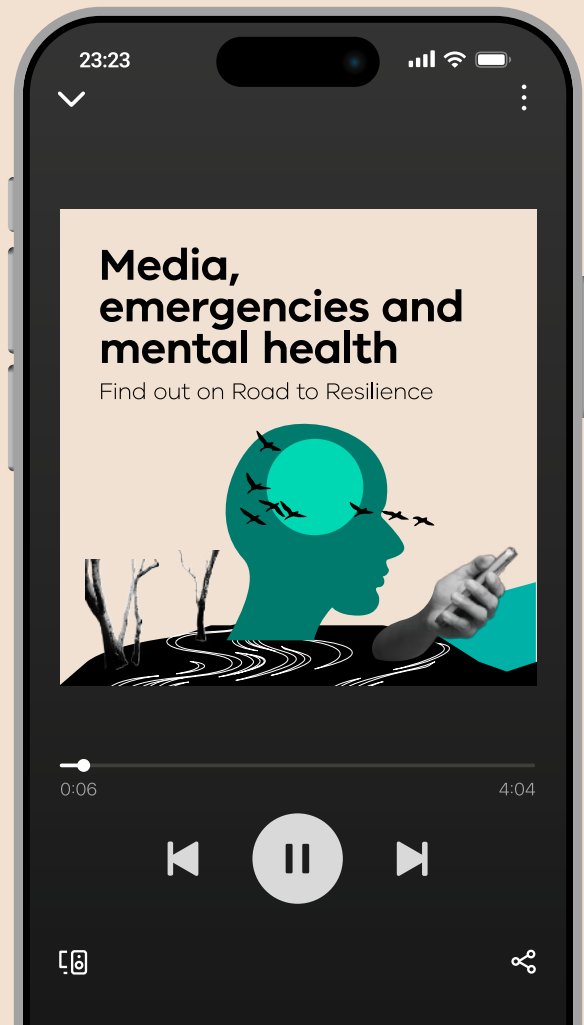


The NDSS is administered by Diabetes Australia

Road to RESILIENCE

Hear practical insights from experts and communities on recovering after emergencies.

Listen on
your favourite
podcast app.



NSW Reconstruction Authority

Leading disaster resilience and recovery in NSW

The **NSW Reconstruction Authority (RA)** is the lead agency for disaster resilience and recovery in NSW, helping communities be better prepared for and recover faster from natural hazards.

We drive and support community-centred recovery, and lead the change required to reduce the impact of disasters.

Our goals



Communities are better prepared for disasters



The risks posed by natural hazards are reduced and mitigated



Assets and infrastructure (built and social) are more resilient to disasters



Communities recover from disasters



A strong and capable organisation

Get Ready NSW

The Get Ready NSW website provides resources and information to help prepare communities for floods, storms, bushfires, heatwaves and cyclones.

Information includes understanding risk, making emergency plans, emergency kits, planning for pets and animals, protecting guides for businesses and essential apps.



Scan to read more

Working as one for Aboriginal Outcomes

We partner with First Nations communities to support community-led disaster preparedness, recovery and resilience across NSW.

Through initiatives such as the Northern Rivers Connecting with Country Framework, communities can draw on cultural knowledge and local expertise to identify priorities and shape approaches that address local needs.

Our partnerships with Aboriginal communities foster knowledge sharing and help deliver culturally informed programs that contribute to the National Agreement on Closing the Gap.



Scan to read more



NSW Reconstruction Authority



@nswreconstructionauthority



NSW Reconstruction Authority

State Disaster Mitigation Plan

Australia's first statewide disaster mitigation strategy and action plan, setting out a coordinated approach to reduce the costs and impacts of natural hazards.

Launched in 2024, the plan outlines 37 actions to strengthen policy, infrastructure and capability, and supports place-based Disaster Adaptation Plans to help communities manage risks and build resilience.

An updated SDMP is scheduled for release in mid-2027.



Scan to read more

Disaster Adaptation Planning

Our Disaster Adaptation Plans (DAPs) reduce natural hazard risk through coordinated, place-based action. Supported by statewide guidelines, DAPs provide a consistent, multi-hazard framework to identify priorities, guide investment and build resilience.

Developed with government, councils, industry and communities, foundation plans are progressing in the Hawkesbury–Nepean Valley and Northern Rivers, with planning expanding to other high-risk regions.



Scan to read more

Reconstruction

We lead and deliver reconstruction programs designed to clean up post disaster waste, restore the environment, and rebuild essential public infrastructure to speed up recovery and strengthen community resilience. Working with councils and agencies, we coordinate programs to rebuild public assets and improve future resilience.

We oversee the essential public assets components of the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, with a NEMA endorsed controls framework strengthening delivery of Essential Public Asset Restoration works to support faster recovery and reduce future disaster risk.



Scan to read more

Visit us at stand 582

Learn how we're helping communities prepare for, adapt to and recover from disasters.





Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

#ADRC26

AIDR.ORG.AU/ADRC

