

## Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2020

### Call for Abstracts

#### **Disaster risk reduction in action: pathways to impact**

Australia is moving forward with a new agenda for disaster risk reduction to contribute to a more resilient nation.

2019 has been a year of records being broken in Australia and around the world, and disasters that once would have been considered rare, or unprecedented, occurring more often and with significant impact. At the same time, this was the year that saw the launch of Australia's National Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction – a national and comprehensive approach to reducing disaster risk and its impacts, now and into the future.

Disaster risk reduction provides a path forward where 'business as usual' is no longer adequate. But what does that mean, and how do we take tangible action that leads to impact?

In 2020, the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference will take a deeper look at what taking action on reducing disaster risk and its impacts looks like in practice in the context of a changing climate and how reducing risk contributes to the resilience of our nation. This will be an opportunity to learn from leading examples across sectors with a focus on application and real world outcomes.

How can we move from strategy to action and achieve real impact? What case studies best demonstrate disaster risk reduction in practice? How do initiatives underway in Australia demonstrate implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and/or the National Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction? How can we take tangible action to reduce disaster risk and strengthen resilience? What lens can academia bring to enabling evidence-based action?

The program committee invites abstracts that focus on case studies, research, research utilisation, partnerships and collaboration, and good practice models.

The conference will take a broad look at disaster risk reduction in action across a number of sectors and partnership areas including:

**Private sector leading change:** What initiatives are being driven by the private sector to reduce climate and disaster risk and their impacts on communities? How are investments in disaster risk reduction reducing costs in the long term? How does the private sector factor in climate risks as part of financial investment decision making?

**Local government encouraging local action:** How does reducing disaster risk lead to community resilience and improved recovery? What's the connection between risk reduction and local efforts in climate risk management, public health and community wellbeing? What is the role of local government in connecting communities and driving local action?

**State and commonwealth governments providing an enabling environment for disaster risk reduction:** How do strategies and frameworks enable disaster risk reduction to be prioritised as a way to strengthen resilience? How are governments investing in putting strategy into action? How can governments encourage shared responsibility with their citizens?

**Communities taking action:** What are standout examples of disaster risk reduction initiatives in local communities? How are children and youth contributing to risk reduction in their local area? How do we ensure disaster risk reduction is inclusive? How do grassroots climate movements feed into the disaster risk reduction agenda?

**Not-for-profits accelerating progress:** What initiatives demonstrate not-for-profit leadership to reduce climate and disaster risk in policy and practice? What successful community-based disaster risk reduction and resilience projects can we learn from and replicate? How are not-for-profit organisations drawing in international expertise and best practice to act on disaster risk reduction in Australia?

**Academia and research informing decisions:** What evidence base do we have to draw upon to put disaster risk reduction into practice in the Australian context? How does academic literature explain the links between disaster risk reduction and disaster resilience? What are standout examples of research being used to reduce climate and disaster risk and build resilience?

**Best practice in cross-sector collaboration:** How are actors from across diverse sectors coming together to address climate and disaster risk and resilience? What cross-sector partnerships are in place to address systemic risk and act on ‘taking harm out of the system’? What shared value initiatives demonstrate models for impact?

**Emergency management:** How has the shift from response to prevention and preparedness contributed to disaster risk reduction with communities? In what way have community engagement initiatives empowered communities to take action? How are hazard mitigation programs contributing to risk reduction?

Presenters are invited to submit an abstract of no more than 300 words via the [abstract portal](#).

Please note: All abstracts will be peer reviewed by the conference program committee with respect to the conference theme. Abstracts may be submitted for both oral presentations and posters. Structured poster sessions are a highlight of the conference in addition to hearing from speakers.