

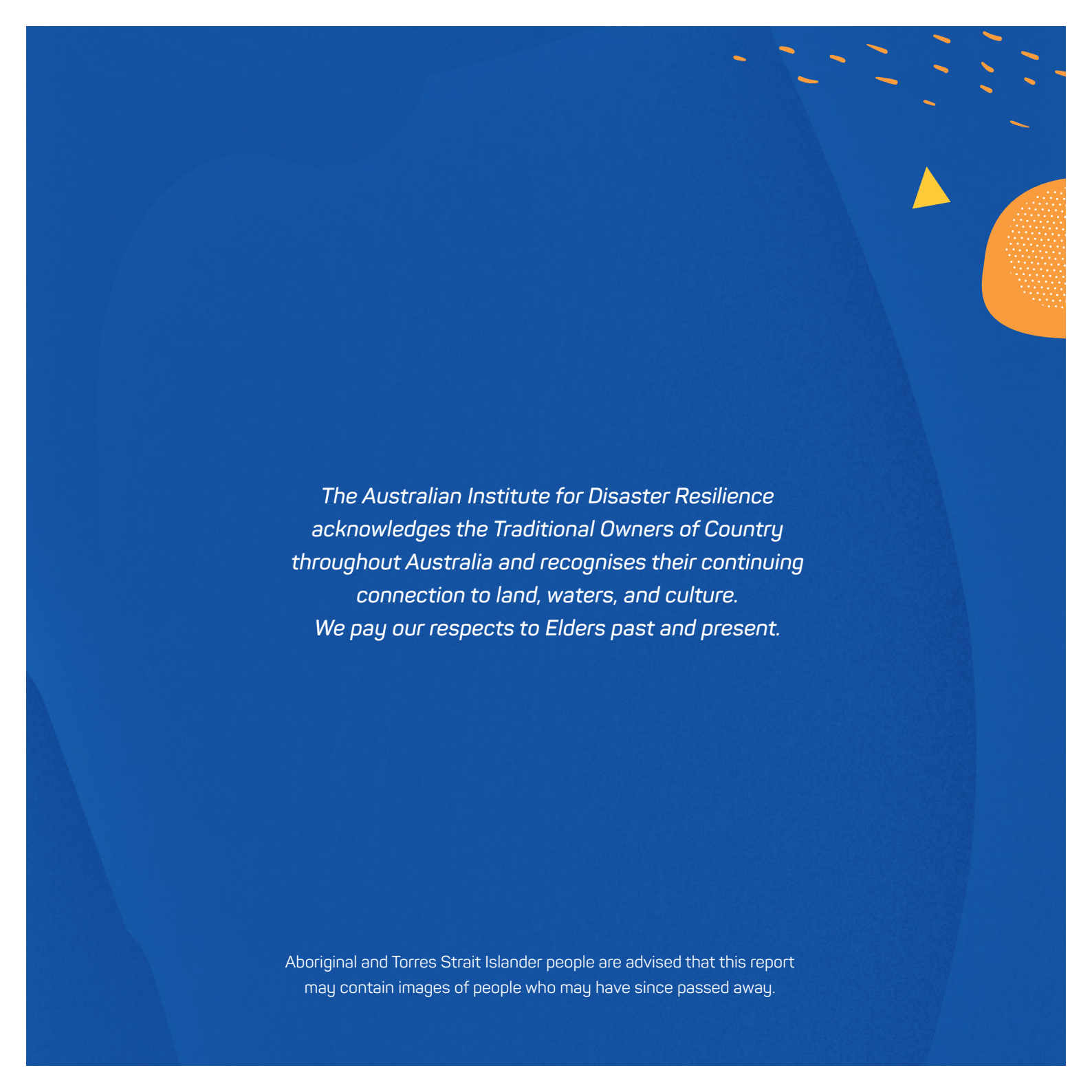


Australian Government
National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience 

Annual Report 2022-23



The background is a deep blue gradient. In the upper right corner, there are several small, orange, curved lines representing stars or shooting stars. Below them is a small yellow triangle, and to its right is a larger orange crescent moon with a dotted texture.

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

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this report
may contain images of people who may have since passed away.

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Foreword

Dr Margaret Moreton

Executive Director, AIDR



Once again, major disasters and emergencies have affected communities across Australia during 2022-23. Whether we live in rural, regional, or urban landscapes, individuals, families, and communities have felt the first hand and flow-on effects of fire, flood, storms, heat and cyclone.

With each year's events, property is damaged or destroyed. Precious possessions are lost to the elements. Community members or emergency services personnel are injured or worse. People grieve and then rebuild their lives, economically, socially, psychologically, and physically. Many work to restore the built and natural environments on which we all depend. For many of us, these life-changing events form part of the fabric of who we are, how we survive and how we see ourselves. For some, these events are a marker from which they take decades to recover.

AIDR is dedicated to reducing disaster risk and building community resilience by supporting capability and knowledge across various sectors and professions. We work to strengthen the focus on preparation and sustained resilience building, balancing the current systemic focus on response. We work with partners and stakeholders to develop resources and guidance to inform planning and preparation, recovery, and resilience. We form and support networks of practitioners to share experience and practice, and influence policy and decision making.

The year has seen a strong focus on strengthening partnerships, both existing relationships with our valued partners and building new connections, particularly with First Nations individuals and groups. AIDR supported the planning for an inaugural National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Summit, and provided support to crucial Indigenous-led research into Indigenous disaster resilience and risk reduction practice.

AIDR was also proud to support the National Forum on Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction – held on 2 June at the University of Sydney. This forum showcased disability led projects and discussions, building on Person Centred Emergency Preparedness (P-CEP) and Disability Inclusive Emergency Planning (DIEP).

Other key research projects being proposed or undertaken across Australia with AIDR's support include culturally and linguistically diverse disaster resilience, the role and needs of children and young people, the value of reimagining extreme scenarios, the relationship between climate and health, and participatory granting approaches. This engagement has increased AIDR's reach and participation in advisory bodies and other strategic thought leadership opportunities.

2022-23 was a period of transition for AIDR. Former Executive Director Amanda Leck was farewelled in June 2022, and I arrived and brought with me a background in governance and government, business development acumen, experience in the philanthropic sector, and above all, a commitment to community led resilience building. Looking forward, AIDR will consolidate its work and reputation with new initiatives and a focus on diversity and inclusion.

I also thank our key partners, the National Emergency Management Agency, AFAC, and the Australian Red Cross, for their support in the development and delivery of knowledge products and services for a disaster resilient Australia.



The AIDR team



Australian Government

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



Australian Institute
for Disaster Resilience

2021-2025

OUR APPROACH

About AIDR



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 Emergency Management 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

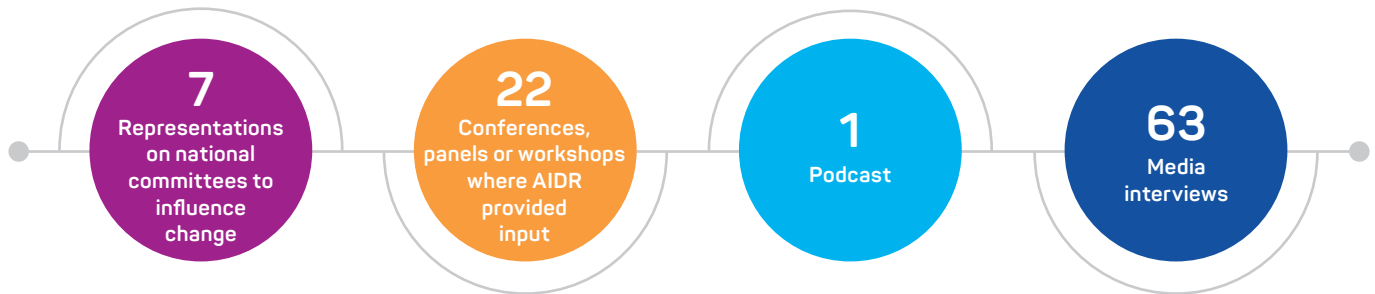


Service areas

- 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 – Thought Leadership

AIDR influences national thought leadership on disaster risk reduction and resilience.



AIDR continues to influence strategic thinking and systemic change by leading and participating in international and national forums focussed on disaster risk reduction and resilience. AIDR's Executive Director and members of the AIDR team are sought after members of multiple national committees, influencing disaster risk reduction and resilience policy development, discussion and outcomes.

During this financial year these included:

- The Resilience Valuation Initiative, with key business, government and NGO partners
- The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal Program Advisory Committee
- The Creative Recovery Taskforce
- The Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction Project Expert Advisory Panel (University of Sydney)
- The P-CEP (Person Centred Emergency Planning) Peer Leadership Advisory Group (University of Sydney)
- The AFAC Research Committee
- The Natural Hazards Research Australia (NHRA) Research Forum Advisory Committee

- The Gender and Disaster Australia (GADAus) Expert Advisory Committee
- The Children and Disasters Advisory Committee (Melbourne University)
- The National Infant and Child Disaster Mental Health Advisory Committee (Emerging Minds)

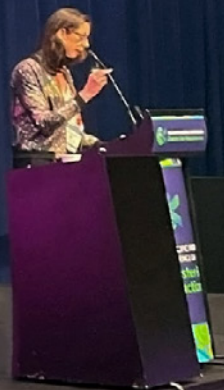
AIDR spoke at several conferences, workshops and panels, including:

- NHRA Be Ahead of Ready
- Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DIDRR) webinars and DIDRR Forum
- Humanitarian Leadership Conference 2023
- NEMA: Charitable, Not-for-profit and Philanthropic Roundtable
- Resilient businesses, thriving communities webinar
- LGAQ Disaster Management Conference
- AFAC Lessons Management Forum
- Volunteering Australia: Exploring the National Strategy for Volunteering

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience 

Shifting Mindsets and Action for Systemic Disaster Risk

KATELYN SAMSON
Manager, Knowledge Development
Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

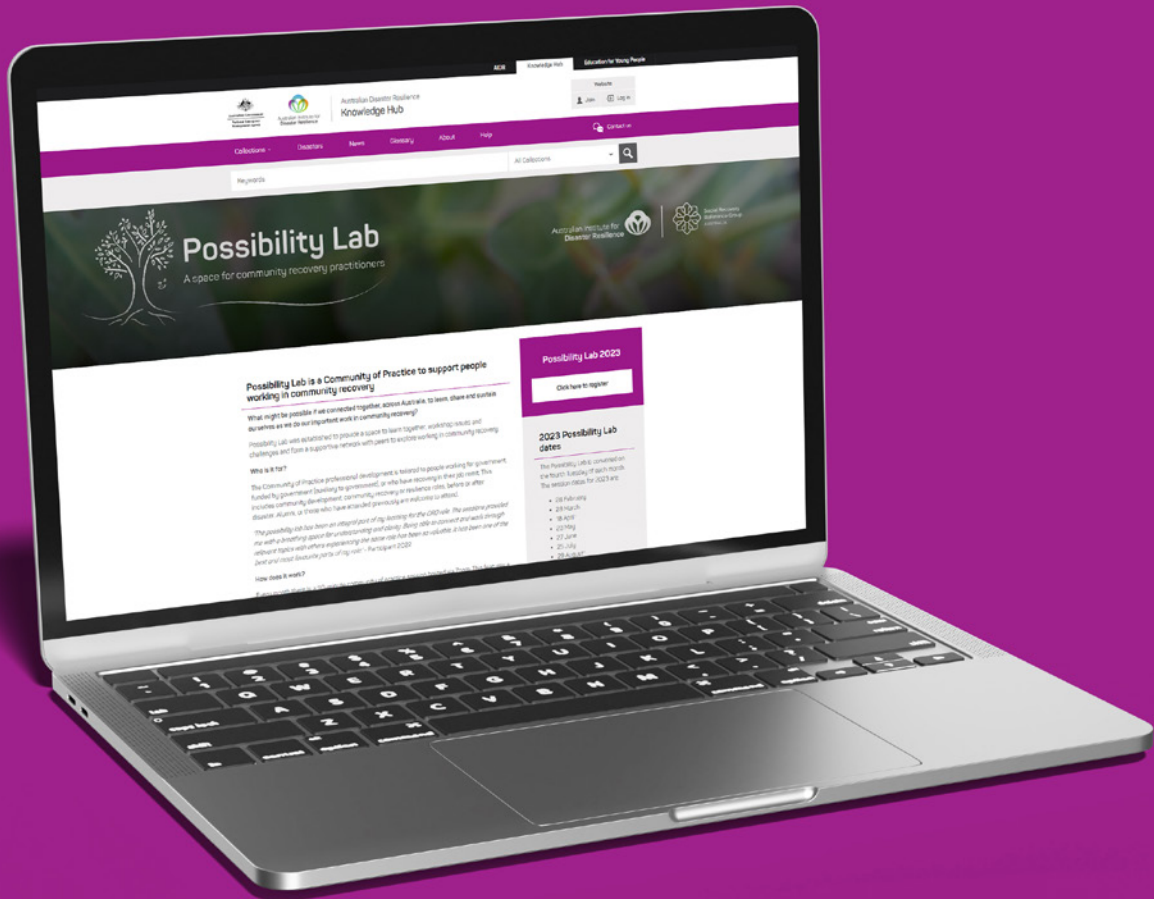


HIGHLIGHTS

550+
DRANZSEN
Members

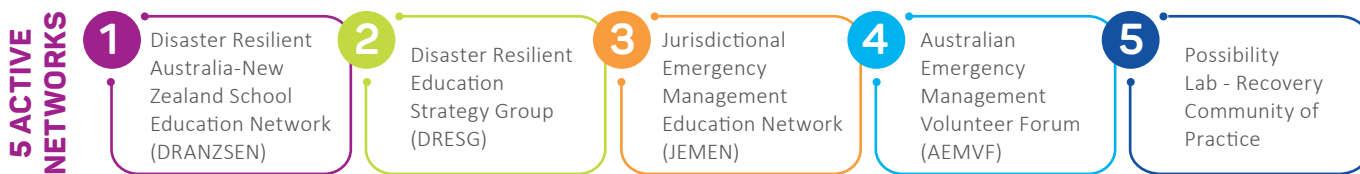
2
JEMEN
Meetings

10
Recovery Community
of Practice
'Possibility Labs'



Influencing Strategy – Networks

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



AIDR's networks continued to grow and mature, enabling collaboration across organisations and sectors to achieve a shared goal – increasing disaster resilience and reducing disaster risk throughout Australia.

AIDR delivers events and engages through consultations with five active 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, other sectors (e.g., education and volunteering), various charitable organisations, and the private sector.

These networks provide opportunities for members to support one another, and share experiences and views through active discussion.

AEMVF continues to evolve and grow to support of the needs of emergency and disaster volunteers across Australia. AEMVF champions the voice of volunteers in the emergency management sector and provided this perspective to the development of Volunteering Australia's *National Strategy for Volunteering* (released in 2023).

JEMEN provides connections across jurisdictions and enables those in the emergency management sector to share knowledge, training information, research, and educational programs.

AIDR maintained its partnership with the Social Recovery Reference Group (created under the auspices of the Community Outcomes and Recovery Subcommittee (CORS) of the Australia and New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC)) to host

10 'Possibility Lab' Recovery Community of Practice sessions. Topics discussed include the value of connections in supporting our recovery work, disaster recovery governance and influencing political decision makers, social capital in disaster recovery and resilience, and social process theory. Participants attended from the majority of Australian states and territories, and New Zealand.

In-person DRANZSEN events returned post pandemic, with a DRANZSEN Forum hosted in Brisbane in July 2022. DRANZSEN attracts representatives from emergency services, local councils, education departments, and representatives from independent schools.

As part of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in September 2022, AIDR facilitated a group of 16 students from 4 schools in the flood-impacted Northern Rivers region to meet with Senator Tony Sheldon, Special Envoy for Disaster Recovery.

DRESG worked with Minderoo Foundation Fire and Flood Resilience Initiative and Cool Australia to develop lesson plans that build disaster resilience into the Australian Curriculum. Analytics show each lesson downloaded was shared with 2.2 other teachers, used in 2.3 classes per teacher and taught to 22.2 students per class. This means that for each unique teacher download, 133 students were taught about disaster resilience education.

AIDR and DRESG worked together to map the Australian Curriculum 9.0 (Foundation to Year 10) highlighting areas of opportunity for DRE and developed lesson plans to assist with this.

Influencing Strategy – Capability

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

MORE THAN 5,000 people connected from a broad range of sectors and jurisdictions

94 professional development events

10 volunteer leadership programs

One of AIDR's goals is to actively support disaster risk reduction and resilience networking opportunities in Australia. AIDR facilitates these networking opportunities for disaster risk reduction and resilience practitioners, by providing professional development events; the Education for Young People, Volunteer Leadership and Resilient Australia Awards programs; as well as through the development of the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection and associated companion documents. Through this work, AIDR enables people to come together to acquire and share knowledge, make or maintain relationships and contribute to national disaster resilience and risk reduction outcomes.

During 2022-23, AIDR significantly expanded its reach through the delivery and facilitation of 94 events and 10 Volunteer Leadership Programs. There has been an increase in attendance numbers across all events, with in-person events continuing to be highly valued by AIDR stakeholders. The extensive program of online events has enabled AIDR to reach a wider range of audiences across rural, regional and urban Australia, as well as internationally.

AIDR's events and capability development program supports those who are new to disaster risk reduction and resilience work, as well as more experienced practitioners. AIDR also connects practitioners to one another, and to others working across disparate sectors and jurisdictions. By doing so, AIDR seeks to enhance decision making and the understanding of the consequences of those decisions. Through this program of work, AIDR aims to strengthen the disaster risk reduction and resilience knowledge base and capability of this expanding and disparate group of professionals and practitioners.

AIDR collects participant information and feedback through post-event surveys, including whether participants found the event useful, and how participants intend to use this knowledge in their work. Participants continue to provide positive feedback, expressing that AIDR events and knowledge support them in their work, broaden and deepen their focus and consideration of issues, strengthen their community engagement, and provide them with new insights.

“

I really enjoyed the conference, certainly a great venue and plenty of people in attendance. Really well organised, exceptional topics and well done to the AIDR team for their outstanding display. It demonstrated the extent of the work that AIDR develops and delivers.

”

“

Congratulations on the development of the Toolkit and in particular the Disability Module. I have been using all the Toolkit material and slides in the exercises I am planning.

”



Australian Government
National Recovery and Resilience Agency

National Institute for Disaster Resilience

nab

ADRC22

Panel: Innovative partnerships for community resilience

- Challenging the status quo and usual ways of thinking about community resilience
- Innovations needed to build resilience and respond to the scale of the challenge
- Common partnership approaches in achieving the shared vision of disaster resilience

Panellists:

- Soraya Dean, NAB
- Liz Mackinlay, Australian Business Volunteers
- Kate Cotter, Bushfire Building Council of Australia
- David Macdermott, Australian Red Cross

Australian Government
National Recovery and Resilience Agency

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

#ADRC22

Influencing Strategy – Knowledge



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

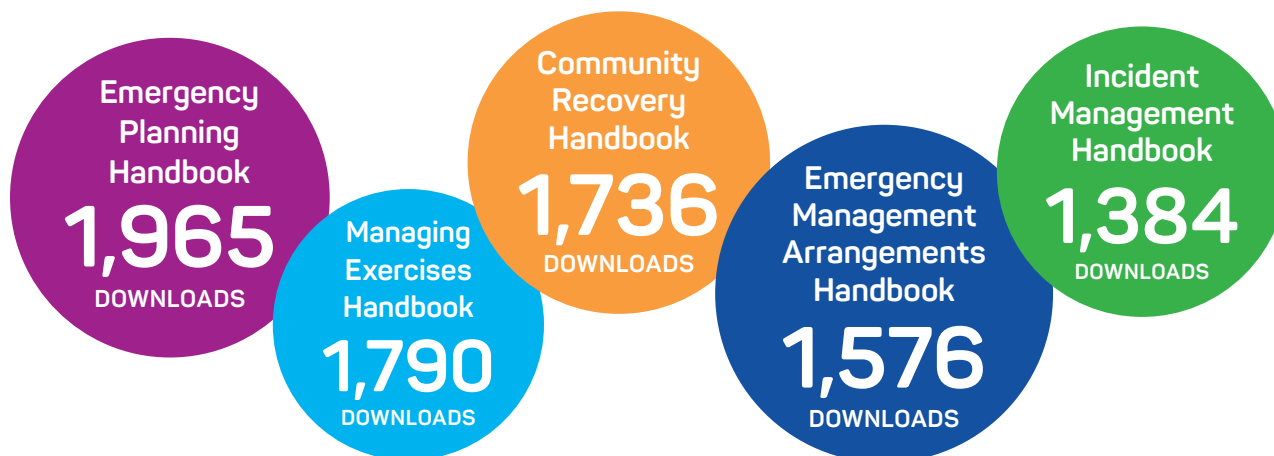
AIDR continues to drive the development and promotion of knowledge and good practice for disaster resilience and risk reduction. We have delivered new and cutting-edge resources through the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection and have invested heavily in enhancing outreach and the utilisation of existing knowledge products. Our knowledge products and services are valued as high quality, credible and practical.

Almost 612,000 people accessed materials across the three AIDR websites, with 1,751,560 pageviews on the Knowledge Hub, 342,691 pageviews on the corporate AIDR website and 26,995 page views on the Education for Young People website. The Australian Disaster Mapper was the most accessed resource with 237,330 pageviews.

AIDR published one new handbook - *Incident Management* and one revised handbook - *Australian Emergency Management Arrangements*.

Four editions of the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management* (AJEM) were published, including 20 practice papers that demonstrate the commitment to sharing best practice and thought leadership for disaster risk reduction and resilience.

The most downloaded documents were:



Impact and engagement

Events



connecting more than **5,000** people

over **95%** of participants agree or strongly agree the event they attended increased their knowledge.



56

online events



36

face-to-face



2

hybrid events

VLP

235 volunteers participated

over **98%**

reported an increase in local leadership

99%

reported an overall improvement of their knowledge

99%

indicated they would recommend the program to others

ADRC

90%

rated ADRC as a whole excellent or very good

95%

said that they would recommend the conference to others

100%

said the conference met or exceeded their expectation

Knowledge Hub

accessed over

1.75 million

times by
more than **530,000**
people



Australian Disaster Mapper

has more than

237,000
pageviews



Thought Leadership

22 Conferences, panels or workshops where AIDR provided input

7 Representations on national committees to influence change

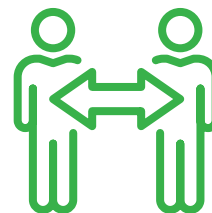
63 Media interviews



Engagement

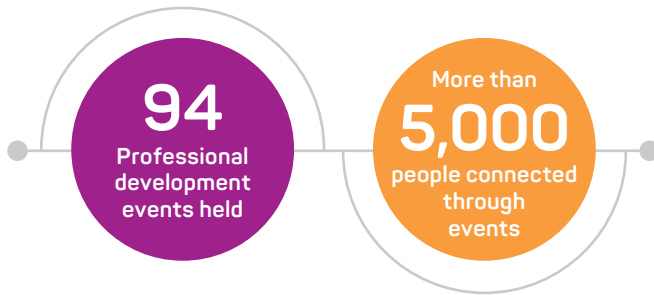
27 Sectors **across** **9** Australian jurisdictions engaged

34 Requests to participate in or provide input into forums



23,528
Stakeholders engaged

Professional development events



During 2022-23 AIDR delivered 94 professional development events, utilising in person and online delivery.

These events included:

- Australian Disaster Resilience Conference
- National Recovery Forum
- Lessons Management Forum
- Resilient Australia Awards National Ceremony
- 10 Possibility Lab Recovery Community of Practice sessions
- 34 Masterclasses and Workshops
 - » Coordinating Teams Operating in Disaster
 - » Crisis Leadership: Decision Making Under Pressure
 - » Decision Making Under Pressure: New Skills for the New Normal
 - » Facilitating Successful Debriefs Skills Clinic
 - » High Consequence Decision Making
 - » Leadership in Adversity
 - » Leadership in Disaster, Crisis, and Adversity
 - » Leading Multi-Agency Teams in Deep Uncertainty
 - » Meteorology for Disaster Managers

- 8 Webinars
 - » International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction panel: Early Warning for Early Action
 - » Experiences of children and young people: lessons learned from 2022 floods.
 - » 3 x Leave Nobody Behind webinars:
 - » Actions government and emergency services can take on DIDRR.
 - » Actions that people with disability and their representatives can take on DIDRR.
 - » Actions that service providers can take on DIDRR.
 - » Resilient Businesses, Thriving Communities, featuring international social capital researcher Daniel Aldrich
 - » Incident Management Handbook showcase
 - » Recovery Exercising Toolkit showcase

Participants included those residing in all states and territories, as well as some located internationally. The top three sectors in attendance were:

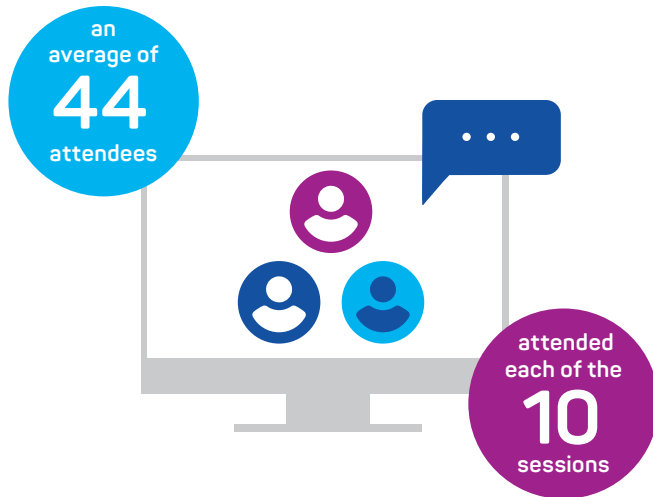
- State government (16.8%),
- Local government (14.3%) and
- Emergency services (11.8%).
- Other key sectors were emergency management (11.5%), federal government (6.7%) and not-for-profit organisations (6.1%).

Post event surveys indicate that attendees continue to highly value AIDR's professional development events, with over 95% of participants stating that they agree or strongly agree the event they attended increased their knowledge.

Recovery Community of Practice

10 Recovery Community of Practice sessions were held.

In 2022-23 AIDR again partnered with the Social Recovery Reference Group to host a monthly online Recovery Community of Practice, 'The Possibility Lab'. The target audience is people working for local government, funded by government/auxiliary to government), or who have recovery in their job remit. This includes community development and community recovery or resilience roles.



Several topics were discussed:

- Aboriginal culture and healing in disaster recovery approaches
- The establishment, role, and work of the Community Recovery Committees in East Gippsland
- Recovery and effective communication
- Preparedness for people in recovering communities
- Nimble and tailored approaches to community engagement in disaster resilience
- The value of (social) connections in supporting our recovery work
- Disaster recovery governance and influencing political decision makers
- Social capital in disaster recovery and resilience with Professor Daniel Aldrich
- Social Process Theory in community recovery with Dr Rob Gordon

Masterclasses in Queensland

Since 2019, AIDR has supported capability development across Queensland under contract with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services. During 2022-23 this arrangement continued with the delivery of 10 x Coordinating Teams Operating in Disaster masterclasses, 10 x High Consequence Decision Making masterclasses, and the development and design of a new masterclass on Leadership in Disaster Recovery.

ADRC22:

95%

would recommend

RAA22:

170

attended hybrid

LMF23:

230

attended hybrid

10x

possibility labs

2x

Handbook showcase -
Incident management & toolkit

Masterclasses:

- 8x Meteorology for Disaster Managers Masterclass
- 10x Decision Making Under Pressure Masterclass
- 11x Facilitating Successful Debriefs Masterclass
- 2x Leading Multi-agency Teams in Deep Uncertainty Masterclass
- 2x Leadership in Crisis and Adversity Masterclass
- 10x Coordinating Teams Operating in Disaster Masterclass (QFES)
- 10x High Consequence Decision Making Masterclass (QFES)
- 10x Leadership in Disaster Recovery Masterclass (QFES)

Advancing the practice of disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction in Australia

In January to June 2023, AIDR partnered with University of Sydney's Centre for Disability Research and Policy to deliver the Leave Nobody Behind webinar series and National Disability-Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DIDRR) Research Forum.

The Leave Nobody Behind Webinar Series explored how government, emergency services, people with disability, carers and the services that support people with disability are working together to put person-centred and capability-focused approaches to DIDRR in action. This was unpacked across three webinars that explored case studies and actions for each of these stakeholder groups.

The *National DIDRR Research Forum* convened approximately 60 delegates to share good practice and provide input on how to operationalise a cross-sector framework for DIDRR.

The highly-rated webinars reached more than 800 people.

Key participant learnings include:

- the importance of listening to and involving people with lived experience of disability in decision making
- the need for multisector collaboration
- use of strengths-based language
- improved understanding of challenges people with disability face during disasters
- better knowledge of tools and training for DIDRR practice.

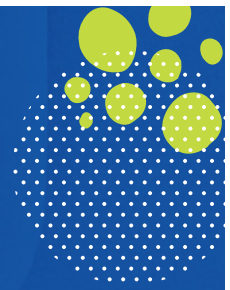
Leave Nobody Behind webinar series

Actions people with a disability and their representatives can take on DIDRR

📅 17 April, 2023 ⌚ 2pm - 3.30pm AEST 🔗 aidr.org.au/events

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference



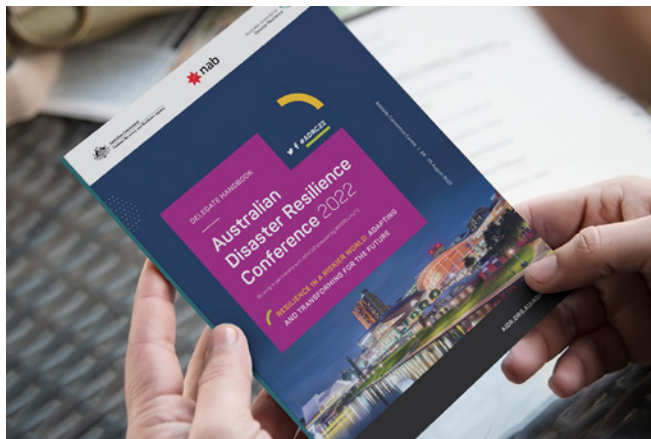
In August 2022, AIDR hosted the largest face-to-face Australian Disaster Resilience Conference in the event's 5-year history with two conference streams, 371 conference delegates and industry sponsorship from NAB, the Paul Ramsay Foundation and Fire to Flourish. The conference theme was, Resilience in a riskier world – adapting and transforming for the future.



It was a fabulous program – a great mix of presenters and awesome to see the growth in industry attendees.

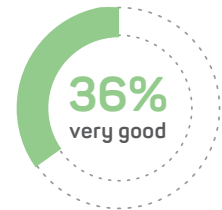
I am already a passionate advocate for my organisation, so it has just maintained my motivation to be involved.

I am amazed at how well such a large and multifaceted conference was organised. The keynotes were all excellent!



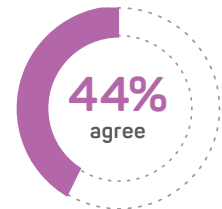
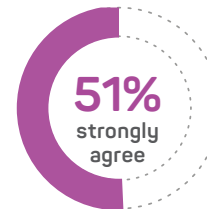
90%

rated ADRC as a whole excellent or very good



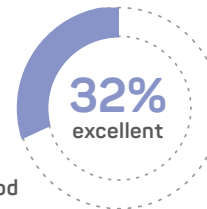
95%

said that they would recommend the conference to others



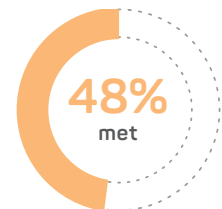
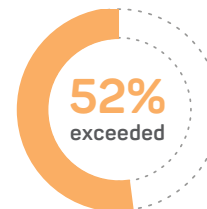
89%

rated the overall organisation of the conference as excellent or very good



100%

said the conference met or exceeded their expectations



National Recovery Forum

OPENING THE FORUM:

2019 IT'S BEEN A TOUGH FEW YEARS
 2021 NOT LONG AGO WE ONLY HAD SINGLE YEAR FUNDS
 2022 OUR CHALLENGE IS RECOVERY + THE TIME IT TAKES...



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO BE HERE TODAY?

- > A changing eco-system
- > Reconnect
- > Listen + Learn
- > Understand climate change
- > Get out of our state offices

TODAY EMBRACE DIFFERENT VIEWS + EXPERIENCES WITH OPENESS.

STORIES OF LIVED EXPERIENCE



ORCHESTRA OF EMOTION
 "RECOVERY IS NOT LINEAR!"

- 1 HOPE
 - 2 MEET THEM WHERE THEY ARE AT
 - 3 IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY
- NEVER UNDERESTIMATE SHARING STORIES AND EXPERIENCES OF RECOVERY - IT GIVES HOPE.

"When I saw that first wisp of smoke - I knew what was coming. I evacuated my family."

I had to choose between defending my HOME or BUSINESS

After the disaster we began to coordinate OURSELVES BECAUSE WE HAD TO...



The EMPOWERMENT of taking control meant we were ready to engage with Supports when they came 16 days later

National Recovery Forum (2022)

Recognise the culture, stories and dance of the first people and the land we walk on - Kurna Land.

WHAT'S WORKED WELL IN RECOVERY WITHIN COMMUNITIES?

- > Communities that self-organise before recovery agencies arrive sets a collective team vision.
- > Knowing the recovery journey before hand
- > Understanding different settings RURAL - REMOTE - METRO
- > Trauma-informed workers are a guiding light
- > Know the system + how to fit it!

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR RECOVERY IN THE FUTURE?

- > Updating the out of date models/frameworks because disasters are more frequent!
- > Personalise risks so people can plan + protect themselves/families.
- > Flexible approaches for people, time, context and experiences
- > Community not agencies
- > Include children to build resilience for the future!

WISDOM CIRCLE



RAPID PRESENTATIONS



AIDR hosted the first National Recovery Forum following the ADRC conference. The highly interactive forum engaged over 200 participants for a full day of knowledge sharing from people with lived experience and recovery experts. It explored the question 'how might we build and share knowledge and practice, connections, understanding and inspiration, so we can all recover well from disasters and build resilient futures?'

“

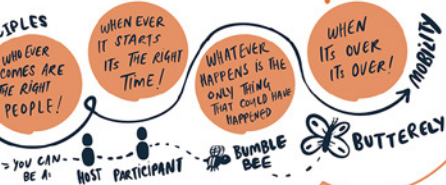
Heartfelt congratulations to the organisers and speakers – without exaggeration I think it was the best forum/conference kind of event I have attended. I learned a lot, met loads of people, and feel re-enthused to pick up my recovery work!

This was done excellently. I loved the different styles of moving around the room to meet new people and choose what discussions to participate in.

”

OPEN SPACE

Conversations that Matter!



LET'S WALK TOGETHER BY STARTING IN EARNEST TO BE INCLUSIVE OF FIRST NATION PEOPLES

A GOOD COACH AND A GOOD TEAM WE CAN DO IT

P.P.R.R DOESN'T MEET COMMUNITIES NEEDS AND THERE ARE ALT. WAYS TO ENGAGE & APPROACH

NEED TO IMPROVE OUR (LOCAL) NETWORKS AND RELATIONSHIPS

NEXT STEPS

SYNTH & SHARE

(AIDR KNOWLEDGE HUB)

INPUT INTO RECOVERY WEBINAR

IS IT FAIR TO TALK ABOUT RESILIENCE?

SHIFT AWAY FROM URBAN, WHITE FOCUS

CONFLICT RESOLUTION REMEMBER THAT CONFLICT EXISTS IN COMMUNITIES PRE-DISASTER

ROLLING RECOVERY & EMBED IT INTO PREPAREDNESS



CHILDREN + RESILIENCE NEED TO LEARN FROM THEM THROUGH ARTS & CONNECTING TO LAND

NEED TO HAVE TRAINING ON ETHICS AND BUILDING TRUST + TRANSPARENCY



STAY UNTIL THE DOOR IS OPEN

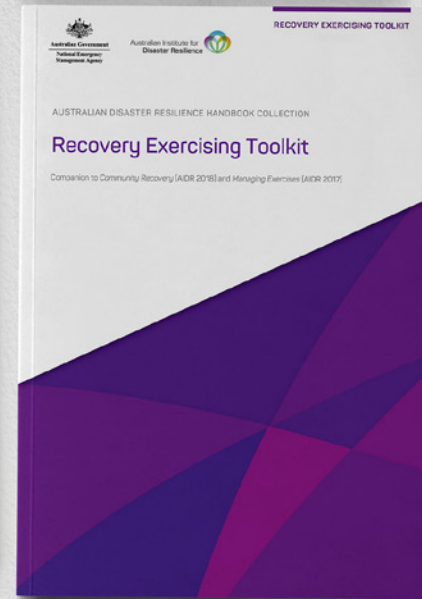
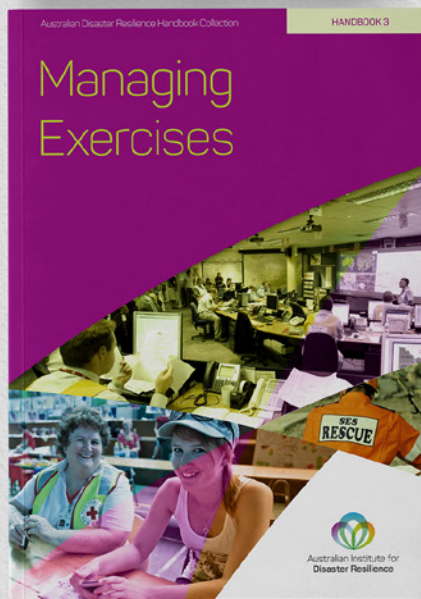
INSURANCE EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY TO SHIFT THE SYSTEM POSITIVELY

WE SOLVED THE NAT. HOUSING CRISIS

HAVE QUIET VOICE MECHANICS SO EVERYONE IS HEARD

WE'RE SPEAKING DIFFERENT LANGUAGES LETS ALIGN





Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection

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

In 2022-23 AIDR published one revised handbook, one new handbook, a companion guide and relaunched the Knowledge-into-Action Guides as 'Quick Guides' to support the utilisation of the principles and approaches within the Handbook Collection. Each handbook is developed and reviewed through a rigorous process of national consultation with key stakeholders and subject experts from diverse sectors and jurisdictions across Australia.

New handbook titles published:

- *Incident Management*

Revised handbook titles:

- *Australian Emergency Management Arrangements*
- *Managing Exercises* (for publication in 2023-24 FY)
- *Evacuation Planning* (for publication in 2023-24 FY)

Companion guide:

- *Recovery Exercising Toolkit*
(a companion to the revised *Managing Exercises*)

In the 2022-23 financial year, AIDR hosted 2 Handbook Showcase webinar events.

- The Incident Management Handbook Showcase occurred in May. Over 600 people registered for the showcase, with 300 attending. The showcase attracted Australian and international participants. The handbook has been downloaded 1,384 times, with around 900 of these in its first week.

Recovery Exercising Toolkit Webinar attracted 422 participants. The *Recovery Exercising Toolkit* webpage has been viewed over 8,000 times and the guide for using the toolkit has been downloaded

508 times since its launch in February to June 30. Of the elective modules for the toolkit: *Fundamentals of Community Recovery* has been downloaded 225 times, *Coordinating recovery support for people with disabilities* downloaded 99 times, *Working with Indigenous Communities* downloaded 81 times, and *Foundations of Economic Recovery* downloaded 69 times.

AIDR commenced a strategic review of the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection during 2022-23, to ensure that they are fit for purpose and contribute to Australia's disaster management frameworks. This review is being conducted internally and involves an environmental scan of best practice guidelines, a stakeholder survey, and key informant interviews with a range of handbook users, practitioners, and policy makers. The review will be completed in December 2023.

Top handbook downloads:

Emergency Planning:
1,965

Managing Exercises:
1,790

Community Recovery:
1,736

Emergency Management Arrangements:
1,576

Incident Management:
1,384

NERAG:
496

Community Engagement for Disaster Resilience:
395

Lessons Management:
380

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 550 members. The quarterly DRANZSEN newsletter continues to gain traction, with open rates around 35%.

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 August 2022 with significant increases in areas of the curriculum applicable to disaster resilience education. The 2022 Term 3 DRANZSEN newsletter announcing its release had over 12,000 clicks through to the mapping document highlighting the key interest and need for mapping.

In-person DRANZSEN events returned post pandemic and were held in Hobart and Brisbane in 2022. The July event in Brisbane attracted representatives from Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, various local councils, Queensland Department of Education, and representatives from independent schools. AIDR also presented to over 130 teachers at the Australian Geography Teachers Conference in Hobart.

In September 2022 at the Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, AIDR facilitated a group of 16 students from 4 schools in the flood impacted Northern Rivers region to meet with Senator the Hon. Tony Sheldon, Special Envoy for Disaster Recovery, providing them with the opportunity to have their say on youth engagement in disaster risk reduction.

In response to significant flooding in southeast Australia in late 2022, AIDR organised a webinar titled Perspectives of Children and Young People in Floods. The webinar heard from a range of experts and children directly impacted by flooding events in 2022 and included an opening welcome address by Senator the Hon. Tony Sheldon.

The webinar had over 400 attendees live and has been viewed a further 100 times since upload onto YouTube.

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.

AIDR supported the New South Wales Office of the Chief Scientist in the design of their grant program for STEM bushfire programs and the principles outlined in the *Disaster Resilience Education for Young People* (AIDR 2021) in the Handbook Collection have been used as assessment criteria for grant applications.

In mid-2023, AIDR worked with McNair yellowSquares to facilitate the Our World Our Say Survey version 2. This national youth survey on disaster risk and climate change is specifically designed for Australian children and youth aged between 10 and 24 years and includes 27 questions, designed to identify children and young people's priorities for action by decision makers. The responses will be collated and published in a report in 2023-24 and will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the perspectives of Australian children and young people and guide future initiatives.



The youth delegation with Senator Sheldon.



Dr Briony Towers presenting on behalf of AIDR to over 130 teachers at the Australian Geography Teachers Conference



Feedback Quotes

A valuable and worthwhile program. It was great working with members from other essential services and realising that we are all facing the same challenges. – Armidale, September 2022

This is a brilliant program. I have done various leadership courses before and this is by far the best I have ever attended. Presenters are just wonderful, knowledgeable and used such a diverse range of teaching strategies. – Perth, March 2023

Whilst the subject matter was complex, the leaders kept a light atmosphere and made participation less stressful for those who have "been out of the classroom for a while. – Adelaide, April 2023



Key Learnings

I took on a different way to approach situations knowing more how everyone thought processes are different and valuable in their own ways. – Cairns, July 2022

I learnt a lot about myself and the ways I can improve my interactions with my team. – Launceston, October 2022

I learnt a whole range of things, while reinforcing others: different leadership styles, having tough conversations, assuming positive intent, recover rocket. – Perth, March 2023



Using Learnings in Work/Practice

I have initiated the leadership team contacting each of our team members individually to engage with them and to encourage them to attend training activities and meetings. – Goulburn, August 2022

Give people time to come back to me and not to expect an answer immediately. Also, to ensure our team offers a safe environment for all people. – Echuca, February 2023

I intend to talk with the Management Committee to come up with ideas on how we can better understand the motivation and constraints of each member so that we can best meet the needs of the brigade and help members to feel productive and satisfied in their roles. – Adelaide, April 2023



Volunteer Leadership Program

AIDR's Volunteer Leadership Program (VLP) supports the local leadership capability of disaster resilience and emergency management volunteers amongst community organisations, not-for-profits, disaster relief organisations and local government.

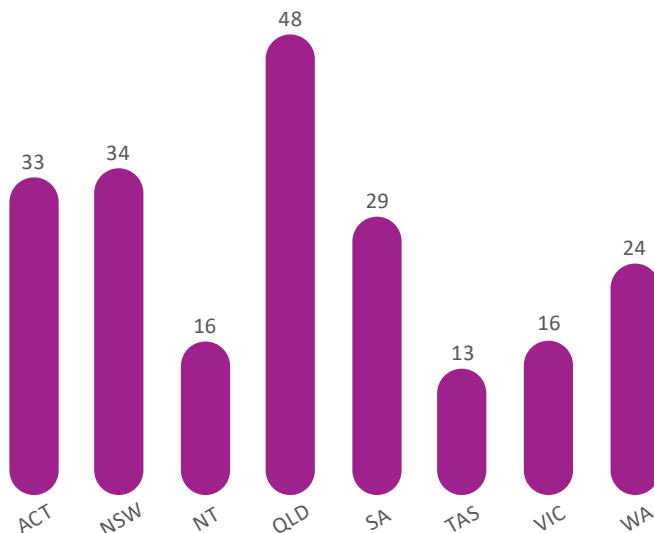
The VLP equips participants with the skills and confidence to grow as leaders. The VLP experience is immersive and collaborative, bringing together volunteers from different organisations and agencies to build knowledge and share experiences with each other.

The VLP is facilitated by the Australian Red Cross on behalf of AIDR. Across the 235 volunteers who participated in the 11 event program, over 98% reported an increase in local leadership, 99% reported an overall improvement of their knowledge, and 99% indicated they would recommend the program to others.

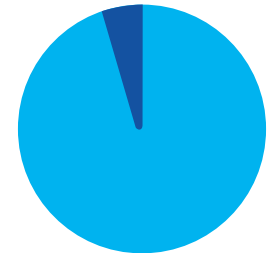
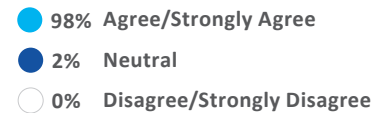
Attendance by gender



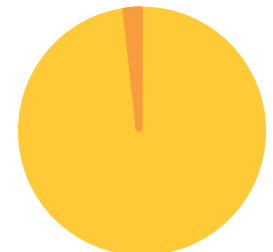
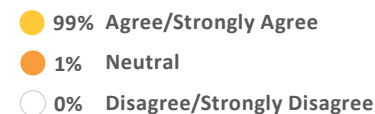
Participation by jurisdiction – number of people



Increased local leadership



Improved knowledge



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 were published in 2022-23 and are freely accessible on the Knowledge Hub.

In February 2023, AIDR invited researchers to complete a short survey about their views on AJEM and publishing research papers. A total of 66 researchers responded. Information from this survey will inform a refreshed engagement strategy for the journal. Findings include:

Reasons that researchers would publish in AJEM:

1. local relevance
2. reaches an audience who can implement findings
3. practitioner audience
4. accessibility

70 per cent of respondents agreed that AJEM is suitable for publishing research from higher degree research students.

"I like the fact that AJEM is an open access journal and easily accessible by readers who would benefit the most from the research we're currently working on."

"AJEM is a quality journal that has the audience that would be most interested in my research. The fast turnaround and responsiveness from the editor for my first article made me keen to publish another in AJEM."

Online subscriptions have remained steady between 4,563 – 4,646. These contacts span emergency services, all levels of government, academia, international, emergency management, NGO/NFP and business. Open rates range between 36.9 per cent and 45.2 per cent, with the October 2022 edition most popular.

Top AJEM downloads:

1. AJEM April 2023, full issue – 40
2. AJEM Contributor Guidelines – 32
3. A 'conceptual models' approach to organisational resilience, Dr Carl A Gibson and Michael Tarrant – 16
4. AIMS doctrine: Have we got the fundamentals right?, Geoff Conway – 14
5. Understanding community-led disaster preparedness, Margot Rawsthorne, Amanda Howard, Pam Joseph, Dara Sampson and Meaghan Katrak Harris – 13

Top AJEM pageviews:

1. New Zealand Red Cross earthquake response and recovery, New Zealand Red Cross – 6,853
2. Earthquake preparedness in South Australia: recommendations based on previous earthquakes in Australia, New Zealand and the United States of America, Olga Anikeeva, Malinda Steenkamp and Paul Arbon – 5,765
3. Public information management in Christchurch following the Feb 2011 earthquake: Lessons learned, Michele Poole – 5,723
4. Ten years after the Black Saturday fires, what have we learnt from post-fire research?, Dr Joshua Whittaker – 5,298
5. Post Black Saturday: Development of a bushfire safety system, Lisa Sturzenegger and Terry Hayes – 4,594

Major Incidents Report 2021-22

AIDR published the *Major Incidents Report 2021-22* in September 2022

The sixth edition of the report provides an overview of 34 major incidents regarded as nationally significant by the emergency management sector over the financial year. The report provides detailed overviews for nine of those events, selected based on uniqueness, duration, impacts, resourcing demands, tiers of government involved, specialist equipment required and learnings. There is 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 snapshot of the climate drivers that influenced the weather pattern across Australia and an overview of national resource sharing arrangements.

In the 2022-23 financial year following publication of the report, the report was downloaded 1,074 times from the AIDR knowledge hub. 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 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.

This year the Australian Disaster Mapper, a very popular resource, was updated with a number of new entries such as the [February 2022 bushfires in WA](#) and the [September 2021 earthquake in Victoria](#). Following a significant project to review and validate records, a downloadable dataset of all the information behind the disaster mapper – including information such as event title and descriptor, location, date, fatalities, injuries and insurance cost – has been made available on the Knowledge Hub. This important resource provides more than 700 records of past disaster events dating back to the 1800s and is of great use for people researching Australia's disaster history for a number of purposes. It will be updated annually.

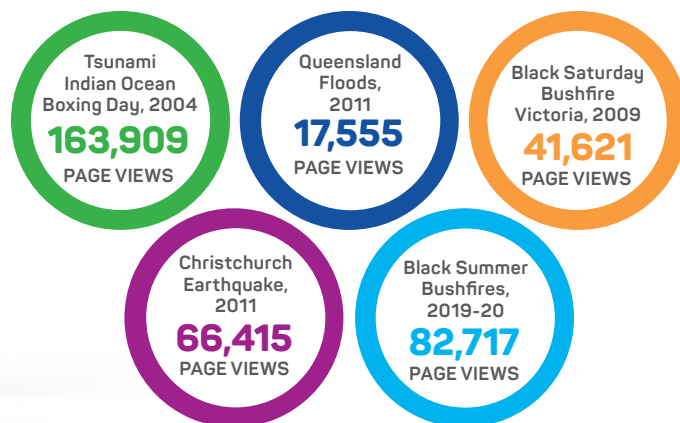


The Knowledge Hub continues to support an integrated knowledge sharing and capability development agenda, providing a home for resources, proceedings and new knowledge associated with professional development opportunities. Significant examples this year include the body of knowledge supporting the Leave Nobody Behind webinar series on disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction, and a harvest report sharing insights generated at the National Recovery Forum.

A new collection on Monitoring and Evaluation for Disaster Recovery was also published, bringing together additional guidance and support to complement the National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs and the National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database. The collection will be an ongoing resource to support and develop good practice in this important area.

Between July 2022 and June 2023, the Knowledge Hub was accessed over 1.75 million times by more than 530,000 people.

The disaster mapper was the single most accessed resource on the Knowledge Hub with 237,330 pageviews. The top 5 disaster events accessed on the Disaster Mapper during 2022-23 were:



Glossary, Database and Library

Annual Report 2022-23: 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 2022 to June 2023 the Glossary was viewed 13,774 times by those seeking consistent, authoritative definitions for words and terms. This remains consistent with the previous years although indicates some growth.

Over the 2022-23 financial year, the top five searched terms were:

- 1. Resilience**
- 2. Disaster**
- 3. Emergency**
- 4. Prescribed Burning**
- 5. Community**

National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database

The National Monitoring and Evaluation Database is a tool to help design and evaluate disaster recovery programs drawing on the evidence base for successful recovery. In 2022-23, AIDR was pleased to receive a submission of 16 evaluation reports from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) for programs conducted following the Central Queensland Bushfires (2018), Queensland Bushfires (2019) and the North and Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough (2019). These have been uploaded to the Database.

AIDR has developed this database into a Monitoring and Evaluation for Disaster Recovery collection on the AIDR Knowledge Hub, further acting on recommendations from an independent review of the database (First Person Consulting, June 2020). The collection enhances communications and provides additional guidance to support uptake and use of the database as a national tool.

In 2022-2023, the database and collection collectively received 4,641 pageviews. Documents were downloaded over 580 times, with the Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for Disaster Recovery Programs making up 464 of these downloads.

Australian Emergency Management Library

The Australian Emergency Management (AEM) Library introduced Koha, a new borrowing system in late 2021. A web-based, scalable library management software, Koha enables library patrons to efficiently browse the catalogue and borrow items. There are 166 registered users thus far.

AEM Library patronage continues to grow slowly, and now includes members from every Australian jurisdiction, and some international members, for example, New Zealand and India. Users accessed the EBSCO and AEM Library resources 23,921 times via the Knowledge Hub during the 2022-23 financial year.

An issue was identified during this reporting period, that has been limiting online access for some AIDR stakeholders. AIDR has been working with Koha and EBSCO to determine whether it is possible for EBSCO to be accessed via the AEML online platform allowing anyone with a login to access and use the system. A solution is being developed that is expected to be implemented in 2023-24, enabling AIDR stakeholders to access a significantly broader set of reference materials online.



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 capturing images of 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.

In 2022 a total of 132 submissions were received; judged across seven jurisdictional award categories, jurisdictional finalists were then reviewed across six national award categories.

Jurisdictional award categories are business, community, government, local government, mental health and wellbeing, schools, and a people's choice photography award.

A national judging panel decided the National Local Government Award, National School Award, the National Mental Health and Wellbeing Award, the (sponsored) Suncorp Resilient Australia National Community Award and the National Award (winners of the jurisdictional business and government award categories were combined along with national based projects for consideration of the National Award). The National Photography Award was judged by a public vote, with the final decision made by the Australian Journal of Emergency Management (AJEM) Editorial Committee.

The 2022 Resilient Australia Awards National Ceremony was held at AURA Hobart, on Tuesday 6 December 2022. The ceremony was hosted by AIDR Executive Director, Dr Margaret Moreton, and awards were presented by Mr Brendan Moon AM, Coordinator

General, National Emergency Management Agency, on behalf of the Australian Government.

Sponsored by Suncorp Group (Suncorp), the ceremony was attended by 170 people, with 71 attending in person, and 98 joining via live stream.

The 2022 Resilient Australia Award winners and finalists featured in the January 2023 edition of the Australian Journal for Emergency Management; in print and online via the Knowledge Hub with the winning photograph featuring on the cover.



2022 Resilient Australia Photography Award submission 'Ember Rain' by Nikki Woods.



Australian Government
National
Management

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA
AWARDS

Resilient Australia
Awards 2022

winners: National Association of Local

Safer Together
(Victorian Government
program of work)

Presented by
Hon. Catherine Broad, Minister for Emergency Management, in Her Majesty's Speech
at the Resilient Australia Awards Ceremony

[Signature]

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Resilient Australia Awards National Ceremony in Hobart



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Australian Government

National Emergency Management Agency