



Emergency Management

July 2023

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S DISASTER RESILIENCE NEWSLETTER

Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction

The GAR 2023 report urgently calls for action to enhance resilience and achieve sustainable development. It highlights that increasing disasters due to global heating threaten economic and developmental gains. Hazards like droughts and sea-level rise have global repercussions on food security, employment, and education. Rising temperatures could lead to the loss of 80 million jobs and drive people into poverty. Climate impacts have caused water scarcity for 920 million children in 2020, resulting in mass displacements, especially in low-literacy countries.

Early investments in resilience can save lives and resources compared to post-disaster repairs. Strengthening early warning systems can significantly reduce damage in vulnerable areas. Urgent action is necessary to prevent escalating costs and address the challenges of climate change. Check out the whole report [here](#).



Source: Adapted from (IPBES, 2021)

Pathways to making sustainable development choices

Community Experience On Flood 2022



In collaboration with several universities and emergency services, a study conducted by Natural Hazards Research Australia investigated the community experiences during the 2022 floods in New South Wales (NSW) and Queensland (QLD). The study involved interviews and surveys with residents affected by the floods. One major finding was the crucial role of community connectedness in the recovery process, as communities provided support and assistance during and after the floods.

However, people felt isolated as initial support diminished, and those displaced faced challenges in returning home, especially with school disruptions for children. The research highlighted the importance of preparedness and prompt decision-making during floods. The study emphasised the need for continuous support in the long recovery process and underscored the significance of community support and preparedness in reducing future flood risk. Check out the [link](#) for further information.



ZONE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

'BUILDING PARTNERSHIP - 20TH JULY 2023

The Zone Emergency Management Symposium 2023, hosted by SASES, focused on the theme "Building Partnerships" and saw over 120 Emergency Management practitioners attending from various government and non-government sectors. The event began with a "Welcome to Country" by Uncle Frank Wangutya Wanganeen, followed by the opening remarks from Chris Beattie, Chief Officer of SASES.

Keynote speaker Dr. Mark Crossweller highlighted the significance of trust and transparency in building partnerships and vulnerability. Expert insights included discussions on emergency animal response communications, arbovirus management, earthquake hazard, and complexities in public information during emergencies.

Sessions on partnerships within Zones and the value of building such partnerships during peaceful times featured speakers sharing their experiences in dealing with emergencies such as the River Murray Flood event. Cyber threat management in emergency situations and the National Indigenous Disaster Resilience Project were also addressed.

The symposium emphasised the importance of psychological factors in community preparedness. Throughout the event, a collaborative atmosphere encouraged learning, knowledge-sharing, and strengthening partnerships for a safer and more resilient future. Gratitude was expressed to all participants, speakers, and organisers for making the symposium a resounding success, with anticipation for future insightful events.



The Effect of Cold Front On Bushfires



Australian researchers from UNSW Canberra and the Australian National University conducted groundbreaking research on the 2019-20 Black Summer bushfires, finding that cold fronts played a significant role in worsening fire conditions. These cold fronts drew hot and dry northwesterly winds from Central Australia, leading to fuel drying and hazardous fire weather. They also triggered pyrocumulonimbus events or fire thunderstorms, with an unprecedented 44 such events witnessed during the season. The study highlighted the unprecedented size and intensity of the Black Summer bushfires, covering nearly 7.2 million hectares in southeast Australia. It underscored the potential for more frequent extreme bushfire seasons in the future due to human-caused climate change. Urgent action to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions is crucial to mitigate the escalating risk of destructive and deadly bushfires. Check out the [link](#) for further information.



NEWS, EVENTS AND RESOURCES

24th National Street Tree Symposium (TreeNet)- SEVRON



The session explores the role that trees, and green space can play in addressing some of the challenges associated with climate change and at the same time deliver improved population health, wellbeing and equity outcomes. The webinar along with the other episodes of the In Conversation series can be found on the [YouTube channel](#) and [Website](#).

Communities that are losing tree cover will appreciate their councils attending the 24th National Street Tree Symposium to see how roads, footpaths and other built assets can coexist with trees. Check out the [link](#).

Thursday 7th & Friday, 8th September 2023, with additional tour on Saturday the 9th September

AIDR Handbook Review Survey

AIDR is currently undertaking a strategic review of the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection through the survey. We encourage you to participate in this important process by completing the survey that AIDR are using to kick-start the review. You can find further information and a link to the survey [here](#).

There is also a national consultation on disaster risk and climate change. We encourage you to participate in the 2023 national youth survey on disaster risk and climate change! Your responses will contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the perspectives of Australian children and young people and guide future initiatives. You can access the survey [here](#).

The IFSC Wildland Fires Webinar Series



The International Fire Safety Consortium (IFSC) combines the expertise of fire scientists, fire safety engineers, fire ecologists, atmospheric scientists, risk engineers, and sociologists to produce a series of educational webinars focused on understanding and responding to the challenges presented by fires that occur in the Wildland-Urban Interface. Check out the [link](#).

AIDR's Handbooks



The **Incident Management Handbook** presents nationally agreed principles for good practice in incident management. It draws on and complements current good practices and guides entities in establishing an effective incident management capability. Check out the [link](#).

The **Systemic Disaster Risk Handbook** has gained international recognition, being selected as one of three Australian examples of good practice in the UNDRR's Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. The handbook is featured as a good practice example in Priority 2: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk. Congratulations to our partners at AIDR and all those involved in progressing action in this space. Check out the [link](#).



Disaster Resilience in Indigenous Communities

Check out [this project](#) proposed by the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience. This project will support the resilience of Indigenous communities. The outcomes of this project will better support Indigenous communities to strengthen their resilience while creating lasting change in the structures, institutions and processes of emergency management and disaster resilience.

Lived experiences of First Nations Emergency and Land Management and Resilience Personnel

Another excellent [project](#) has been proposed by AFAC. This project will improve our understanding of the causes of cultural conflict and load for First Nations staff and volunteers within emergency management and disaster resilience organisations.

2023 WIN DRR Leadership Awards Nomination

The [2023 WIN DRR Leadership Awards nominations](#) are now available, and for the first time, individuals in Australia are eligible to participate. We urge you to contemplate submitting nominations for these awards, specifically recognising women's leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR). Check out the [link](#).



30 Days-30 Ways Campaign



The “30 Days 30 Ways AUS” campaign encourages individuals to become more prepared for emergencies and disasters by providing a daily preparedness message and/or action item for 30 days. This campaign will be run during September, which is traditionally known as Preparedness Month. Over 30 days in September, hazard-themed preparedness activities and resources will be shared by a wide range of partners across the 30 Days 30 Ways AUS social media channels, with the content being integrated and expanded from existing public awareness campaigns. Join this event by sharing our messages to your networks. Visit the campaign website at www.30Days30WaysAUS.org.au and like/follow @30Days30WaysAUS and #30Days30WaysAUS across Facebook, Instagram, Threads and Twitter.

Thought Leadership Course



[Join](#) the thought leadership [module](#) developed with UNDRR to uncover the fundamentals of harnessing Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation synergies. Don't miss this chance – it's a free and self-paced online course with interactive scenarios and case studies! [page 4](#)



The Upcoming Summer of Australia

Check out this great [article](#) on what the El Nino pattern brings to Australia's summer. A climate expert explains the Northern Hemisphere's weird, wild summer - and what it means for Australia.



THUNDERSTORM

FLOOD

Disasters Are Us. And Predictable Like Us

There is another excellent [article](#) on how humans cause disasters. The author encourages us to rethink the notion of "disaster events" and focus more on disaster prevention efforts.



Expand Together Grants



The Multicultural Affairs, under the oversight of the Premier and Cabinet Department (DPC), manages the Expand Together Grants. These grants offer funding opportunities to qualified multicultural organizations, enabling them to enhance their capabilities by either renovating community facilities or acquiring equipment that caters to the requirements of culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Applications for round 2 are now open and close on 30 August 2023 at 11 pm.

For further information, click this [link](#).

May 2023

Kerbside Waste Services Manual



The LGA, in partnership with Green Industries SA and EPA SA, has released the SA Better Practice **Guide**. Sustainable Kerbside Services. This resource has been developed to support information sharing across the local government sector on recent changes councils have made to kerbside services that have resulted in environmental benefits and, over time will result in positive financial returns. Check out the [link](#).

Other Useful Links

[Resilient Water Future Program](#)

EM-NEWS Contribution

The EM-NEWS are published Quarterly and are distributed to more than 200 ZEMC members across SA. For contributions, queries, or to let us know what you want to see in the EM-NEWS, please email us at ses.emergencymanagement@eso.sa.gov.au

