



DISASTER
RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA



Government
of South Australia



RESCUE

Emergency Management

August 2022

SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S DISASTER RESILIENCE NEWSLETTER

FLOOD RISK ALREADY AFFECTS 1.81 BILLION PEOPLE. CLIMATE CHANGE AND UNPLANNED URBANIZATION COULD WORSEN EXPOSURE



Flooding is among the leading climatic threats to people's livelihoods, affecting development prospects worldwide - and floods can also reverse years of progress in poverty reduction and development. While the threat is already substantial, climate change and rapid urbanization in flood zones are likely to further drive up flood risks. The latest [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report](https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/) affirms the urgency of addressing the intensifying impacts of climate change and ensuring the adaptation and resilience of the most vulnerable. <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg2/>

Recently updated state-of-the-art flood data, the analysis published in Nature Communications estimates that 1.81 billion people face significant Flood risks are a near-universal threat, affecting people in all 188 countries covered in this study. When flood exposure and poverty coincide, the risk to livelihoods is most severe. With next to no savings and limited access to support systems, the poorest households often experience the most devastating long-term consequences of floods. <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-022-30727-4>

The study systematically assesses where high flood risks and poverty coincide. It finds that flooding is likely to cause the most detrimental impacts on livelihoods and well-being where high poverty persists. And within individual countries, risks are often concentrated in certain regions, including low-lying river basins or coastlines.

Despite facing substantial vulnerabilities, monetary measures of flood risk typically overlook poorer regions and countries. When prioritizing flood protection investments, focusing on the monetary exposure of assets and economic activity skews attention towards high-income countries and economic hubs. This can mean that areas with high socioeconomic vulnerability are neglected, where flood risk mitigation measures are most urgently needed to protect lives and livelihoods. The results show that flood hazards and poverty coincide in regions where socio-economic vulnerabilities and political instability are already high.

Systematic risk mitigation measures are crucial to prevent the loss of lives and livelihoods and reversal of development progress. Climate change and risky urbanization patterns are expected to further aggravate flood risk. With safe areas already occupied, new settlements and developments are increasingly spilling into high-risk areas. As spatial planning and infrastructure investments struggle to keep up with the pace of urbanization, risks build up and are locked in.

The study shows that low-income countries are disproportionately exposed to flood risks, and more vulnerable to disastrous long-term impacts. By highlighting the scale of the needs and priority regions for flood risk mitigation measures, the findings should facilitate prioritization and comprehensive action to safeguard livelihoods and prevent prolonged adverse impacts on development.



The Sendai Framework - is the global roadmap for reducing human and economic loss as a direct result of disasters - United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



NATIONAL RECOVERY AND RESILIENCE AGENCY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA ARE JOINING TOGETHER



Australia's preparedness, response and recovery from natural disasters will be strengthened following the establishment of the new **National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)** on 1 September.

In the face of devastating fires and floods, the Australian Government combined the efforts of the National Recovery and Resilience Agency and Emergency Management Australia, to create a single, enduring, end-to-end agency to better respond to emergencies, help communities recover, and prepare Australia for future disasters. Previously Australia's disaster response and recovery agencies were kept separate, but the new, single agency will provide end-to-end support.

In a changing climate and a vast nation facing more frequent and intense floods, storms, bushfires and drought, we ensure a better response in times of disaster, while driving long-term preparedness and lasting recovery. We deliver real impact and leadership, working with local communities, and in collaboration with state and local governments, so all Australians are better prepared for, and supported during, disasters and emergencies.

NEMA will also drive long-term resilience and preparedness, which is increasingly important in the face of longer and more intense natural disasters due to climate change. <https://nema.gov.au/stories/nema-established>

WET OUTLOOK CONTINUES - INCREASED CHANCE OF LA NIÑA DEVELOPING THIS SPRING



The Bureau of Meteorology ('the Bureau') has moved from 'La Niña WATCH' to 'La Niña ALERT' with the likelihood of La Niña returning this spring increasing to around 3 times the normal risk.

The Bureau's 3-month climate outlook shows a high chance of above average rainfall for most of the eastern two-thirds of the Australian mainland between September and November 2022. The outlook reflects a range of climate drivers including a negative Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) event and warmer than average waters around Australia.

With wet soils, high rivers and full dams, and the outlook for above average rainfall, elevated flood risk remains for eastern Australia. The Bureau is advising of very high chances of wet conditions over eastern Australia for the next three months. Should a La Niña event be established in the Pacific Ocean, the wet conditions will persist into summer.

This rainfall outlook is of great importance to communities in eastern Australia given the increased risk of flood following above-average rainfall for the past few months and above-average soil moisture levels. We encourage communities to keep up to date with official forecasts and warnings on the Bureau's website and BOM Weather app and follow the advice of emergency services.

Remember to know your weather, know your risk, and keep up to date with the latest forecasts and warnings using the BOM Weather app or the Bureau's website.





DISASTER
RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA



Government
of South Australia



SHOCKING ENVIRONMENT REPORT REVEALS AUSTRALIA'S DETERIORATING HEALTH

Climate change is exacerbating pressures on every Australian ecosystem and Australia now has more foreign plant species than native, according to the highly anticipated State of the Environment Report.

Australia has produced a national state of environment report every five years since 1995. They assess every aspect of Australia's environment and heritage, covering rivers, oceans, air, ice, land and urban areas. The last report was released in 2017.



This report goes further than its predecessors, by describing how our environment is affecting the health and well-being of Australians. It is also the first to include Indigenous co-authors. There have been continued declines in the amount and condition of our natural capital - native vegetation, soil, wetlands, reefs, rivers and biodiversity. Such resources benefit Australians by providing food, clean water, cultural connections and more.

<https://indaily.com.au/news/2022/07/19/shocking-environment-report-reveals-australias-deteriorating-health/>

GETTING AUSTRALIA READY FOR THE NEXT DISASTER IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

The recent From Risk to Resilience Summit held in Sydney in partnership with the Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience brought together a range of presenters and attendees to answer this question - they all agreed it is the responsibility of everybody in every community across the country to reduce the risk of disasters - and everybody needs to be involved, have a voice and act on that responsibility now.

A key focus of the Summit was ensuring different parts of the community were heard. Specifically, decision makers who deal with climate and disaster risk need to hear from a range of voices, including First Nations, the Disability sector and youth.

One of the current programs driving preparedness and resilience action in communities is the Disaster Risk Reduction Package (DRR), a joint funding program between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory governments to reduce disaster risk in Australia. The DRR Package acknowledges and intends to take action to address the causes of disaster risk, which will strengthen resilience and enable communities to withstand, adapt to and continue to thrive in a changing environment.

The Summit is one of the ways to bringing all parts of the community and government together to create a plan of actions needed to strengthen Australia against future disasters.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION GRANTS

The Disaster Risk Reduction (Round 3) 2022-23 Grant Program Guidelines will be available on 12 September 2022. The National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework is the main guiding document for the grants program.

In addition to the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework, priority will be given to projects that demonstrate alignment or consideration of the following:

- ***The National Strategy for Disaster Resilience (2011)***
- ***Stronger Together, South Australia's Disaster Resilience Strategy (2019-24)***
- ***SA Government Climate Change Action Plan 2021-25***
- ***The funding priority areas identified in the Round 3 Grant Program Guidelines: affordable insurance, children and young people, business resilience, and community led disaster resilience.***
- ***Cross-agency and cross-sector partnerships and collaboration***

All types of organizations including community groups are eligible to apply.

For further information please contact the [SAFECOM Grants Team](mailto:GrantsAdministration@safecom.sa.gov.au) on (08) 8115 3927 or email GrantsAdministration@safecom.sa.gov.au



The Sendai Framework - is the global roadmap for reducing human and economic loss as a direct result of disasters - United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



DISASTER
RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA



Government
of South Australia



PREPARED AND READY TO RESPOND

With the growing interest in the emergency animal disease (EAD) threat to Australia, primarily due to foot and mouth disease (FMD) and lumpy skin disease (LSD).

There are a number of courses that have been created by **Animal Health Australia** and looks at EAD preparedness, response arrangements and biosecurity in general. The EAD Foundation course provides a good baseline for anyone that has an interest or has the potential to be asked to provide support to PIRSA.

The FMD Awareness course provides information about the risk, how to help prevent it, and what would happen if an FMD outbreak occurs.



The suggested Courses are:

- EAD Foundation Course
- FMD Awareness – Protecting your livelihood and community
- Public Information in a Biosecurity Response

<https://aha.canopihr.com.au/auth/login/?returnUrl=%2Fmylearning%2Fcatalogue%2Fdetails%2F9a20c482-61e0-eb11-869d-0003ff8cee3>



INSPECTION GIVES THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR INCREASED CONFIDENCE IN BIOSECURITY WALL

Leaders from Australia's livestock industries witnessed how travelers to and from countries such as Indonesia were exposed to more than 20 biosecurity touch points enhancing the biosecurity wall protecting Australia from exotic animal diseases.

The behind-the-scenes inspection of Sydney's International Airport was hosted by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Forestry's Biosecurity and Compliance Group. It featured a step-by-step review of the increased biosecurity measures in place from plane arrival through to baggage collection and exit.

The Australian Government has implemented a range of further urgent measures to reduce the risk of exotic diseases such as **foot and mouth disease (FMD)**, **lumpy skin disease (LSD)**, and **African swine fever (ASF)** from entering Australia.

As part of the Australian Government's response to the threat of animal diseases in the region, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has increased its surveillance and testing of meat and other animal products, both at the border and through targeted checking of retail outlets.

COVID IS MORE PREVALENT IN SA THAN STATS SHOW

It's likely there are more COVID-19 cases in South Australia than those being reported, wastewater data indicates, prompting the state's chief public health officer to issue a plea for more people to get tested if they have symptoms.

<https://indaily.com.au/news/2022/07/18/warning-covid-is-more-prevalent-in-sa-than-stats-show/>



The Sendai Framework – is the global roadmap for reducing human and economic loss as a direct result of disasters – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction





DISASTER
RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA



Government
of South Australia



RESCUE



NEWS/EVENTS

LGA LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

Registrations for the 2022 event are now open. This year's seminar will be held at the **Adelaide Pavilion on Friday 30 September and is themed 'Breaking Barriers'**, representing how local government aims to work collaboratively with community, agencies, and state government before, during and after emergencies. This year's program will include dynamic and engaging speakers from both within and outside the Local Government sector, empowering delegates to break down barriers faced in their day-to-day roles and collaborate to improve outcomes in emergency management.

Registrations can be made online at <https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/news-and-events/events/lg-emergency-management-seminar>

ZONE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM 'NEW EXPECTATIONS' - 13 OCTOBER 2022

This year, the Zone Symposium will be held on the 13th of October 2022 to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction. **Please note the change in venue to the Morphettville Racecourse.**

Our theme for this year's Symposium is "New Expectations" since the compounding, concurrent and cascading disasters we have and are facing highlight the fact that community, business and government expectations have to shift to combat the demands of such events.

The Zone Symposium brings together people who work in emergency management, predominately people from Zone Emergency Management Committees (ZEMC) and emergency services.

The ZEMC's focus on developing a better understanding of the priority hazards for their area, build resilience in the zones through developing strong networks that support the emergency management arrangements and assist with their organisation's planning and preparedness.



Further information on topics and speakers, along with registration details will be coming soon.



The Sendai Framework – is the global roadmap for reducing human and economic loss as a direct result of disasters – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



DISASTER
RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA



Government
of South Australia



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

WANT TO KNOW YOUR COUNCIL'S SCENARIO PLANNING CAPABILITY?

The University of Tasmania (UTAS) is conducting a *national online survey investigating the scenario planning capability of Australian organizations.*

<https://alga.com.au/want-to-know-your-councils-scenario-planning-capability/>

Researchers at UTAS's School of Social Sciences want to hear from people in local government who understand their council's scenario planning capability and have some knowledge of their crisis management arrangements.

This will help map out the current scenario planning capability across different levels of government.

Those who would like a free one-page report of their council's current scenario planning capability, which includes some suggestions on how to enhance your ability to plan for an uncertain future, can watch this 3-minute video via the link below:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9_5QeYNvyo&ab_channel=BLUCale August 2022

INDIGENOUS WEATHER KNOWLEDGE WEBSITE



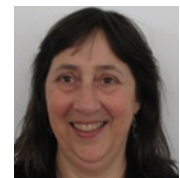
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have developed an intricate understanding of the environment over many thousands of years. The website is a formal recognition of traditional weather and climate knowledge that has been developed and passed down through countless generations by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

For the Bureau of Meteorology reconciliation means meaningful engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—whether as users of Bureau products and services, or otherwise contributing to or sharing knowledge with the Bureau.

Central to this intent is striving to understand, then harness and celebrate the unique skills and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Through the Indigenous Weather Knowledge website, the Bureau is working with communities that wish to record and share valuable seasonal and environmental information and traditional knowledge.

<https://reg.bom.gov.au/iwk/about.shtml>

WE ARE PLEASED TO INTRODUCE PENNY KAZLA TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OFFICER (EMPO) ROLE



Penny had been working with the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist within SA Health as the Incident Response Principal Planning Officer on the Bushfire Mental Health Recovery Project. In this role, Penny was also involved in work on the Mental Health impact of a range of both rapid onset and slow onset disasters. She also conducted a review of "Disasters and Mental Health" resources available for the South Australian community.

Prior to this, Penny worked in SAAS and in SA CFS in the Community Engagement team. Some of you may have come across Penny during Incident Management, as she also sits on a Level 3 State Incident Management Team as Head of Public Information. Penny will be working with Eastern Adelaide, Western Adelaide, Barossa and Murray, and Mallee Zones.



The Sendai Framework – is the global roadmap for reducing human and economic loss as a direct result of disasters – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction



DISASTER
RESILIENT
AUSTRALIA



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DROUGHT RESILIENCE ADOPTION & INNOVATION HUB



The SA Drought Hub is an exciting initiative which brings together a dynamic network of primary producers, industry groups, researchers, government agencies, universities, agribusinesses, traditional owners, and others to work towards a common vision to strengthen the drought resilience and preparedness of our farms and regional communities in South Australia.

The SA Drought Hub is one of eight established across the nation through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund. Led by the *University of Adelaide in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA)*, the SA Drought Hub comprises the Hub headquarters at Roseworthy and five regional nodes at Minnipa on Eyre Peninsula, Port Augusta in the Far North, Orroroo in the Upper North, Loxton in the Riverland, and Struan in the South-East.

The location of the nodes ensures state-wide coverage of all pastoral, low, medium and high rainfall agricultural production zones. <https://sadroughthub.com.au/>

The steps to increased drought resilience

Collaboration

With input from the relevant partners and other local community members, regional drought resilience priorities will be identified.

Regional action

Activities will be co-designed at a regional level and driven from the ground-up.

Creating change

Bespoke extension programs will be implemented to facilitate adoption of drought resilience practices and strategies in our farming systems and regional communities.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INBOX

We now have a shared mailbox, you can contact any of our team members on ses.emergencymanagement@eso.sa.gov.au

Emergency Management and Hazard Planning (EM&HP) is responsible for high-level strategic leadership of SES Emergency Management portfolio including the Zone Emergency Risk Management Program and the Hazard planning. SES is the Hazard Leader and Control Agency for Extreme Weather and the Control Agency for Floods.



The Sendai Framework – is the global roadmap for reducing human and economic loss as a direct result of disasters – United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction