



Australian Government
National Recovery and Resilience Agency

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



20
20/21
Annual Report





*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,
present and emerging.*

Contents

6

Forewords

9

About AIDR

10

Influencing Strategy – Networks

12

Influencing Strategy –
Capability

14

Influencing Strategy –
Knowledge

16

Influencing Strategy –
Thought Leadership

18

Impact and Engagement

20

Professional Development
Events

22

Australian Disaster Resilience
Conference

24

Handbooks

26

Education for Young People

28

Volunteer Leadership Program

30

Australian Journal of
Emergency Management

31

Major Incidents Report

32

Knowledge Hub

33

Glossary, Database and Library

34

Resilient Australia Awards

Nico Padovan, PSM

Chief Operating Officer and Deputy CEO,
National Recovery and Resilience Agency

The Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements (the Royal Commission) identified that the nature of natural disasters is changing. Extreme weather is becoming more frequent and natural disasters are expected to become more complex, more unpredictable, and more difficult to manage. The Royal Commission concluded that to address this, Australia needs a genuinely national approach to better manage natural disasters, with cooperation and effort required across all levels of government.

On 5 May 2021, in response to the Royal Commission, the Government established the National Recovery and Resilience Agency (the Agency) to provide national leadership and strategic coordination for disaster resilience, risk reduction and preparedness, and all-hazards disaster recovery. The Agency works directly on the ground with local communities, who often best understand the risks they face, to help them to prepare for, minimise the impact of, and recover from disasters. The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) is an important partner in achieving the Agency's mandate.

What AIDR delivers on behalf of Government – professional development, networking, knowledge management and thought leadership – is relevant to all phases of natural disasters, and underpins the work of the Agency and its key partners including Emergency Management Australia (EMA).

In addition to leveraging its extensive networks, experience and knowledge base of AIDR, the Agency is currently working in close partnership with AIDR to develop a disaster recovery exercise toolkit to support all levels of government and communities to better recover from future disasters.

AIDR is a trusted knowledge broker, and working in partnership with the Agency and EMA, maintains the disaster management Knowledge Hub and develops national doctrine on emergency management and resilience through the Handbook Collection. Through this work AIDR has ably demonstrated its ability to translate research into usable knowledge.

The Agency values its partnership with AIDR and its important role in ensuring we are as a nation better prepared for, positioned to respond to and able to recover from future disasters.



Amanda Leck

Executive Director
Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

The influences of a changing climate are driving increasingly severe and frequent disasters and emergency events, and social and environmental changes see risks continue to grow more complex and interconnected. In this landscape, it is crucial that we move beyond good intentions when addressing disaster risk reduction and resilience and ensure that our decisions and actions have true impact to enhance Australia's capacity to prepare, withstand and recover from disasters.

AIDR is in a strong position to provide leadership for those acting to reduce disaster risk and to continue our role in supporting a disaster resilient Australia. We enable a growing, inclusive, connected, and informed network of practitioners who make evidence- and values-based decisions, and we support this network through the provision of knowledge, resources and professional development. Maintaining this connection with our stakeholders is vital to our work. It ensures AIDR is alert to the needs of practitioners across Australia, and can respond with relevant, practical and evidence-driven support.

Despite the challenges of another COVID-19 impacted year, AIDR embraced the virtual environment to enable collaboration and deliver events and resources to a diverse and dispersed audience. The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference moved online in 2020, resulting in a record number of registrations. Acknowledging that virtual delivery increased both accessibility and engagement, AIDR is committed to maintaining this capability in its event program to ensure a more inclusive platform to share best practice and develop a cohesive approach to achieving resilience across Australia.

This increased engagement is reflected across the AIDR offering, as evidenced in the strong number of users, pageviews and downloads on the AIDR websites. Collections continue to be added to the Knowledge Hub, and the Handbook Collection grows as a prominent and authoritative source of disaster resilience principles. Handbooks are strengthened by the input and commitment of the Handbook Working Groups that reflect the broad scope of Australia's disaster risk reduction and resilience effort. Additional resources – including the Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary, the National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database, and the Australian Emergency Management Library – reinforce AIDR as a focus point for those seeking disaster risk reduction and resilience knowledge.



A collective effort is required to address the challenges ahead. AIDR is committed to working beside our partners and stakeholders to develop resources guided by research and evidence to support the work of practitioners throughout Australia. We thank our partners, the National Recovery and Resilience Agency, AFAC, and the Red Cross for their support in the development and delivery of knowledge products and services for a disaster resilient Australia.



The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

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.

AIDR contributes to a more disaster resilient Australia through four 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.



Influencing Strategy - Networks

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

- Disaster Resilient Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN)
- Disaster Resilient Education Strategy Group (DRESG)
- Jurisdictional Emergency Management Education Network (JEMEN)
- Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum (AEMVF)
- Recovery Community of Practice

Highlights

- 150 attendees at the 5th National DRANZSEN Forum
- 11 Recovery Community of Practice 'Possibility Labs'
- 700+ active members in DRANZSEN
- 2 AEMVF Meetings

Over the past 12 months, AIDR's networks have continued to grow, develop, and collaborate across sectors to achieve a shared goal – reducing disaster risk and increasing disaster resilience throughout Australia.

AIDR supports five active networks, delivering events and engaging in consultations with participating members across the networks. Members come from every Australian jurisdiction and are made up of representatives from all levels of government, not-for-profit groups, emergency management agencies, various charitable organisations, and the private sector.

Events run by AIDR have enabled ongoing consultation with network members, ensuring that we are responsive to member needs and priorities, as well as providing opportunities for input and participation. The 5th DRANZSEN National Forum was run online as part of the 2020 Australian Disaster Resilience Conference presents Knowledge Week and attracted 150 attendees.

AIDR's 'Possibility Labs' brought together community recovery officers, facilitators, and guest speakers across Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales, and South Australia. Sessions have involved a range of focus areas, including monitoring and evaluation in the recovery context; working with communities where there is conflict; asset-based community development; and wellbeing.

As the landscape of volunteering in Australia continues to evolve to meet new challenges, so too does the AEMVF. The forum, through the support of AIDR, provides a perspective that is representative of the volunteer emergency management sector, facilitates better communication between organisations, provides advocacy and is the national voice for the sector.

JEMEN continues to collaborate and engage across jurisdictions to share knowledge, experiences, and identify key educational areas of need for the emergency management sector.



I find it uplifting and inspiring. I put attending sessions as a priority because of how much I get out of them."

– Possibility Lab Participant



Possibility Lab

Community recovery practitioners

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



Social Recovery
Reference Group
AUSTRALIA



Influencing Strategy - Capability

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

- 4825 people connected
- 60 professional development events
- 8 volunteer leadership programs

An important way in which AIDR contributes to a more disaster resilient Australia is through enabling those with a role in disaster risk reduction and resilience to come together to learn, develop and innovate.

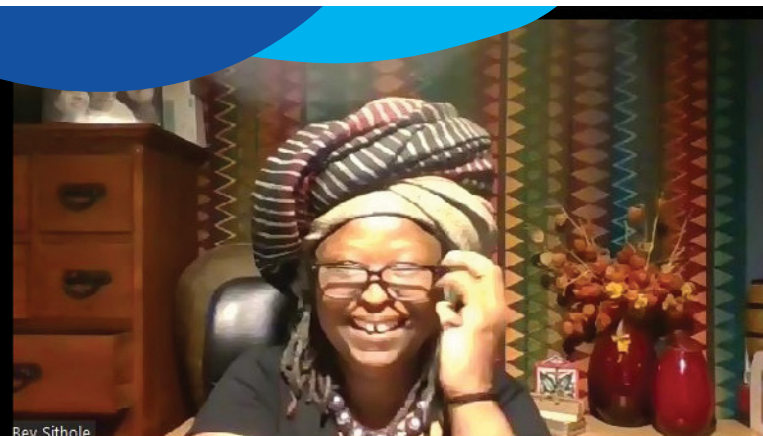
The day-to-day work of AIDR brings people together to learn and exchange ideas through initiatives such as professional development events, the Education for Young People program and Volunteer Leadership Program, supported by the knowledge creation and sharing that occurs through the Resilient Australia Awards program and developing national handbooks.

In 2020-21, AIDR established a strong online presence and, making the most of the shift to virtual engagement driven by COVID-19, was able to expand its reach to a wide range of audiences and locations around Australia. The accessibility of online offerings has enabled learning, exchange and connections in new and different ways. Recognising the value this provides, AIDR intends to deliver a mix of virtual, face-to-face and hybrid offerings going forward.

Through this influencing strategy, AIDR aims to connect current and emerging practitioners, support people to develop and apply skills and knowledge to reduce disaster risk and build resilience, provide access to contemporary research-based knowledge and practice for disaster resilience and act as a reference point for those new to the system.

AIDR has started to collect information about key take away learnings, including how and whether attendees will change their approach to their work or practice following the event they attended. Over time, this will provide us with greater insights about the ways in which people are learning, developing, and innovating.

One example is the launch of the 10 Years Beyond Bushfires report, which AIDR hosted in partnership with the University of Melbourne and the Australian Red Cross. Following this event, participants shared a number of key learnings related to a deeper understanding of the long-term impacts of disasters and long-term nature of recovery, the impacts on children's education and academic progress, long term mental health and the relationship between gender and PTSD, and the benefits of connecting with nature. Participants largely indicated that as a result of attending the webinar, they would have a greater focus on longer term recovery strategies as part of their work.



“

It's wonderful to have access to this kind of event. I don't belong to an agency or partner, but I do work with them and don't always have the opportunity to attend such events when they're face-to-face.

— Webinar attendee

"I was impressed with how engaged I felt with these online sessions."

— Masterclass attendee

"The conference program was a highly commendable list of relevant speakers and topics. I thoroughly enjoyed the sessions."

— Australian Disaster Resilience presents Knowledge Week delegate



Influencing Strategy - Knowledge

Collect, develop, curate, and share knowledge to educate and promote good practice in disaster risk reduction and resilience

- 373,945 total users accessing AIDR online materials with 2,089,284 pageviews

Highlights

- 3 handbooks published with 8 accompanying resources and 4 handbooks in development
- 60 knowledge events delivered including webinars, masterclasses, and clinics
- 4 editions of AJEM including 6 'think piece' articles
- 3 new disaster resilience collections curated and published on the Knowledge Hub

AIDR's role as the national knowledge hub for disaster risk reduction and resilience continues to grow through the development, curation and sharing of knowledge products and activities across all AIDR service areas.

373,945 people accessed materials across the three AIDR websites, with 1,752,954 pageviews on the Knowledge Hub, 310,080 pageviews on the corporate AIDR website and 26,520 page views on the Education for Young People website. The Australian Disaster Mapper was the single most accessed resource on the Knowledge Hub with 300,636 pageviews and the most downloaded documents were the *Australian Emergency Management Arrangements Handbook*, the *National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG) Handbook* and the *Community Recovery Handbook*.

AIDR published three new handbooks: *Community Engagement for Disaster Resilience*, *Emergency Planning and Flood Emergency Planning for Disaster Resilience*, five companion resources and three Knowledge-into-Action Briefs. Four handbook showcase webinar events were also held to socialise the new knowledge and guidance with participation of 1,118 individuals from 21 different sectors.

Four editions of the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management (AJEM)* were published, including six 'think piece' articles that demonstrate AIDR's responsive approach to addressing critical issues and commitment to sharing best practice and thought leadership for disaster risk reduction and resilience.

AIDR continued to work with leading subject experts to design and deliver a highly successful repertoire of professional development events. Post event surveys indicate that 94% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that their knowledge was improved.

This data demonstrates AIDR's ability to effectively curate, share knowledge and promote good practice to a broad and growing audience.



Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection

2020

Flood Emergency Planning for Disaster Resilience



Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Australian Trust
Disaster Resilience

Evidence of Impact:



You are at the leading edge and it's also encouraging that the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction views disaster risk reduction as "all about governance."

— Sally Leake, AICD

"It was a great privilege to work with a talented team and write the new Australian Emergency Planning Handbook. Now to integrate the new handbook into our Emergency Management Courses at Charles Sturt University."

— David Parsons, Principal Partner, Crisis Management Australia

"Thanks for facilitating a highly engaging and interactive drafting workshop."

— Jane Carey, Principal Policy Advisor, Queensland Reconstruction Authority



Influencing Strategy - Thought Leadership

Provide a central focus point for national thought leadership on disaster risk reduction and resilience

- 50 Presentations at conferences, forums, panels, and workshops
- 13 Media and podcasts

Highlights

- Resilient Australia Awards National Ceremony staged in Canberra to celebrate initiatives that build and foster whole of community resilience to disasters
- Asia-Pacific Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction (APP-DRR) Panel Moderator
- Senate Estimates Committee Hearing, Parliament House
- 3 new disaster resilience collections curated and published on the Knowledge Hub

AIDR's influence as a national body facilitating conversations Australia-wide on disaster risk reduction and resilience continues to increase. AIDR presented at 50 conferences, forums, panels, and workshops over the past 12 months, and has provided media commentary and participated in podcasts to provide thought leadership for a range of sectors working to reduce disaster risk and support disaster resilience.

AIDR commenced the Knowledge Networking Series over the past year to provide those working in disaster risk reduction access to leading thinkers in this area. The first thought leader in this series was Mark Crossweller, former head of the Resilience Taskforce and former Director General Emergency Management Australia, who discussed the ethical dimensions of disaster resilience.

AIDR facilitated the opening panel session for the Asia-Pacific Partnership for Disaster Risk Reduction (APP-DRR) Forum, to discuss avenues to strengthen disaster risk governance in the region highlighting experiences around managing COVID-19 and its integration into disaster management systems.

AIDR appeared before the Senate Estimates Committee to explain the organisation's role in knowledge creation and knowledge sharing to reduce disaster risk and support a disaster resilient Australia, in the context of climate change.

AIDR continues to build partnerships and collaborate with those working to reduce disaster risk across a number of sectors. Key project partners have included ABC for Big Weather and the Everyday Helpers Series, Minderoo Foundation for the Community-Led Resilience Program, UNICEF for Child Safeguarding, and the Australian Business Roundtable Resilience Valuation Initiative.

creates change
a disaster
Australia

r, AIDR



“

The Australian framework will help us to develop some ideas for our new flood risk management. You seem to be in the forefront.”

— Stephane Valois, MELCC (Ministry of Environment of Quebec), Canada

“My post of our article in HAZNET has had 1,750 views and 52 reactions from people in AUS, NZ, USA, England, and Canada.”

— David Parsons, Principal Partner at Crisis Management Australia

“We are very grateful for the recognition that our Disaster Resilience program has received through the Resilient Australia Awards, and we look forward to sharing this news with our Thuringowa SHS community and across North Qld with the other schools who have joined us in the course.”

— Educator, Thuringowa State High School

BRISBANE CONVENTION
& EXHIBITION CENTRE



Impact and engagement

Knowledge Hub

373,945

Users

2,089,284

Pageviews

18,152

Handbooks downloaded

Conference

94% Improved their knowledge

90% Rated the conference very good or excellent

98% Would recommend the conference to others

Volunteer Leadership Programs

225 Participants

94% Improved their knowledge of leadership

Thought Leadership

50 Presentations

13 Media interviews

60 Professional development events

engaging

4,825

participants

Engagement

17,730 People engaged

2,428 New email contacts

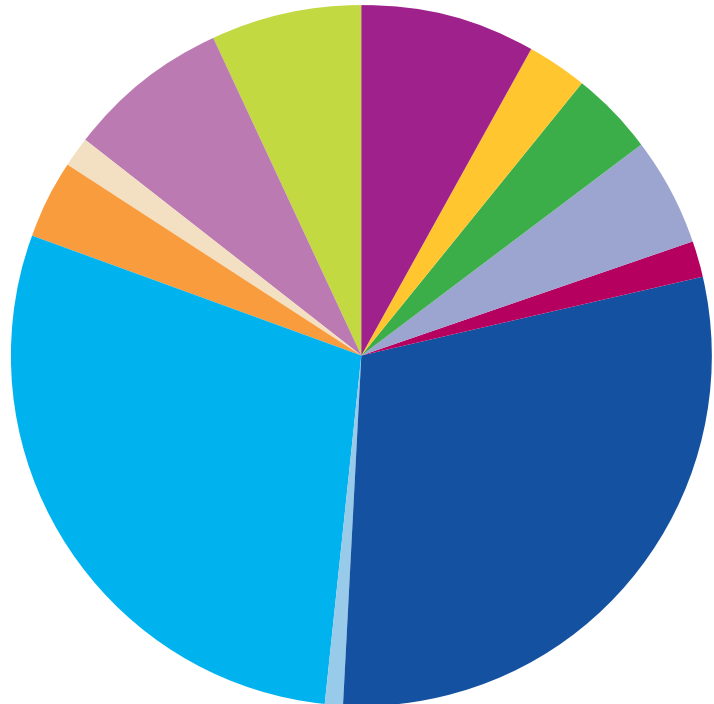
1,728 New social media followers

700 DRANZSEN members

147 Handbook working group members

Sector breakdown of event participants

- Academia
- Business
- Community
- Consultant
- Education
- Emergency Service/Mgmt
- Environment
- Government
- Health
- Infrastructure
- NGO/NFP
- Other





Professional Development Events

- 60 Professional development events held
- 4825 People connected through events

In 2020-21, AIDR delivered a diverse range of 60 professional development events with close to 5,000 people participating from all states and territories, as well as internationally. The majority of events were held online due to COVID-19. Online delivery proved to be very effective and popular and will be retained as an ongoing element of the AIDR events program, enabling people to come together both online and in-person to learn, develop and innovate.

The top sectors represented at AIDR professional development events were emergency services (15%), emergency management (14%), local government (14%), state government (12%), academia (8%) and not-for-profit/NGO (6%).

Professional development events have included the Recovery Matters webinar series; Knowledge Networking Series; Australian Disaster Resilience Index workshops; Facilitating Successful Debriefs clinics; Meteorology for Disaster Managers masterclasses; Decision Making Under Pressure clinics; lessons management webinars; and masterclasses held under contract with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services on High Consequence Decision Making and Coordinating Teams Operating in Disaster.

Post-event surveys demonstrate these programs are strongly valued, with an average of 94% of participants indicating that they agree or strongly agree that the events they attended increased their knowledge and an average of 92% of participants indicating that they would rate the event they attended a 4 or 5 out of 5. 96% of participants would also recommend the event they attended to others.

AIDR has also partnered with the Social Recovery Reference Group to manage the Possibility Lab Recovery Community of Practice. This successful initiative has seen community recovery officers from Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia attending monthly sessions on a range of recovery topics.

AIDR facilitates learning post events by hosting its webinars on YouTube and providing these resources to all event registrants and the wider AIDR audience through its monthly newsletter and social media channels.



The Decision Making Under Pressure Online Masterclass:

"Just wanted to drop you a quick note to say thank you very much for the training over the last two days. I thought the course content and delivery was superb. It has been really refreshing to be a leadership student again and approach the subject from new perspectives through both the AIDR and RRANZ training. I hope to attend the other AIDR courses in the near future."

Family Violence in Recovery Webinar:

"I thought this was very valuable. I passed on the ad for this to disaster recovery chaplaincy networks nationally and believe a lot of them engaged today. While this is something we add to every basic training course, the nuances and case studies brought by Debra and Steve gave clearer contextual understanding. It was extremely helpful to have respectful input from both a woman and a man."

10 years Beyond Bushfires Report Launch Webinar:

"A very informative and valuable session. I liked how you broke it up with the speakers. It felt like short snippets of knowledge that kept me engaged. Thank you."

"All speakers were very engaging and informative. It's great to hear from different investigators about specific sections of the research that they are pursuing."



Australian Disaster Resilience Conference

In 2020, with COVID-19 restrictions prohibiting travel and in-person gatherings, the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference (ADRC) was transformed into a virtual event.

From 24-27 August, AIDR hosted *Australian Disaster Resilience Conference presents Knowledge Week* using Zoom as a platform. The theme of the conference was 'Disaster risk reduction in action: pathways to impact'. Over the course of four days, a record number of delegates attended conference presentation sessions, the launch of the *Community Engagement* handbook, the National DRANZSEN Forum and a virtual networking event.

Feedback quotes:

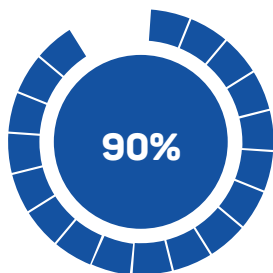


"The speakers were all fantastic and the networking event was fun."

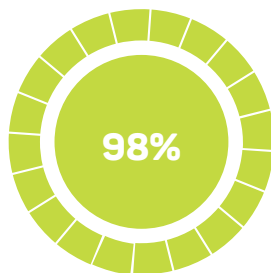
"Keep playing to your strengths. I gained a lot from this conference. Valuable content and links, new and valuable contacts and even made notes about good online techniques to use myself in the future. Thank you :)"

"Events were great. Particularly liked the tech to break out and have smaller conversations during the afternoon tea session. Excellent work on that and simulated the conference experience better than anything else I've experienced since COVID affected so many conferences. Well done!"

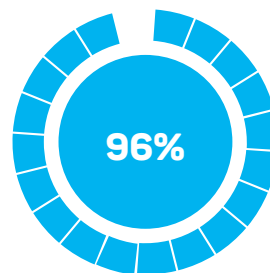
The conference evaluation survey returned very positive results:



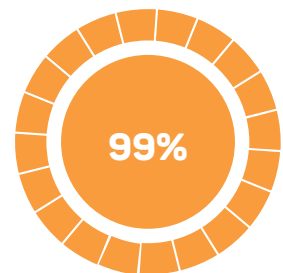
Rated the conference excellent or very good (33% excellent; 57% very good)



Said they would recommend the conference to others



Rated the overall organisation of ADRC as excellent or very good (39% excellent; 57% very good)



Said ADRC met or exceeded their expectations (41% exceeded; 58% met)

Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience



Australian Disaster Resilience
Conference presents



Knowledge Week

aidr.org.au/adrc

#ADRC20



Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection

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

In 2020-21 AIDR produced three new handbooks and a series of companion tools to support implementation of the handbooks at a local scale. Each handbook was developed through a rigorous process of national consultation with key stakeholders and subject experts from 10 sectors across Australia.

New handbook titles:

- » *Community Engagement for Disaster Resilience*
- » *Emergency Planning*
- » *Flood Emergency Planning for Disaster Resilience*

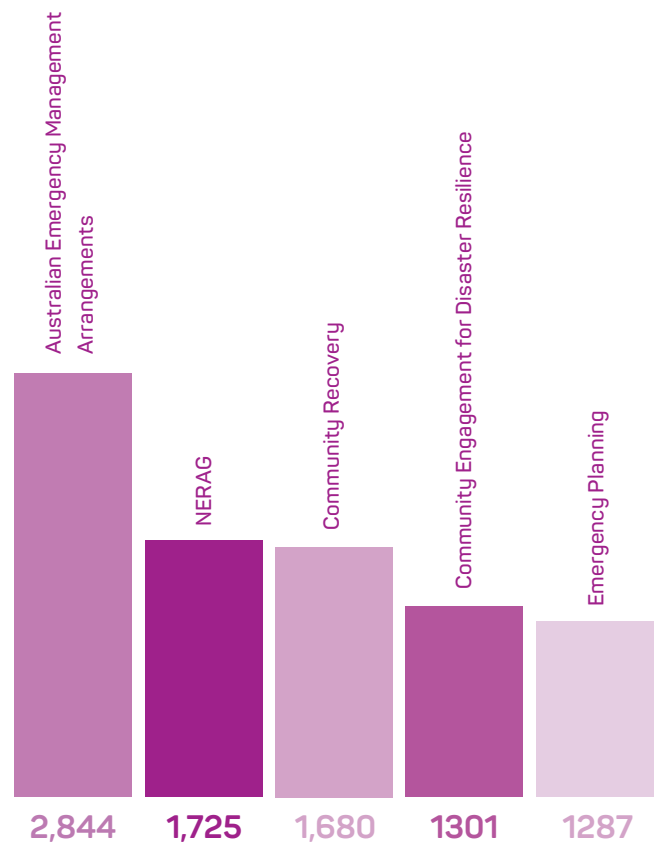
New companion tools include an emergency planning collection, emergency planning checklist and practitioners' guidance for community engagement. New Knowledge-into-Action Briefs were also published to capture the key messages in the Emergency Planning handbook.

In 2020 AIDR established the Handbook Showcase webinar series to showcase the new knowledge and guidance. AIDR hosted four Handbook Showcase events, engaging 1,118 individuals from 21 different sectors.

AIDR also progressed the scoping and development of three new handbooks: *Systemic Disaster Risk*, *Disaster Resilience Education for Young People* and *Incident Management*. The *Public Information and Warnings Handbook* is also under review. These handbooks will be published later in 2021.

Key data and impact statements:

Top 5 Handbook downloads on the AIDR Knowledge Hub:





Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection
2020
National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines

Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection
2020
Community Engagement for Disaster Resilience

Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection
2020
Emergency Planning

Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection
2020
Flood Emergency Planning for Disaster Resilience

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience

Australian Government
Department of Home Affairs

Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience



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.

The Disaster Resilience Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN) has grown to over 700 members and the 5th National Forum attracted 150 attendees. The Disaster Resilience Education Strategy Group (DRESG) continues to provide strategic direction to the Education for Young People program.

AIDR, in partnership with World Vision, led the *Our World Our Say* survey of 1,447 young Australians on climate change and disaster risk. Findings showed 88% of young Australians want to learn more about natural hazards and how to reduce them. The Hon. David Littleproud MP, then Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, took part in an evening webinar with a youth panel to discuss the results.

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.

As part of the ACARA Australian Curriculum Review, AIDR provided a submission advocating for the inclusion of disaster resilience education across Foundation to Year 10. The new curriculum will be released at the start of 2022.

The Education for Young People program continues to forge new partnerships with key stakeholders in education. AIDR supported the ABC's Big Weather and Everyday Helpers series and commenced codesign of a suite of disaster resilience education teaching resources with leading not-for-profit educational resource company, Cool Australia.

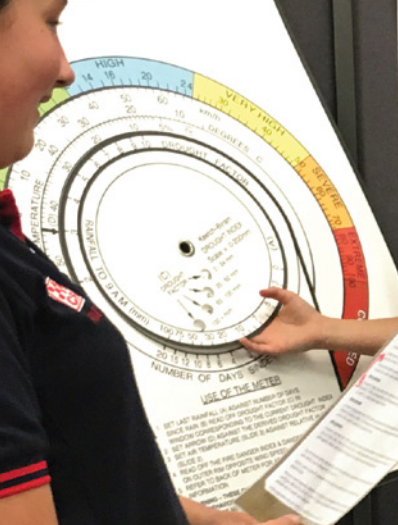


I've found the Education resources helpful, they are easy to use and I really like the simple lay out. They require students to think before, during and after and I like how they get students to go and search for more information."

— Liz Addison (DFES WA) on ABC Big Weather Education Resources



DANGER METER MMS





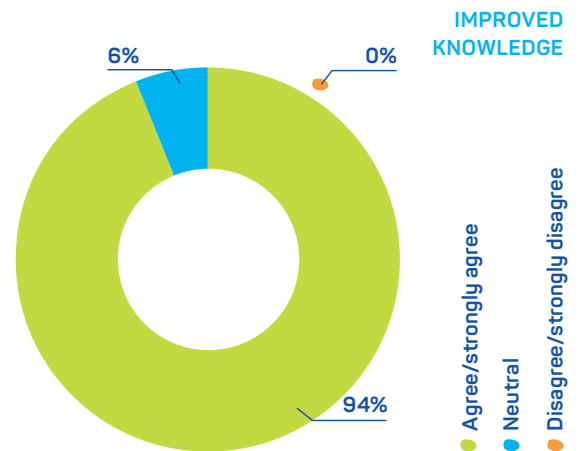
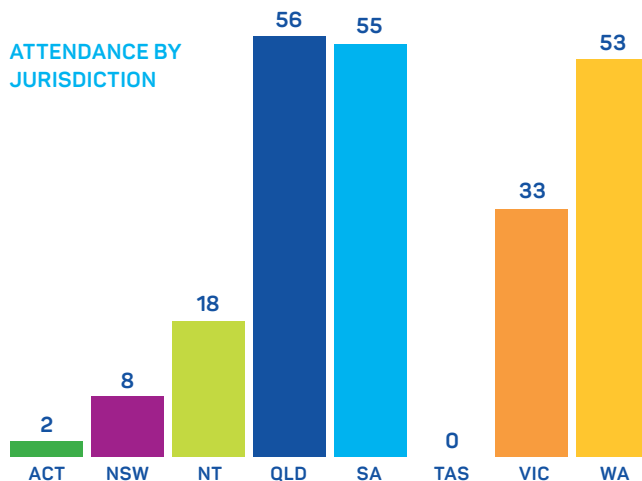
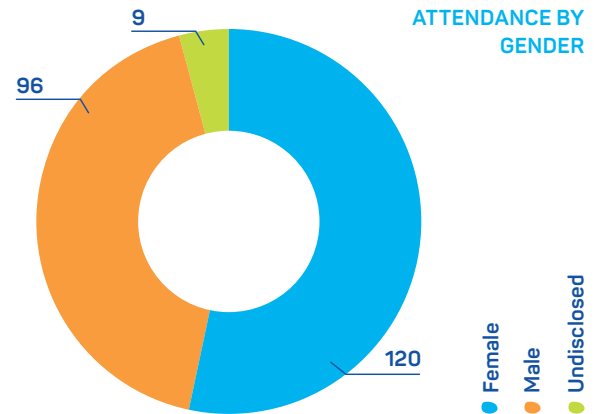
Volunteer Leadership Program

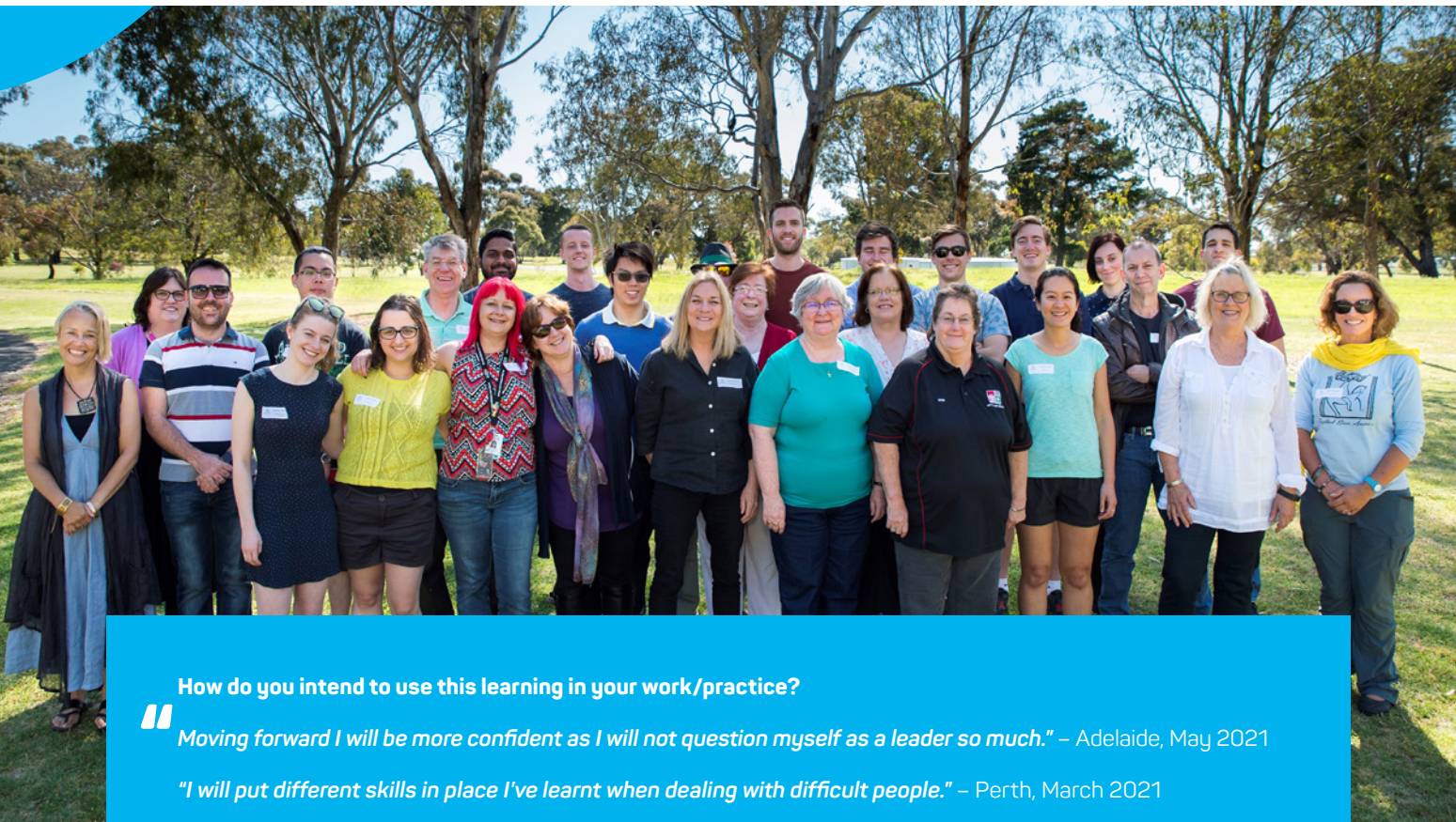
AIDR's Volunteer Leadership Program (VLP) supports the local leadership capability of disaster resilience and emergency management volunteers.

The VLP provided opportunities for volunteers from communities across Australia to network, learn and build their capability as leaders in disaster resilience. The VLP also assists volunteers to build, support and grow their networks in local communities to strengthen disaster resilience at the local level.

Throughout the reporting year, AIDR delivered eight VLPs, with seven of those hosted in-person, where local COVID-19 restrictions allowed. Programs were held in Adelaide, Darwin, Perth and the Sunshine Coast. To accommodate those unable to attend the in-person events due to restrictions, AIDR also hosted a webinar focussed on 'Leading Volunteers'.

The VLP is facilitated by the Australian Red Cross on behalf of AIDR. Across the 225 volunteers who participated in the VLP, 94% reported that the program improved their knowledge in leadership, with 97% of volunteers reporting they would recommend the program to other volunteers.





How do you intend to use this learning in your work/practice?



"Moving forward I will be more confident as I will not question myself as a leader so much." – Adelaide, May 2021

"I will put different skills in place I've learnt when dealing with difficult people." – Perth, March 2021

"Pay it forward and try to pass my learning on to others." – Perth, March 2021

"By taking this knowledge with me and using it during leadership roles in both my volunteer role and working life."
– Adelaide, February 2021

Overall comments:

"The two trainers were just perfect. They have a style that makes the learnings memorable and lasting."
– Adelaide, May 2021

"The course material exceeded my expectations." – Sunshine Coast, December 2020

"Well presented and informative course which would up-skill any volunteer whether leaders or not."
– Darwin, November 2020

"Presenters were up to speed with all the latest leadership info. They presented core content in a "Real world fashion" which engaged relevant and spirited discussion that engaged participants. An extremely engaging weekend." – Sunshine Coast, November 2020

"Thoroughly enjoyed and it was great to see comments from around the country." – Webinar, July 2020



Australian Journal of Emergency Management

The *Australian Journal of Emergency Management* (AJEM) is Australia's premier journal for emergency management. It is 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 issues of AJEM were published and are freely accessible as open source on the Knowledge Hub. The January 2021 issue was a themed edition focused on warnings, information forecasting systems and was the largest edition published to date.

As part of AIDR's approach to addressing critical issues and commitment to thought leadership for disaster risk reduction and resilience, AJEM has expanded its content to include 'think pieces' published as reports, in addition to news and research.

Online subscriptions have remained steady ranging between 4877–4905 while open rates ranged between 30-35%, with the January edition most popular.

The AJEM collection on the Knowledge Hub is accessed by readers of AJEM to download the latest edition, while some articles published in previous years continue to be accessed as they are relevant to current issues or studies.



Top AJEM downloads:

1. AJEM January 2021
2. AJEM October 2020
3. AJEM July 2020
4. 'Conceptual models for organisational resilience' (April 2010)
5. 'The hidden disaster: domestic violence in the aftermath of natural disaster' (April 2013)

Top AJEM pageviews:

1. AJEM collection
2. 'Resilience in the Philippines through effective community engagement' (January 2019)
3. 'Ten years after the Black Saturday fires: what have we learnt from post-fire research?' (April 2019)
4. 'AIIMS doctrine: have we got the fundamentals right?' (April 2012)
5. 'The Commonwealth response to Cyclone Tracy: implications for future disasters' (April 2012)



Major Incidents Report

AIDR published the *Major Incidents Report 2019-20* in September 2020.

This fourth edition of the report provides an overview of 19 events regarded as nationally significant by the emergency management sector, across the 2019-20 financial year. The report includes aggregated summaries of the Black Summer bushfire events in New South Wales and Victoria to reflect the gravity of the events and provides an overview of observations from this period. The report provides 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.

In the 2020-21 period, the report was downloaded 706 times from the AIDR Knowledge Hub, used by Emergency Management Australia during their pre-season briefings and tabled as an [exhibit](#) at the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements. It was also utilised by The Guardian as a key reference to inform a feature article and interactive map on areas in Australia impacted by multiple disasters in 2020.



You folk do very good work – endorsed."

– Rob Cameron OAM, Director General Emergency Management Australia

...and the last one, which was only published yesterday, and I thank the Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience for their email overnight, notifying me of same, is the 2019 2020 Major Incidents Report, which is an overview of major incidents that have involved the fire and emergency services sector, July 2019 to June 2020 and that overlaps with some of the evidence that we will hear from Mr Leplastrier from IAG and from Risk Frontiers after the break.

COMMISSIONER BINSKIN: And I thank AIDR for how quick they were with that. I appreciate that very much."

– Air Chief Marshal Mark Binskin AC (Retd) Chair, Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements

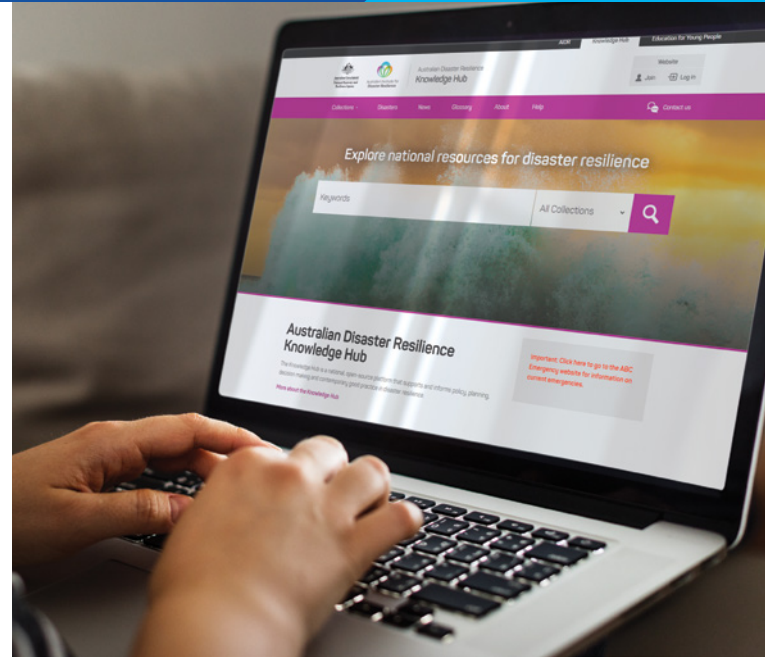


Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub

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 significant 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 the Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary, and the National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database. It is also a gateway to the Australian Emergency Management Library.

Key highlights that were added to the Knowledge Hub in 2020-21 include the Emergency Planning Collection, a resource page supporting the ABC TV series *Big Weather*, and a major update to the Understanding Hazards Collection. A large number of historical disaster events were also added to the popular Disaster Mapper.

Between July 2020 and June 2021, the Knowledge Hub was accessed almost 2 million times by more than 300,000 people.



The Disaster Mapper was the single most accessed resource on the Knowledge Hub with 300,636 pageviews. The top five disaster events that were accessed on the Disaster Mapper in 2020-21 were:

66,608
PAGE VIEWS
Black Saturday
bushfires in Victoria
(2009)

43,145
PAGE VIEWS
Indian Ocean
tsunami
(2004)

20,954
PAGE VIEWS
Black Summer
bushfires in NSW
(2019-20)

16,137
PAGE VIEWS
Black Friday
bushfires in Victoria
(1939)

14,851
PAGE VIEWS
Queensland floods
(2010-11)



Glossary, Database and Library

Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary

The Australian Disaster Resilience Glossary is an integrated online glossary of over 3,000 disaster resilience and emergency management terms and definitions, incorporating key terms from national and international glossaries. From July 2020 to June 2021, the Glossary was accessed 13,833 times by people looking for consistent, authoritative definitions for words and terms. This is an increase compared to the 2019-20 year, which was accessed 11,502 times. Over the 2020-21 financial year the top five searched terms were: disaster, recovery, coordination, community, incident levels.

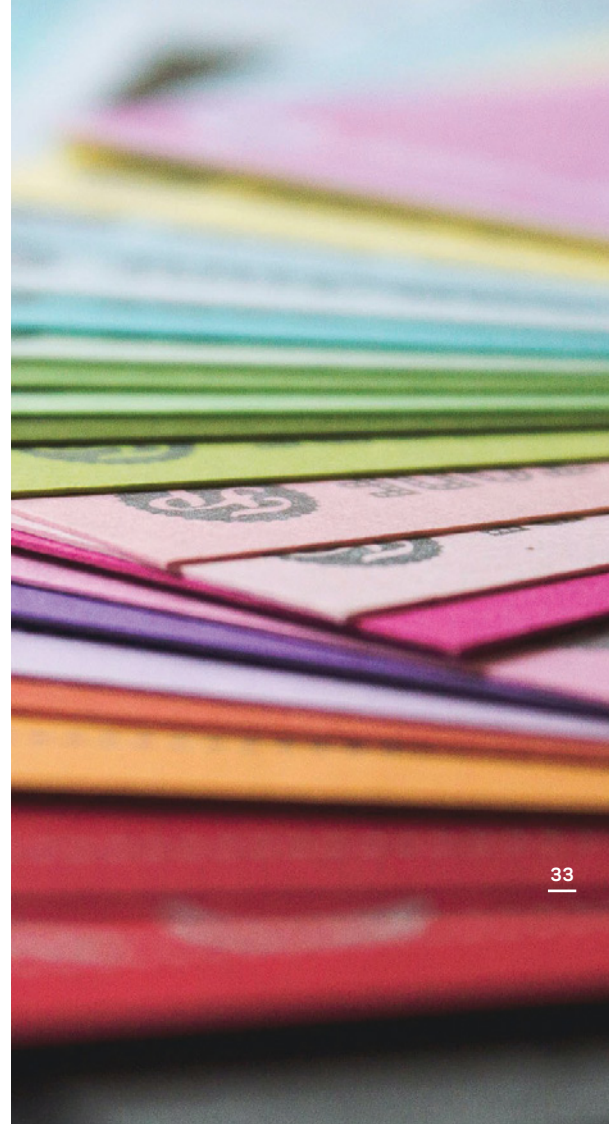
National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation Database

The National Disaster Recovery Monitoring and Evaluation (N, M and E) Database hosts evaluation reports from disaster recovery programs. The N, M and E Database is an important tool for sharing the knowledge captured in disaster recovery evaluation reports, so that the findings and lessons can be used to inform the design of future disaster recovery programs. An evaluation of the N, M and E Database and a subsequent stakeholder workshop provided findings and recommendations that are being used to refresh and refine the N, M and E Database and its presence online, to provide maximum benefit to users.

In 2020-21, pages associated with the N, M and E Database were viewed on the Knowledge Hub 3,589 times.

Australian Emergency Management Library

Cataloguing of the Australian Emergency Management (AEM) Library was completed in June 2021. The 11,562-item collection comprises monographs, academic journals, audio-visual material, and a wide range of other historical documents. Users accessed the AEM Library resources 36,437 times via the Knowledge Hub during the 2020-21 financial year. AIDR plans to introduce new borrowing systems in late 2021 to streamline user access and enable greater borrowing.





Resilient Australia Awards



AIDR delivers the national awards program on behalf of the Australian Government, in partnership with the states and territories. The program celebrates, shares, and promotes initiatives that build and foster community resilience to disasters and emergencies.

AIDR works with the states and territories to promote the awards program, and to identify initiatives that strengthen resilience and showcase innovation to encourage award nominations. Finalist projects are promoted across AIDR service areas, including but not limited to, the *Australian Journal of Emergency Management* and the Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub.

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 a national winner and two highly commended announced during the ceremony.

2020 Resilient Australia Awards

A record number of submissions were made to the 2020 Resilient Australia Awards program, with 173 submissions from across the country. Of those, 35 became national finalists, with the national award winners announced at the 2020 Resilient Australia National Awards Ceremony on 4 December 2020 in Canberra.

The National Awards Ceremony was hosted at the National Museum of Australia, with the Hon. David Littleproud MP, then Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management, presenting the awards. The awards ceremony was also live streamed for the first time in the program's history, allowing those unable to attend in-person to participate.

AIDR introduced the Suncorp Resilient Australia National Community Awards, sponsored by Suncorp, in 2020.



Clockwise from top left: The driveway project - Nikki Woods, From a different angle - Blair Horgan, Toddler of hero father presented with bravery medal - James Morris, A tale of two battlefronts - Noel Kessel. Photos: AIDR



Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

Level 1, 340 Albert St, East Melbourne VIC 3002

📞 +61 3 9419 2388 ✉ enquiries@aidr.org.au 🌐 www.aidr.org.au

📘 AIDRnews 🐦 AIDR_news 🌐 aidr