

Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 Abstract submission guidelines

Thank you for your interest in submitting an abstract for the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025. We greatly value the innovative ideas and insights that you bring, which contribute to the success of this event.

Abstract submissions for the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 are open to disaster risk reduction practitioners, volunteers, researchers and academics, industry, community and all levels of government.

To facilitate a smooth and efficient submission process, we kindly ask that you review the submission guidelines carefully before proceeding. Adhering to these instructions will help ensure that your abstract receives the attention it deserves during the review process.

Should you have any questions or require assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out. We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Theme

Embracing radical transformation: The future is now

Disasters are neither natural nor inevitable, but they are increasingly intense and costly: economically, socially, culturally, and in terms of biodiversity, for us and for the planet. It is time to embrace radical transformation if we are to create a resilient future.

The world we are facing is increasingly volatile and complex. In a deeply interconnected world, Australia is not immune to the flow-on effects of incidents occurring internationally, and the risks posed by our changing global climate. For the first time, from July 2023 to June 2024 global temperatures consistently surpassed 1.5°C of warming above pre-industrial levels (Poncet, 2024).¹

Within Australia each year, people, the economy, social functions, essential services and the environment are affected by significant incidents that are increasingly costly and significantly disrupt how we go about our lives. The consequences of these incidents are often felt for years to decades. Hazards will inevitably occur, but they don't need to become disasters. Building a safer, more resilient future requires all of us - governments, the private sector, the non-government sector, communities and individuals - to better understand systemic risks and how our collective and individual choices can increase or decrease vulnerabilities across the system. Weaving together sustainable development, disaster resilience, and climate adaptation will be a crucial part of this, as we work to create a resilient future for all.

While it is important to look to the past for lessons, we also need to look forward, to see what is coming over the horizon. We need to think systemically, considering actions required in all domains

¹ Poncet, L. (2024, July 30). Global temperatures exceeded 1.5°C warming for a full year: what does this mean for the Paris Agreement? Retrieved from Climate Extremes: <https://climateextremes.org.au/global-temperatures-exceeded-1-5c-warming-for-a-full-year-what-does-this-mean-for-the-paris-agreement/#:~:text=For%20the%20first%20time%2C%20global,EU's%20Copernicus%20Climate%20Change%20Service>

e.g. the natural environment, the built environment, health and wellbeing, social and community capital, the economic environment and the cultural environment. We need all sectors to engage in this discussion, plan for the future, and take action.

Addressing volatility and emerging complexities requires new, creative and alternative perspectives that move us towards the transformations we need across the system, if we are to create a resilient future. We need to look locally, nationally and internationally for ideas, partnerships and solutions. We need to embrace radical ideas and transformations, imagine different possible futures, ask hard questions, have uncomfortable conversations, take courageous decisions and change our individual and collective behaviour.

Abstract submission types

All presentations must adhere to the subject matter and presenters as outlined in the abstract submitted.

Oral presentation	An oral presentation is a verbal presentation by 1 to 3 presenters. PowerPoint slides may be used. Presenters will present the content as outlined in their abstract. Names of all presenters must be provided in the abstract at the time of submission.
Panel presentation	A panel presentation is a verbal presentation and/or discussion by 3 or more presenters. Names of the panellists must be provided in the abstract. Presenters will generally be seated in a more casual seating arrangement on the stage to facilitate a more informal conversation.
Poster	Posters are a summary of the presenter's research or project content and findings and are displayed in the Knowledge Centre in the Exhibition Hall near the AIDR stand and Resilience Lane. Please note that abstracts for other presentation types that are not selected may be offered the opportunity to be presented as a poster.
Workshop	Workshop proposals will be considered for the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025. A workshop can offer delegates an extended, deeper professional development opportunity to interact with the presenters, the material, and with other delegates. Workshops may be considered as part of the conference program, or they may be considered as part of a Professional Development Program on the Friday following the conference. Workshops may be tailored to a 1-hour timeslot or offered a half or full day. Applicants who have submitted abstracts in other categories are welcome to submit a proposal for a workshop, particularly if the workshop offers delegates an opportunity to further engage with content that strongly meets the conference theme and assessment criteria.

Selection criteria

Abstracts need to meet the following criteria to be eligible for consideration:

- Applicants may submit a maximum of one abstract per submission type (see above for description of submission types). Abstracts over this limit will not be assessed.
- Abstracts may be referred by AIDR to the AFAC25 Program Committee if the abstract is more closely aligned with the AFAC25 conference theme.
- Abstracts should clearly outline how they reflect the conference theme.
- Abstracts should demonstrate how the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference delegates will benefit from the presentation.
- For panel presentations, the names of all proposed panel members must be included in the submission.

Assessment criteria

The Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 Program Committee (the Committee) will assess the abstracts against the following criteria:

- Clearly defined purpose
- Engages with Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 theme
- Demonstrates brave and innovative thinking
- Encourages and empowers transformation
- Embraces complex and intersecting challenges
- Inspires action and change

Key documents and frameworks

We welcome consideration of, and reference to, key Australian and global disaster risk reduction documents, including:

- [National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework](#)
- [Second National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction](#)
- [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#)

The [Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub](#) houses a comprehensive collection of international, national and state documents that frame disaster resilience.

Key dates

<p>Wednesday 27 November 2024</p>	<p>Submissions open</p> <p>Applicants are invited to submit an abstract using this portal. Their abstract can be a personal submission, a submission on behalf of a colleague, or a submission on behalf of their organisation. Abstracts must address the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 theme.</p>
<p>Monday 3 February 2025</p>	<p>Submissions close at 11pm AEDT</p> <p>Submissions must be lodged on the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 abstract portal</p>
<p>Thursday 3 April 2025</p>	<p>Selection process finalised</p> <p>Shortlisted abstracts will be selected by the Australian Disaster Resilience Conference 2025 Program Committee and endorsed by the Steering Committee by Thursday 3 April 2025. Selected submissions will be made a formal offer as soon as possible following endorsement by the Steering Committee. Applicants whose submissions were not selected may be offered the opportunity to display their work as a poster in the Knowledge Centre. Please note that all decisions made by the Program Committee are final.</p>
<p>Thursday 24 April 2025</p>	<p>Applicants accept offer</p> <p>Following their acceptance of their offer, speakers agree to register to attend the conference.</p>
<p>Monday 2 June 2025</p>	<p>Presenters provide high resolution photo and 200-word bio to info@afaconference.com.au</p>
<p>Monday 11 August 2025</p>	<p>Presenters provide their oral presentation (if applicable) including accompanying PowerPoint slides. An event template will be provided to presenters.</p>

Enquiries

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