

# Commonwealth NDRR – Priority 1 – Understanding Disaster Risk Action Strategies 2019-2023

**STRATEGY A**  
**Improve public awareness of, and engagement on, disaster risks and impacts**



Greater awareness of the potential long-term and highly uncertain direct and indirect impacts of disasters on all sectors requires formal and informal education and community-driven engagement. An improved understanding of the systemic nature of disaster risk and what that means for all sectors, including communities, is critical.

**STRATEGY B**  
**Identify and address data, information and resource gaps**



New data sets and information relating to all components of disaster risk should be collated to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of disaster risk. Information gaps at the intersection of disaster risk and climate science should be addressed and resourcing needs identified.

**STRATEGY C**  
**Address technical barriers to data and information sharing and availability**



Technological advancements, including smart infrastructure, should be leveraged to create improved disaster risk information. Clarification on liability, copyright, privacy and intellectual property issues is needed to facilitate improved data sharing and release.

**STRATEGY D**  
**Integrate plausible future scenarios into planning**



Scenario-based risk and vulnerability assessment can provide a structured and rigorous method to factor future climate and disaster risks into decision-making, in the context of a variety of social, environmental, demographic and economic changes. It is designed to inform both straightforward and complex decisions, including management of residual risk, and is a useful method for navigating future uncertainties.

**STRATEGY E**  
**Develop cohesive disaster risk information access and communication capabilities to deliver actionable disaster risk data and information**



Existing knowledge and technological capabilities can be better utilised and connected, and existing data better analysed and integrated with future scenarios, to improve the availability of useful disaster risk information. Useful disaster risk information should improve understanding of the systemic nature of disaster risk, consider interactions between all components of disaster risk, and inform management of residual risk. Links between policy, research, operational expertise and formal education should be strengthened to support and contribute to these capabilities.

**STRATEGY F**  
**Support long-term and solution-driven research, innovation and knowledge practices, and disaster risk education**



Greater policy-research connection and innovation is needed to ensure necessary evidence bases are available to inform efforts to identify, prioritise and reduce disaster risks. A greater variety of knowledge practices, including Indigenous knowledge practices, should also be better integrated in research and knowledge application. Diverse ways of understanding and reducing disaster risk are needed to address disaster risk in all of its components.

**STRATEGY G**  
**Improve disclosure of disaster risk to all stakeholders**



Information about disaster risks and their implications for all sectors of society should be disclosed to better enable all sectors to reduce risks within their control. This should include information about residual disaster risk.

## Commonwealth NDRR – Priority 2 – Accountable Decisions

### Action Strategies 2019-2023

#### STRATEGY A

**Consider potential avoided loss (tangible and intangible) and broader benefits in all relevant decisions**



Measured assessment of disaster risk and impacts should be undertaken for investments of all types, across all sectors. To appropriately determine the costs and benefits of reducing existing and future disaster risk, opportunities and losses should be quantified. Those that cannot be quantified should be accounted for in a consistent manner. These methods should be able to consider unexpected and unknown risks, as well as flow on risks and impacts.

#### STRATEGY B

**Identify highest priority disaster risks and mitigation opportunities**



It is often not possible to reduce all identified risks. Efforts and resources should be targeted to reduce risks with the greatest potential impact. Highest priority risks and vulnerabilities and appropriate mitigations should be identified using consistent principles and strategic risk assessment methods. Consideration of residual risk should be a key component.

#### STRATEGY C

**Build the capability and capacity of decision-makers to actively address disaster risk in policy, program and investment decisions**



Use sector-specific professional development and guidance materials to build the capability of decision-makers to use improved disaster risk information to appropriately identify and address current and potential future disaster risks and impacts within their area of responsibility.

#### STRATEGY D

**Establish proactive incentives, and address disincentives and barriers, to reducing disaster risk**



Current and future policy, legislative, regulatory, cultural, knowledge, behavioural and financial settings should be adjusted to enable and support decision-makers to actively reduce risk within their area of responsibility. This should be pursued while ensuring the sustainable development needs of Australia's growing population are met.

#### STRATEGY E

**Maintain planning and development practices that adapt to rapid social, economic, environmental and cultural change**



Infrastructure, land use and development planning and practices must be integrated, strategic and adaptive to avoid creating new disaster risk.

#### STRATEGY F

**Promote compliance with, and embed resilience requirements into, relevant standards, codes and specifications**



Leverage existing mechanisms for reviewing standards, codes and specifications to minimise disaster risk being built into the urban environment and regional landscape, recognising that preservation of life must remain a priority.

# Commonwealth NDRR – Priority 3 – Enhanced Investment Action Strategies 2019-2023

## STRATEGY A

**Pursue collaborative commercial financing options for disaster risk reduction initiatives**



Commercial financing and investment models such as loans, equity contributions, guarantees and Public-Private Partnerships can be applied to disaster risk reduction projects. These models can deliver financial returns on investment, unlock economic opportunities, and deliver not only avoided losses but broader sustainability and productivity outcomes.

## STRATEGY B

**Develop disaster risk reduction investment tools to provide practical guidance on investment mechanisms**



Investment literacy and capability should be improved across all sectors to ensure potential investment opportunities can be properly identified and leveraged by decision-makers across governments, the private sector and communities.

## STRATEGY C

**Leverage existing and future government programs to fund priority risk reduction measures**



Governments at all levels should collaborate to align and leverage existing and future funding streams to create clearer funding pathways for disaster risk reduction projects. Significant existing investment in infrastructure across all environments, climate adaptation and energy security can also be leveraged to deliver disaster risk reduction outcomes.

## STRATEGY D

**Identify additional current and future potential funding streams**



All sectors should leverage improved disaster risk information to proactively identify current and future risk reduction funding needs and establish funding pathways to meet these needs.

## STRATEGY E

**Improve the accessibility, variety and uptake of insurance**



All sectors should work to diversify the variety of insurance products, better communicate these products, and address barriers to insurability – for example, by supporting assessment of asset conditions.

## STRATEGY F

**Empower communities, individuals and small businesses to make informed and sustainable investments**



Communities and individuals can own their role as informed and active investors in disaster risk reduction, subject to their capacity, capability and financial position, to their own benefit and the benefit of their broader networks and economies. This requires communities to be supported to understand disaster risks and impacts relevant to what they value and the choices they make. It is essential to identify what support may be needed by those with limited capacity and capability to act as an informed investor.

# Commonwealth NDRR – Priority 4 – Governance, Ownership and Responsibility – Action Strategies 2019-2023

## STRATEGY A

**Establish a national mechanism to oversee and guide disaster risk reduction efforts and cross-sector dependencies**



This mechanism should be partnership-based, agile and dynamic. It could comprise multiple components and forums, and should create and leverage partnerships that support coordination, collaboration and advice between all sectors to reduce disaster risk.

## STRATEGY B

**Establish a national implementation plan for this framework**



The implementation plan should include initiatives at a national and jurisdictional level, as well as place-based locally-led initiatives and sector-specific initiatives. It should also be leveraged to clarify roles and responsibilities for reducing disaster risk and improving resilience.

## STRATEGY C

**Support and enable locally-led and owned place-based disaster risk reduction efforts**



Where disaster risks are location-specific, governments and other relevant sectors should support local ownership and delivery of place-based disaster risk reduction and resilience measures.

## STRATEGY D

**Incentivise (*encourage*) improved transparency of disaster risk ownership through personal and business transactions**



All sectors should explore opportunities to ensure there is appropriate transparency of disaster risk and potential impacts in transactions where disaster risk may be shifted from one party to another.

## STRATEGY E

**Consistently report on disaster risk reduction efforts and outcomes**



To minimise duplication of effort and allow success to be shared and leveraged, all sectors should regularly share and report on work being undertaken to identify, prioritise and reduce disaster risks and losses.

## STRATEGY F

**Create clear governance pathways for pursuing disaster risk reduction projects**



Aligning decision-making practices across sectors and levels of government, where possible, would allow a clearer line of sight from identifying disaster risks to prioritising and taking action to reduce them. In the first instance, this will require disaster risk reduction to be incorporated into existing governance arrangements across all sectors. This should apply to various types of decision-making in all sectors and environments. It will also help to clarify the movement of disaster risk, including residual risk, among sectors.