



Australian Government

National Emergency Management Agency

18 September 2024

2024-2025 Higher Risk Weather Season

National Preparedness Summit

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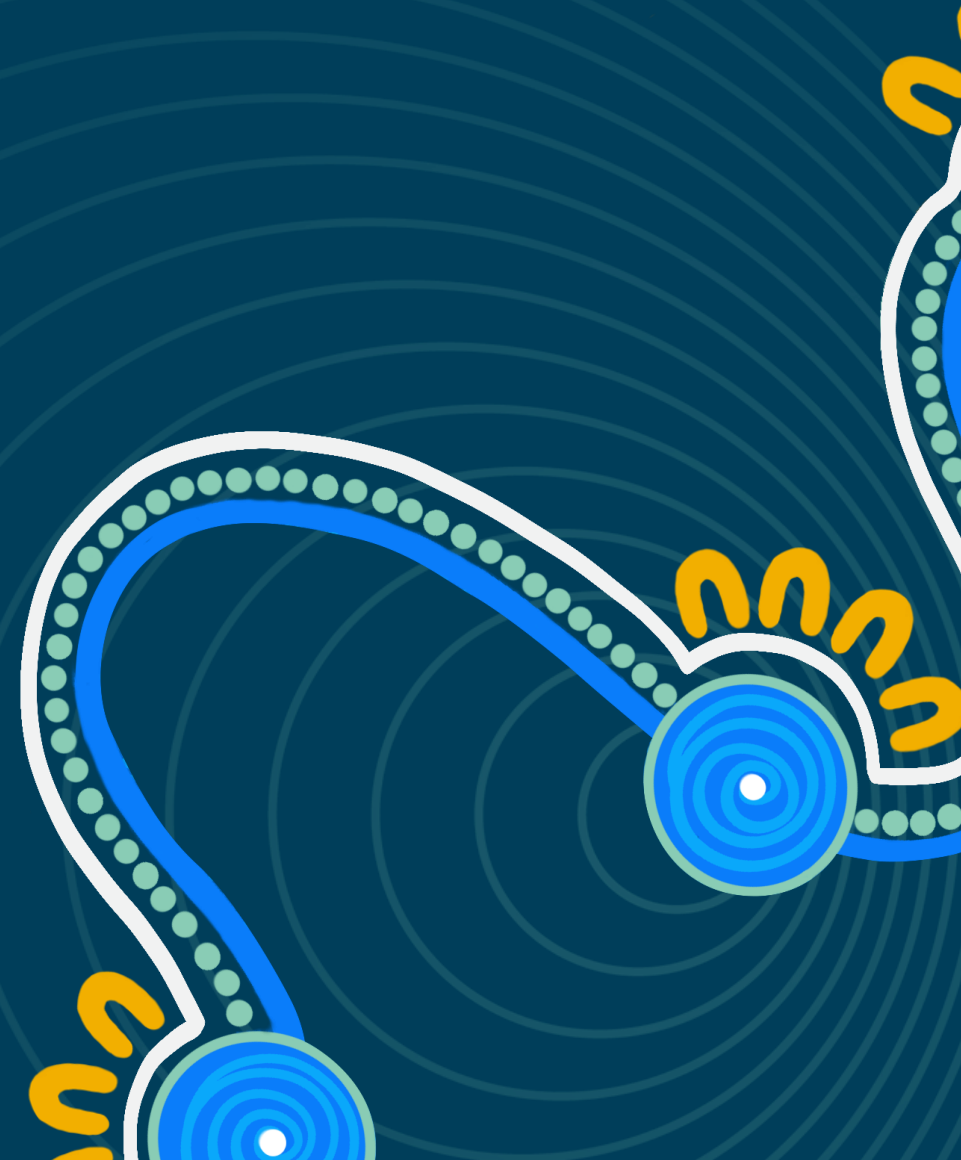
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Australian Government Arrangements and National Coordination

Deputy Coordinator General Joe Buffone

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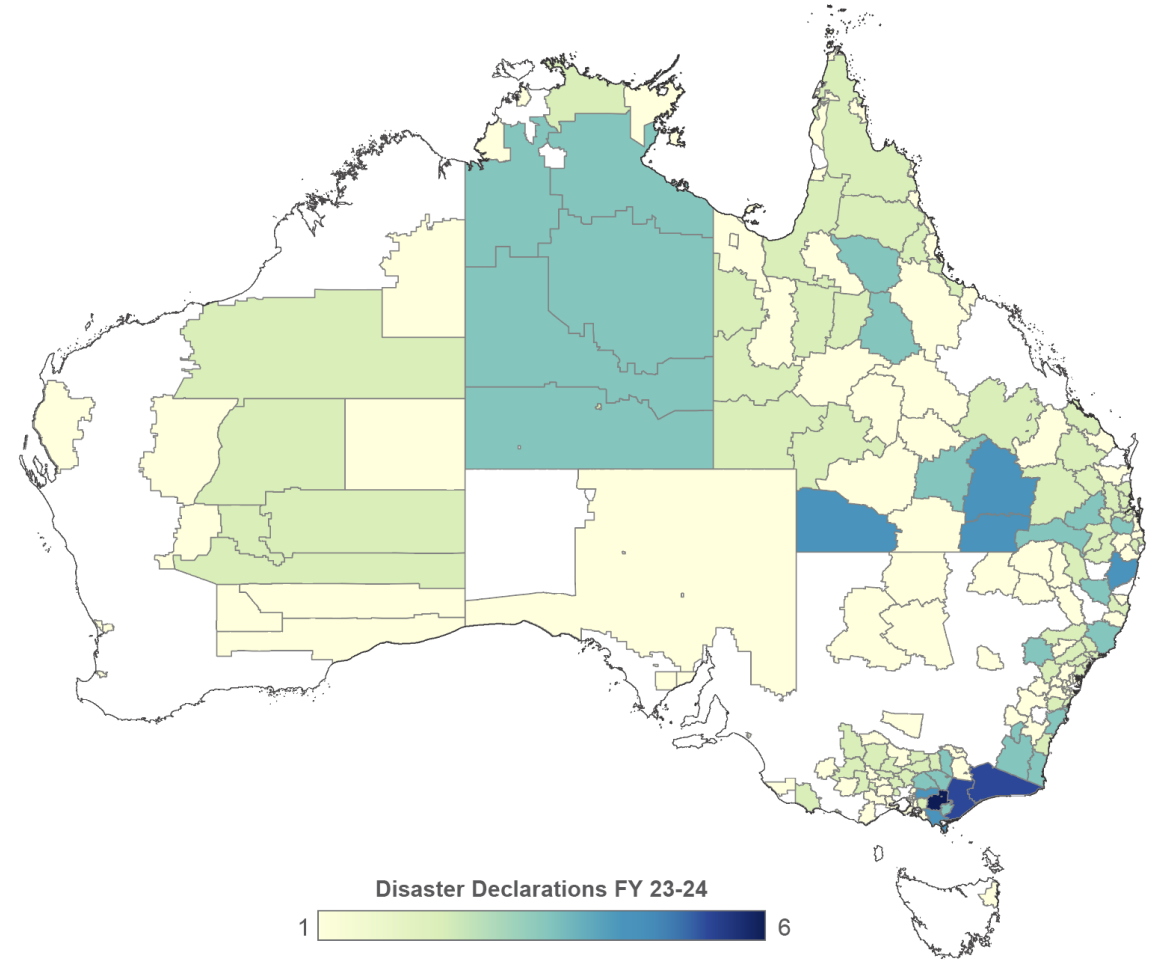


Our context

For the period 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024:

- 71 declared disaster events
- 205 local government areas impacted
- \$6.1 billion in state expenditure under the DRFA
- \$52.4 million in support to individuals (AGDRP/DRA)

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Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous

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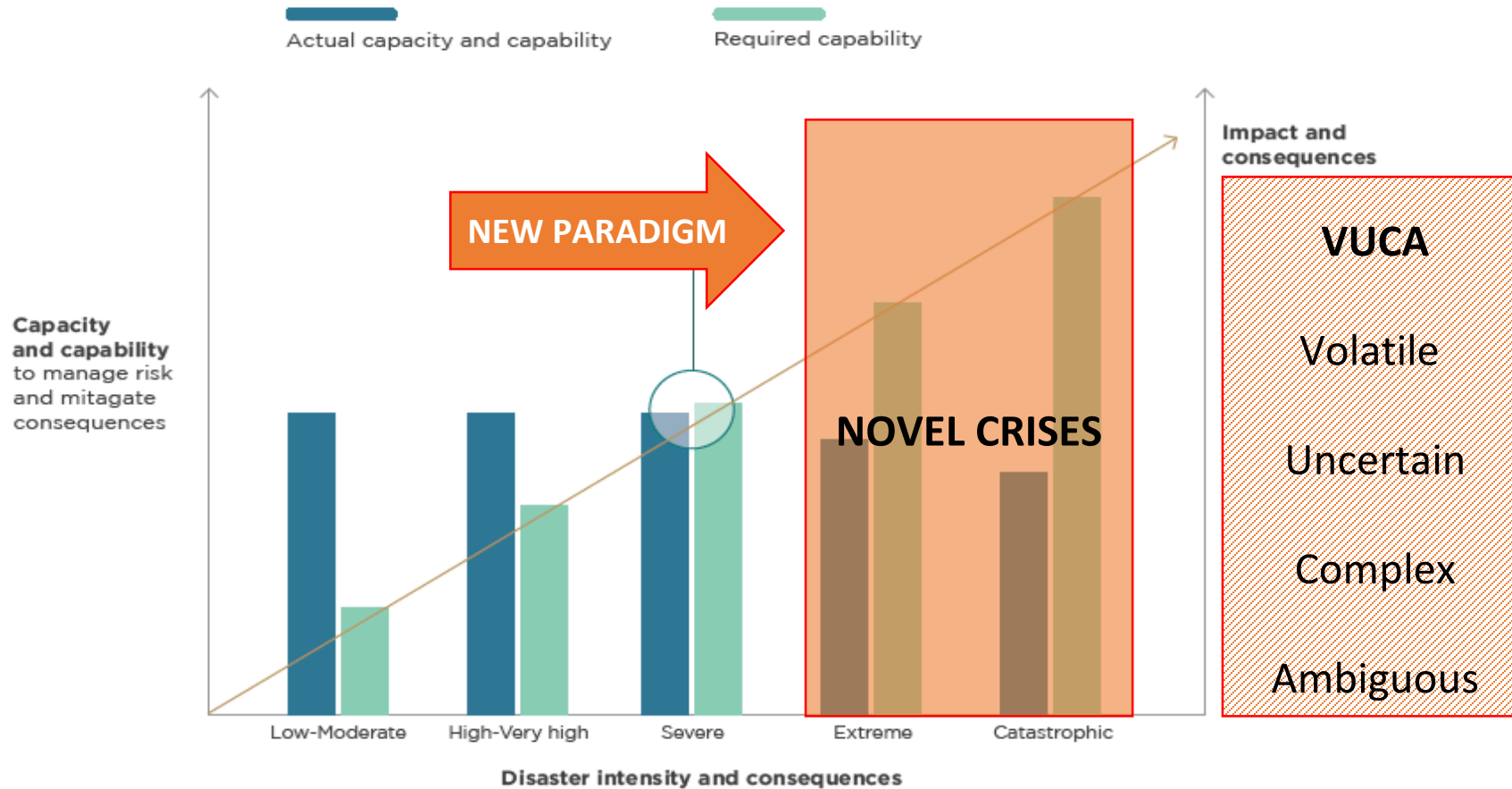


Diagram adapted from M Crosweller

AIDR Major Incidents Report

- 30 incidents across 13 hazard types.
- significant events impacted the country across the 2023-2024 financial year.
- Highlights important work and skill of our emergency services and volunteers.
- Demonstrates the necessity for the states and territories, Australian Government and industry partners to work together.

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National Preparedness Program

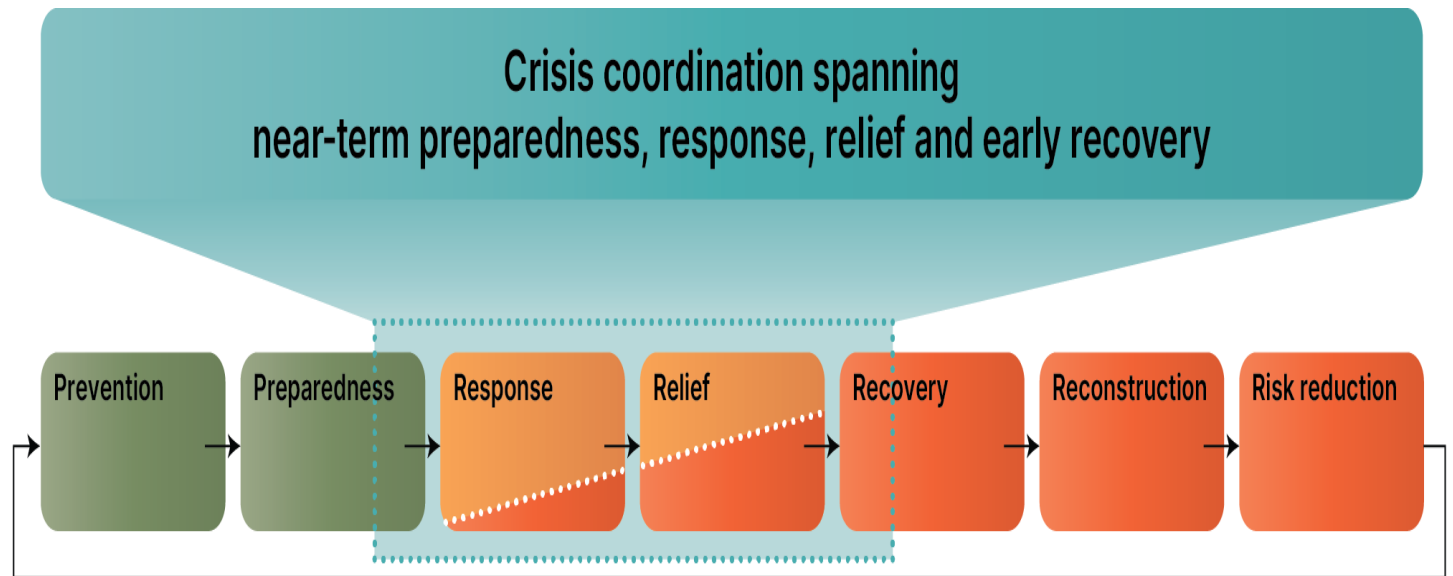
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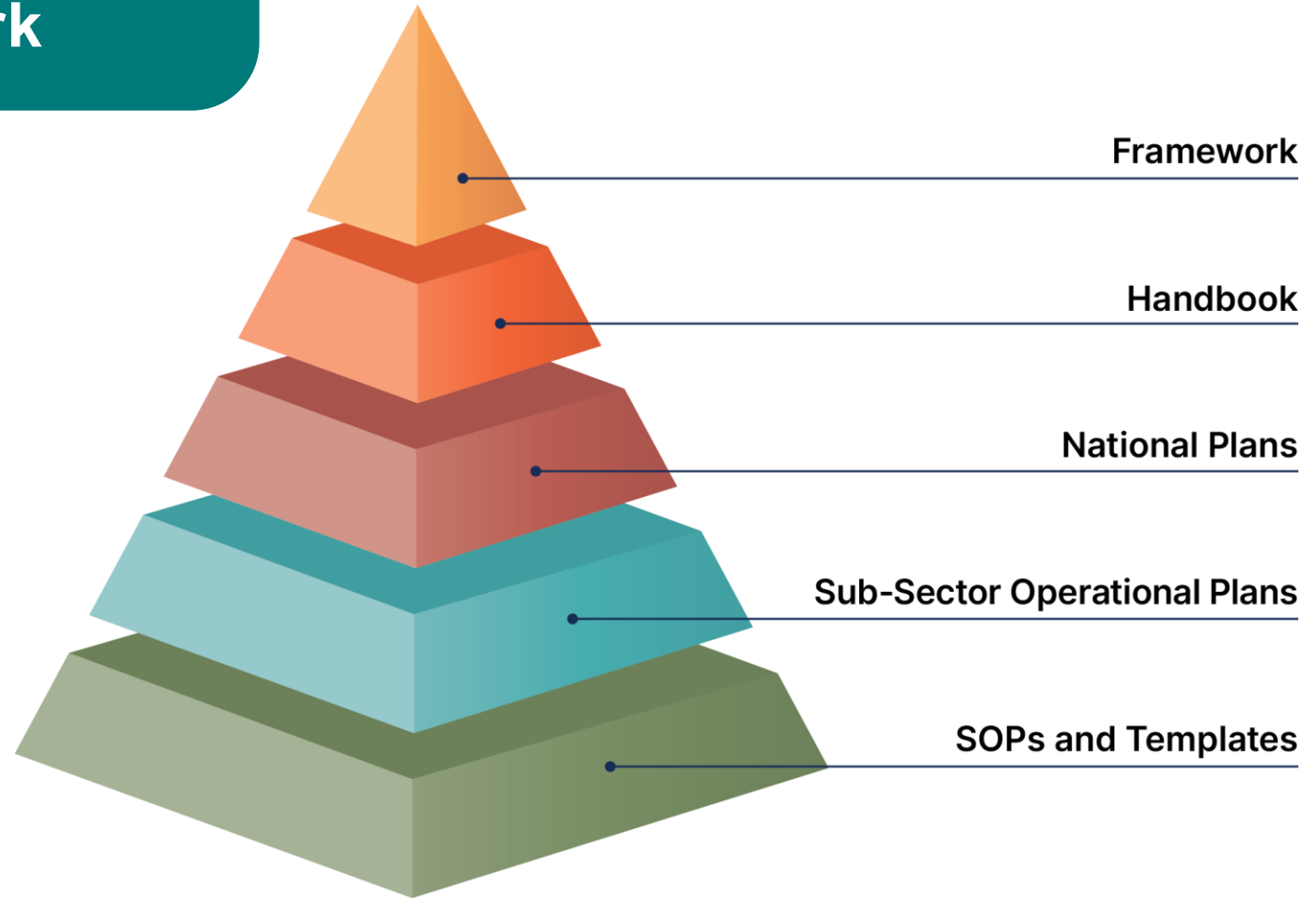
Australian Government Crisis Management Framework

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Australian Government Crisis Management Framework

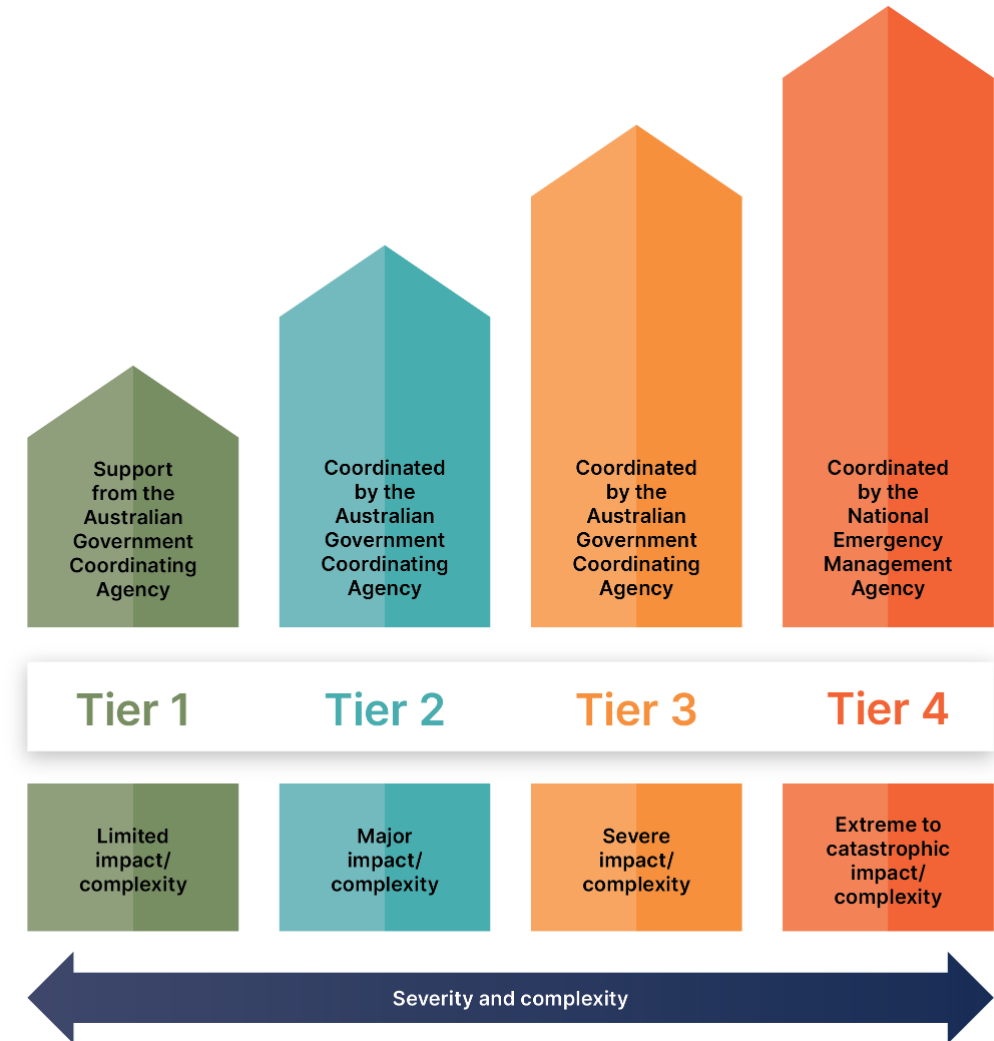
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Key changes to the AGCMF

- Confirmed the **National Security Committee of Cabinet** as the peak all-hazards Ministerial crisis decision-making committee.
- Established a **4-tier model of crisis coordination**, incorporating the dimensions of severity and complexity, to provide guidance to senior officials.
- Strengthened the approach to whole-of-government **crisis communication and public messaging**.
- Streamlined domestic coordination arrangements by **amalgamating the Australian Government Crisis and Recovery Committee (AGCRC) and the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)**.
- Clearly articulated requirements for agencies to maintain **capability and processes** to meet their responsibilities under the Framework.
- Established continuous improvement requirements, including **evaluation** of national crisis responses at Tier 3 and 4 coordination.
- Formalised the **Crisis Arrangements Committee (CAC)** as the peak Australian Government senior officials' crisis management preparedness committee.

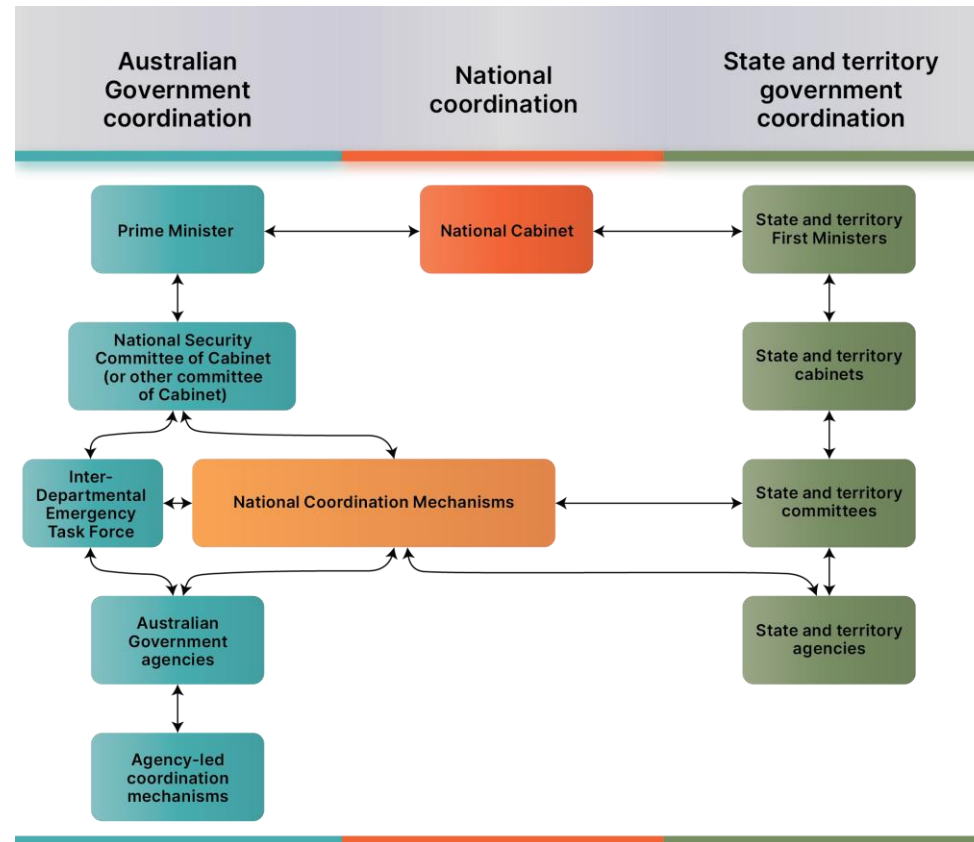
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Australian Government Crisis Management Framework

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Decision Making and Coordination Mechanisms



Triggers for Australian Government Involvement

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A request from a state or territory for Australian Government assistance



An incident across multiple jurisdictions or industry sectors



A crisis with both domestic and international components



The scale of the crisis and its potential impact



Multiple simultaneous crises



Community expectation of national leadership

National Emergency Declaration Act 2020

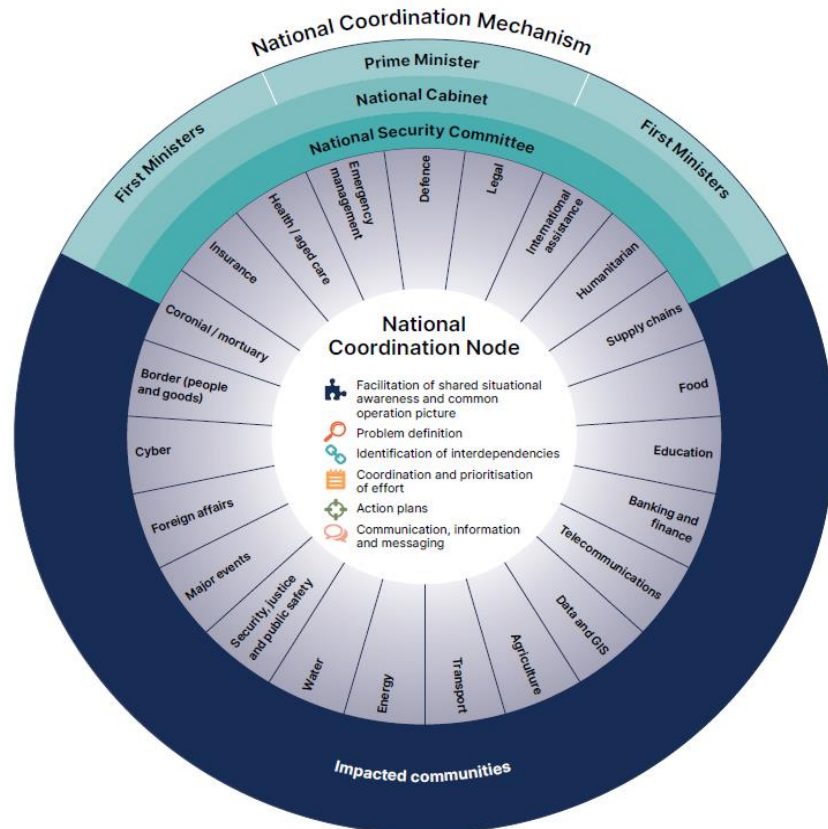
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- Enables the Australian Government to utilise emergency powers to respond quickly and efficiently to an emergency.
- 32 existing powers including:
 - An alternative or streamlined legal test to allow Ministers to exercise certain powers when a national emergency is declared,
 - Power to remove procedural ‘red tape’ requirements where it would benefit the public and support response and recovery from the emergency (e.g. requirements to provide ID or sign Australian Government document).
- NEMA works with relevant stakeholders to collect data relating to events that may meet the thresholds in the NED Act.
- The Australian Government National Coordination Mechanism (NCM-AUSGOV) uses this data to formally consider whether a NED can and/or should be made.
- The Coordinator-General provides this advice to the Prime Minister and/or the Minister for Emergency Management.

National Coordination Mechanism

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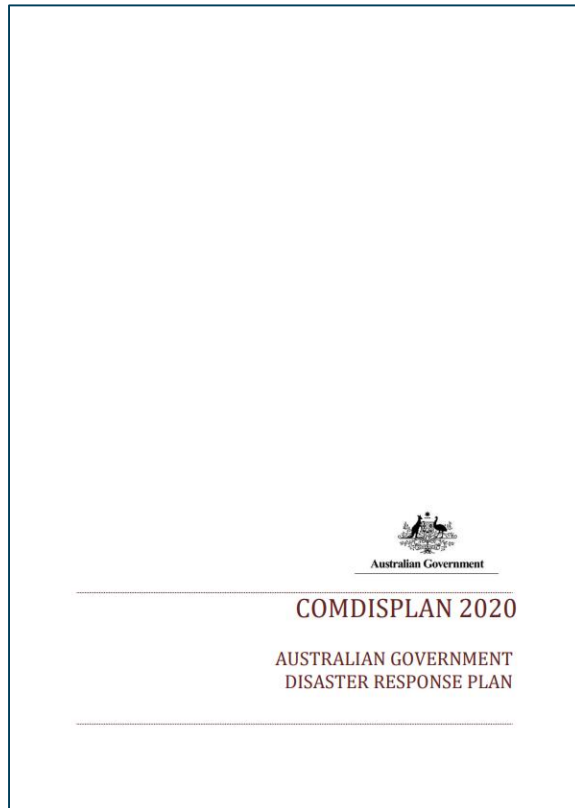
At the centre of the Australian Government Crisis Management Framework.



- Supports shared situational awareness, rapid problem definition and coordinated action
- Flexible, scalable, vector-agnostic support, management of second and third order consequences applicable to all hazards.
- Provides a vehicle to bring together a combination of government, states and territories, industry, peak bodies, NGOs and eminent persons to the table
- Organisations are invited because of their expertise, experience or potential role in identifying and implementing stabilising actions
- Supports consequence management at any stage of the national disaster management continuum including preparedness, response and recovery

Requesting Australian Government Assistance

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Authorises the provision of Australian Government 'non-financial assistance' to Australian states and territories in an emergency or disaster.

The Minister responsible for Emergency Management authorises assistance.

Requests considered when:

- Local resources exhausted (fully utilised)
- Unable to mobilise in time
- Capability gaps exist

National Situation Room

- Hazard scanning and preparatory requirements
- Situational awareness
- Predictive analysis
- Impact and consequence assessment

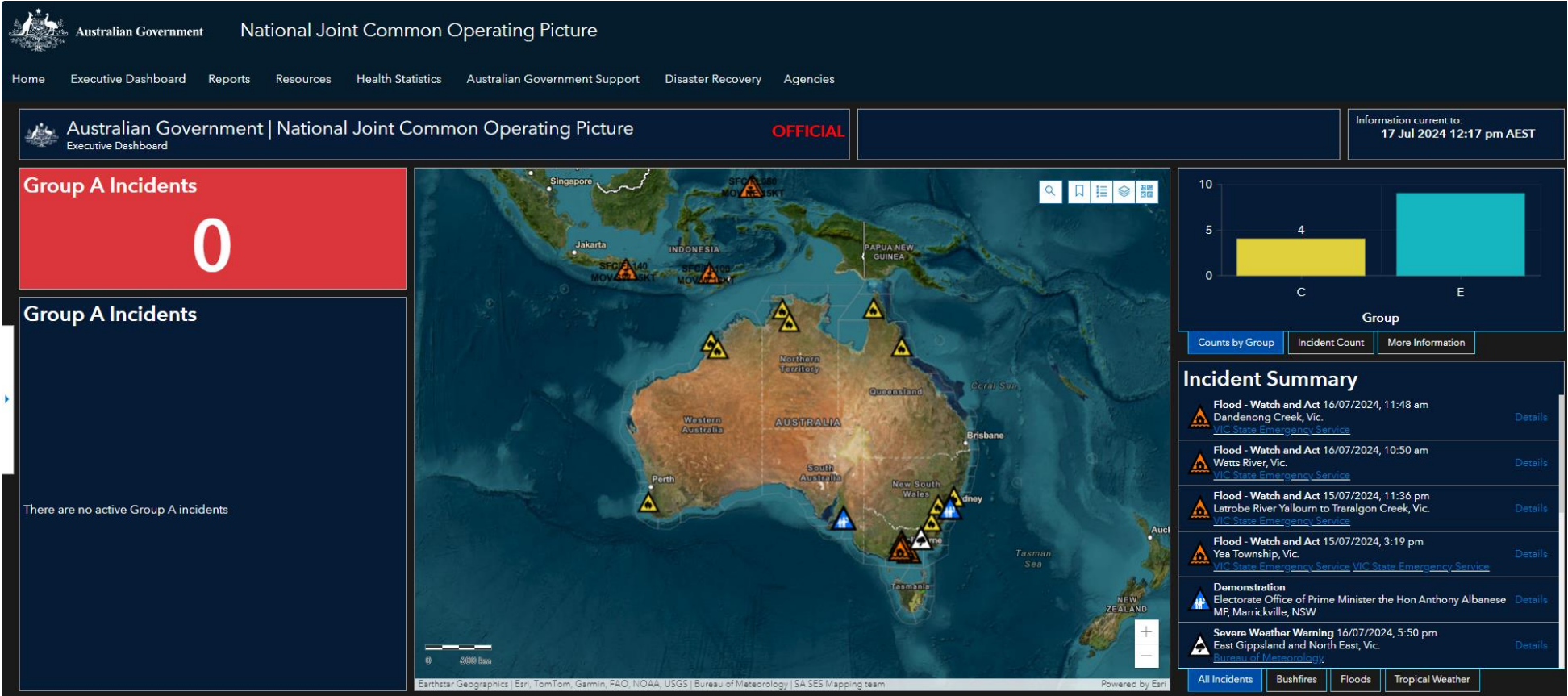
Decision Support

Provide recommendations to the Australian Government on how to support affected jurisdictions and communities



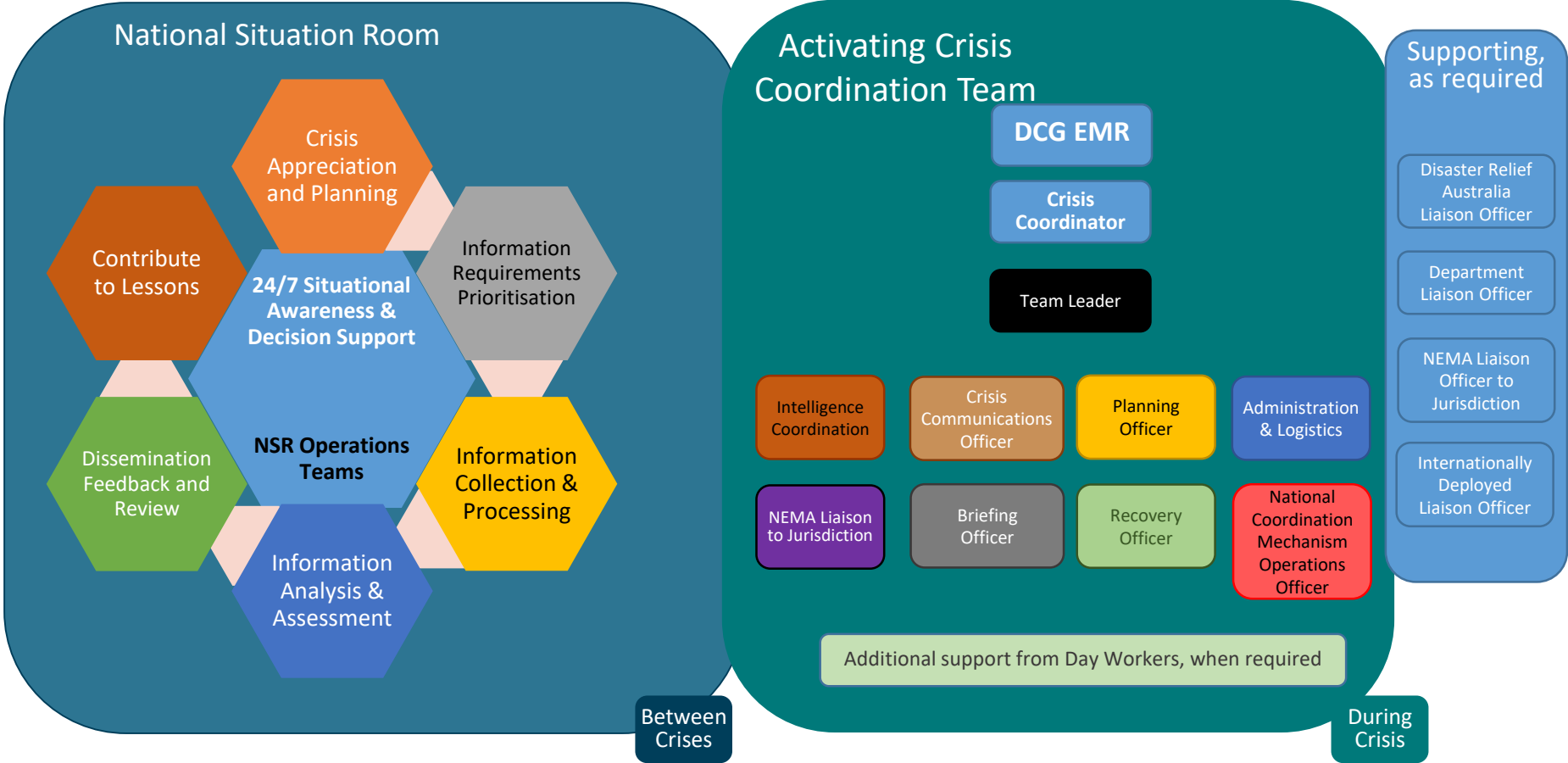
National Joint Common Operating Picture

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Australian Government Joint Crisis Coordination Team (CCT)

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National Crisis Exercising and Lessons Capability

- Delivery of a national crisis management exercise program focused on severe to catastrophic disasters.
- Exercise observations, insights and lessons inform future preparedness, policy, plans and capabilities.
- Enables greater awareness of, and confidence in, crisis response mechanisms such as the National Coordination Mechanism to improve readiness and future responses.



Non-Defence Capabilities: NAFC Aerial Firefighting Fleet



Annually contracts approximately 160 aircraft on behalf of state and territory governments.



Arrangements being finalised for the national aerial firefighting fleet of aircraft for the 2024-25 bushfire season.



For the 2024-25 season, NAFC is contracting multi-use aircraft, so the fleet will be able to respond to other disasters, in addition to bushfires.



Non-Defence Capabilities: National Emergency Management Stockpile



- **6 x Off-grid Semi-Rigid Emergency Shelter Camps**
 - Support up to 700 civilians or 1400 workers in multiple configurations
 - Climate controlled, water, power, ablutions, laundry and an option to include a non-commercial field kitchen
 - Disability accessible bathrooms, laundries and huts
- **Flood Mitigation Systems**
 - 1 x High volume de-watering pump – 20,000L/min
 - Various flood barrier systems - est. 6km total length
- **Emergency Power Generators and Fuel Tanks - Diesel**
 - High output - 2 x 805kVA & 1 x 500 kVA
 - Medium output – 1 x 110kVA & 2 x 60 kVA
- **Water purification systems and storage**
 - UV water filtration and desalination treatment systems, and potable and grey water storage tanks

Non-Defence Capabilities: National Emergency Management Stockpile Panel



- The NEMS Panel provides a 'virtual marketplace' for authorised government buyers to procure disaster response and relief goods and services
- The Panel has three main groupings, with a variety of service categories within each:
 - Goods
 - Logistics
 - Specialist Services
- Normal supply and manufacturing timeframes apply to the purchase of Goods.
- Logistics and Specialist Services can be rapidly accessed from the Panel in a crisis.
- Under a COMDISPLAN activation, non-NEMA access to the Panel may be restricted.
- Email NEMSPanelOperations@nema.gov.au for more information.

Non-Defence Capabilities: Disaster Relief Australia



Who are Disaster Relief Australia?

- A veteran led disaster relief non-profit organisation that assists communities in disaster recovery operations throughout Australia.
- The Australian Government funded DRA's Volunteer Uplift Program in October 2022 to strengthen their capacity and capability as an organisation, positioning DRA to provide additional support to communities.

How are Disaster Relief Australia engaged?

- As with other similar organisations, jurisdictions can engage the services of DRA directly, without any involvement from the Australian Government.
- Under COMDISPLAN the Australian Government can request the services of DRA, in place of the Australian Defence Force, when states and territories request assistance. This may be to support activities such as, debris removal, impact assessment or planning and logistics support.

Coordination and Planning Officers

- The Australian Government and NEMA are committed to supporting communities across the full emergency management continuum.
- State and Territory Governments have responsibility for preparedness, response and recovery. CPOs ensure coordination with them and connected support for communities.
- CPOs are located in metropolitan and regional centres, to ensure close proximity to state operations centres, key government stakeholders, and ease of deployment when required.
- In an crisis, CPOs act as a Liaison Officer between a State / Territory Emergency Operation Centre and the NEMA National Situation Room.





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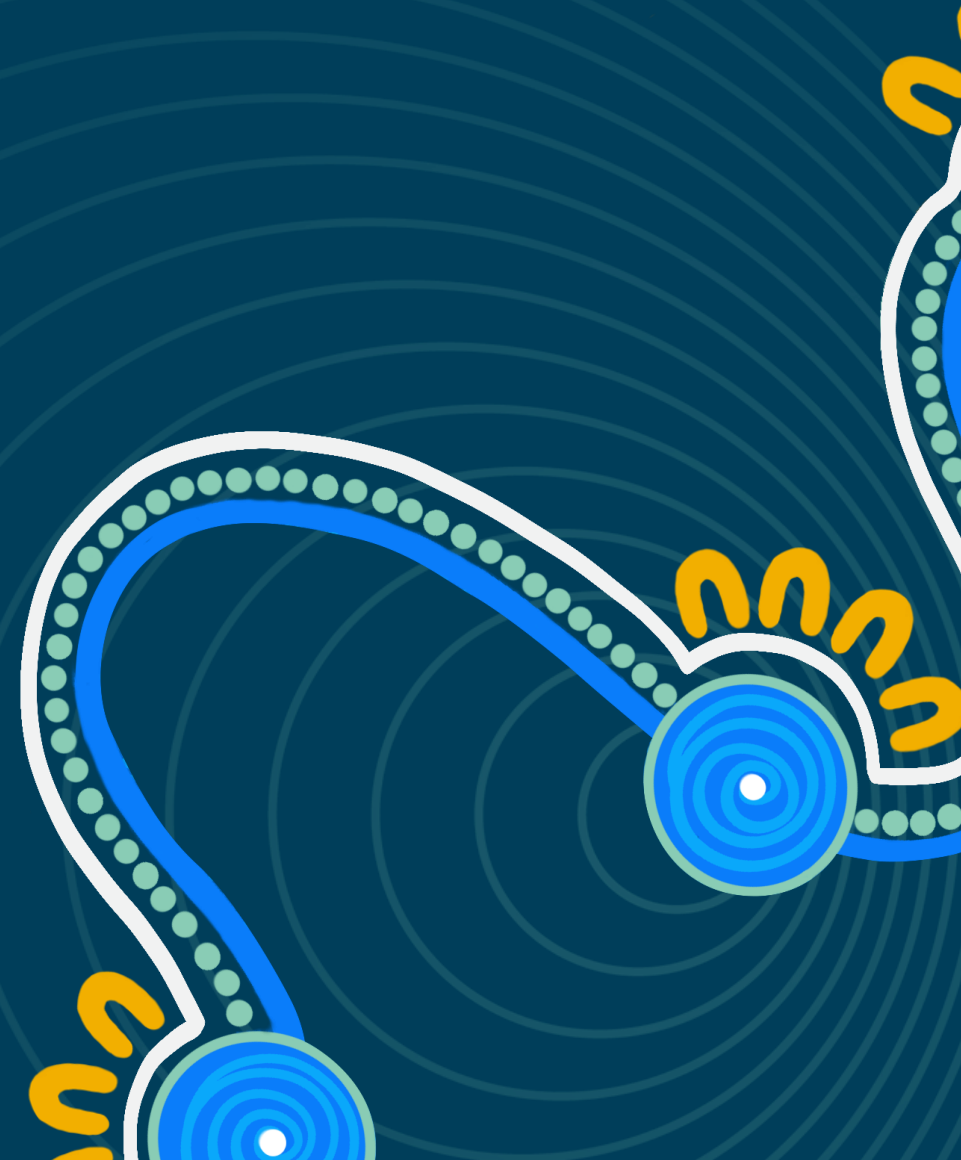
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Disaster Recovery and Resilience

Deputy Coordinator General Dr Jill Charker

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Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

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Standard measures of relief

Category A



- Personal hardship and distress assistance scheme
- Emergency food, clothing and accommodation
- Essential repairs to housing
- Personal and financial counselling
- Removal of debris from residential properties

Category B



- Essential Services Safety & Reconnection Scheme
- Counter Disaster Operations
- Freight Subsidies
- Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets
- Immediate Reconstruction Works
- Emergency Works

Exceptional circumstance assistance packages

Category C



Funding packages may include:

- Community recovery fund (e.g. mental health, flexible grants, community development officers, industry/sector recovery packages)
- Recovery grants for primary producers, small business and NFPs

Category D



Funding packages may include:

- Building asset resilience (Betterment)
- Clean up or restoration of assets ineligible under Category B REPA
- (e.g. environmental/natural assets)

Recovery Support

The **Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment** (AGDRP)

- a one-off payment
- to eligible Australian residents
- adversely affected by a major disaster.
- activated in response to major disasters
- provides \$1,000 per adult and \$400 per child



The **Disaster Recovery Allowance** (DRA)

- a short-term income support payment
- assist individuals
- demonstrate their income has been affected as a direct result of a disaster.
- up to 13 weeks of income support