

# Disaster Health Handbook

## Project Brief

<p><b>Context</b></p>	<p>AIDR is contracted by Emergency Management Australia (EMA) to manage the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection ('Handbook Collection').</p> <p>The Handbook Collection provides guidance on national principles and practices for disaster resilience. The Handbook Collection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is the authoritative and trusted source of knowledge about disaster resilience principles in Australia</li> <li>• aligns national disaster resilience strategy and policy with practice, by guiding and supporting jurisdictions, agencies and other organisations and individuals in their implementation and adoption</li> <li>• highlights and promotes the adoption of good practice in building disaster resilience in Australia</li> <li>• builds interoperability between jurisdictions, agencies, businesses and communities by promoting use of a common language and coordinated, nationally agreed principles.</li> </ul> <p>The Disaster Health Handbook ('the handbook') has been scheduled for review.</p>
<p><b>Purpose</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the handbook is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be the authoritative and trusted source of knowledge regarding disaster health in Australia</li> <li>• provide clarity on the nationally agreed principles for disaster health in Australia</li> <li>• identify and promote the adoption of good practice in disaster health</li> <li>• build interoperability between jurisdictions, agencies, businesses and community leaders by outlining common language and coordinated, nationally agreed principles;</li> <li>• align national disaster resilience strategy and policy with disaster health principles by informing and assisting jurisdictions, agencies and other organisations and individuals in the implementation and adoption of these principles.</li> </ul> <p>As the handbook reflects nationally agreed principles, its primary purpose is not to guide disaster health response. However, this does not rule out the potential support the handbook may provide in this environment. Where need and value are demonstrated, companion tools will be identified and developed to provide additional guidance and support to the handbook in these circumstances.</p>
<p><b>Audience</b></p>	<p>The intended audiences for the handbook are the people responsible for developing policies, capabilities and doctrine within their own jurisdictions, agencies, organisations, and communities. These agencies and organisations include Commonwealth, state, territory and local government departments, emergency management agencies and non-government organisations.</p> <p>The audience may also include community groups, educators, researchers, planners, businesses and the private sector that may also find content in the handbooks that will be of value to them.</p> <p>It is expected that international organisations involved in emergency management will also use the handbooks.</p>



<p><b>Project Description</b></p>	<p>The project will draw on and complement current and ongoing activity in disaster health and build on the capability and knowledge of organisations and individuals across the disaster resilience sector in Australia and internationally.</p> <p>A multidisciplinary expert reference group will inform the project and a content writer engaged.</p>
<p><b>Outputs</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A project brief and project plan.</li> <li>2. Engagement with and collaboration amongst the multidisciplinary reference groups and key stakeholders.</li> <li>3. Environmental scan including needs assessment and gap analysis to inform handbook content and to reflect current good practice in disaster health.</li> <li>4. Review of the Health Aspects of Chemical, Biological and Radiological Hazards, 2000 manual.</li> <li>5. A published Disaster Health handbook that will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be published online with read, print, search and purchase functionality through the Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub and other AIDR websites.</li> <li>• be governed by a set of principles and guidelines to ensure compliance with the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection framework, policy and guidelines.</li> <li>• include a process for lifecycle management of the handbook.</li> <li>• include a framework for identifying and developing resources to support adoption and application of the handbook in practice.</li> </ul> </li> <li>6. National promotion of the revised Disaster Health handbook.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Outcomes</b></p>	<p>The Disaster Health handbook will be developed with current and relevant content that will be easily accessible and useful for anyone involved in or interested in disaster health. The handbook will be recognised as a leading authoritative guidance in disaster health in Australia. It will be well-known and referenced and form the foundation for development of more detailed, jurisdictional and agency relevant disaster health arrangements.</p> <p>The project will increase general awareness of good practice principles in disaster health.</p>
<p><b>Project Steering Committee and Working Group Membership</b></p>	<p>The AIDR Handbook Advisory Group will oversee the project planning, scope and delivery.</p> <p>Members of the Steering Committee and Working Group will be selected based on their skills, experience and sector or area of interest which their organisation represents.</p> <p>The AIDR Handbook Advisory Group will provide governance and guidance to the review of the handbook within the national disaster resilience handbook collection including guidance on scope, purpose and project delivery.</p>



<b>Key Milestones</b>	Writer appointed	August 2018
	Project brief and scoping	September 2018
	Project working group convened	September 2018
	Working group scoping meeting	September 2018
	First draft	October 2018
	Working group feedback on first draft	November 2018
	Second draft	December 2018-January 2019
	Working group and stakeholder consultation	February 2019
	Final drafting and review	February-March 2019
	Submitted for sign off for publication	March 2019
<b>Related Documents</b>	<p>Disaster Health (Handbook 1) 2011                      National Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2011                      National Health Emergency Response Arrangements 2011                      Health Aspects of Chemical, Biological and Radiological Hazards (Manual 13) 2000                      Please add other resources to be considered in the review process.</p>	
<b>About AIDR</b>	<p>AIDR is a disaster resilience knowledge centre. We develop, maintain and share knowledge and learning to support a disaster resilient Australia. We work with government, communities, non-government organisations, not-for-profits, research organisations, education partners, and the private sector to enhance disaster resilience through innovative thought leadership, professional development and knowledge sharing.</p> <p>AIDR is funded by the Commonwealth Department of Home Affairs through Emergency Management Australia and supported by its partners, AFAC, Australian Red Cross and BNHCRC.</p>	
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