# Emergency Management Arrangements Handbook

## Project Brief

### Context

<table>
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<tr>
<th>AIDR is contracted by Emergency Management Australia (EMA) to manage the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection ('Handbook Collection'). The Handbook Collection provides guidance on national principles and practices for disaster resilience. The Handbook Collection:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• is the authoritative and trusted source of knowledge about disaster resilience principles in Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>• 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</td>
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<tr>
<td>• highlights and promotes the adoption of good practice in building disaster resilience in Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>• builds interoperability between jurisdictions, agencies, businesses and communities by promoting use of a common language and coordinated, nationally agreed principles.</td>
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Australian Emergency Management Arrangements (Handbook 9) has been scheduled for review.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Australian Emergency Management Arrangements Handbook ('the handbook') is to:

| • be the authoritative and trusted source of knowledge of the emergency management arrangements in Australia |
| • provide clarity on the nationally agreed principles regarding emergency management arrangements in Australia |
| • identify and promote the adoption of good practice in emergency management arrangements |
| • build interoperability between jurisdictions, agencies, businesses and community leaders by outlining common language and coordinated, nationally agreed principles; |
| • align national disaster resilience strategy and policy with emergency management arrangements by informing and assisting jurisdictions, agencies and other organisations and individuals in the implementation and adoption of these arrangements. |

As the handbook reflects nationally agreed principles, its primary purpose is not to guide emergency management in a response to a disaster. 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.

### Audience

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.

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.

It is expected that international organisations involved in emergency management will also use the handbooks.

**Project Description**

The project will draw on and complement current and ongoing activity in emergency management arrangements and build on the capability and knowledge of organisations and individuals across the disaster resilience sector in Australia and internationally.

A multidisciplinary expert reference group will inform the project and a content writer engaged.

**Outputs**

1. A project brief and project plan.
2. Engagement with and collaboration amongst the multidisciplinary reference groups and key stakeholders.
3. Environmental scan including needs assessment and gap analysis to inform handbook content and to reflect current good practice in emergency management arrangements.
4. A published Emergency Management Arrangements handbook that will:
   - be published online with read, print, search and purchase functionality through the Australian Disaster Resilience Knowledge Hub and other AIDR websites.
   - be governed by a set of principles and guidelines to ensure compliance with the Australian Disaster Resilience handbook collection framework, policy and guidelines.
   - include a process for lifecycle management of the handbook.
   - include a framework for identifying and developing resources to support adoption and application of the handbook in practice.

**Outcomes**

The Australian Emergency Management Arrangements handbook will be developed with current and relevant content that will be easily accessible and useful for anyone involved in or interested in emergency management.

The handbook will be recognised as a leading authoritative guidance in emergency management arrangements in Australia. It will be well-known and be referenced and form the foundation for development of more detailed, jurisdictional and agency relevant emergency management arrangements.

The project will increase general awareness of good practice principles in emergency management arrangements.

**Project Working Group Membership**

The AIDR Handbook Advisory Group will oversee the project planning, scope and delivery. Representatives from the following organisations will be invited to join the working group:

- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA)
- Australian Red Cross
- Dept of the Chief Minister (NT)
- Dept of Fire and Emergency Services (WA)
- Emergency Management Australia (EMA)
Members of the Working Group will be selected based on their skills, experience and sector or area of interest which their organisation represents.

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.

### Related Documents

- Australian Emergency Management Arrangements (Handbook 9), 2014
- Productivity Commission Report, 2014
- National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, 2011
- Commonwealth, state, territory and local government emergency management plans
- A Capability Roadmap: Enhancing emergency management in Australia 2016 (AFAC, EMA)

*Please add other resources to be considered in the review process.*

### About AIDR

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.

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### Contact

Amanda Lamont – Director, Engagement & Projects, AIDR  
Tel 03 9418 5268  Mobile 0407 696 300  
Email amanda.lamont@aidr.org.au  Web [http://www.aidr.org.au](http://www.aidr.org.au)  
370 Albert Street, East Melbourne  VIC  3002