

IGEM CONNECT

Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management
July 2024 Edition 30



Acknowledgment of Country

The Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management would like to acknowledge the Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this Country.

We recognise their connection to land, sea, and community. We pay our respects to them, their cultures, and to their Elders, past, present, and emerging.

Welcome to the latest edition of IGEN Connect.

As we pass the halfway mark of another busy year, we have several significant updates to share with you. At the Office of the Inspector-General of Emergency Management (Office of the IGEN), we are currently undertaking the 2023-24 Severe Weather Season Review. We have now held community forums across several local government areas to gather insights into the community's experiences during the season. Thank you to those who attended and the many others who have made a submission to the Review, including government agencies, local governments and non-government organisations. Review submissions close on 30 August 2024.

Our office has also completed the formal, independent report on the 2019 Monsoon Trough Rainfall and Flood Event. The report, available on our website, offers valuable insights which serve as a 'point in time' reference that can assist in informing the ongoing transformation and advancement of recovery. A big thank you to all who contributed.

In addition to these key developments, we have a special milestone to celebrate this month. July marks 10 years since the establishment of the Office of the IGEN. Over the past decade, we've collaborated with a wide range of partners to enhance disaster management in Queensland. We appreciate your support and look forward to

continued collaboration on innovative solutions for the future. I also wish to acknowledge past and present staff for their excellent contribution.

From all of us at the Office of the IGEM, we are excited to continue working together in this new financial year, and beyond, to drive further advancements and strengthen Queensland's disaster management sector.

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2023–24 Severe Weather Season Review Update

As outlined in the April edition of IGEM Connect, the Office of the IGEM is conducting a review of the significant weather events relating to the 2023–24 Severe Weather Season.

The IGEM, along with review team members, has held 10 community forums across nine local government areas, with three more forums scheduled in early August. Each community forum has been incredibly insightful, with attendees openly sharing their experiences during the many significant weather events.

We are grateful for the support and services provided by Articulous, the Australian Red Cross and community recovery officers from the Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority, who have provided support to community members at these forums. The review team has also held meetings with disaster management practitioners across local government, district disaster personnel and state government agencies.

If you have not made a submission, now is your chance. We want to hear from you. Submissions close at COB on 30 August 2024, with the final Review Report will be provided to our Minister by 29 September 2024. Your input is crucial in improving Queensland's disaster management.

Thank you to everyone who has already made their submissions.

[Learn more and make a submission](#)

2024 Local Disaster Management Plans Assessment process

The Office of the IGEM coordinates the annual Local Disaster Management Plan Assessment process in accordance with Section 16C of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act). Local and District Disaster Management Groups have a legislated responsibility to review and assess their local disaster management plans under Section 59 and Section 23 of the Act respectively.

The 2024 State Disaster Management Plan Assessment process is out now. This year, the process requests went out in March 2024 through the Emergency Management Capability Command, QPS, to be filtered down from district to

local groups. The 2024 process is very similar to the 2023 process, with some minor changes to the questions asked. For example, “who is considered the primary audience for your disaster management plan?”

For 2024, each disaster management group are to provide their responses back to the Office of the IGEM by Friday 30 August 2024.

[Provide your response](#)

Research Advisory Panel

The recent Research Advisory Panel (RAP) meeting, chaired by the IGEM, was another terrific demonstration of the importance of collaboration, with strong participation both online and in person.

In addition to updates from the Office of the IGEM, we heard from the Queensland Disaster Research Alliance (QDRA). Comprising seven Queensland universities, the Alliance outlined its role and structure, emphasising efforts to build collaborative research teams for significant project bids. The QDRA aims to enhance Queensland's disaster management research capabilities, foster collaboration, and elevate the visibility of the state's research strengths.

Updates from Natural Hazards Research Australia outlined advancements in core research projects, including establishing a data management framework for effective hazard data sharing.

The next RAP meeting will be held in October. If you'd like to participate in the panel, please email us via the button below.

[Participate in our Research Advisory Panel](#)

Office of the IGEM 2024–28 Strategic Plan

On 1 July, the Office of the IGEM released the 2024–28 Strategic Plan. This plan clearly articulates our direction for the next four years to our staff, partners, stakeholders and community.

The strategic plan outlines the vision, purpose, values, role and objectives of the office, along with contributing strategies and key performance indicators. It also sets out the opportunities the Office of the IGEM has to influence and lead in a sector that is dedicated to building a more resilient Queensland.

[View our 2024–28 Strategic Plan](#)

IGEM Engagements

Here's a glimpse into some of our travels over the past three months:

May 2024

The IGEM enjoyed personally congratulating the winners of our 2024 IGEM International Women's Day Awards.



The Director of Research and Communications attended the Natural Hazards Research Forum.



The IGEM travelled to Adelaide to participate in the National Space Weather Exercise Auroa hosted by the National Emergency Management Agency.



The IGEM and other Office of the IGEM staff participated in the Lessons Management Forum, hosted by the AIDR and AFAC.

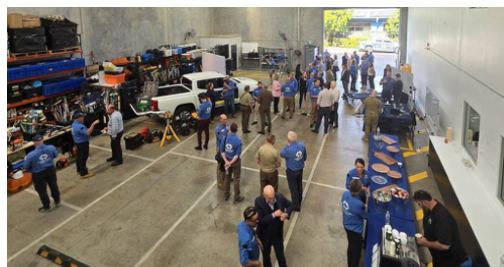


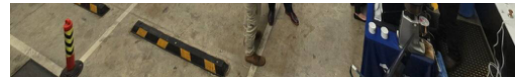
June 2024

The IGEM and Queensland Reconstruction Authority's CEO Major General Jake Ellwood (Retd) presented to the Indonesian Finance and Development Supervisory Agency's delegation at The University of Queensland.



The Director of Research and Communications attended the opening of the Disaster Relief Australia (DRA) National Operations Centre in Brisbane.





The IGEM team attended the Queensland Disaster Research Alliance steering committee meeting.



July 2024

The IGEM and Director of Research and Communications travelled to New Zealand to participate in Exercise Rū Whenua, hosted by the National Emergency Management Agency (NZ).

The Office of the IGEM attended the 2024 Disaster & Emergency Management Conference.



The Office of the IGEM hosted the Disaster Management Officers Network Forum, attended by over 110 disaster management professionals.

Representatives from local councils in Queensland joined state and federal agencies, community organisations, as well as experts from research, academia, and the non-profit sector.



Upcoming IGEM Events

Make sure you follow us on social media to find out more about our upcoming IGEM events:

Disaster Management Research Forum

Date: Tuesday 19 November 2024

Location: Rydges, South Bank Brisbane.

2023–24 Severe Weather Season Review Community Forums

As part of the 2023-24 Severe Weather Season Review, we are hosting three community forums in Far North Queensland in early August.

Date: 5, 6 and 7 August 2024

Location: Mossman, Mareeba, and Cairns (more locations may be added)

If you have any details for upcoming conferences or events you would like to share, please email

research@igem.qld.gov.au



Future Queensland Science Strategy 2024–2029

The new [Future Queensland Science Strategy 2024–2029](#) (the strategy) provides the framework for how we will support Queensland's world leading scientists to develop commercial opportunities, accelerate decarbonisation, protect our natural environment, and drive innovation in key sectors such as agriculture, health and mining.

The strategy's vision is to generate and translate Queensland science into new industries and investment, attract science talent, support economic and jobs growth particularly in the regions, and attract and maintain a skilled science workforce.

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If you or your agency would like to schedule a chat with the IGEM, please email igem.info@igem.qld.gov.au or call 07 3029 8813.

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