

Acknowledgement of Country

IGEM 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.

Message from the IGEM

Welcome to the latest edition of IGEM | Connect.

It has been a very busy year for Queensland. Between November 2021 and May 2022, the state experienced four significant weather events, with a further event in October 2022. IGEM has also had an eventful year; our South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding Review was tabled in Parliament on 12 October, we hosted our annual Disaster Management Research Forum on 23 September, and kept on top of all of our normal business activities.

I want to personally thank all of our stakeholders for their contributions to the SEQ Rainfall and Flooding Review, and extend my sincere thanks to my team for their efforts, knowledge and professionalism during the review process.

It was a significant piece of work involving almost 250 submissions, 13 community forums and engagement with stakeholders and communities across the 23 affected local government areas.

2023 is also shaping up to be a busy one for IGEM. On 14 December 2022 the Government requested that we conduct a review of Queensland's disaster management arrangements

(QDMA) to inform any changes to the arrangements, legislative reforms, or any updates to the State Disaster Management Plan. This review will also inform the transition of disaster management functions to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and other relevant agencies. We are looking forward to working with all stakeholders throughout this process.



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The severe weather season is also now upon us and we know that when it comes to extreme weather events in Queensland, it's not a matter of 'if' but 'when'. Being prepared before a disaster occurs could be the difference between staying safe or putting yourself and those you love in danger. This includes understanding your risk and ensuring you have a plan to keep you and your family safe in the event of a disaster. The [QRA's Get Ready Program](#) is the right place to start.

The latest updates from the Bureau of Meteorology indicate that La Niña will continue into early 2023. As always, IGEM will work in partnership with entities across the disaster management sector to prepare for any future event. Please reach out to the IGEM team should you need any assistance with your organisation's plans or exercises.

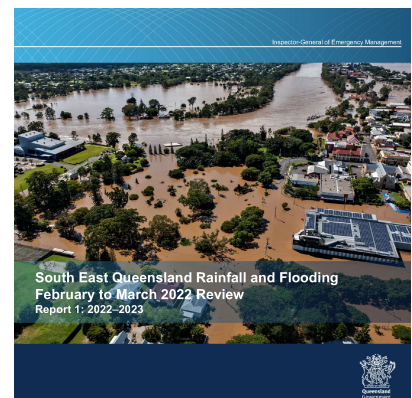
Thank you for your partnership this year as we work together to make Queensland a safer and more resilient place for all. We wish you a safe and restful holidays.

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South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding Review 2022

IGEM's review into the South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding February to March 2022 was tabled 12 October 2022.

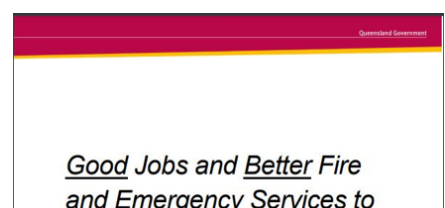
This review assessed the effectiveness of preparedness activities undertaken, the timing and effectiveness of Emergency Alerts that were issued, the timing and effectiveness of other communication and information, and the effectiveness of cooperation between agencies regarding the rainfall and flooding event that occurred from 22 February to 7 March 2022. There were 19 recommendations resulting from the review. The Government has been working closely with IGEM and relevant stakeholders, including local governments, to determine how recommendations can be given best effect.



[Find out more >>](#)

New review into Queensland's Disaster Management Arrangements

On 26 October 2022, the Minister for Police and Emergency Services and the Minister for Fire and Emergency Services, The Hon Mark Ryan MP tabled the "[Independent Review of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services](#)" report, along with the "[Sustaining the SES – Partnering for Change](#)" and the "[Review into Volunteer Marine and Rescue Organisations](#)".



the [Review into Volunteer Marine and Rescue Organisations in Queensland](#) reports.

The Minister also tabled the Queensland Government Response to these reviews: "[Good Jobs and Better Fire and Emergency Services to Support Queensland's Great Lifestyle](#)". These review reports and the response are all available on the Queensland Parliament website.

As part of the Government's response, on 14 December 2022 the IGEM has been tasked with conducting a review of Queensland's Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA). The work to be undertaken by the IGEM will inform any changes to disaster management arrangements, legislative reforms, or any updates to the State Disaster Management Plan. The review will also inform the transition of disaster management functions to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) and other relevant agencies.

Over the next 18 weeks we will work closely with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning, relevant state agencies involved in disaster management, the State Disaster Coordinator (SDC), the Local Government Association of Queensland, and other relevant stakeholders to obtain information necessary to the review.

The IGEM will present a final review report to government for consideration by 29 April 2023. The [Terms of Reference](#) are available on the IGEM website.

Stakeholder inputs are critical to the success of this wide-ranging and important review; we look forward to working closely with you through this process.

[Find out more >>](#)

Disaster Management Research Forum 2022

This year's Disaster Management Research Forum delivered an insightful day of presentations, collaboration and conversation. Topics were developed in conjunction with working group members from the Research Advisory Panel and included a thematic focus on research in action; applying the latest and best evidence to the 'wicked problems' that help or hinder effective disaster management.

IGEM thanks all our presenters and attendees for making the day such a success. We look forward to planning the next forum with you

Videos from all sessions have now been posted and are available [at the link below](#).

Support Queensland's Great Lifestyle



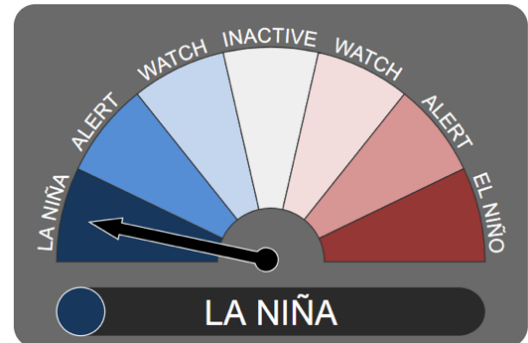
[Find out more >>](#)

La Niña continues

The Bureau of Meteorology has advised that La Niña continues and is likely to persist into early 2023.

We have already seen impacts from this weather system across Australia, with flooding in central and western Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria with ongoing weather patterns predicted to impact communities still recovering from flood events earlier this year.

It's vital that we are prepared for future disaster events. IGEM encourages all entities to review their disaster management plans and emergency warning communication procedures to ensure currency.



[Find out more >>](#)

Disaster Management Plan Assessments

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this year's disaster management plan assessment process. There was an excellent response rate, and we appreciate your commitment to improving planning and disaster management plans. A consultation draft will be circulated in the coming weeks with the final report to be released subsequently. In the meantime, should you require any further information on your Disaster Management Plan Assessment, please contact Veronica Sosa at Veronica.Sosa@igem.qld.gov.au or Peter Mansfield at Peter.Mansfield@igem.qld.gov.au.

International Women's Day 2023 Awards

Nominations for the [2023 International Women's Day Awards](#) are now open.

Throughout the past 12 months, Queensland has endured floods, COVID-19 and biosecurity events. The Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM) International Women's Day awards recognise individuals and organisations who actively champion change and demonstrate excellence, resulting in the promotion of equality and diversity in their workplaces and making a tangible improvement to the disaster management sector.



International
Women's Day

The 2023 award categories are:

- Champion of Change
- Excellence in Disaster Management – Practitioner
- Excellence in Disaster Management – Research

The awards are open to individuals or groups in the disaster management sector who meet the award criteria. Winners will be announced in March 2023.

Congratulations once again to this year's IGEM International Women's Day 2022 Award winners

- **Excellence in Disaster Management (Practitioner)** - Ms Pia Fletcher, Southern Downs Regional Council
- **Excellence in Disaster Management (Research)** - Dr Kimberley Reis, Griffith University
- **Champion of Change (Individual)** - Ms Tammy Myles, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
- **Champion of Change (Organisation)** - Butchulla Aboriginal Corporation

[Find out more >>](#)

2022 Get Ready Queensland Resilient Australia Awards

The *Get Ready Queensland Resilient Australia Awards* celebrate and promote initiatives that build whole-of-community resilience to disasters and emergencies around Australia, as well as

images capturing resilience in action.

Congratulations to all the Queensland finalists! Thank you for helping to making Queensland a more resilient state. The winners from these awards progress to the Resilient Australia Awards, with the winners to be announced at the end of the year.

Please click the link below to see the successful entrants in this year's awards.



[Find out more >>](#)

Australian Red Cross Rediplan

The Australian Red Cross is encouraging community members to prepare for disasters by creating their own RediPlan.

There are a range of resources available to help prepare for disasters, including information in Auslan and community languages and resources for children and carers.



[Find out more >>](#)

Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

It was a pleasure to host international delegates and connect with our interstate and regional colleagues at the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The conference was held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre from 19-22 September 2022, focusing on the theme 'From Crisis to Resilience: Transforming the Asia-Pacific Region's future through disaster risk reduction'.

We welcomed the opportunity to learn from regional neighbours tackling the impacts of concurrent and compounding disasters and reaffirmed the importance of the [Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030](#) which provides for concrete actions to protect from the risk of disasters. The Framework also recognises that responsibility for disaster risk reduction should be shared among diverse stakeholders, including local government, the private sector and other stakeholders.

Session recordings of the conference are available online if you were unable to make the conference, or missed a session.

[Find out more >>](#)

2022 LGAQ Annual Conference

IGEM attended the 2022 LGAQ Annual Conference at the Cairns Convention Centre from 17-19 October 2022. This was a great opportunity for us to engage with stakeholders from local governments across Queensland.

This year's conference program included speakers and topics based on the theme of liveability.





National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

The recently established National Emergency Management Australia (NEMA) combines the National Recovery and Resilience Agency, and Emergency Management Australia, to create a single, enduring, end-to-end agency to better respond to emergencies, help communities recover, and prepare Australia for future disasters. We congratulate Brendan Moon AM on his appointment by the Commonwealth Government to lead NEMA as Coordinator-General, and thank him for his service with the Queensland Reconstruction Authority.

[Find out more >>](#)

2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics Census data released

The recently released 2021 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census data tells the statistical story of modern Australia and highlights the many changes that have happened in our community since 2016.

The Census data enables agencies to better understand at-risk populations and the needs of different communities in planning for, and responding to, disaster events. The data will also improve understanding of the community's composition, identify risks and assist with preparedness, communication and evacuation plans.

Identifying households without transport, comprised of people who are new arrivals to the community, or who require special assistance, improves planning for vulnerable community members.

Census data can also inform decisions by disaster management staff during an event.

[Find out more >>](#)



Upcoming conferences and events

Floodplain Management Australia

- Sydney, 23-26 May 2023

EMPA Annual National Conference

- Brisbane, 7-9 June 2023

LGAQ DM Conference, including DMO Network Forum

- Brisbane, 30 May - 1 June 2023

Lessons Management Forum

- Canberra, 20-22 June 2023

AIDR/AFAC Conference

- Brisbane, 22-25 August (AIDR 23-24 August 2023)

Coffee with the IGEM

If you or your agency would like to schedule a coffee catch with the IGEM on all things disaster management-related, please email igem.info@igem.qld.gov.au or call [07 3029 8813](tel:0730298813) to arrange.

Image



**WISHING YOU A HAPPY
HOLIDAY SEASON AND A SAFE
AND JOYFUL NEW YEAR!**

Follow us on social media

Don't forget to follow IGEM on Facebook and Twitter, for all the latest news and information about Queensland's disaster management sector.



Contact Us

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