

# Queensland Reconstruction Authority

An aerial photograph showing a wide river on the left, a multi-lane highway interchange in the center, and urban buildings on the right. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal banner.

## Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017

*Making Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia*

**Rachel Nibbs, General Manager Resilience and Recovery**

# Our Vision

*“To build a more disaster resilient Queensland” by facilitating, supporting and working collaboratively with governments, industries and community groups*

## Key themes for today

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- Synergies between resilience and recovery
- Lessons about resilience as learned through our recovery efforts
- Inspiration taken from our delivery of flood resilience projects
- Benefits of locally-led and collaborative approaches
- Applying learnings to the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

# Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017

*Making Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia*



Understand  
risk



Strengthen



Invest



Continuous  
improvement

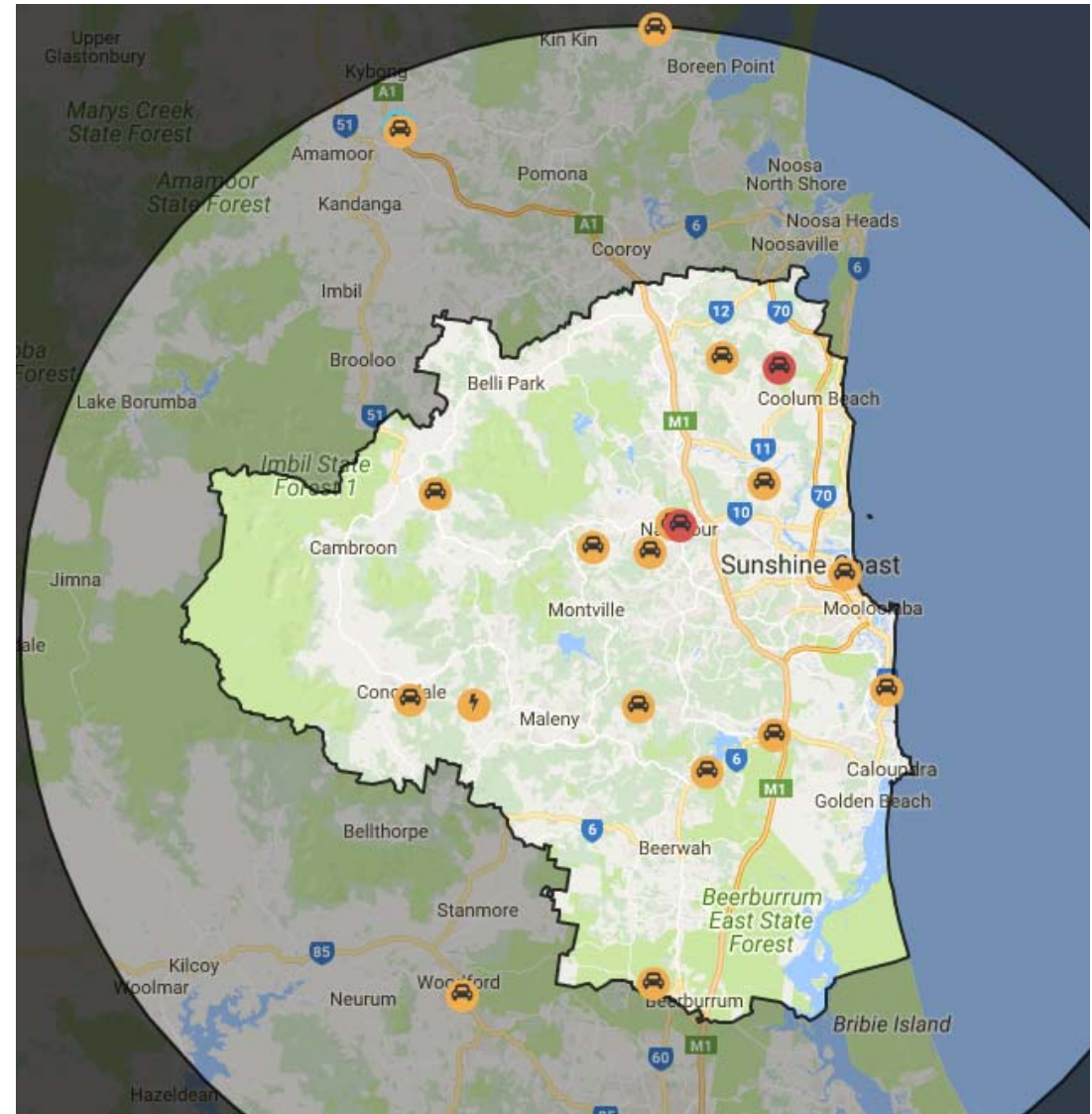
## Darling Downs and South West Queensland

*Improving mental health and fostering resilience through community connectedness*



## Sunshine Coast Regional Council Disaster Hub

*Raising community  
awareness of natural  
hazards and risks to  
support informed  
decisions*



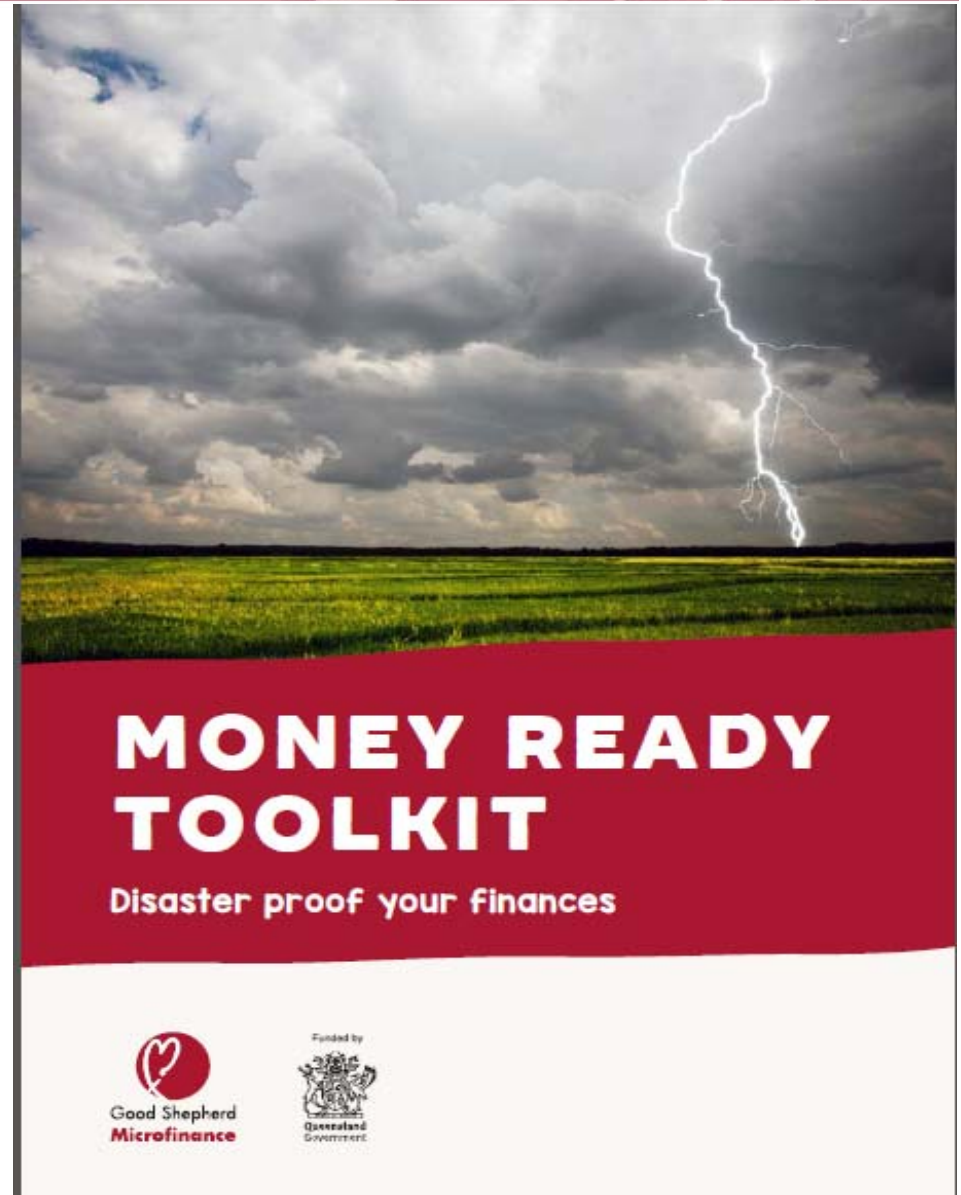
## Fire Management Plans for North Stradbroke Island

*Restoring resilience  
through traditional and  
contemporary fire  
management practices*



## Money Ready Toolkit by Good Shepherd Microfinance

*Supporting vulnerable  
communities to get back  
on their feet following a  
disaster*





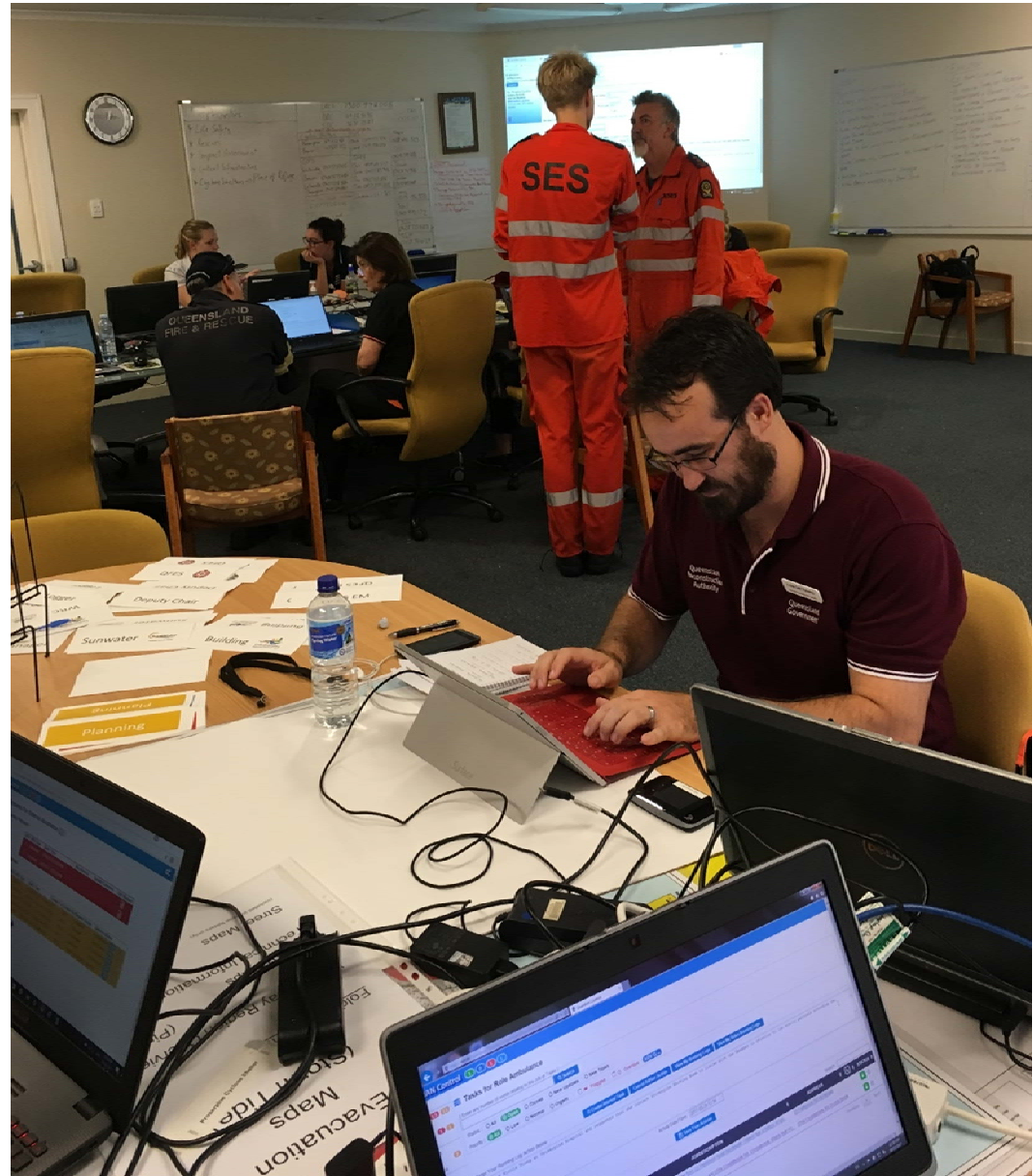
**Backpacker's welcomed  
to the Lockyer Valley  
with free BBQs**

*Inducting international  
visitors about local issues*



## Recovery and Resilience (synergies)

- Recovery and Resilience of our local communities is a shared responsibility
- The community looks to local government and agencies to lead local recovery and resilience efforts
- QRA is committed to supporting and working collaboratively with local communities to get the job done



## Challenges

This is a busy and challenging phase for LGA's, State agencies and the community:

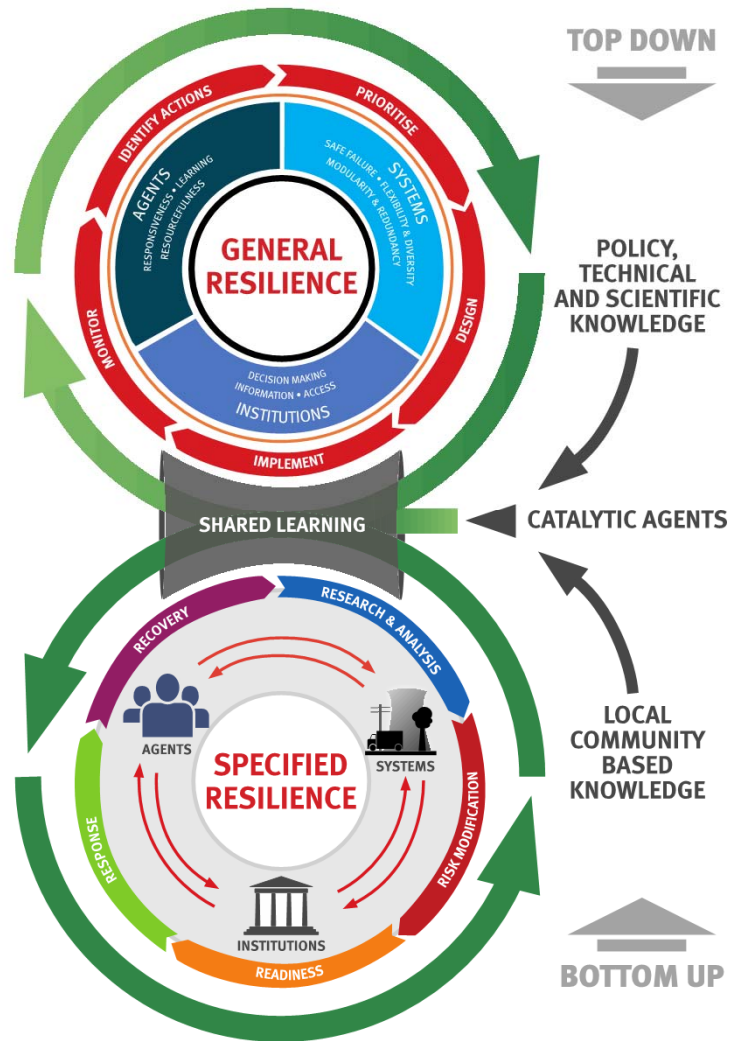
- Preparing for Recovery whilst in Response mode
- Preparing for Resilience whilst in Recovery mode
- Gaining traction at local and district levels for state-wide policies and initiatives
- Manage challenges/expectations of doing our job well
- Juggling this work with our day jobs



# General and specified resilience

**Thinking strategically:**  
Insurance against uncertainty  
“Safety net”  
Governance framework

**Acting locally:**  
Mitigation and betterment  
Projects responding to specific hazards at specific locations



## The need for a resilience lens

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Internationally recognised science - climate change will continue to drive extreme weather events

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Natural disasters imposed a \$9 billion impact on Australia's economy in 2015.

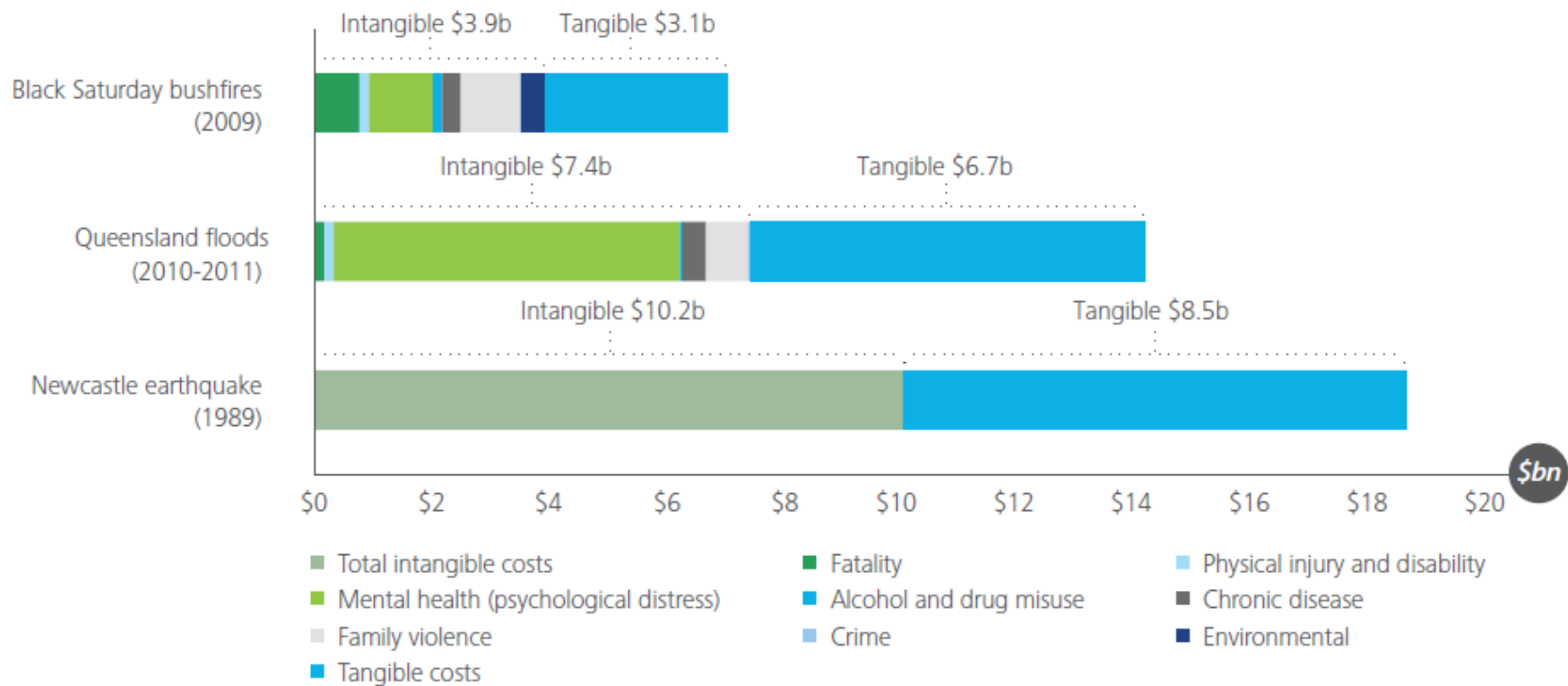
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Queensland is the most disaster prone state in Australia - \$14 billion damage to public infrastructure since 2011

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**Global trends, international research and recent events confirm the need to improve our preparedness for, and recovery from disasters.**

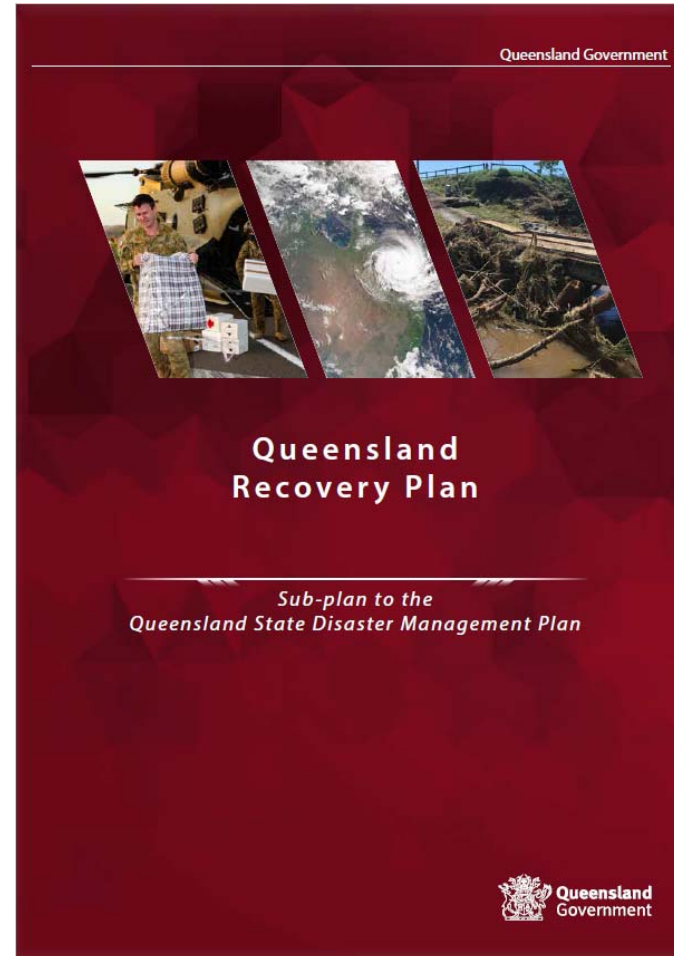
# Economic cost of the social impact of natural disasters

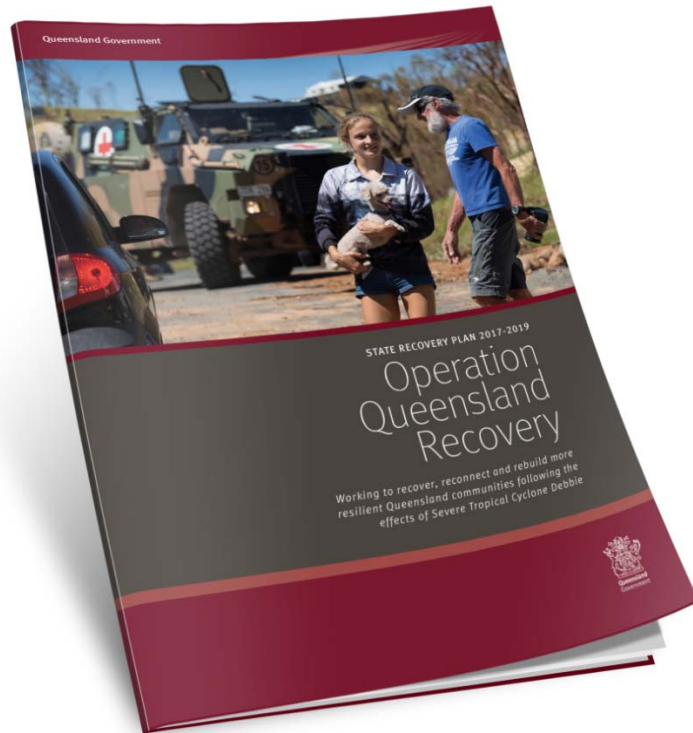


Source: Deloitte Access Economics analysis

## Queensland Recovery Plan

Queensland's principal reference document when planning for and conducting recovery operations





Recovery experience from recent years shows communities that are well prepared and supported before a disaster occurs are more resilient and able to recover faster.

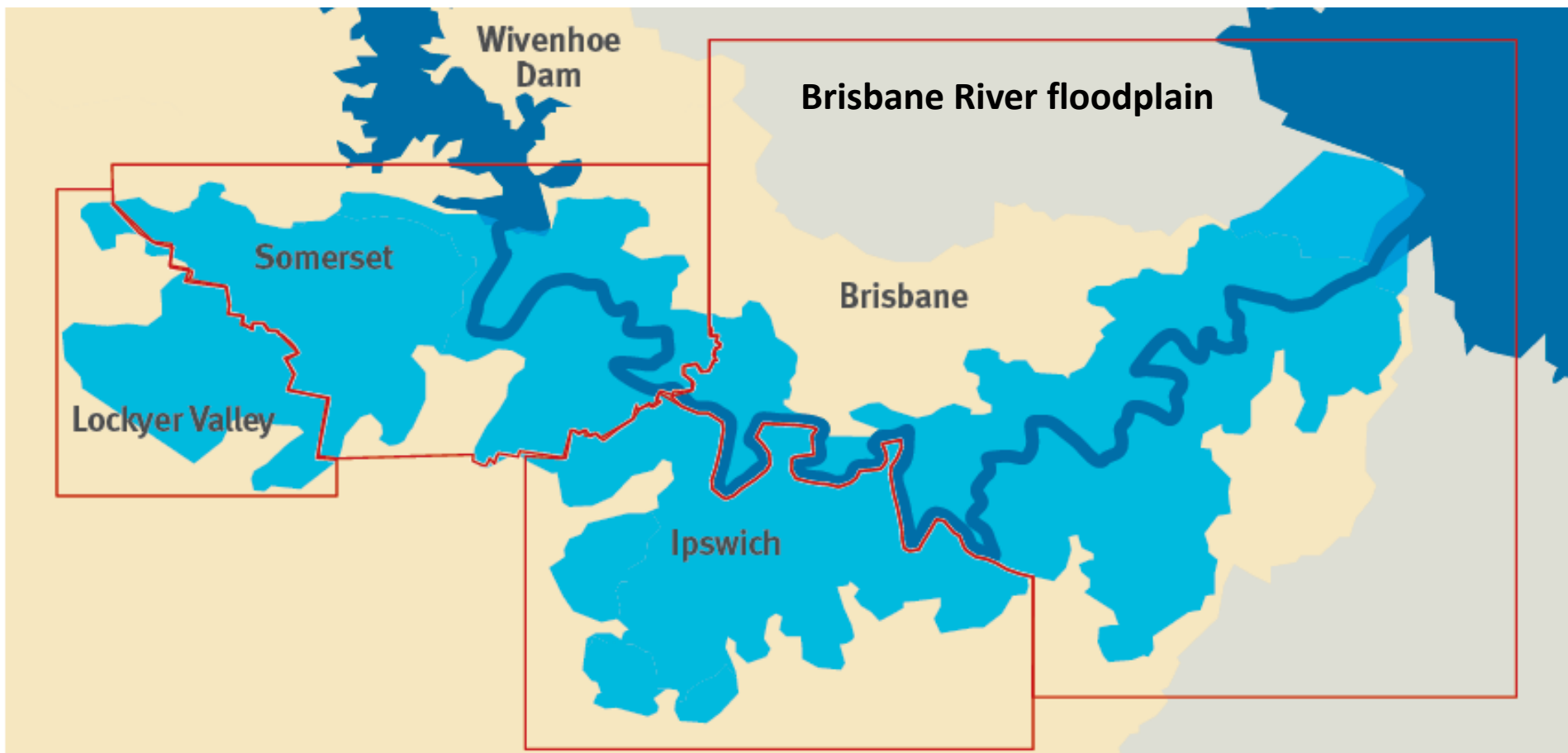
Source: State Recovery Plan 2017-2019: Operation Queensland Recovery, 2017



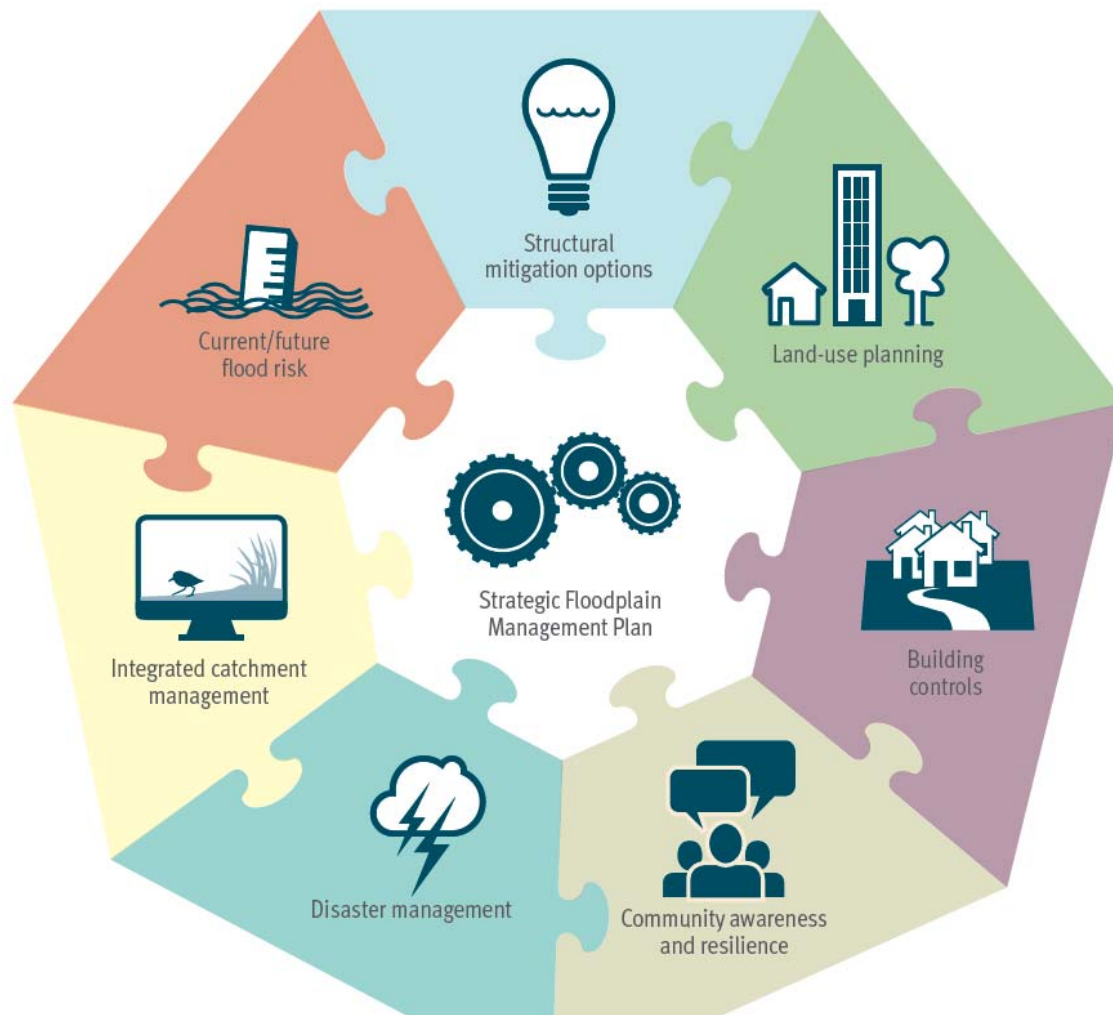


## Regional-scale coordination

Flood waters don't recognise government boundaries



## Benefits of a multi-disciplinary approach



## Floodplain management – local challenges



of local governments need further support in developing floodplain risk management plans and policies

*“We’d love to see more coordination to enable forums for knowledge sharing.”*

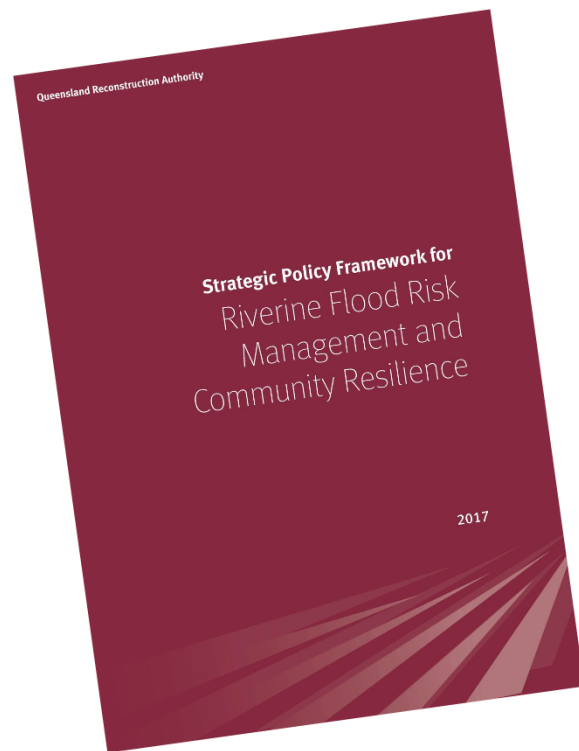


of rural/regional local governments would benefit from assistance in collaborating with other LGAs

*“There are numerous entities working on multiple bodies of work – these need to be aligned to common objectives.”*

*“Continued funding and engagement is crucial to ongoing resilience building.”*

# Strategic Policy Framework for Riverine Flood Risk





# Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017

*Making Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia*



WHAT'S YOUR  
**[WHAT-IF PLAN?]**

**If disaster strikes...  
are you ready?**

# Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017

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## OBJECTIVE 1

### Queenslanders understand their disaster risk

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#### Our commitments

- Drive attitudinal, cultural and behavioural change
- Understand risks associated with climate change and coastal management
- Increase community awareness and preparedness
- Initiate research and evaluation projects – to promote resilience

#### What has been delivered

- Queensland State-wide Natural Disaster Risk Assessment (QFES)
- Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QFES)
- Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy 2017-2030 (DEHP)
- Queensland Climate Transition Strategy (DEHP)
- Get Ready Queensland
- Preparing Your Business for Natural Disasters 2016
- Cohesive communities: an action plan for Queensland (DPC)

## OBJECTIVE 2

### Strengthened disaster risk management

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#### Our commitments

- Building partnerships across community, industry, research organisations and government to improve the health of waterways and marine areas
- Providing opportunities for community-based solutions to the impacts of disasters
- Development and implementation of a strategic framework for flood risk management

#### What has been delivered

- Queensland Regional Natural Resource Management Investment Program (2013-2018 (DNRM))
- Strategic Policy Framework for Riverine Flood Risk Management and Community Resilience 2017 (QRA)
- Indigenous Land and Sea Ranger Program 2017 (DEHP)
- Queensland Recovery Plan (QRA)

## OBJECTIVE 3

### Queenslanders are invested in disaster risk reduction

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#### Our commitments

- Delivering more resilient infrastructure and transport systems
- Supporting the ability of our natural assets to serve as protective buffers against disaster impacts
- Promoting the incorporation of risk reduction in all planning and development
- Innovation in urban area design for living with the impacts of floods and droughts
- Furthering the understanding and management of natural landscapes to reduce the impacts and effects of floods and bushfires
- Building greater business resilience and preparedness
- Minimising disaster impacts through flexible and adaptive planning

#### What has been delivered

- Queensland Betterment Fund (QRA)
- QCoast2100 – Queensland Local Government Coastal Hazard Adaptation Program 2016 (LGAQ and DEHP)
- State Planning Policy 2017 (DILGP)
- Burnett River Catchment Flood Resilience Strategy Pilot Project (QRA and LGAs)
- Flood Warning Gauge Network (QRA)

## OBJECTIVE 4

### Continuous improvement in disaster preparedness, response and recovery

#### Our commitments

- Identifying adaptation opportunities following disasters and in anticipation of climate change
- Driving continuous improvement in disaster management in Queensland via assurance frameworks and accompanying performance measures

#### What has been delivered

- Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy 2017-2030 (DEHP)
- Emergency Management Assurance Framework (IGEM)
- Disaster Management Research Framework (IGEM)
- Cyclone Debbie Review: Lessons for delivering value and confidence through trust and empowerment (IGEM)
- Emergency Management Prioritisation Tool (IGEM)

# Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017

*Making Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia*



**Resilience is different in every community  
- a one-size-fits-all approach won't work**

## Implementation Plan for building resilience

- share and leverage existing resilience good practice
- identify gaps and opportunities
- ensure we work to the same aims and objectives



## Implementation Plan for building resilience

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“On tap, not on top”

Local leadership, with state facilitation and resources

## QRA support – we want to hear from you

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- QRA is delivering on our vision to build a more disaster-resilient Queensland
- We are continually evaluating the support we provide that best enables you to get on with the job of leading local recovery efforts
- How can we facilitate, advocate and collaborate more effectively in the future?
  - Improving local recovery models and governance?
  - Increasing recovery exercising?



# Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Questions?