

## Principles and processes for prioritising and influencing urban resilience investment

Principles	Processes
<b>Shift from a reactive to a proactive approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shift the focus of resilience investment from the response phase to preparedness, mitigation, adaptation and transformation</li> <li>Adopt a systems approach</li> <li>Incentivise preventative investments</li> <li>Enhance socio-spatial and economic justice</li> <li>Ground lived experiences and community voices in investment in preparedness, mitigation adaptation and transformation</li> <li>Promote proactive planning for investment</li> </ul>
<b>Shift from a single hazard to a systemic risk approach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt a systems approach</li> <li>Recognise the interconnected nature of risks</li> <li>Prioritise projects considering multidimensional and compound impacts</li> <li>Consider interactions between multiple hazards</li> <li>Move beyond assessing individual hazards</li> <li>Consider stress and deficiencies from damage and disruption</li> <li>Consider intensifying effects</li> <li>Consider social cohesion within systemic risk assessments</li> </ul>
<b>Prioritise vulnerability and risk exposure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider vulnerability in the context of risk exposure</li> <li>Consider differences in risks of exposure</li> <li>Prioritise areas and groups at high risk of exposure</li> <li>Establish mechanisms for community-led action</li> </ul>
<b>Prioritise long-term, sustainable solutions over short-term investment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote long-term planning and adaptability</li> <li>Shift towards sustainable investment</li> <li>Overcome traditional business practices</li> </ul>
<b>Embed resilience building in investment mechanisms and projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embed resilience investment in multiscale policymaking</li> <li>Facilitate capacity building for resilience investment</li> <li>Embed resilience in general projects</li> <li>Leverage existing programs and services</li> </ul>
<b>Consider interdependencies across scales and sectors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance coordination and relationships</li> <li>Foster a shared understanding of risks</li> <li>Pursue collaborative financing and funding</li> <li>Foster multisectoral and multiscale coordination</li> <li>Support community-led initiatives</li> <li>Ensure accountability</li> </ul>
<b>Prioritise investment in communities to create value and reduce negative effects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emphasise long-term planning and adaptability</li> <li>Create value through resilience investment</li> <li>Empower communities for successful resilience delivery</li> <li>Develop continuous, meaningful engagement that adapts to changing community needs and contexts</li> </ul>

## Principles and processes for prioritising and influencing urban resilience investment

These principles and processes for resilience investment in Australia focus on creating an enabling environment for effective and sustainable investments. The principles and processes are envisaged to be used by applicants for resilience funding programs, by funders of these programs as well as other users. They are not geared towards a specific audience on a specific level or in a specific organisation but are in that sense 'context-free' to set a common ground and provide ideas for anyone involved in resilience investment and resilience building. They are normative statements, designed to guide investment decisions by promoting holistic approaches that incorporate multidimensional risk analysis, prioritise vulnerable populations, encourage long-term planning and embed resilience considerations at every stage of development and policymaking. While not all principles may be achieved, the principles can have an 'educational' effect by providing an understanding of what resilience investment should and could strive for. The principles can be used for preparing and considering a funding application and other types of resilience investments. The suggested processes under each principle give more detail.

### 1. Shift from a reactive approach to a proactive approach

- **Shift the focus of resilience investment from the response phase to preparedness, mitigation, adaptation, and transformation:** Emphasise preparedness, mitigation and adaptation to prevent disaster-related losses.
- **Adopt a systems approach:** Recognise the interconnected nature of adaptation and hazards and promote coordinated, strategic interventions. Include cultural values, local knowledge and community identity in systems thinking.
- **Incentivise preventative investments:** Allocate capital to environmental sustainability, social vulnerability and climate change to positively influence future budgets.
- **Enhance socio-spatial and economic justice:** Prioritise preparedness, adaptation, and mitigation to improve sustainability and integration, supported by national policies. Recognise emotional and social resilience in addition to technical preparedness.
- **Ground lived experiences and community voices in investment in preparedness, mitigation adaptation and transformation:** Ensure equitable participation from diverse groups in planning preparedness and adaptation.
- **Promote proactive planning for investment:** Enable and support organisations to understand their risks and key needs pre-disaster to maintain functionality and facilitate quick recovery when a disaster occurs.

### 2. Shift from a single hazard to a systemic risk approach

- **Adopt a systems approach:** Acquire a shift from a single asset view to a systemic view. Recognise the interconnected nature of adaptation and promote coordinated, strategic interventions.
- **Recognise the interconnected nature of risks:** Aim to understand the cascading and compound nature of disaster events and interventions and incorporate them into planning.
- **Prioritise projects considering multidimensional and compound impacts:** Include considerations of combined effects of multiple disasters occurring simultaneously or in succession, which can amplify the overall impact. Include social, economic, environmental and infrastructural consequences.

- **Consider interactions between multiple hazards:** Recognise situations where one hazard triggers or exacerbates another, leading to escalating impacts. Consider feedback loops.
- **Move beyond assessing individual hazards:** Focus on the interconnectedness of risks, vulnerabilities and impacts across different systems and sectors.
- **Consider stress and deficiencies from damage and disruption:** Understand how these can create new and compound existing social and financial problems across society.
- **Consider intensifying effects:** Address challenges from climate change, rapid population increase, and population movements in cities that increase the risk of exposure and change the dynamics and complexity of hazards and their impacts.
- **Consider social cohesion within systemic risk assessments:** Emphasise at-risk populations' voices to reflect the lived complexity of compound risks and impacts.

### 3. Prioritise high-risk exposure and vulnerability

- **Consider vulnerability in the context of risk exposure:** Consider the context of vulnerability and reasons for higher risk, such as exposure to risk and people who have lower adaptive and threshold capacities.
- **Consider differences in risks of exposure:** Consider systemic causes of vulnerability and higher risks of exposure and the implications of decisions on future resilience. Adopt a holistic view of risks and vulnerabilities beyond physical exposure – including social, economic and psychological dimensions.
- **Prioritise areas and groups at a high risk of exposure:** Focus on people and assets most exposed to high risk, including those situated in areas geographically prone to natural hazards and climate change effects, and people with characteristics that impact their resilience and vulnerability. Prioritise investments in communities that are more vulnerable to hazardous events due to demographic, health, socio-economic and capability factors.
- **Establish mechanisms for community-led action:** Recognise agency in at-risk populations – their strengths, coping mechanisms and leadership potential.

### 4. Prioritise long-term, sustainable solutions over short-term investment

- **Promote long-term planning for investment:** Incorporate and embed long-term planning for scalable and flexible approaches to address the root causes of systemic risks.
- **Shift towards sustainable investment:** Move from immediate fixes to sustainable solutions that anticipate and prepare for future challenges, including considerations about how present decisions affect future communities.
- **Overcome traditional business practices:** Transition from focusing on individual assets to considering the interconnectedness of entire systems in longer timespans.

### 5. Embed resilience building in investment mechanisms and projects

- **Embed resilience investment in multiscale policymaking:** Integrate resilience investment and financing into various levels of policymaking, regulations, and development projects to facilitate capacity building and disaster risk reduction.
- **Facilitate capacity building for resilience investment:** Create frameworks to guide decision-makers in aligning decisions with a broader vision for adaptation and mitigation. Enhance the capability and capacity of decision-makers to address disaster risk in policy, program and

investment decisions. Also enhance the capability and capacity of local communities so that they can be included in and support decision-making.

- **Embed resilience in general projects:** Incorporate resilience principles into general projects, such as infrastructure projects or when building new housing to increase their resilience.
- **Leverage existing programs and services:** Target funding towards existing services (emergency, evacuation, community services) and infrastructures to use them more efficiently and maximise return on investment. Address social capital and networks as key resilience resources.

## 6. Consider interdependencies across scales and sectors

- **Enhance coordination and relationships:** Strengthen connections between sectors, recognising their interlinked and complex nature to make more informed and strategic investment decisions.
- **Foster a shared understanding of risks:** Enhance coordination between government, civil society, and private sector actors to align disaster risk reduction efforts and ensure a common understanding of risks and impacts.
- **Pursue collaborative financing and funding:** Explore partnerships between government, civil society, and the private sector to share risk and financial responsibility for disaster risk reduction initiatives.
- **Foster multisectoral and multiscale coordination:** Enhance governance coordination and bridge gaps across sectors and scales to align disaster risk reduction efforts.
- **Support community-led initiatives:** Empower communities and individuals to make informed investments in disaster risk reduction. This includes co-creation with communities, valuing emotional and social dynamics within community initiatives, and building trust through transparent communication and conflict resolution.
- **Ensure accountability:** Prioritise ownership and shared responsibility in decision-making processes to enhance disaster risk reduction investment.

## 7. Prioritise investments in communities to create value and reduce negative effects

- **Emphasise long-term planning and adaptability:** Incorporate climate projections and active learning practices to address the root causes of systemic risks.
- **Create value through resilience investment:** Prioritise investments that create jobs, improve infrastructure, enhance social and natural capital, and increase economic activity to support sustainable, well-adapted and disaster-resilient futures.
- **Empower communities for successful resilience delivery:** Enable communities (including individuals, and small businesses) to make informed and sustainable investments for successful resilience delivery.
- **Develop continuous, meaningful engagement that adapts to changing community needs and contexts:** Support mental health and social wellbeing alongside physical resilience.