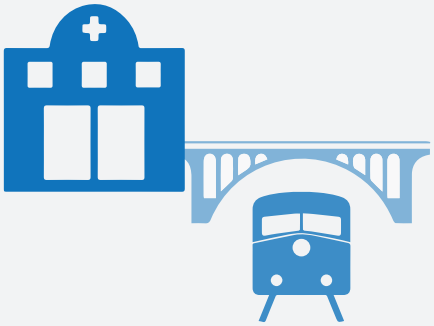
AUSTRALIAN BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE for Disaster Resilience & Safer Communities

Building Resilient Infrastructure

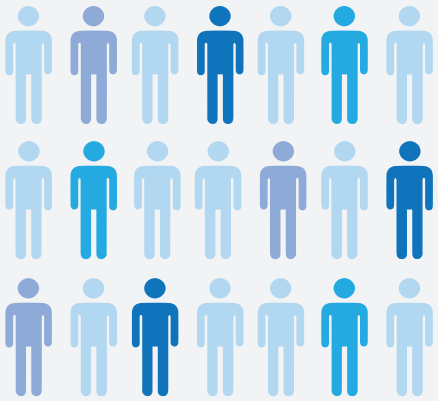
Report fact sheet
March 2016

- A major share of the costs associated with natural disasters arises from damage to critical infrastructure including roads, bridges, railways and hospitals.



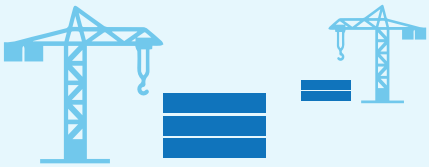
- Resilient infrastructure plays a critical role in supporting communities to withstand, respond to and recover from the potentially devastating impact of natural disasters.

- The *Building Resilient Infrastructure* report has found:
  - More than **$450 million per financial year** was spent by Australian governments on restoring essential public infrastructure assets following extreme weather events between 2002-03 and 2010-11 which equates to about **1.6%** of total public infrastructure spending.
  - **$17 billion** (in net present value terms) will need to be spent on the direct replacement costs of essential infrastructure between 2014-2015 and 2049-2050 due to the impact of natural disasters.
- Unfortunately, there is no formal requirement to consider resilience when making decisions about building infrastructure. This is leaving individuals, communities, businesses and governments vulnerable to more widespread disruption and higher repair and replacement costs.



- Embedding resilience into the planning decisions for essential infrastructure has the potential to prevent unnecessary disruption and generate significant benefits in terms of avoided disaster costs.
- As the report notes, it is not just governments that need to consider resilience in infrastructure planning. The private sector can also avoid disaster related costs by following guidance and principles for resilience in infrastructure planning.

The report recommends:



An improvement in infrastructure planning processes so that resilience is integrated into government and industry decision making.

An improvement in capacity where government and industry should work to strengthen technical capacity of practitioners to identity, analyse and evaluate the costs and benefits of resilience options.

An improvement in incentives through prioritising policy changes and funding arrangements that ensure disaster resilience has been considered and incorporated into infrastructure planning.

For further information, please visit: **australianbusinessroundtable.com.au**