

Glossary

Adaptation

Adjustment in natural or human systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects. Adaptation can be carried out in response to (post-disaster) or in anticipation of (pre-disaster) changes in weather risks. It entails a process by which measures and behaviours to prevent, moderate, cope with and take advantage of the consequences of climate events are planned, enhanced, developed and implemented. (The World Bank, 2012) *This paper is focused on the 'pre-disaster' component of adaptation.*

Benefit cost ratio

A benefit-cost ratio (BCR) is an indicator that attempts to summarize the overall value for money of a project or proposal. A BCR is the ratio of the benefits of a project or proposal, expressed in monetary terms, relative to its costs, also expressed in monetary terms. All benefits and costs should be expressed in discounted present values.

Disaster risk reduction

The concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyse and manage the causal factors of disasters, including through reduced exposure to hazards, lessened vulnerability of people and property, wise management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events. (United Nations, 2009).

Emergency Management

Emergency management has four areas of focus: prevention, preparedness, response and recovery (Australian Government – Attorney General's Department, 2011a). *This paper is focused on the **prevention** aspects of the emergency management approach.*

Mitigation

Measures taken in advance of a disaster aimed at decreasing or eliminating its impact on society and environment. (Council of Australian Governments, 2011) *[In climate change terminology, mitigation refers to actions to address the causes of climate change. This generally involves actions to reduce anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases that may contribute to the warming of the atmosphere. This is **not** the definition of mitigation used in this paper.]*

Preparedness

To protect our people, assets, infrastructure and institutions from disaster events; and to establish, train and exercise arrangements to respond to, and recover from a disaster event. (Prosser & Peters, 2010).

Prevention

To hinder, deter and mitigate disasters, while maintaining readiness to deal with disaster events. (Prosser & Peters, 2010).

Recovery

To return national and community life to normal as quickly as possible after a disaster event, through the restoration of social, economic, physical and environmental wellbeing. (Prosser & Peters, 2010).

Resilience

The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate to and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions. (United Nations, 2009) *This paper is focused on the component of resilience that deals with 'resisting' or **actions taken in advance of a disaster** to reduce the impact of hazards.*

Response

To respond rapidly and decisively to a disaster event and manage its immediate consequences. (Prosser & Peters, 2010).

Acronyms

ABCB	Australian Building Codes Board
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
AGDRP	Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment
ANZEMC	Australian New Zealand Emergency Management Committee
AWE	Average Weekly Earnings
BCA	Building Code of Australia
BCR	Benefit-Cost Ratio
BITRE	Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics
BTE	Bureau of Transport Economics
CBA	Cost Benefit Analysis
CCS	Civil Contingencies Secretariat
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
CPI	Consumer Price Index
CRC	Cooperative Research Centre
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DAE	Deloitte Access Economics
DIRS	Disaster Income Recovery Subsidy
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EIA	Economic Impact Assessment
EIS	Economic Impact Statement
EMA	Emergency Management Australia
ERA	Economic Regulation Authority of Western Australia
EU	European Union
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Authority
FIMA	Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration
G-NAF	Geocoded National Address File
HFA	Hyogo Framework for Action
HM	Her Majesty's

HMA	Hazard Mitigation Assistance
IAG	Insurance Australia Group
ICA	Insurance Council of Australia
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IRR	Internal Rate of Return
LGA	Local Government Area
NCC	National Construction Code
NCCARF	National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility
NDRRA	Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements
NFRIP	National Flood Risk Information Project
NIAC	National Insurance Affordability Council
NPA-NDR	National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience
NPV	Net Present Value
NSDR	National Strategy for Disaster Resilience
NYS OEM	New York State Office of Emergency Management
OBPR	The Office of Best Practice Regulation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PC	Productivity Commission
PHD	Personal Hardship and Distress
PMF	Probable Maximum Flood
PSMA	Public Sector Mapping Agencies
RIS	Regulatory Impact Statement
SCCC	Select Council on Climate Change
SCPEM	Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management
SEQ	South East Queensland
UN	United Nations
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
VSL	Value of Statistical Life