



Australian Institute for
Disaster Resilience

Disaster Resilient Australia-New Zealand School Education Network

(DRANZSEN)

Terms of Reference

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Terms of Reference

This Terms of Reference document is informed by the AIDR Disaster Resilience Education for Young People Strategy; National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, COAG 2011; and AIDR Strategy 2018-2021 (see Appendix 1).

Context

In 2012 the Disaster Resilient Australia School Education Network (DRASEN) was formed with the support of the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department and the former Australian Emergency Management Institute (AEMI) to encourage the development of disaster resilience education in school programs nationally. In 2014, DRASEN was extended to include New Zealand emergency service agencies and DRANZSEN was formed.

The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience (AIDR) develops, maintains and shares knowledge and learning to support a disaster-resilient Australia. Building on extensive knowledge and experience in Australia and internationally, we work with government, communities, NGOs, not-for-profits, research organisations, education partners and the private sector to enhance disaster resilience through innovative thinking, professional development and knowledge sharing.

AIDR is supported by its founding partners: the Australian Government, AFAC, Australian Red Cross and the Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC.

The major objectives of AIDR for the Education for Young People program are:

- To develop a common framework for the delivery of disaster resilience education in Australia
- To strengthen the capacity of the education sector to deliver disaster resilience education for young people.

AIDR has established a structure to support the Education for Young People Program, as follows:

- National Disaster Resilience Educational Strategy Group (DRESG)
- State and territory Disaster Resilient Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN) forums
- The national DRANZSEN forum.

National Disaster Resilience Educational Strategy Group (DRESG)

DRESG provides leadership for the Education for Young People Program and identifies evidence-based strategies and opportunities to support professional development in disaster resilience education for professionals and volunteers working with young Australians.

State and territory DRANZSEN forums

The DRANZSEN state and territory forums are an essential element of the Education for Young People strategy.

DRANZSEN forums provide guidance to support educators to implement effective disaster resilience education programs throughout Australia. DRANZSEN forums in each state and territory bring together representatives from the education faculties of universities; federal, state and local governments; schools; professional associations; emergency management and community agencies; and other organisations; incorporating New Zealand emergency services agencies.

The forums will:

1. Be held in locations across Australia (in some cases, there may be joint state/territory events to ensure annual coverage). One of those will be a national forum to share and discuss the work of the state/territory forums and the progress of the program
2. Take place in central and accessible locations across Australia.

It is anticipated that at least five forums will take place each calendar year. Delegates are expected to fund their own travel and incidental expenses although the budget will allow for assistance with transport costs for up to two remote delegates to each forum.

National forum (DRANZSEN)

Each year, there will be a national forum to share and discuss the work of the state/territory forums and provide updates on the AIDR Education for Young People program. The national forum will include an annual national teleconference or webinar featuring a spokesperson from DRESG, to provide information and updates on the implementation of the disaster resilience education strategy and related research findings.

Objectives

The objectives of the Disaster Resilient Australia-New Zealand School Education Network (DRANZSEN) are:

1. To establish and communicate a shared understanding of disaster resilience education, informed by international frameworks and relevant to an Australian context.
2. To build the capacity of teachers and other educators to deliver effective and sustainable disaster resilience education to young people, informed by research and aligned with the Australian Curriculum.
3. To provide a forum for schools, emergency management agencies and community organisations in the network to share knowledge, good practice and strategic objectives related to disaster resilience education.
4. To facilitate networking and sharing of expertise between school communities, emergency management agencies and community organisations to identify new opportunities for collaboration in the design and delivery of disaster resilience education.
5. To contribute to and support an online network, providing access to expert knowledge, resources and illustrations of practice to support educators to design and deliver effective disaster resilience education which meets the needs of students in their unique learning environments.

Review

This Terms of Reference is effective from March 2018 and continues until the cessation of funding of AIDR by the Department of Home Affairs. Subject to annual reviews, it will be ongoing until terminated by agreement between the parties.

Amendment, modification or variation

This Terms of Reference may be amended, varied or modified in writing after consultation and agreement by DRANZSEN members and ratification by AIDR.

Membership

- DRANZSEN membership reflects education departments/authorities, community engagement/school program officers from state and territory emergency service agencies, academics, non-government agencies and co-opted specialists, ensuring a balance across jurisdictions and sectors. For example: Australian state/territory Departments of Education, state/territory Catholic Education Commissions, Independent Schools' Associations, researchers and/or other staff of universities (e.g. ACU, RMIT, CQU), local government authorities (e.g. councils), fire and emergency services, Scouts Victoria, Save the Children, etc. Membership of DRANZSEN is not limited. DRANZSEN members are free to propose additional ongoing or ad hoc members from other relevant and interested agencies and specialists whose involvement might be necessary to achieve the aims of the group.
- Membership of the group will be geographically inclusive.
- AIDR will provide a secretariat for the group.

Membership term

Membership of DRANZSEN is ongoing but will be reviewed every two (2) years to ensure the membership list remains current.

Organisation

- DRANZSEN state/territory groups will aim to meet face-to-face at least once a year.
- DRANZSEN will maintain out-of-session contact through agreed communication channels.
- DRANZSEN can form working groups if and as required.

Responsibilities

- The AIDR Secretariat is responsible for convening meetings and/or other events as required.
- DRANZSEN will report to the AIDR DRANZSEN Project Officer.
- Jurisdictional delegates are responsible for briefing their own organisational networks.

Resourcing

Any costs involved in participating in the forums and/or other events will be borne by participants or their organisations unless otherwise agreed in advance with the AIDR Director.

Submission of new business

All correspondence will be submitted to the AIDR Secretariat (brigid.little@aidr.org.au).

Distribution of documentation

- Members will be supplied with complete, accurate and meaningful information in a timely manner.
- Meeting Agendas and Minutes, including the preparation of agendas, supporting papers, meeting notes and information, will be provided by the AIDR Secretariat.
- Minutes will be distributed within two (2) weeks of meetings.

Reporting

- Individuals will be responsible for reporting to the agencies or organisations they represent and for communicating views and opinions of those agencies and organisations to the group.
- AIDR will develop and maintain an information sharing capability for the network.
- Public sharing of group documents will be with the agreement of the group.

APPENDIX 1

DRANZSEN National Priorities 2018-2021

"For a resilient nation, all members of the community need to understand their role in minimising the impacts of disasters, and have the relevant knowledge, skills and abilities to take appropriate action."

National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, COAG 2011

"AIDR develops, maintains and shares knowledge and practice to support a disaster resilient Australia."

AIDR Strategy 2018-2021

The Disaster Resilient Australia New Zealand Schools Education Network (DRANZSEN) seeks to:

1. Support the Disaster Resilient Education Strategy Group (DRESG) in its advocacy activities regarding strengthening capacity for disaster resilient school/education communities.
2. Maintain engaged and active state/territory DRANZSEN forums.
3. Raise awareness of the importance of disaster resilience education for Australian children and young people.
4. Maintain Education for Young People website and ensure DRE materials meet best practice, are accessible to educators and are fit for purpose.
5. Build capacity for the teaching profession to deliver DRE in Australian classrooms.

AIDR Education for Young People Program Strategy: Operational Plan