National Disaster Resilience Strategy
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What can communities and hapū do?  

More information
This is a long document.

While it is written in Easy Read it can be hard for some people to read a document this long.

Some things you can do to make it easier are:

- read it a few pages at a time
- have someone help you to understand it.
What is resilience?

**Resilience** means that people are okay when there is a disaster.

A disaster is when something happens that is:

- bad
- a shock.

Examples of natural disasters are:

- floods
- fires
- earthquakes.

We hope disasters will not happen but sometimes they do.
When a person or a group is **resilient** it means they:

- think about what disasters could happen in the future
- do things to get ready for disasters
- are strong
- are okay after disasters
- think about the **problems** that could happen in disasters
- think about different **risks**

**Problems** are when things go wrong and they need to be fixed.

If there is a big chance a problem will happen the problem might be called a **risk**.
What is the National Disaster Resilience Strategy?

The National Disaster Resilience Strategy is a document made by the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

The Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management:

- is part of the government
- helps people when there is a disaster.

The National Disaster Resilience Strategy has been made using a law called the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.
The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 says what emergency services and other groups in New Zealand should do in a disaster.

The Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management wants people in New Zealand to be resilient or okay when disasters happen.
Disasters cause problems for people in different ways.

Some people or groups will cope with disasters better than others.

It is important to know:

- what problems people may have in a disaster
- if there is a way to stop problems before they happen
- what help people will need after a disaster.

New Zealand can only be okay when disasters happen if:

- people plan for disasters
- people learn how they can be resilient.
The **National Disaster Resilience Strategy** wants to:

- make sure people get the help they need when there is a disaster
- work out what problems people might have if a disaster happens
- make sure that the help people get is fair
- make sure everyone will be okay if there is a disaster
- support people and communities to get ready for disasters.
What can you do?

You and your family can get ready for disasters by:

1. **Understanding your risk**

   This means thinking about how different disasters could be bad for:

   - you
   - your family
   - other people
   - animals
   - your everyday life
   - your things.
You and your family can also get ready for disasters by:

2. Making your risks smaller

Think about how you could make things safer for:

- you
- your family
- other people
- animals
- your everyday life
- your things.

Make any changes that you think will make things safer.
You and your family can also get ready for disasters by:

3. Thinking about the future

When you buy something new think about if:

- you would be able to use it in a disaster
- it could get broken in a disaster
- you can buy something different that would be better in a disaster.
You and your family can also get ready for disasters by:

4. Getting you and your household ready

This means you should think about what you and your family may need in a disaster.

During a disaster you may need things like:

- food
- water
- pet food
- torches
- medication.
You and your family can also get ready for disasters by:

5. Planning what to do if something makes you change your disaster plans

This means you should think about how you would:

- get in touch with your family and friends in a disaster
- get to your family and friends in a disaster.

During a disaster:

- telephones and computers may not work
- you may not be able to travel.
You and your family can also get ready for disasters by:

6. Keeping up to date with the information you need to know

This means you should:

- get more information about how to get through disasters
- learn how to get information in a disaster.
You and your family can also get ready for disasters by:

7. Getting to know your neighbours

This means you should get to know the people:

- who live close to you
- in your community.

These people may be the only people who can help you in a disaster.
What can organisations do?

Organisations and businesses can get ready for disasters by:

1. Thinking about what could happen to their place of work in a disaster

Organisations need to think about how different disasters could be bad for:

- business
- workers
- buildings
- the things they use to do their work like:
  - offices
  - machines.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

2. Having a goal like

Our organisation will be:

- ready for disasters
- okay in a disaster
- okay after a disaster.

If organisations have a goal like this they may be able to keep working if a disaster happens.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

3. **Making changes to help them to be okay if disasters happen**

Organisations need to think about the things they can do to look after their:

- business
- buildings
- workers
- the things they own.

Organisations should make any changes that they think will make things safer.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

4. Talking to their suppliers

**Suppliers** are the businesses who give organisations:

- services
- the things they need to do their work.

In a disaster organisations need to know:

- if suppliers will still be able to get things to them
- what to do if suppliers cannot get things to them.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

5. Doing helpful things for today and the future

Organisations should find ways of doing things that:

- help their organisation work better today

- will help their organisation be able to keep working after a disaster.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

6. Thinking about the community

Organisations should think about how they can help their community:

- be strong
- get through disasters.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

**7. Thinking about the future**

Organisations should think about how:

- the world may change in the future
- their organisation can get ready for these changes
- how these changes could be good for their organisation.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

8. Talking to other organisations

Organisations should talk to each other to:

- find out what other organisations are doing to make sure they are okay if a disaster happens

- get ideas about how to get ready for disasters.
Organisations and businesses can also get ready for disasters by:

9. **Learning about what will happen in a disaster**

Organisations should know:

- what different groups will do in a disaster
- what help their organisation will get
- what help their organisation can give to other people.
What can communities and hapū do?

Hapū means tribe or community.

Communities and hapū can get ready for disasters by:

1. **Thinking about what could happen**

Communities need to think about how different disasters could be bad for:

- people
- animals
- organisations
- businesses
- buildings.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

2. Getting rid of some of the problems that could happen

Communities need to think about how they could make things safer for:

- people
- animals
- organisations
- businesses
- buildings.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

3. Thinking about the future

Communities should think about how:

- the world may change in the future
- they can get ready for these changes
- these changes could be good for them.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

4. **Doing helpful things for today and the future**

Communities should find ways of doing things that:

- help their community to be better today

- will help their community to be better after a disaster.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

5. Learning about what will happen in a disaster

Communities should know what:

- different groups will do in a disaster
- help their community will get
- help their community can give other people.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

6. Thinking about the things communities may need in a disaster

Some things that communities may need are:

- food
- water
- money
- buildings
- cars
- tools.
Communities should know:

- what things they have now
- what things they may need in a disaster
- how they can use these things in a disaster.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

7. Making a plan and trying it out

Communities should make a plan about what would happen if there was a disaster.

Communities can ask their local emergency management office to help make the plan.

You can find out how to do this at this website: www.civildefence.govt.nz

Communities should try out the things in the plan they make to:

- help people learn the plan
- make the plan better.
Communities and hapū can also get ready for disasters by:

8. Planning community events

Communities should try to get people together to do activities.

This will help people to get to know each other.
More information

Our website is:
www.civildefence.govt.nz

On this website you will find more information about:

- the National Disaster Resilience Strategy
- getting ready for disasters.
This information has been translated into Easy Read by the Make It Easy service of People First New Zealand Inc. Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.

The ideas in this document are not the ideas of People First New Zealand Ngā Tāngata Tuatahi.