

# DIDRR and the NDIS Practice Standard fact sheet



Resources for NDIS  
Emergency and Disaster  
Management

**Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DIDRR) refers to the process of minimising the risks of disasters for persons with disabilities, ensuring their safety, resilience, and meaningful participation in all stages of disaster management.**

DIDRR recognises that persons with disabilities are disproportionately affected by disasters and emergencies. By adopting inclusive approaches, DIDRR aims to reduce vulnerabilities, enhance resilience, and promote the rights and wellbeing of persons with disabilities.

## **Our obligations as NDIS Providers**

Australia's obligations to manage the risks posed by emergencies and disasters to people with disability are set out in a series of international and local frameworks.

NDIS Providers have an obligation to ensure their practices reflect the principles embedded in these documents, as well as meet the NDIS Practice Standard for Emergency and Disaster Management.

## United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities



## Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DIDRR)

The **United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** states *Parties shall take all necessary measures to ensure the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters* (Article 11).

The **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030** is an international agreement for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks.

The **National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework** serves as Australia’s implementation of the Sendai Framework. The framework provides foundational strategies for action, focusing on understanding disaster risk, accountable decision-making, enhanced investment, and effective governance.

The **NDIS Practice Standard for Emergency and Disaster Management** provides guidelines and best practices for NDIS Providers to ensure the safety, inclusion, and effective support of people with disability in all aspects of emergency and disaster management.

In addition, NDIS Providers must meet legislated obligations to workers and ensure there is an emergency plan prepared for the workplace [*Regulation 43, Work Health and Safety (WHS) Regulation (2017)*].

**Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction** provides strategies and practices to reduce the occurrence of hazards, decrease the exposure and vulnerability of people and their assets, and strengthen the capacity of people to cope with their impact.

## Applying DIDRR and the Practice Standard

**The major components of DIDRR are:**

1. **Risk Assessment and Preparedness:** Identifying and understanding the specific vulnerabilities and needs of persons with disabilities and incorporating these into disaster preparedness plans and strategies.
2. **Response and Recovery:** Ensuring that emergency responses are inclusive and address the needs of persons with disabilities, including accessible evacuation procedures, provision of assistive devices, and psychosocial support during recovery.

**These are reflected in the key principles of the NDIS Practice Standard for Emergency and Disaster Management.**

1. **Inclusive planning and preparedness:** Incorporating disability inclusive approaches into emergency planning, risk assessment, and preparedness activities to ensure the full participation and safety of persons with disabilities.
2. **Accessible communication and information:** Providing accessible and timely information, warnings, and instructions to persons with disabilities in formats and languages that they can understand and access.
3. **Collaboration and coordination:** Collaborating with disability organisations, emergency management agencies, and other stakeholders to ensure coordination and integration of disability inclusive practices in emergency response and recovery efforts.
4. **Rights based approach:** Upholding the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities throughout all phases of emergency management, including respect for autonomy, choice, and nondiscrimination.

**Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction (DIDRR) is essential for ensuring the safety, resilience, and full participation of persons with disabilities in all aspects of emergency and disaster management.**

**By implementing the principles and practices outlined in the NDIS Practice Standard for Emergency and Disaster Management, disability service providers can effectively support persons with disabilities before, during, and after emergencies, thereby promoting their rights, wellbeing, and inclusion in society.**