



Are you and your community
disaster-ready?

Thursday 27 June 2024

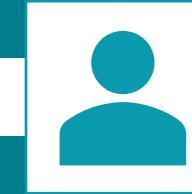
Today's Aims

*Sustainability, spirit and
speaking up for human rights*



Gather the facts

You will understand why you
need to plan for emergencies



Lead by example

You will have started to prepare
a plan



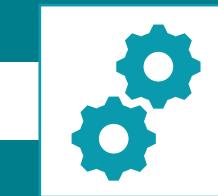
Use your voice

You will know how to use your
Zonta Spirit to share the plan



Advocate

You will know how to find information
about the disaster-related issues in
your community



Collaborate

You will be empowered to speak up for
human rights by collaborating with other
agencies to address the issues

Today's Journey



Why does Zonta Say NOW?



The Statistics

1°C rise in average temperature associated with 6% rise in violence against women

10% increase or decrease in average rainfall associated with 1% rise in child marriage – when crops fail, families sell their daughters into marriage

In 2022 alone there were more than 32 million climate refugees, and this could rise to 1.2 billion by 2050

One in five women who are refugees or who have been displaced because of a natural disaster has experienced sexual violence

Life for women and girls at the end of the train



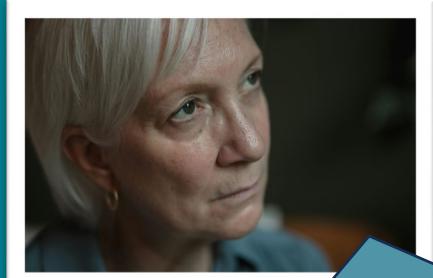
Dabor, 9, Sudan
Drought means no time for school.



Aayan, 11, Mozambique
Floods led to child marriage.



Judith, 42 and Clare 7, Canada
Wildfire smoke triggered Clare's asthma. Judith may lose her casual job as she cares for Clare.



Freya, 51, Germany, in temporary shelter, 2 years after floods.



Ralia, 33, Nigeria
Floods destroyed the market taking away her livelihood. How will she feed her family?



Maria, 79, Australia
Her heart condition is exacerbated in extreme heat and she cannot afford air conditioning.



Our Purpose

**Zonta Says NOW
seeks climate justice
for women and girls**

So women and girls can
prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from
the impacts of climate change on the same basis as men.

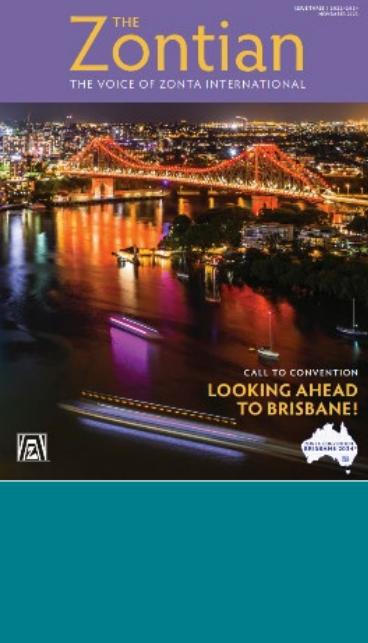


Strategic Plan



Zonta Says NOW is the campaign for climate justice

Zonta will fully embrace climate justice as an area of focus, and we will further develop Zonta Says NOW as the campaign for our activities to address climate justice at local, national and international levels.



Climate Justice: Putting gender equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change



A Message from the Zonta Says NOW Working Group

Around the globe, women and girls are facing challenges within their everyday lives due to the climate crisis.

- In Mozambique, Aayan, age 11, is frightened she will be forced into marriage. Her family lost everything in floods, leaving them destitute and unable to feed her.
- In Australia, Maria, age 79, walks to the local library to find relief from extreme heat as she cannot afford to effectively cool her apartment. She has a heart condition and is worried about how she will financially, physically and mentally survive the summer.
- In Nigeria, Ralia, age 33, saw her entire market wash away in floods – taking away her livelihood and she is worried how she will feed her children.
- In Canada, Judith, age 42, has a daughter with severe asthma that is made worse by the wild fires. Judith is worried she may lose her job and has to stay home to care for her child.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE?

Climate Change: The long-term changes in the Earth's climate that are warming the atmosphere, ocean and land.

Climate Crisis: The serious problems that are being caused, or are likely to be caused, by changes in the planet's climate, including weather extremes and natural disasters, ocean acidification and sea-level rise, loss of biodiversity, food and water insecurity, health risks, economic disruption, displacement and even violent conflict.

Climate Justice: Putting gender equity and human rights at the core of decision-making and action on climate change as women and children are often more vulnerable in natural disasters. This is Zonta's focus on climate-related topics.

Climate Action: Actions we all should take to address climate change, climate crisis and climate justice.

Source: UNDP

Changing Climate and the Gender Gap

Our changing climate is widening the gender gap. Extreme heat, drought, fires, storms and floods cause severe social disruption, with millions losing their homes and livelihoods, and, in turn, magnify any existing inequalities, including gender inequality. Globally, women have less access to resources and opportunities than men, due to social norms and caring responsibilities. This makes them more vulnerable to the impacts of the climate crisis and more likely to be injured or killed during an extreme weather event. And, due to systemic gender inequality, women will find it harder to rebuild their lives after a disaster. The social upheaval caused by disasters increases women and

The climate crisis is a human rights crisis — and a women's rights crisis.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, at CSW 66, 2022.

girls' risk of child marriage, forced prostitution, abuse, assault and human trafficking and also disrupts access to employment, education and health.

Yet women are key to resolving the climate crisis. Countries with more women in parliament often have more stringent climate policies and lower carbon emissions. When more women are on corporate boards, there is better transparency around carbon emission data. If women globally had the same legal rights as men, they could own and improve land (and feed 150 million more people), increase food security and start businesses to support their families. If girls had 12 years of education, they would have more choices, fewer children and more skills to build resilient communities than girls without education. Strengthening access to sexual and reproductive health gives women more options and opportunities, enabling their families and communities to survive better during and after a disaster.

Closing the Gap with Zonta

The Zonta Says NOW Working Group's task is to implement the recommendations in Zonta International's Statement on Climate Change by closing the gender gaps in education, economic opportunity, disaster response, STEM, health and leadership to achieve climate justice.

To keep Zontians, their families and communities safe during the immediate disaster and their aftermath, we are coming up with practical steps to take. We are developing 'action' and 'emergency' packages that would be available to Zonta members and



"When I visited our Ending Child Marriage project in Mozambique this year, I found that in every village, the local authorities said the biggest driver for child marriage was the changing climate. Homes that were hit by cyclones were destroyed and families did not have the means to rebuild them. To get the necessary money, families gave their adolescent daughters away to be married. We must take action to achieve climate justice, so no adolescents are forced to marry as a means to survive climate-related disasters." —President Ute Scholz.

The climate crisis is a gender equality crisis in which women are disproportionately affected. Through Zonta Says NOW, you can be part of the solution to build a better world for women and girls. To find out more,

Working Group: implements the recommendations in the Statement on Climate Change.



Statement on Climate Change

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL'S
**STATEMENT ON
CLIMATE CHANGE**
A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

Approved by the Zonta International Board April 2021; Published June 2021

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WWW.ZONTA.ORG

Calls on governments to

Meet obligations under **Paris Climate Agreement**

Educate girls and include STEM and climate change

Involve more women in **decision-making** processes

Enable women's full **participation in the economy**

Include women in **disaster preparedness planning** that includes women's health and safety needs

Calls on members to

Increase **awareness** and raise awareness locally

Promote girls' **education**, climate literacy, women in STEM

Support women's inclusion in national and local **decision-making** on environmental sustainability.

Advocate for national policies that ensure women's full and equal **participation in the economy**.

Include **gendered climate change advocacy** actions



Have you seen our Zonta Says NOW climate justice tools?

zonta.org/zontasaysnow

Strategy

Statement on Climate Change

Think Tanks

Framework for
action

Leaflets

Action Guides

Fact Sheet

Web sites

Disaster
Ready Guides

Videos

Social media
messages

Virtual Art
Gallery

**Support
from other
Zontians ☺**





Disaster Preparedness Resources

Framework for Action



Disaster Preparedness Action Guide

Action Guide 02

Disaster Preparedness and Response

Zonta International's *Statement on Climate Change: a Gender Equality Issue* (the Statement) contains recommendations for Zonians and governments to promote gender-equal climate justice.

Zonta Says NOW is developing a series of Action Guides to implement the Statement. The Action Guides focus on selected recommendations and use Zonta Says NOW's five-step process to generate some ideas for action. The five steps are: gather the facts, lead by example, use our voice, advocate, and collaborate.

The Zonta Says NOW Working Group encourages members, clubs, districts, and Unions/Caucuses to use the Action Guides as a starting point. Every country has different priorities and cultures, so please feel free to adapt and add actions as required. Please email any suggested improvements to info@zontasaysnow.org.au.

Recommendations covered by this Action Guide:

Zonta International calls on governments to include women in the formation of disaster preparedness and response teams. These groups should:

- Recognize the unique needs of women and girls.
- Prioritize their health and safety.
- Include responses to gender-based violence.

Anyone can be impacted by an extreme weather event, so it makes sense to be prepared for a disaster.

1. Gather the facts

Ideas for action

Increase your awareness of disaster preparedness and response by accessing information from reputable sources, for example:

- [UN Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction](#)
- [UN Women's Resilience to Disasters Knowledge Hub](#)
- [Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies](#)
- [Zonta International's Statement on Disaster Risk and Resilience](#)

Who leads disaster preparedness and responses locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally?

What are the biggest climate threats in your community - floods, sea-level rise, drought, heat, cold, storms, or other hazards?

Which parts of your community will be most impacted? For example, people in flood-prone areas, people in high-risk areas, the poor who cannot afford cooling/heating, or the elderly, the disabled, and single-parents and young children who cannot move quickly?

What resources and support have been put in place to ensure their safety? Are there products and facilities to handle menstrual health and incontinence?

Where can you find resources to help householders to:

- Prepare disaster plans?
- Reduce risks?
- Recover from a disaster?
- Know what to do if you are on holiday or away from home during a disaster?

Zonta Says NOW Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response Last updated 11 July 2023 Page 1 of 3

Ideas for action

Where can you find information about your local area disaster response plans and what do they include? Are there early warning systems and how do they work? How do you find out if disaster response plans are in place?

How are disaster response systems tested? Are evacuation and response procedures practised? Are local communities included?

Where can you find gendered data for your region or country on people experiencing extreme weather events, displacement, and the status of women? For example, data on migration/immigration demographics, refugees, human trafficking, and gender-based violence.

Do any members have expertise or experience in disasters? Are they willing to share it with club members?

2. Lead by example

Ideas for action

Get to know your neighbors as it helps to make your community more resilient.

Propose a community disaster plan that includes:

- Details of critical information including passports, birth certificates, driving licenses, insurance, medications, doctor, utilities, will, and any other information you may need.
- List of evacuation items to pack in a bag such as medications, phone, passport, pets, radio, batteries, and other items that you think you may need.
- Where you will go in an emergency and who you will tell.

Train in first aid and/or mental health first aid.

Train in early warning systems in disaster management.

Club actions:

Invite local emergency services, local disaster management groups, NGOs and Red Cross or Red Crescent to speak to the club.

- Describe the disaster management planning processes.
- Explain how local disaster plans cater for menstrual health, incontinence, disability and child and elder care.
- Describe the future in their organization's goals, strategies, or action plan and whether there are women on their board or in senior roles.
- Identify how Zonta may best support the community during a disaster.

Invite women who have been impacted by climate-related disasters to:

- Share their stories at meetings e.g., women from a refugee agency.
- Share their stories at meetings e.g., women from a refugee agency.

Educate members to prepare for disasters e.g., hold a home disaster planning workshop.

Encourage members to undertake first aid training (physical and mental).

3. Use our voice

Individual actions:

Share what you have learned about disaster preparedness and the actions you have taken, with your family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues and on social media.

Make presentations in schools and organizations, highlighting disaster preparedness and response processes.

Club actions:

Host a community event on how to plan for a natural disaster with speakers from local agencies.

Include a disaster planning session at an area workshop or district conference.

Zonta Says NOW Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response Last updated 11 July 2023 Page 2 of 3

4. Advocate

Club actions:

Advocate to local disaster management committees to:

- safeguard women's health and safety during an emergency
- increase management in the community of women and refugee camps.

Advocate for support (or support) those parts of your community identified as most at risk from climate-related disasters.

- Example: In Ghana, Zonians support income generation and scholarships to prevent girls in rural communities from migrating for work to cities, where they are often vulnerable to trafficking and violence.
- Example: In Nigeria, Zonians advocate for trauma counselling, rehabilitation, and economic support for women impacted by floods.

Find out if there are training courses available that could be useful for learning about and responding to local environmental risks and advocate for them to be widely publicized.

Advocate for gender equality measures that are responsive – meeting the needs of the elderly and people with disability in the context of climate change impact planning and disaster management.

Advocate for the education of children to be field-based rather than merely classroom-based.

Advocate for and support the training of youth to be climate champions.

5. Collaborate

Club actions:

Invite other Zonta and G2, and Z clubs to attend a seminar on local disaster response initiatives and careers.

Work with other women's groups, e.g., Soroptimists, BPW to advocate for climate/natural disaster refugee women in our city/state/country.

Work with other members in the community in a service project to address the needs of people after a disaster.

Collaborate with local government or local gardening groups/experts to encourage community members to grow vegetables for home consumption.

Develop a disaster preparedness kit for women's refuge. Note that many items needed before leaving home quickly are the same for climate disasters or violence.

Collaborate. Create a partnership with an emergency organization. Develop a guide/video/podcast to raise awareness of local disaster management agencies and useful websites.

Zonta Says NOW Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response Last updated 11 July 2023 Page 3 of 3



Disaster-Ready Guides



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1

Disaster-Ready Guide 1
Why are women and girls more vulnerable to the impacts of disasters?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks
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2

Disaster-Ready Guide 2
Is your household disaster-ready?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks
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Disaster-Ready Guide 3
Is your community disaster-ready?

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Disaster-Ready Guide 4
Where are your local disaster relief organizations?

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Disaster-Ready Guide 5
Is your country disaster-ready?

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zonta.org/zontasaysnow



Today's Journey

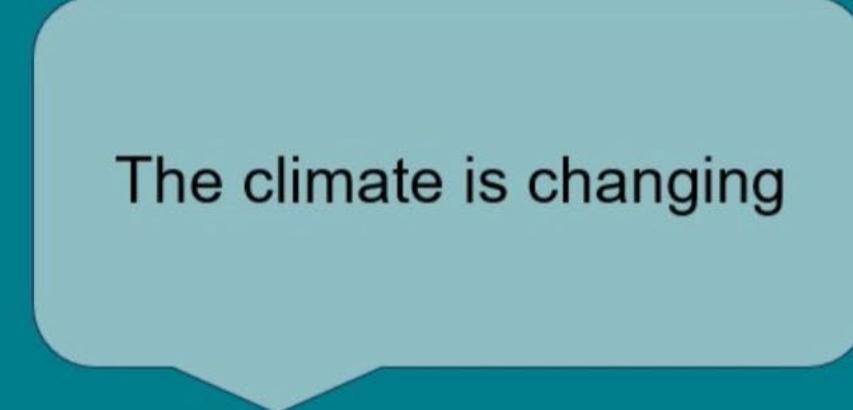




Stories from the Think Tank...



See the full videos at
zontasaysnow.org.au/intercontinental-think-tank





How did the video
make you feel?

HANDS UP

Which types of extreme weather events have affected your life, livelihood and/or community?

You can provide multiple answers

Storms

Heat

Flooding

Drought

Rising sea level

Fires / smoke

Other



Today's Journey





DISCUSSION



What other
types of
emergency
could make
you leave
your home
quickly?

5 minutes



Disaster-Ready Guide 2

Is your household disaster-ready?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks

This leaflet is designed to get you thinking about your personal preparedness so you can assess if you are disaster-ready. Use it as a conversation starter with your family and friends.

1. Getting ready

- **What kind of disasters are likely in your area?** Are they storms, tornadoes, floods, sea-level rise, drought, heat, fires, or other hazards?
- **Are you mentally ready for a disaster?** How do you react to stress? How does your body feel when stressed? What can you do to manage your feelings and thoughts so you prepare your mind for an emergency, e.g. breathing, positive thoughts.
- **Do you have a household disaster plan?** What does it include? Does everyone in the household know where it is and what to do in an emergency? Has everyone in the household practised the actions in the plan? Do you review the plan? If so, how often? Does the plan include where you will go if you need to evacuate, how you will communicate with each other, who will take care of your pets and plants, and what documents and supplies you will need?
- **How will you find out about a disaster?** Are you familiar with the early warning systems in your area and where to get information about current disasters?
- **What if you are away from home?** Do you know what to do if you are on holiday or away from home during a disaster? What if you have visitors staying with you?
- **Do you know your neighbors?** They may be the first people you call on for help in a disaster.

- **Do you know first aid?** Have you had training in first aid and mental health/psychological first aid?
- **What will you pack in an emergency kit?** Does it include water, food, flashlight, radio, first aid kit, cash and important documents. Can you carry it easily?

2. What does your household disaster plan include?

Print out your plan, make sure everyone knows where it is, and take it with you. Don't rely on your phone for information as there may be no power.

Does your plan include:

- **Your emergency information:** This includes your name, contact details, medical conditions, medications, allergies, and any support network or out-of-town contacts you have.
- **Your important services:** This includes the company name, account number and contact details for electricity, gas, water, internet, phone, insurances, and roadside assistance.
- **Your local radio emergency broadcast frequency:** This is the radio station that broadcasts emergency information and alerts in your area.
- **Your agreed meeting places:** This is the location where you can meet with your family or friends near your home, or where you will evacuate to during an emergency. It could be a friend's house, a relative's house, a hotel room, or a public shelter.
- **Your medical plan:** This includes the name and contact details of each person who can

2

help you in an emergency e.g your doctor, hospital emergency department, chemist, optometrist, dentist, and any other medical providers you need to contact in an emergency.

- **Your medical conditions** and how you plan to manage these conditions during and after an emergency.
- **Your current medications, medical aids and equipment:** This includes the name and dose of each medication you are currently taking and contact details for the prescribing doctor, any allergies and sensitivities (food, medication). Note the serial numbers of medical aids/equipment in case they are lost or damaged.
- **Your pet management plan:** Can you take your pet with you? What about large animals? Do you have a plan for them if you are not at home when the emergency happens?
- **What else** would you include in your plan?

3. What to pack?

How quickly may you need to leave your home?

- *What would you keep packed and ready to go within 5 minutes?* (For example, the police have knocked on the door and you need to get out now)
- *What you would add if you had 30 minutes warning?* (For example, rising flood waters)
- *What you would add if you had a day's warning?* (For example, cyclone approaching)

How will you pack and carry the items?

- Will you use a backpack so your arms are free or a small suitcase with wheels, or boxes?

Discuss this checklist with your household members. Which items will you need?

Water and Food

- Will you need food and water? If so, how much? How often will you rotate it in your disaster kit?
- Will you need to purify water, such as boiling, filtering, or chlorinating?
- Do you need food for people with special dietary needs, such as infants, elderly, or people with allergies?

Medical Supplies

- What will you put in your first aid kit?
- Can you quickly access prescription medications, eyeglasses, contact lenses, hearing aids, and other medical devices that you or your family members need?
- Will you need face masks and hand sanitizer?

Clothing and Footwear

- How many changes of clothes and footwear per person will you take? Will you need, jackets, hats, gloves, boots etc?
- Will the clothing need to protect you from rain, wind, sun, cold, heat, etc?
- Will you need sleeping bags, blankets, a tent, or tarpaulin?

Tools and Equipment

- Do you have a flashlight, a radio, and extra batteries to receive information and see in the dark?
- Will you need a whistle, a signal mirror, or a flare to attract attention and call for help?
- Will you need a knife, a multi-tool, a can opener, and a fire starter to cut, open, and cook food and other items?
- Will you need a map, a compass, and a GPS device to navigate and locate your position?
- Do you have a phone, a charger, and a power bank to communicate and access information?

Important Documents and Money

- Do you have
 - ◊ copies of your identification, passport, birth certificate, marriage certificate, insurance, bank account, property deed, etc.
 - ◊ contact information of your family, friends, neighbors, doctors, employers, etc.
 - ◊ cash and coins in local currency and small denominations.
- Can you store all documents in a waterproof and fireproof container or a digital format?

Personal items / Irreplaceable items

- Are there photographs, paintings, family heirlooms, awards, or jewellery that you want to take with you?
- What about children's toys?

4. Write your plan

Now you have discussed the plan, it is time to write it down. Many organisations have templates to help you write a disaster plan for your household. Check what resources may be available in your country from your:

- government disaster agency or
- national Red Cross or Red Crescent agency.

Alternatively, get started by downloading the Australian Red Cross [RediPlan](#) resources. Watch [Liz Witham's presentation](#) (ZC Powers County, District 12) where she shares how she prepares for evacuation from cyclones and fires.

The Zonta Says NOW [Disaster-Ready Guides](#) support Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response.

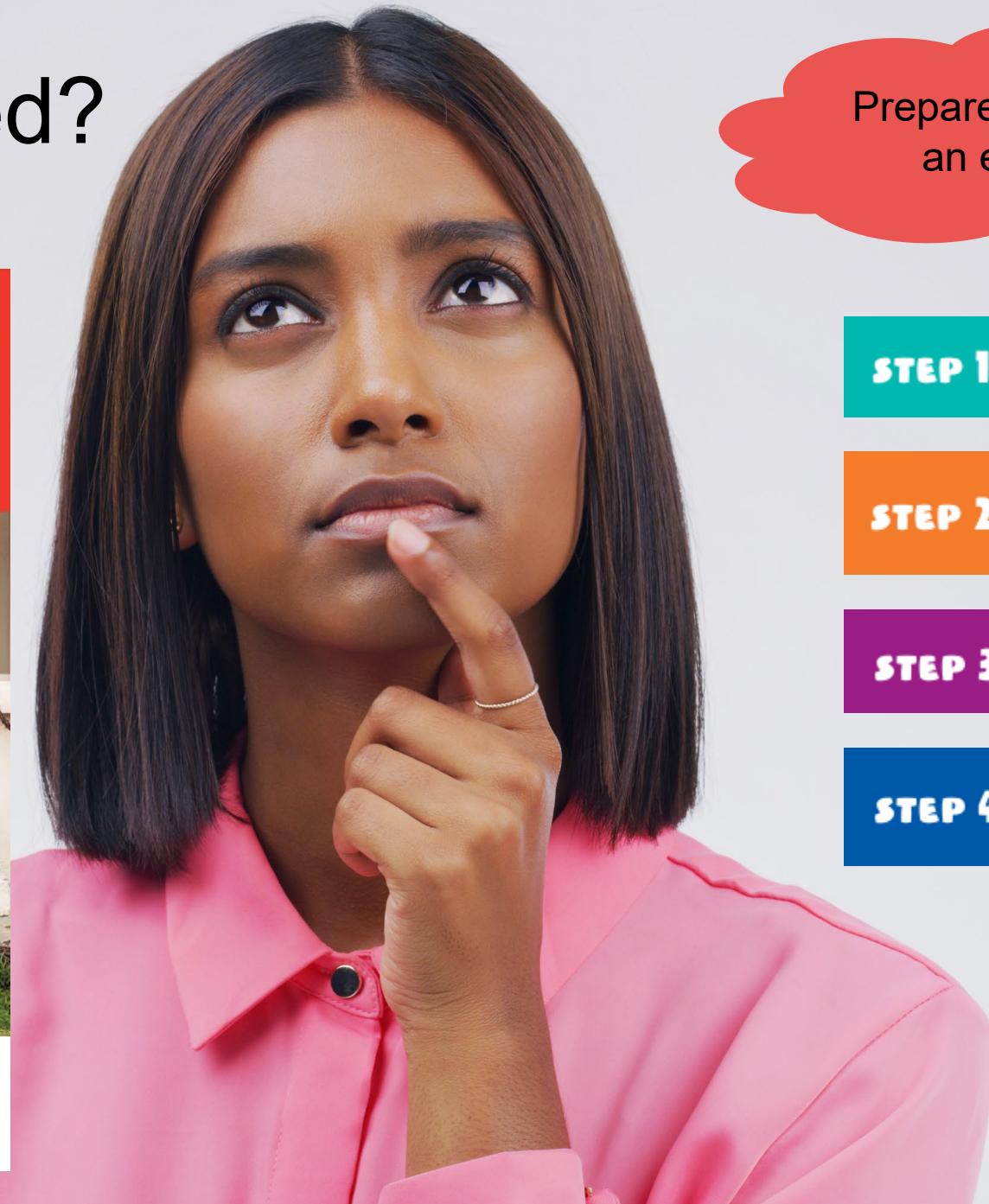


Are you prepared?



Your Emergency
RediPlan

redcross.org.au/prepare



Prepare your mind for
an emergency

STEP 1: GET IN THE KNOW

STEP 2: GET CONNECTED

STEP 3: GET ORGANISED

STEP 4: GET PACKING

Share what you
have learned



Anxiety, fear, uncertainty,
helplessness

Irritability, upset stomach,
headache, tight chest

Deep relaxed breathing,
Breathe in colour

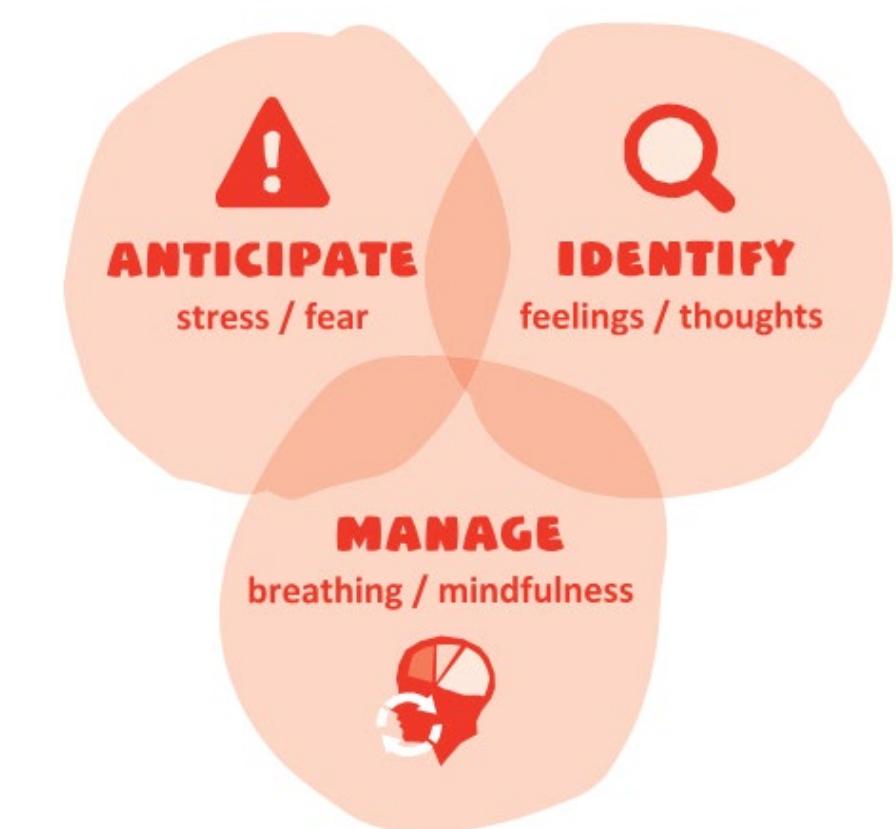
I can't cope, I'm scared,
I don't know what to do

I can handle this,
I'm coping

FIRST THINGS FIRST: PREPARE YOUR MIND



Page 6

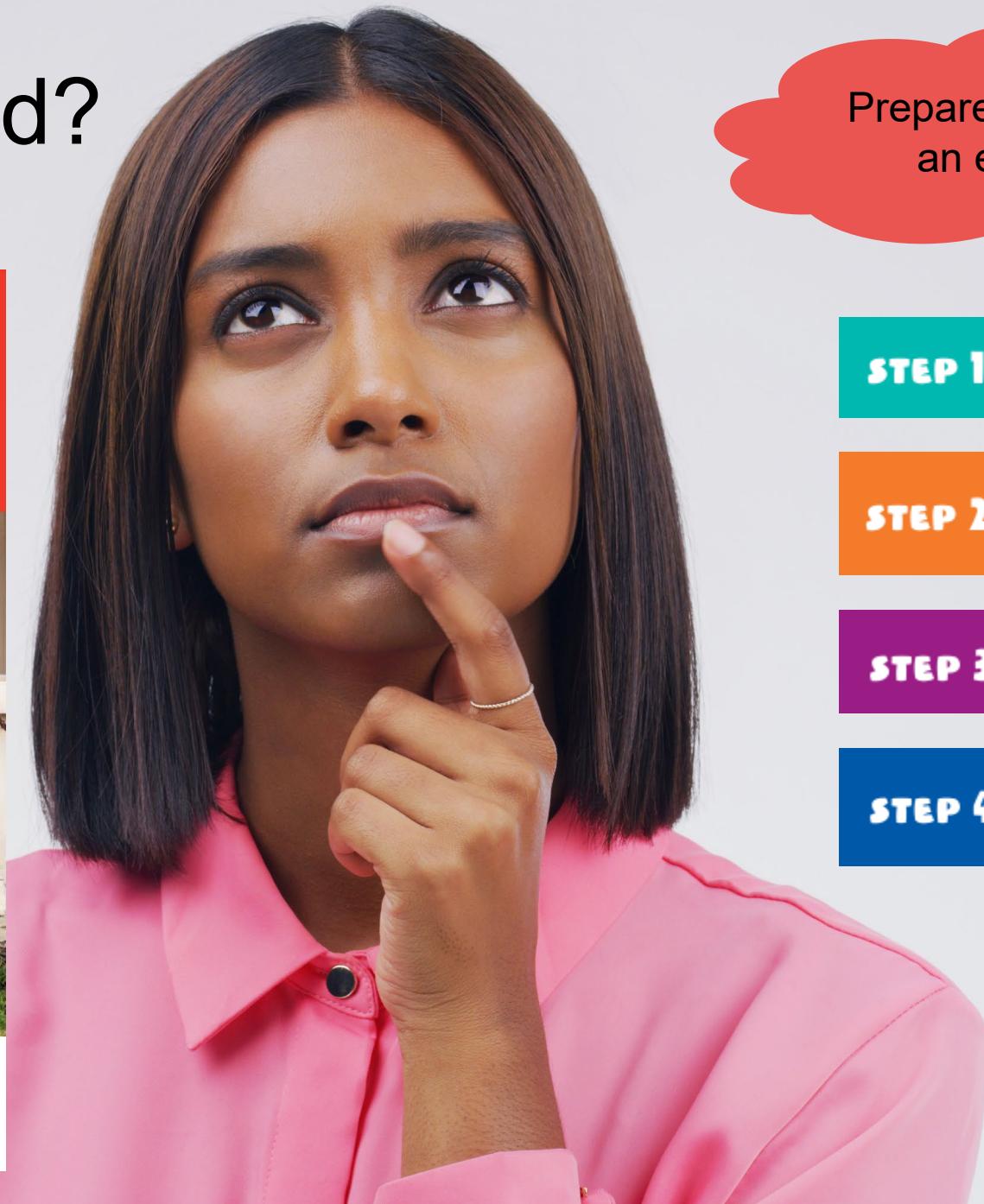








Are you prepared?



Prepare your mind for
an emergency



STEP 1: GET IN THE KNOW

STEP 2: GET CONNECTED

STEP 3: GET ORGANISED

STEP 4: GET PACKING

Share what you
have learned

A woman with dark hair in a bun, wearing a pink and white striped long-sleeved shirt, is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is sitting at a wooden desk in a room with green walls and shelves in the background. On the desk, there is a laptop, a notebook, a calculator, and a colorful mug. The scene is well-lit with warm lighting.

STEP 1
GET IN THE KNOW

Pages 9-15

Know what you can and can't do to help yourself

A white pencil icon inside a white circle, all set against a teal background.

**PERSONAL
ASSESSMENT
WORKSHEET**

5 mins

27



STEP 2 GET CONNECTED

Page 17

Identify a personal support network

HEY NEIGHBOUR!

Besides being fulfilling in many other ways,
being a part of a community will help you
in an emergency.



Your Emergency
RediPlan
redcross.org.au/prepare

the power of
humanity
AUSTRALIAN
RED CROSS

Page 35

Do you know your
neighbours? If not, how
will you meet them?



STEP 3 GET ORGANISED

Page 1

Write down your medical information

Identify a next of kin

Plan for your pets/stock

Write down your emergency plan

Make a financial plan

Identify a power of attorney

Protect the things you can't replace



Review and practise your plan annually and keep it in an easy to find place.

Get and review insurance

Make a will

See the template at the back of the book

YOUR REDIPLAN

'S RediPlan.



Footage courtesy of ABC



Play (k)

▶ ▶ | 0:00 / 1:30





Wind has changed direction.

Fire is approaching your street.

You must evacuate NOW.

What do you take with you?

2 minutes





Wind has changed direction.

Fire is approaching your street.

You must evacuate NOW.

What do you take with you?



2 minutes



Survival items

What was
on your list?

Recovery items

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sqq3KkR-irU>



STEP 4 GET PACKING

[Redcross.org.au/prepare](https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare)

Survival items

Light



Water



Food



Cash



Toiletries



First Aid Kit



Special medical supplies or equipment



Take your medicine

Medical needs are an important consideration for everyone when packing a Survive and Recover Kit.

Plan to have 14 days' worth of any medications you might need.

Radio
(battery-powered)



Chargers



Protective clothing / blankets



Pet essentials



Recovery items

Scans or photocopies of important documents



Passports
 Wills
 Driver's licences
 Marriage and birth certificates
 Land titles
 Mortgage papers
 Insurance papers
 Prescriptions
 Medical histories
 Child immunisation books.

Your RediPlan



Copies of videos and photos



Photographs of valuable household items



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sqq3KkR-irU>

Building on your experience

For those who have had to evacuate
– what other items would you
recommend?



Are you prepared?



STEP 1: GET IN THE KNOW

STEP 2: GET CONNECTED

STEP 3: GET ORGANISED

STEP 4: GET PACKING

Share what you
have learned

✓

How will you share what you have learned

5 minutes

<https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare/>



What are your 'Take Home' Messages?

1. Develop your emergency response plan.
 - Emergencies are scary but you can prepare ahead of time.
2. Help your neighbours and friends to develop their plans.
 - Your safety may depend on you helping each other.
3. Learn what happens in your community.
 - Invite your local emergency responders to your club meeting
 - As a club, use the form to list the agencies that can help your community.





Today's Journey





3



Disaster-Ready Guide 3

Is your community disaster-ready?

This document is designed to be read onscreen as it contains hyperlinks

This leaflet is designed to inspire Zonta clubs to find out more about their community's disaster preparedness and response plans and how the plans meet the needs of women and girls.

Disasters can strike at any time, and they can have devastating impacts on the lives and livelihoods of people, especially women and girls.

Zonta International calls on governments to include women in the formation of disaster preparedness and response plans that:

- Recognise the unique needs of women and girls.
- Prioritize their health and safety.
- Include responses to gender-based violence.

Do you know what happens in your community before, during, and after, a disaster? Does your community's disaster and preparedness response plan adequately address the needs of women and girls? How can your club support local disaster response initiatives?

Meet with your local government or emergency service representatives and ask them these questions. Invite them to attend a meeting to share their knowledge and experience with members.

1. What does your organization know about the community?

- **Types of disaster:** What are the main types of disaster that affect the community and how often do they occur?
- **High risk areas:** Which areas are prone to fires, floods, or other extreme weather events?

- **Data collection:** Do you know where vulnerable people are located? How do you measure the impacts that disasters have on the community's health, safety, environment, economy, and social well-being? Do you collect any gendered data?
- **Early warning:** When and where are early warning systems used and how do you know they have reached everyone?
- **Testing response plans:** How are disaster preparedness and response systems tested? Are evacuation procedures practised? Are local communities involved?
- **Funding:** How is disaster planning, response and recovery funded? Is disaster relief funding available for affected community members?

2. How does your organization include women in disaster preparedness and response planning?

- **Stakeholder engagement:** How do you involve women, women's groups, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of disaster response plans?
- **Women's participation and leadership:** How many women and men are involved in your disaster planning processes? How many women are in decision-making roles?

3

The Zonta Says NOW [Disaster-Ready Guides](#) support Action Guide 02: *Disaster Preparedness and Response*.

See also [Disaster-Ready Guide Where are your local disaster organizations?](#)

- **Needs assessment:** How do you assess the gender-specific needs and vulnerabilities of women and girls in your community before, during, and after a disaster? For example,
 - ◊ How do you address the specific needs and challenges of women and girls who are menstruating, pregnant, lactating, or are caring for young children or elderly people in disaster situations?
 - ◊ How do you prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in disaster settings?
 - ◊ How do you support the poor who cannot afford cooling/heating and the homeless?



Photo: Pexels

What can our club do to raise awareness of disaster preparedness?

1. Gather the facts:

- Invite local emergency services, local disaster management groups, NGOs and Red Cross or Red Crescent agencies to speak to the club to:
 - ◊ Describe local disaster management planning processes.
 - ◊ Explain how local disaster plans cater for women's safety, menstrual health, incontinence, disability, and child and elder care.
 - ◊ Describe how women feature in their agencies' goals, strategies, and disaster plans and whether there are women on their board or in senior roles.
 - ◊ Suggest how Zonta may best advocate and provide support to the community's disaster planning processes.
- Invite women who have been impacted by climate change-related disasters to share their stories at meetings e.g., women from a refugee agency.

2. Lead by example:

- Encourage members to:
 - ◊ Prepare a household disaster readiness plan.
 - ◊ Undertake physical and psychological first aid training.
- Include a disaster readiness session at a club meeting, area workshop or district conference.

3. Use our voice:

- Share what we have learned about disaster preparedness and the actions we have taken, with

our family, friends, neighbours, work colleagues and on social media.

- Develop a guide/video/podcast to raise awareness of local disaster management agencies and useful websites.

4. Advocate:

- Advocate to local disaster management committees to:
 - ◊ Safeguard women's health and safety during an emergency.
 - ◊ Involve women in the management of shelters and refugee camps.
- Advocate for adequate funding and resources for local disaster management agencies to prepare and support their communities before, during and after a disaster.

5. Collaborate:

- Work with members of other Zonta, Golden Z, and Z clubs to host a community event on local disaster response initiatives and careers.
- Work with other service organizations, e.g., Soroptimists, Rotary to raise awareness and advocate for disaster management issues.
- Create an alliance with an emergency organization.

Further reading

[A practical guide to gender-sensitive approaches for disaster management](#)

[Tool 18: Gender Responsive Disaster Preparedness](#)

4



ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL



ZONTA SAYS NOW
TO GENDER-EQUAL CLIMATE ACTION



Photo: Shutterstock

Disaster Ready Guide 4

Where are your local disaster relief organizations?

This document is designed to be read onscreen
as it contains hyperlinks

Insert the names of, and links to, the organizations that provide these services in your community and share with your club members.

- Zonta Club of [redacted]

Before a Disaster

- Emergency warnings: [redacted]

- Disaster preparedness plan template: [redacted]

- Emergency apps: [redacted]

- What to do with pets in an emergency: [redacted]

- Physical and psychological first aid training: [redacted]

During a Disaster

- Agency/Radio Station (AM or FM) to listen to: [redacted]

- Emergency Services: [redacted]

After a Disaster

- Mental health support: [redacted]

- Tips to clean up, dry out and repair your home: [redacted]

- Donations: [redacted]

Disaster Management Agencies

- National government agency that develops and implements the national strategy for disaster risk reduction: [redacted]

- National government agency that oversees disaster coordination and funding: [redacted]

- State/province government agency that develops and implements the state/province disaster management plans: [redacted]

- Local government where this Zonta club meets: [redacted]

- Local government disaster management plan: [redacted]

- Red Cross or Red Crescent agency: [redacted]

- Weather agency: [redacted]

Further Reading

- ◊ District 23, [Guide to Disaster Management](#)
- ◊ [Is your community disaster-ready?](#)
- ◊ [Disaster-Ready Guides and Action Guide 02: Disaster Preparedness and Response.](#)
- ◊ [What 3 Words location app](#)

Create a resource with links to your local agencies



Guide to Disaster Management

This document is designed to be read onscreen



Guide to Disaster Management

This document is designed to be read onscreen

How prepared are you for a disaster?

There are many reasons why you may need to leave your home quickly. The trigger could be a bushfire, storm, flood, earthquake, home fire, violence, or a vehicle crashing into your home. No matter the cause, the result is the same. You need to get out fast – but how prepared are you? How prepared is your household and community?

One in three Australians will experience a disaster in their lifetime. Many emergency services agencies and not for profit organisations like the [Australian Red Cross](#) have a range of resources to help you before, during and after a disaster.

Before a disaster

- Make sure you can receive emergency warnings and information using your local emergency warning apps. Understand what your local risks are.
- Create your own preparedness plan, like the Red Cross [Rediplan](#). Use the interactive template to list your emergency information including important numbers, medications, insurance details, neighbours and where you will go in an emergency. Print this out and store it somewhere where everyone in your house can see it – and if your phone is flat or there is no power, you can access the information quickly.
- Download the [Get Prepared app](#). This will keep your emergency plan close at hand .
- Think about what is important to you and build your [survival kit](#). What will you put in your 'go bag'? If you live in a high-risk fire zone, you may consider storing valuables off-site for the bushfire season.
- Think about what you will do with your pets and other animals.

- **Get to know your neighbours.** Neighbours may be the first people you call upon for help. Use the [Connecting to the Social Grid](#) cards (on page 35) to introduce yourself.
- **Get [Psychological First Aid](#) or [emergency volunteer](#) training** so you can help yourself and others work through the disaster process.

During a disaster

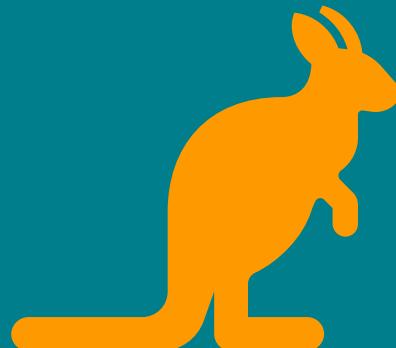
- **Keep up to date** with information broadcast from authorised agencies and follow instructions about evacuation and returning home.
- **Connect** with your support networks and community.
- **Let others know you are safe.** Use your mobile phone to send out a message on Facebook or email. Be aware of the [Register.Find.Reunite](#) program managed through the Australian Red Cross that lets family, friends and emergency services know that you are safe.

After a disaster

- **Be guided by the [Recovery Basics](#).** This focuses on your mental health and how you can help others.
- **Clean up.** The [Cleaning up after an emergency](#) booklet has many tips to clean up, dry out and repair your home after wind or water damage.
- **Provide help.** Too often donations of clothes or goods end up in landfill so the best way to help is by donating money. Information about donations is made available during disasters.

This guide was developed in collaboration with the [Australasian Women in Emergencies Network](#)





How prepared is Australia for a disaster?

In Australia we have a shared responsibility approach to disaster management.

There are a number of emergency, government and not for profit agencies involved in disaster management in Australia, at local, state and national level. They all have an important role to play, alongside communities and households.

Internationally, Australia adopted the United Nations Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in 2015. This outlines targets and priorities to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks and informs the Australian National Strategy for Disaster Resilience and the National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework.

Australia's latest Sendai progress report showed that the increased frequency and duration of extreme weather events means there is no longer an 'off-season' for disasters. Governments at all levels are working to better harmonise their actions and share resources to meet the increasing challenges ahead.

Government preparedness

At the **Federal** level, the National Emergency Management Agency – oversees disaster coordination and funding and has two valuable tools:

- Disaster Assist provides access to recovery services and support agencies wherever you are in Australia. Simply select the type of disaster (flood, bushfire etc), the type of assistance required (financial, emotional, health, business, disaster recovery centre etc) and your address – to show a full range of service providers near you and their contact details.
- Interactive map showing declared disaster-affected Local Government Areas, and recovery and resilience projects underway.

State/Territory governments implement their emergency management plans through coordinated programs on disaster prevention preparedness, response, and recovery. Most emergency management agencies have useful resources and maps of local warnings and incidents. Some also have apps and the facility to sign up for emergency alerts and notifications.

Check out your local agency:

- Australian Capital Territory: <https://esa.act.gov.au/>
- New South Wales: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/emergency>
- Northern Territory: <https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service>
- Queensland: <https://www.qld.gov.au/emergency/>
- South Australia: <https://www.safecom.sa.gov.au/>
- Tasmania: <https://www.alert.tas.gov.au/>
- Victoria: <https://emergency.vic.gov.au/>
- Western Australia: <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/>

Every State and Territory also has an urban and rural fire service and a State Emergency Service.

- In a flood or storm, SES-trained volunteers can provide non-life-threatening emergency relief. Most frequently this can include temporarily fixing damaged, walls, windows, or roofs, removing fallen trees blocking access and halting rising floodwaters.
- Call 132 500 to access the local SES from anywhere in Australia.
- For life-threatening emergencies call 000.

Local Governments have emergency management plans that identify hazards, assess risks, and include arrangements to protect their communities.

- Check with your local government to see what arrangements are in place to evacuate the community safely and where the nearest evacuation centres would be for people and animals.

Other key agencies

- Gender and Disaster Australia has guidelines, videos and other resources to promote the prevention and control of violence, abuse and discrimination against women, children and LGBTIQA+ people and men's self-harm and suicide, before, during, and after emergency and disaster situations.
- The Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience has an impressive Knowledge Hub and provides networking, professional development, and volunteer leadership training to strengthen disaster resilience. It also has an annual photography award.
- The Bureau of Meteorology provides weather warning notifications, enables you to track storms on its radar maps, and has information about long-range weather and climate impacts.

Useful tools

- Emergency Alert is a national emergency warning system where emergency services send voice messages to landlines and text messages to mobile phones in a geographical area impacted by an emergency. **Don't block messages that come from +61 444 444 444**.
- Emergency Plus uses a smartphone's GPS functionality to help a triple zero (000) caller provide the critical location details needed to mobilise emergency services.

The app was developed by Australia's emergency services and their government and industry partners. It includes a What 3 Words address to make it easier to describe your location.

- The Australia Post Digital ID app helps you to confirm your identity in an emergency by validating key documents such as your drivers licence, passport, birth certificate and Australian citizenship.

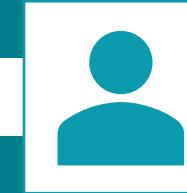
Today's Takeaways

*Sustainability, spirit and
speaking up for human rights*



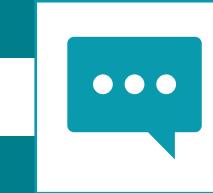
Gather the facts

You now understand why you need to plan for emergencies



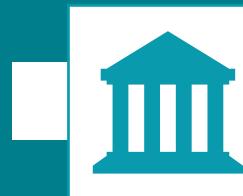
Lead by example

You now have started to prepare a plan



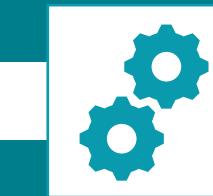
Use your voice

You now know how to use your Zonta Spirit to share the plan



Advocate

You now know how to find information about the disaster-related issues in your community



Collaborate

You are now empowered to speak up for human rights by collaborating with other agencies to address the issues



Statement on Climate Change

ZONTA INTERNATIONAL'S
**STATEMENT ON
CLIMATE CHANGE**
A GENDER EQUALITY ISSUE

Approved by the Zonta International Board April 2021; Published June 2021

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WWW.ZONTA.ORG

Calls on governments to

Meet obligations under **Paris Climate Agreement**

Educate girls and include STEM and climate change

Involve more women in **decision-making** processes

Enable women's full **participation in the economy**

Include women in **disaster preparedness planning** that includes women's health and safety needs

Calls on members to

Increase **awareness** and raise awareness locally

Promote girls' **education**, climate literacy, women in STEM

Support women's inclusion in national and local **decision-making** on environmental sustainability.

Advocate for national policies that ensure women's full and equal **participation in the economy**.

Include **gendered climate change advocacy** actions



Remember, we have the tools to create a better world for women and girls ...

Strategy

Statement on Climate Change

Think Tanks

Virtual Art
Gallery

Framework for
action

Action Guides

Web sites

Videos

Fact Sheet

Disaster
Ready Guides

Social media
messages

Leaflets

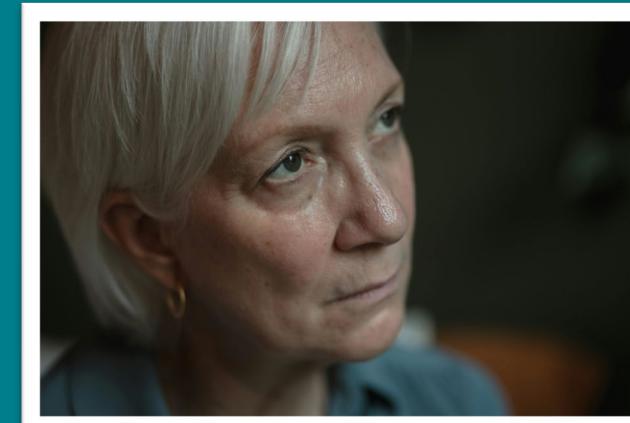
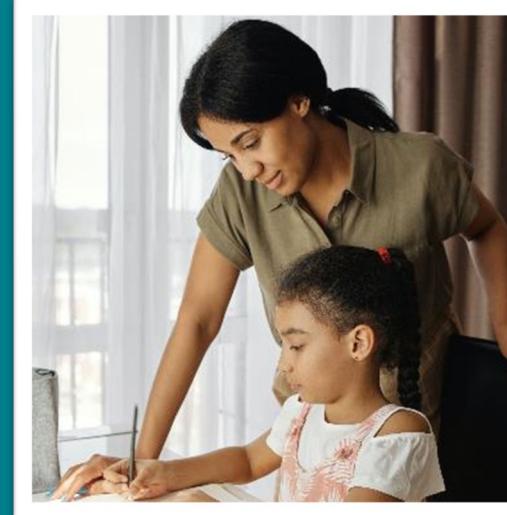
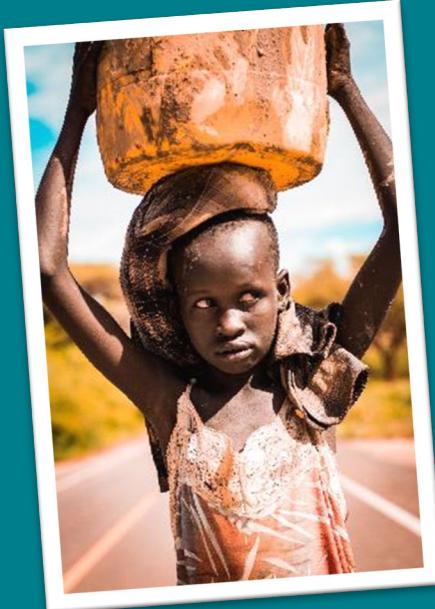
zonta.org/zontasaysnow

**Support
from other
Zontians ☺**



Our toolkit is always growing

So we can achieve climate justice for women and girls





Thank you.

zonta.org/zontasaysnow

Are you and your community
disaster-ready?

Thursday 27 June 2024