

Recovery Planning Methodology

The following planning methodology provides a structured approach to develop recovery sub-plans prior to an event, and the development of event specific recovery plans after a disaster. The methodology can be used by a group or an individual, however, a group approach is recommended. The methodology is designed to be used at local, district/regional and state level. Each stage is supported by a tool or template. The methodology is cyclical. Each time a disaster occurs the community changes either as a direct result of the disaster, or as a result of the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the recovery initiatives implemented.



1. **Community Overviews / Profiles** - Develop a Community Overview or Profile which identifies community strengths, capabilities and vulnerabilities. Community overviews assist with identifying the impacted community. Community overviews and profiles provide recovery planners with an understanding of the community's pre-disaster baseline. (Recovery Sub-Plans must consider key elements of the community overview.)
2. **Impact Identification** – Assists with understanding what has occurred as a result of the disaster. The impact identification process focusses on capturing the damage and or disruption caused, where the damage and or disruption was caused and who the damage and or disruption affected.
3. **Impact Assessment** – Is an analysis of the consequences of the disruption or disaster, based on data collected in relation to psychosocial, economic, natural and built environmental impacts. It is the process of establishing the consequences of the impact of a disaster on a community. Impact assessments identify the recovery problems requiring a solution or solutions.
4. **Identification of Recovery Outcomes and Objectives** – This stage addresses the recovery problems identified through the impact assessment. The recovered state is identified through this process. Consideration is given to the most effective way to deliver recovery activities/initiatives and possible risks to the implementation of these activities/ initiatives as well as potential funding mechanisms. This includes a deliberate process to review and evaluate all the options considered and their suitability to support community recovery.
5. **Recovery Plan Development** – This stage uses the recovery action plan template to map the impacts, consequences, proposed recovery activities/tasks to recovery outcomes and objectives and allocate a responsible agent for their implementation/delivery. At the state and district level the document remains in the form of the recovery action plan, at the local level the recovery action plan translates to the local event specific recovery plan. Appropriate endorsement protocols apply – locally, the plan is supported by the Local Recovery Group and can be submitted through the LDMG or directly to Council, at state the lead agency for the FRG is responsible for signing off the recovery action plan.
6. **Implementation** – This stage focuses on implementing the identified recovery initiatives to support the community recover. A number of actors participate in the implementation including those requiring support. Implementation is not a passive process.
7. **Ongoing Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation** – This stage focuses on monitoring and reporting on recovery process to ensure the implemented initiatives are meeting the requirements of the impacted community. If recovery initiatives are deemed to be ineffective through the reporting and monitoring they should be reconsidered with reference to the findings in stage 3. Evaluation is an assessment of the value or worth of a program or intervention and the extent to which the stated objectives have been achieved and will be completed periodically or at the end of the program. The outcomes of previous evaluations should inform stages 4 and 5.