



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

2025/SOM3/EPWG/SDMOF/005

Agenda Item: S2.2

New Zealand's Approach to the Emerging Space Weather Risk

Purpose: Information
Submitted by: New Zealand



**18th Senior Disaster Management
Officials' Forum
Incheon, Korea
31 July 2025**

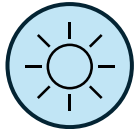
New Zealand's approach to the emerging space weather risk

Contents

- What is space weather?
- New Zealand's approach to planning for space weather
- Space weather and APEC economies

What is space weather?

Activity on the Sun's surface that can disrupt critical infrastructure and technology on Earth



In solar maximum – period of heightened activity



(Potentially) catastrophic consequences



Long restoration times

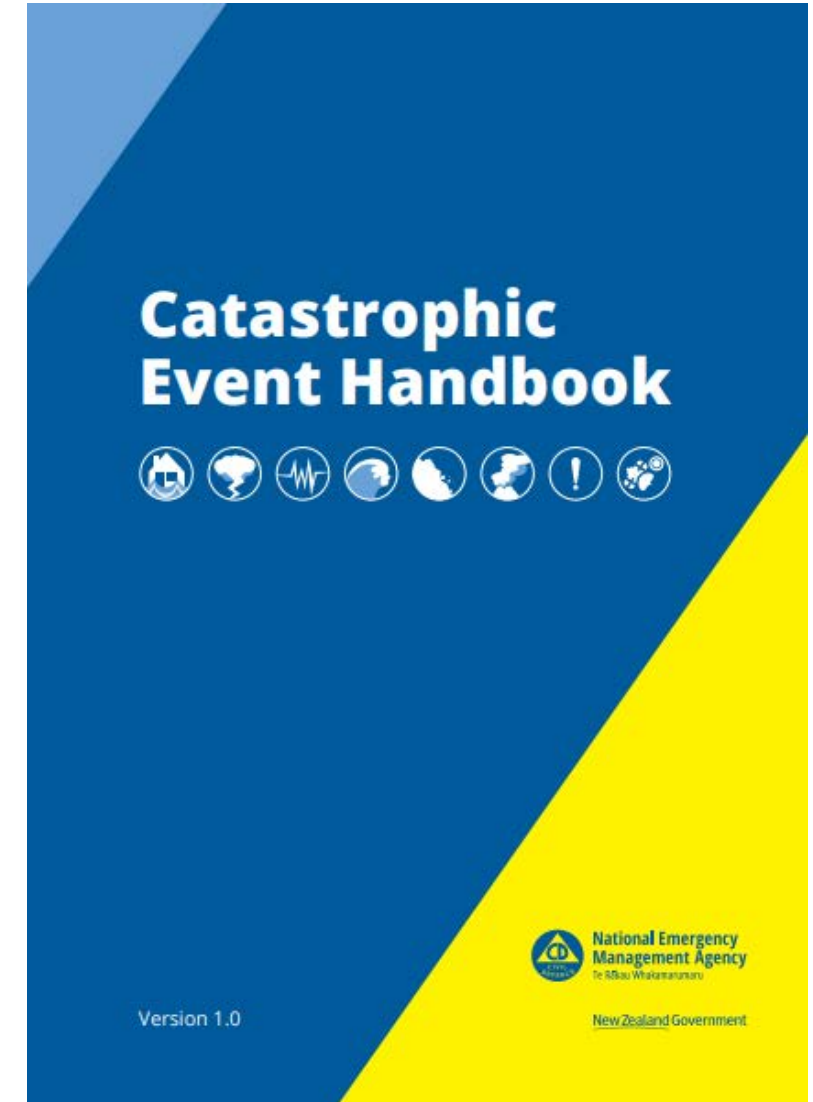


Global scale



Catastrophic event planning

- Central planning to meet the scale of disaster that science tells us is possible
- Focused on maximum credible events
- Sets out response actions by operational phases and workstreams
- Hazard-agnostic handbook: One handbook to guide response to all hazards



Why is space weather different?

Space weather has the *potential* for widespread and enduring impacts to critical infrastructure – causing catastrophic consequences to the community

Space weather programme

- *National Space Weather Response Plan*
- *Science Advisory Panel*
- Public information templates
- System-wide readiness
- Economy-level exercise
- International engagement

National Space Weather Response Plan

- Economy level plan
- Coordinates actions of agencies and stakeholders during the initial response phases



National Space Weather Response Plan

Readiness

- 24/7 monitoring
- Planning
- Exercising
- Public education

Elevated Threat

- Activate Plan
- Multi-Agency meeting(s)
- Activate
 - NCMC
 - ODESC
 - BCPs
- Send Emergency Mobile Alert (EMA)

Credible Threat

- Declare “State of National Emergency”

Immediate Response

- Prep public safety information and materials

Initiate Coord Resp

- Establish situational awareness
- International engagement



Time

Potential collaborative actions among APEC member economies:

1. More detailed discussions
2. Sharing content
3. Formalising networks and procedures for response

