




Impact Assessment Guidelines for Class 1 Emergencies

Working in conjunction with Communities,
Government, Agencies and Business.

What is Impact Assessment

- Assessment of emergency impacts is a complex process, encompassing data drawn from a number of different agencies and government departments at all levels (local, regional and state) together with field observations
 - Initial impact assessment informs the incident controller about emerging risks and further potential hazards
 - Timely and accurate conduct of secondary impact assessment provides information to key stakeholders and enables the activation of appropriate support
 - Impact Assessment must be community focused to ensure the data/information will assist decision making on how to best support impacted communities.
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Three stages of Impact Assessment


Initial Impact Assessment (48 hours)

- Preliminary assessment (visual inspection and quantifiable early data) with the field assessment undertaken by response agencies
- Provides early information to assist in prioritising needs of individuals and communities

Secondary Impact Assessment

- Subsequent progressive assessment of the impact of the event on the community. This may include the use of multi disciplinary field teams.

Post Emergency Needs Assessment

- Estimates the psychosocial impacts on communities, cost of destroyed assets, potential resultant economic impact and business interruption which may be considered during the recovery phase.
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Accountabilities and Reporting


Initial Impact Assessment

The incident controller is responsible for initiating and managing the initial impact assessment stage and will ensure the process is embedded with the activities of the IMT and IEMT. Data and information collected during the initial stage will be collated and reported by the IC through the line of control to the RC and SCC Intelligence.

Secondary Impact Assessment

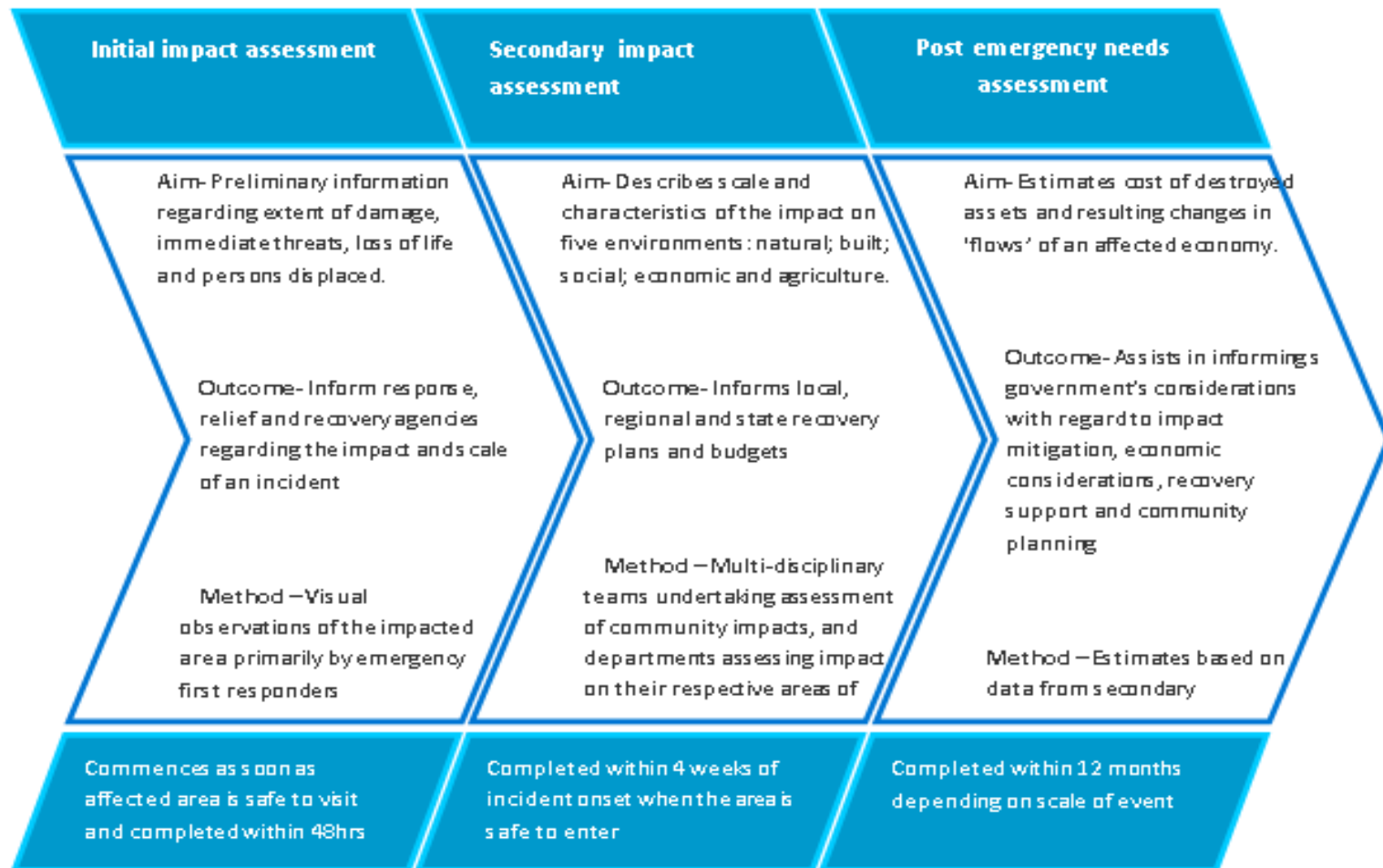
The responsibility for coordination of secondary impact assessment will be dependant upon the scale of the emergency. Agencies involved in this stage must ensure they are undertaking their activities in a coordinated manner to reduce duplication and ensure comprehensive information gathering and reporting.

Prior to the transition to recovery the field collection aspect of this stage must occur in consultation with/and report to the Incident Controller.



Victoria Police

- Victoria Police will as part of their Emergency Response Coordination role ensure that incident management and associated requirements are effectively undertaken, which will include Impact Assessment.
- Whilst Victoria Police will not be the Initial Impact Assessment Coordinator as per the Guidelines approved in January 2015 they will have a significant role to play in the event of human death/fatality.
- Only Victoria Police are authorised to comment upon or release data relating to deceased persons



The three stages described above are not linear and may be completed concurrently depending on the size and nature of the emergency

Information Sources

Includes information provided by EMTs at the following levels together with data collected by field teams

- Incident/Municipal
- Regional
- State

Specific Portfolio Departmental responsibilities will be determined by the SCRC Relief & Recovery Strategic Coordination Group

Planning and prioritising is key to avoid duplication and ensure holistic picture provided in a timely manner.



Information Sources

- Aerial Surveillance
 - Aircraft
 - Satellite
- Responder information
- Initial Assessment Teams (included but not limited to)
- Relief Centre information
- Portfolio Department Situation Reports
- Call centre information
- Media
- Social Media → including from state
- Consequence Report → EMCOP / EMAP
- Predictive services/Mapping



The information above will be used to prioritise the tasking of initial and secondary impact assessment field teams

Considerations

Initial Impact Assessment (“Hot Zone”)

- By appropriately trained responder agency personnel

Initial/Secondary Impact Assessment (Escorted Hot Zone)

- LGA’s / Tech Specialists/ Support Agencies

Secondary Impact Assessment (Warm Zone)

- No longer threat from hazard – both as community members return and before they return

If the impacted area is a declared or restricted area, this will delay commencement of initial and secondary impact assessment

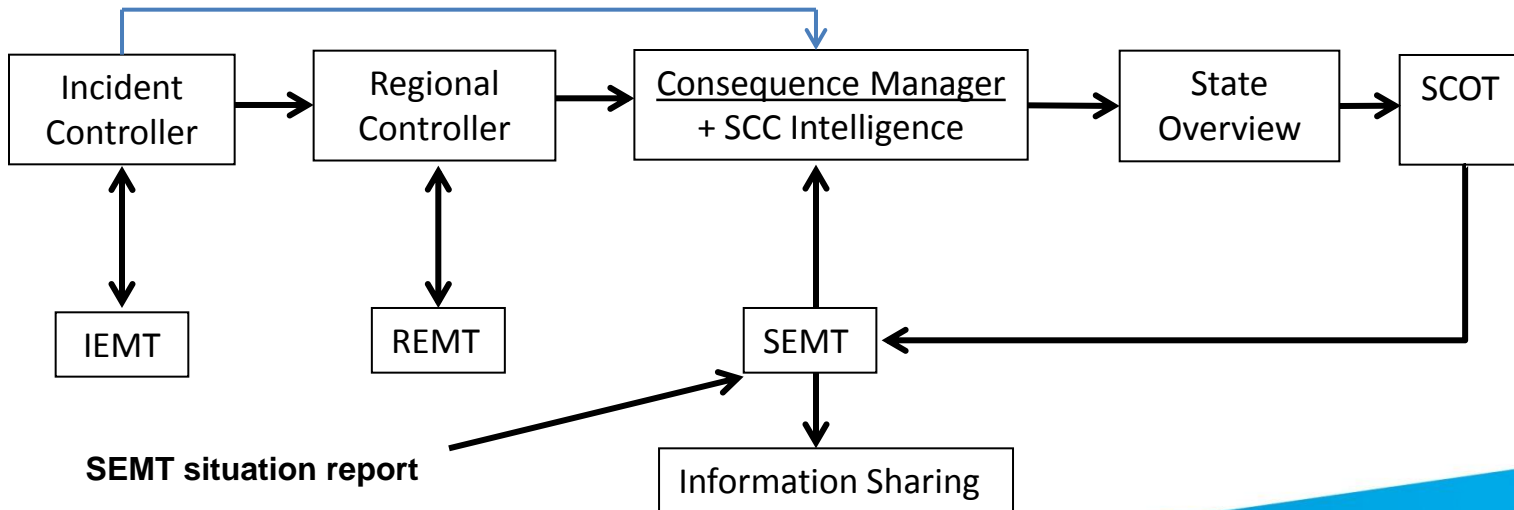


1. Initial Assessment

- a) Data collection - (impacted or not impacted)
- b) Collation
- c) Analysis – Quantitative (IMT) | Qualitative (EMT)
- d) Report Created

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2. Reporting

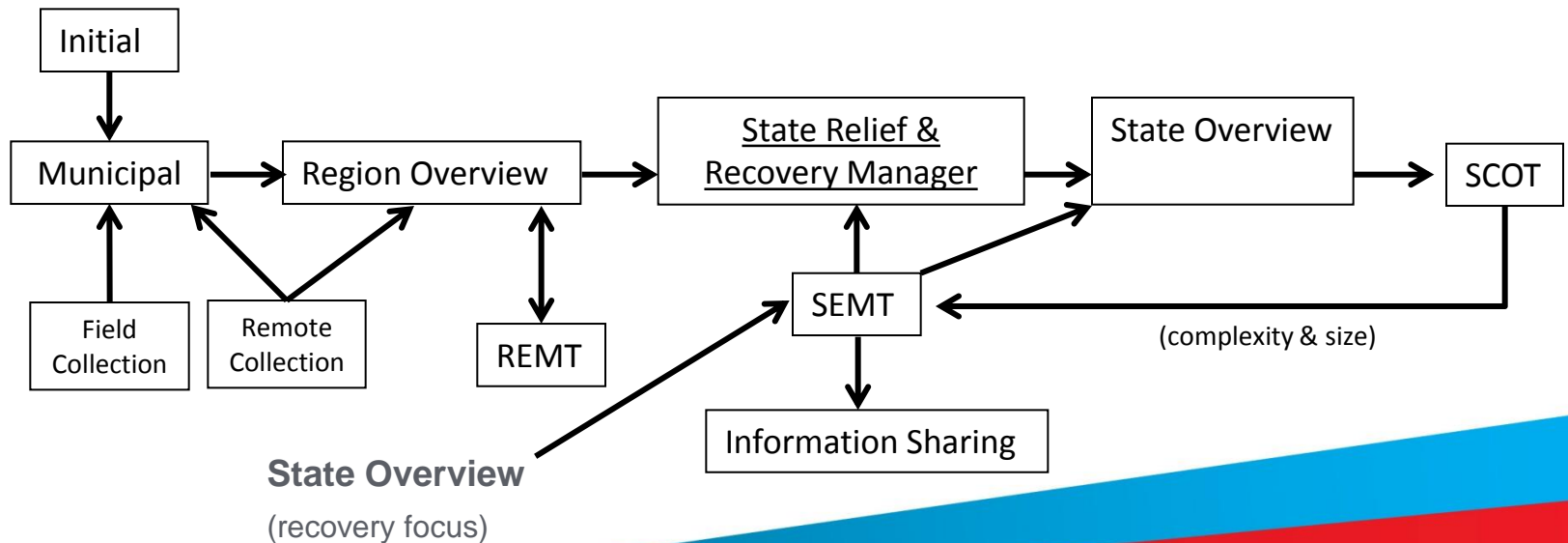


4. **Secondary Impact Assessment** (indicatively up to 4 weeks depending complexity/size)

- a) Data collection - (impacted or not impacted)
- b) Collation
- c) Analysis – Quantitative (IMT) | Qualitative (EMT)
- d) Report Created



5. **Reporting**



Victorian Emergency Management Strategic Action Plan 2015 – 2018

- A number of reviews, evaluations and the White Paper have recommended the state should undertake a comprehensive review of Victoria's impact assessment system.
- *Priority G.6 - Implement a comprehensive impact assessment model across all hazards and all phases of emergency management, taking into consideration the National Impact Assessment Model. This model will include a process to collect, analyse and communicate impact information to better inform response processes, and relief and recovery planning and activities.*

This work continues and may result in enhancements to the Impact Assessment Guidelines in the future

