# Defence Assistance to the Civil Community (DACC) Categories

Reference Guide – RG.1.210



PPRR DM GUIDELINE – SUPPORT TOOLKIT Last Updated: 19 January 2018



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# 1. Defence Assistance to the Civil Community

Australian states and territories have constitutional responsibility for the protection of the lives and property of personnel within their boundaries. Where a disaster is actually or potentially of such a magnitude that State or Territory resources are inadequate, unavailable or cannot be mobilised quickly, the Australian Government accepts a responsibility for providing support when requested.

The principle applied to the provision of emergency Defence Assistance to the Civil Community (DACC) is that State/Territory Governments are primarily responsible for combating disasters and civil emergencies, using available State/Territory paid and volunteer services and commercially available resources. Australian Government resources (including Defence assets) may be made available in situations where State/Territory authorities are unable to react with sufficient speed or lack the necessary resources or skills.

There are three categories of DACC assistance.

# 2. DACC Assistance Categories

### 2.1. Category 1 - Local Emergency Assistance

Emergency assistance for a specific task(s) provided by the Senior Australian Defence Force Officers/Unit Commander/Administrator, from within their allocated resources, in localised emergency situations where immediate action is necessary to save human life, alleviate suffering, prevent extensive loss of animal life or prevent widespread loss and damage to property. Duration of assistance shall normally not exceed 48 hours.

## 2.2. Category 2 - Significant Emergency Assistance.

Emergency assistance, beyond that provided under DACC 1, during a more extensive or continuing disaster response directly related to saving human life or alleviating human suffering or preventing the loss or damage to property when State/Territory resources are inadequate. This may include short term recovery activities during the transfer of tasks to local and state recovery agencies in the immediate aftermath of an emergency. Duration of assistance shall depend on nature, scope of emergency and available resources.

### 2.3. Category 3 - Emergency Recovery Assistance.

Emergency assistance associated with recovery from a civil emergency or disaster, which is not directly related to the saving of life or property that involves longer term significant recovery activity, such as reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and the restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing. Duration of assistance shall depend on nature, scope of recovery effort and available resources.



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