



WPI

29.04.2024

Increasing Coordination Between Organisations in the Victorian Emergency Management Sector

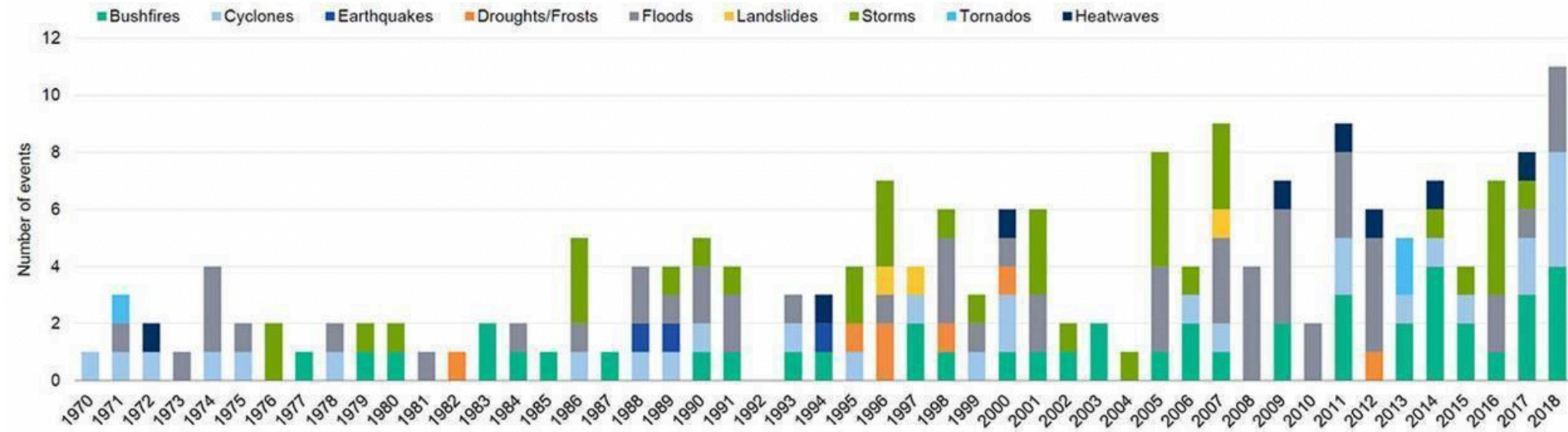
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Acknowledgement of Country

The Number of Emergencies in Australia is Increasing

Number of natural disasters by type of disaster



Source: Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience, © Commonwealth of Australia (2019)

Emergency Management Plans Do Not Represent All Organisations

State Emergency
Management Plan
(SEMP)

Regional Emergency
Management Plans
(REMPs)

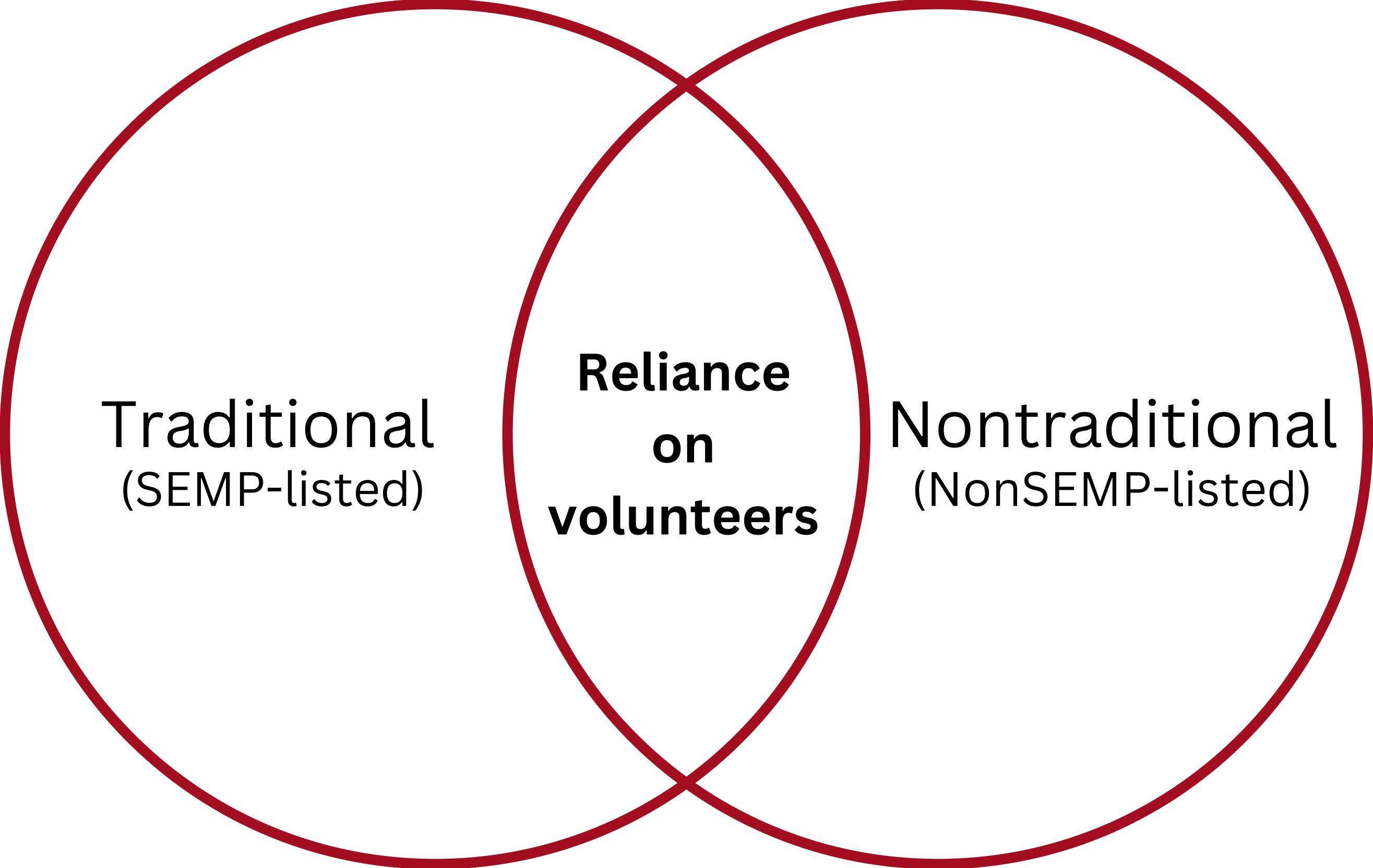
Municipal Emergency
Management Plans
(MEMPs)

Victoria Police
CFA
VicSES
Red Cross

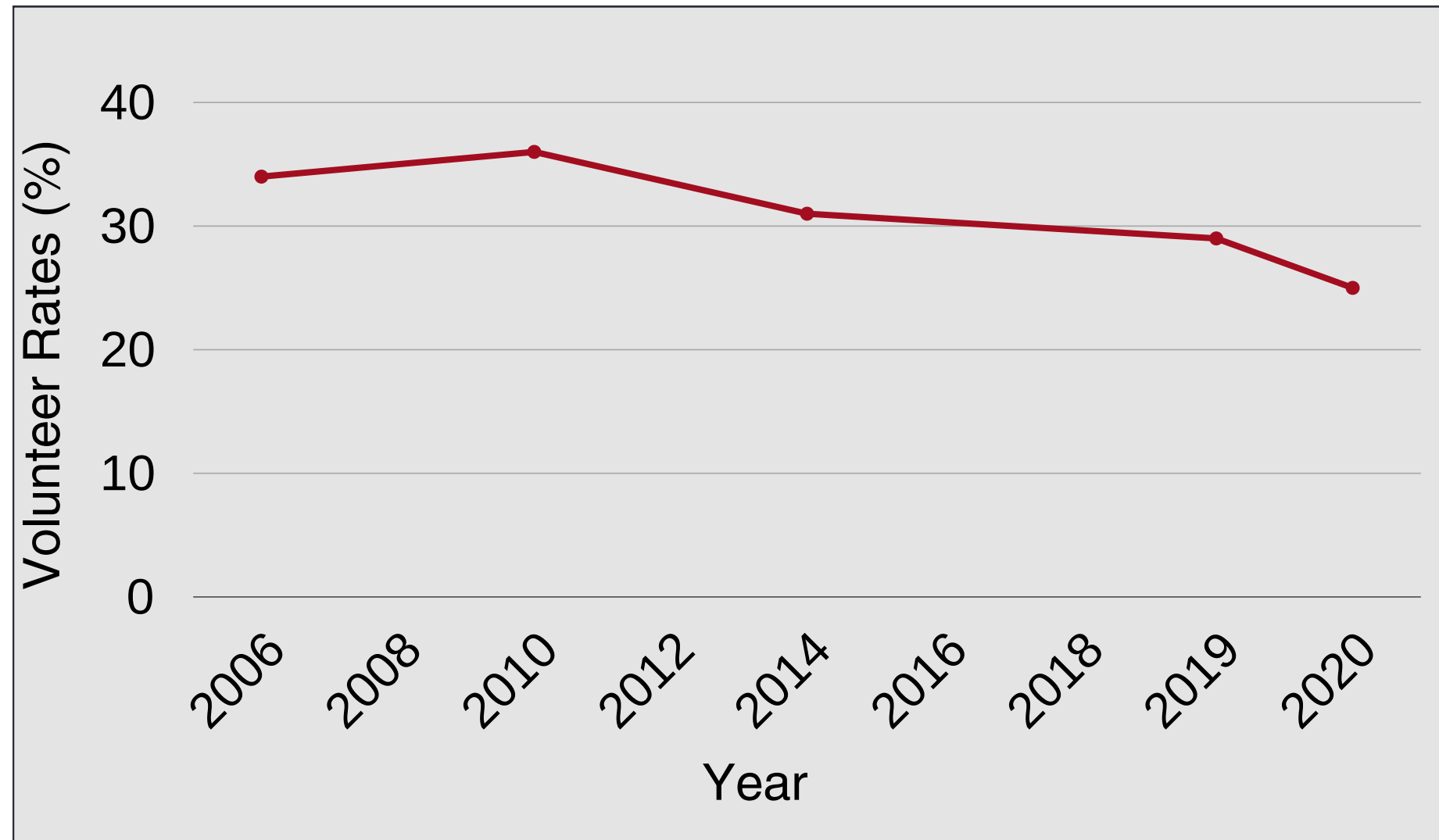
Hospitals
Advocacy
Catchment Authority

Neighborhood Houses
Food Shares
Shelter

Victoria's Emergency Management Sector Relies Heavily on Volunteers

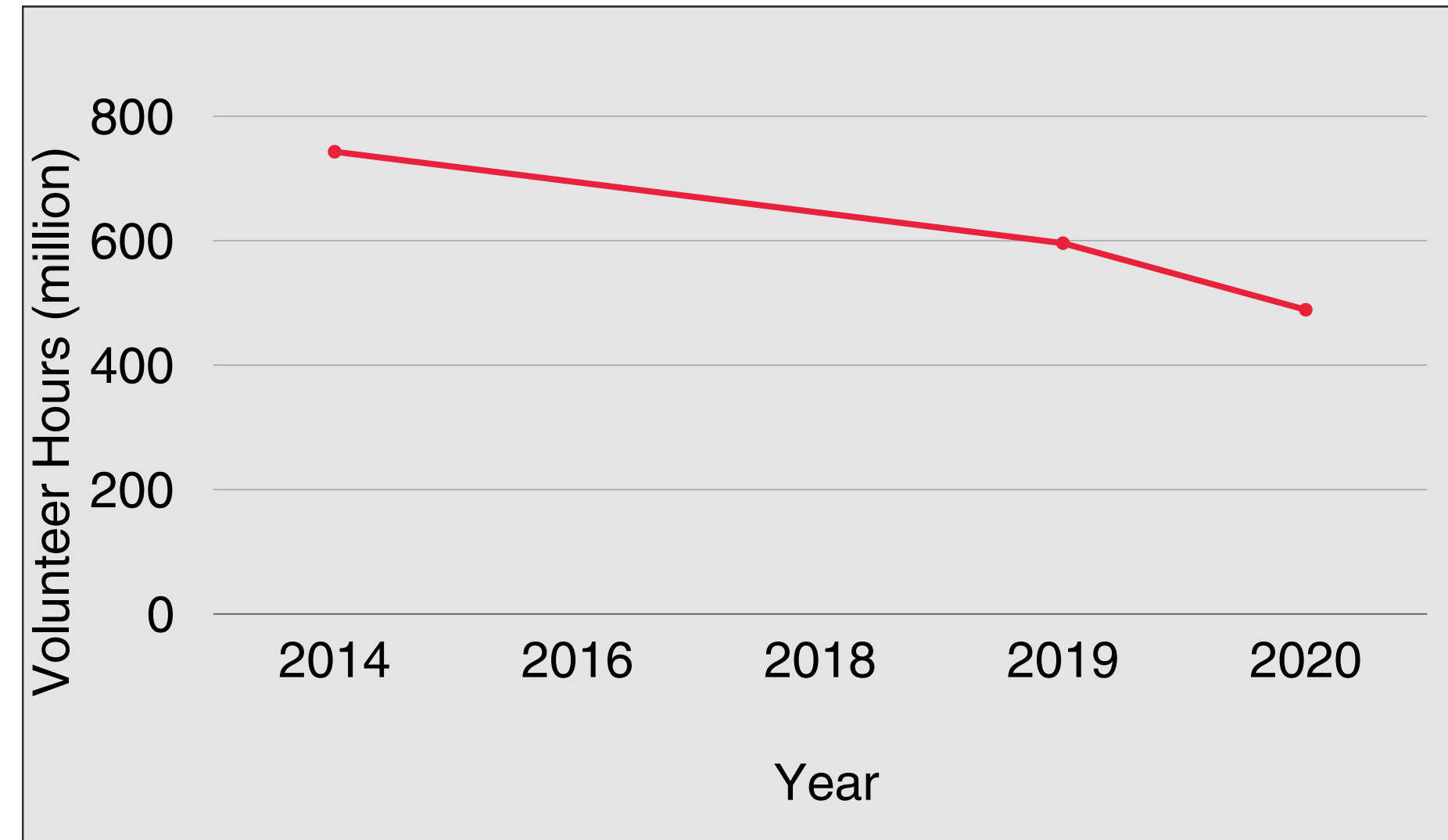


Volunteerism Sustainability in Victoria is at Risk



Decreasing Volunteer Participation:

9%



Decreasing Volunteer Hours:

147.1 million

Supporting the Current Review into Emergency Management Volunteering



Our Goal

Identify ways to enhance the connection between traditional and nontraditional volunteer organisations to facilitate stronger, coordinated volunteer efforts across the emergency management sector of Victoria.

Our Objectives

1

Understand the networks
between **traditional and**
nontraditional
organisations

2

Identify and map the
nontraditional
emergency management
organisations

3

Determine the needs
of **traditional**
organisations

4

Determine the needs of
nontraditional
organisations

5

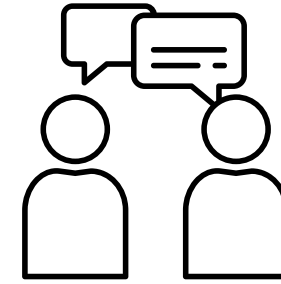
Develop a list of
recommendations to meet
the **needs** of both **traditional**
and nontraditional
organisations

1: Understanding the Networks



Survey

- Sent to 170 nontraditional organisations
- Received 11 responses from 9 different organisations
- Communication and collaboration networks



Exploratory Conversations

- Spoke with 12 representatives
- From 4 nontraditional and 3 traditional organisations
- Unique connections and coordination practices

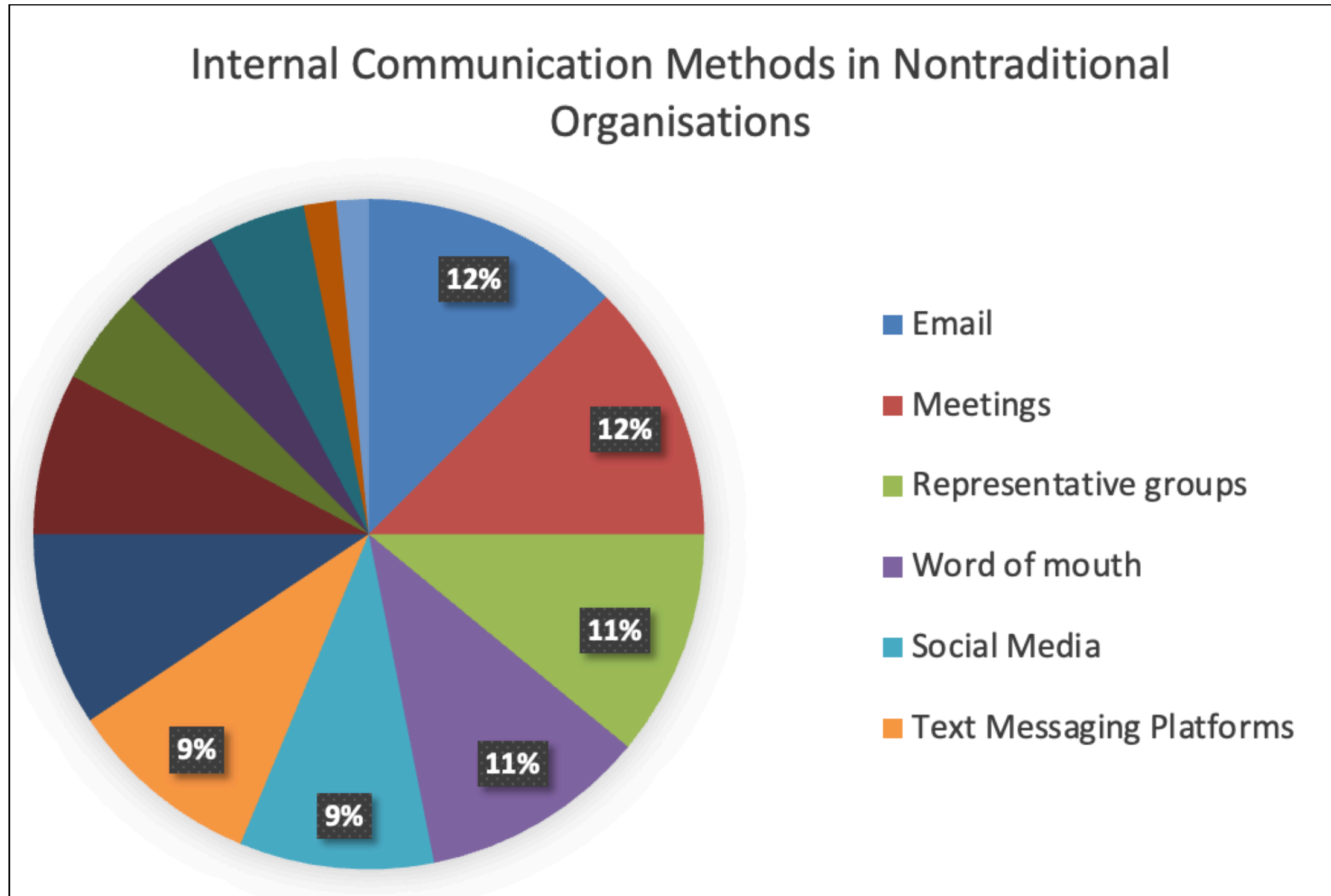
Lateral Connection



Vertical Connection



Personal Communication is Most Effective to Recieve and Transmit Information



“face to face events are actually quite important for supporting those kinds of [volunteering] networks”

2: Identifying and Mapping Non-traditional Organisations



MEMP Review

- 83/83 reviewed
- 61/83 contained data

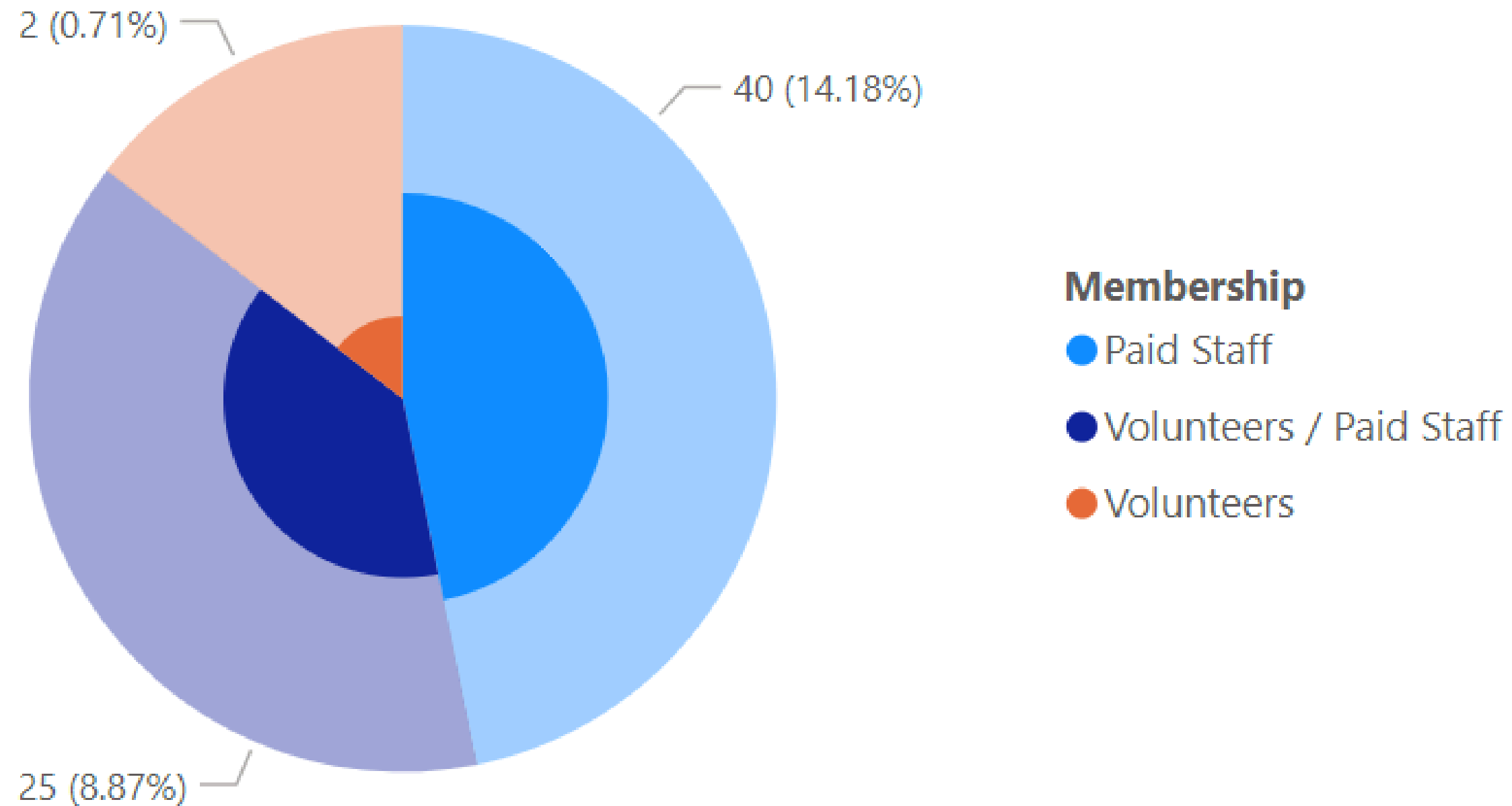


Expanding the Map

- Discovered relationships through further research
- 285 organisations total

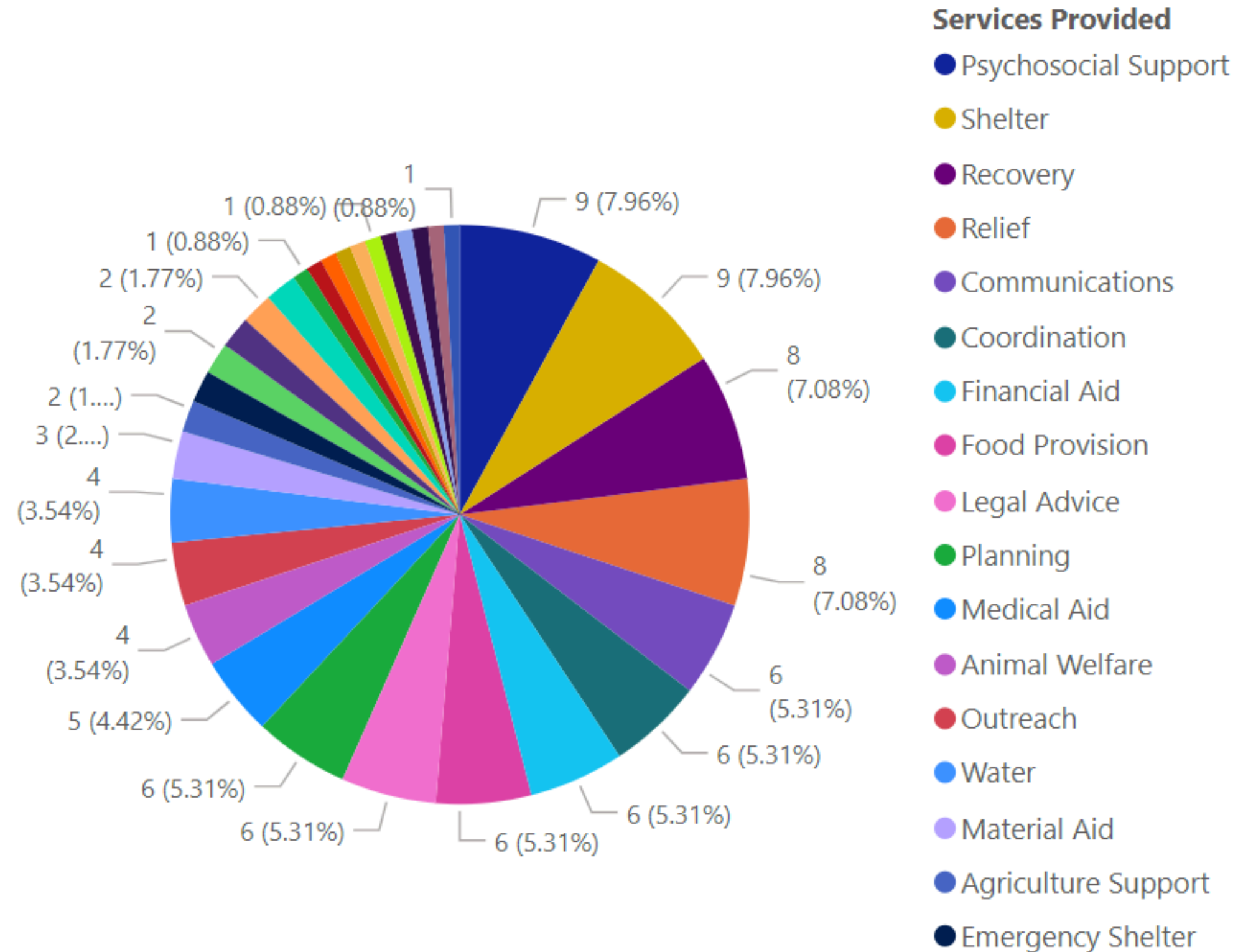
Service Footprints

Breakdown of Membership - State

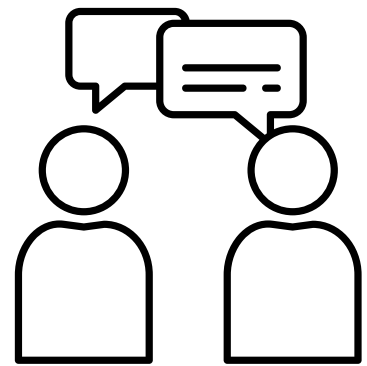


Services Provided

Services Provided - State

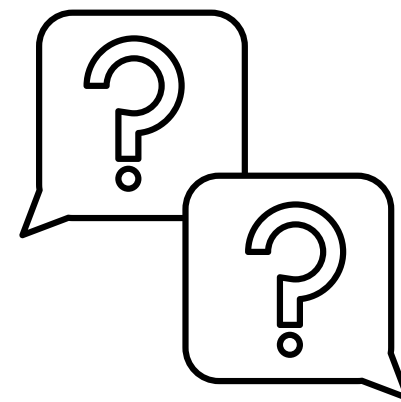


3: Determining the Needs of Traditional Organisations



Exploratory Conversations

- Psychosocial support
- Shelter
- Food relief
- Financial support



Questions

- Communication methods
- Collaborative partners
- Successes
- Challenges

Findings from Conversations with Traditional Organisations

Desire for relationship building outside of emergencies

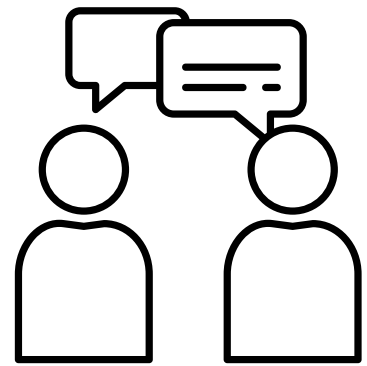
Desire for a centralised form of communication

Desire for recognition of non-traditional organisations

Desire for a connection with community based organisations

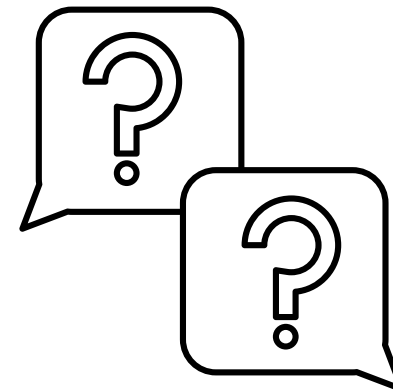
"If we had a system where everyone can join and be live updated that would be great. If we can see what has been happening, what's been done, where people are, and what needs to be done, that would be a complete game changer."

4: Determining the Needs of Nontraditional Organisations



Exploratory Conversations

- Coordination
- Advocacy
- Outreach
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse



Questions

- Services Provided
- Communication Methods
- Mobilisation Process
- Challenges
- Wants and Needs

Findings from Conversations with Non-traditional Organisations

“We got an email from the police after that deployment...That recognition from that police really helped to boost morale and helped establish us as a legitimate organisation”

Desire for relationship building outside of emergencies

Desire for a centralised form of communication

Desire for recognition from traditional organisations

Need for additional funding

5: Our Recommendations

Conduct focus group discussions with emergency management volunteer coordinators

Explore a centralised platform for information sharing and communication

Expand on organisation identification and mapping

Build relationships between traditional and nontraditional organisations outside of emergencies

Improve recognition of nontraditional organisations

Focus Group Discussions Foster Strong Relationships

WHO

- 5 - 10 emergency management volunteer coordinators
- Traditional organisations
- Nontraditional organisations

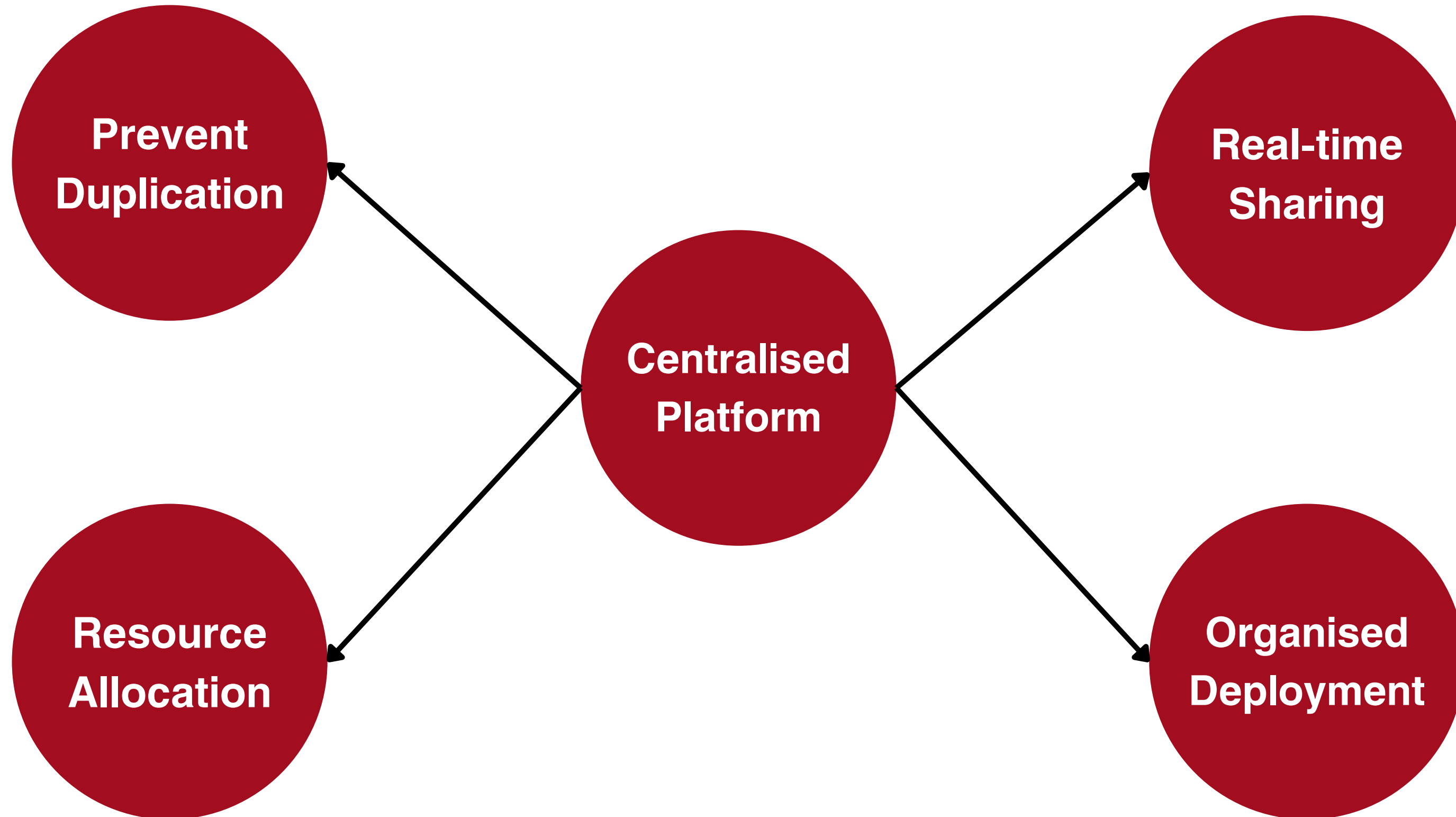
WHAT

- 3 - 5 prompts
- Discuss challenges in sector
- Share experiences
- Communication and coordination strategies
- Methods to support

WHY

- Increase communication
- Stronger coordination
- Enhanced consultation
- Build trust
- Mutual understanding

A Centralised Communication Platform Increases Coordination



The Best Time to Build Relationships is Outside of Emergencies

Workshops
Discussions
Trainings

Consultation
Collaboration
Communication
Coordination

COMMUNITY

Expand on Organisation Identification and Mapping

Enhance Vertical Visibility



Increased awareness of local resources

Strengthen community ties

Stronger connections between formal and informal networks

More Recognition of Nontraditional Organisations

**Deployment
Finishes**

**Recognition
from Traditional
Organisations**

**Morale
Boost**

**Improved
Outcomes in
Future
Deployments**

Acknowledgements

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Thank You for Attending!

If you are interested in reading the full report of our project, you will be able to access it on Digital WPI.

Additionally, a summary of the findings will be available on EngageVic in the coming months.

