

Northern Territory Implementation Plan 2013-15

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON NATURAL DISASTER RESILIENCE

PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. This Implementation Plan is a schedule to the National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective in the National Partnership is to enhance Australian communities' resilience to natural disasters.
2. The Northern Territory Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NTNDRP) will promote an evidence-based approach to risk reduction and mitigation. The objective of this program is to enhance Northern Territory communities' resilience to natural disasters. Results obtained through the Northern Territory Risk Profile and Assessments will assist in guiding the NTNDRP.

PART 2: TERMS OF THIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

3. This Implementation Plan will commence as soon as it is agreed between the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Minister for Justice, and the Northern Territory, represented by the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services.
4. As a schedule to the National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience, the purpose of this Implementation Plan is to provide the public with an indication of how the NTNDRP is intended to be delivered and demonstrate the Northern Territory's capacity to achieve the outcomes of the National Partnership.
5. This Implementation Plan will cease on completion or termination of the National Partnership, including the acceptance of final performance reporting and processing of final payments against performance benchmarks or milestones.
6. This Implementation Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Commonwealth and State Ministers responsible for it under the overarching National Partnership.
7. The Parties to this Implementation Plan do not intend any of the provisions to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to the plan and its full implementation.

PART 3: STRATEGY FOR THE NORTHERN TERRITORY'S IMPLEMENTATION

Project information

8. The Northern Territory intends to deliver the NTNDRP through three funding programs that are strategically linked to the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience. The project elements planned are as follows:

(a) **Disaster Resilience Emergency Volunteer Fund** – this program will enable volunteer organisations at the frontline of Northern Territory Emergency Management to submit applications for attraction, retention, training and resourcing capacity initiatives that will provide a demonstrated ability to improve their response to natural disasters;

(b) **Disaster Resilience Fund** – this program will enable organisations and local agencies to submit applications for natural disaster resilience works, measures and related activities that will contribute to safer, sustainable and resilient communities that will be better able to withstand the effects of natural disasters; and

(c) **Territory Risk Priority Project Fund** – this program will deliver projects to address key natural disaster risk knowledge gaps, trial or enhance programs delivering natural disaster resilience or enhance emergency management capability throughout the Northern Territory.

9. The Northern Territory agrees to amend and publish the Northern Territory Risk Profile and Assessment ensuring consistency with the revised National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines, when agreed, as per clause 11(a) of the National Partnership Agreement.

Estimated costs

10. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth for the project to the jurisdiction is \$2,710,000 payable in accordance with the payment milestones set out in Part 5 of the National Partnership Agreement. All payments are exclusive of GST.
11. The estimated overall budget (exclusive of GST) is set out in Table 1. The budget is indicative only and the Northern Territory retains the flexibility to move funds between components and/or years, as long as outcomes are not affected. The Commonwealth contribution can only be moved between years with the agreement of the Commonwealth.

Table 1: Estimated financial contributions

(\$ '000)	2013-14	2014-15	Total
Disaster Resilience Emergency Volunteer Fund	435	435	870
Disaster Resilience Fund	435	435	870
Territory Risk Priority Project Fund	535	435	970
Fog Bay Road Upgrade	0	2,610	2,610
Total estimated budget	1,405	3,915	5,320
less estimated Commonwealth contribution	1,305	1,305	2,610
less Commonwealth funds already paid carried over from 2012-13 NTNDRP	100	0	100
equals estimated balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0	2,610	2,610
Total Commonwealth contribution	1,405	1,305	2,710

12. The Northern Territory Government contribution to the NTNDRP is the Fog Bay Road Upgrade at a cost of \$2.6 million. The Fog Bay Road Upgrade reduces risks in the built environment and strengthens community resilience to cyclonic activity and flooding by providing access into and out of the Cox Peninsula. This will provide greater access to the Cox Peninsula for evacuation and recovery purposes. The Northern Territory Government will also contribute to the program through any associated in-kind contributions.
13. NTNDRP will be utilised to cover any costs associated with the program administration.

Program logic

14. The way in which these project elements will achieve the outcomes and objectives set out in the National Partnership is detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Program Logic

Project elements	Outputs	Outcomes	Reform/ Project Objectives	Responsibilities
Disaster Resilience Emergency Volunteer Fund	<p>Recruitment and retention initiatives within the emergency management sector.</p> <p>Training strategies for volunteer organisations at the front line of emergency management.</p> <p>Equipment and facilities specifically for supporting recruitment, retention and training of volunteers.</p>	<p>Strengthening community resilience to natural disasters consistent with the Northern Territory Risk Profile and the priority outcomes of the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading change and coordinating effort. • Understanding risk. 	<p>Enhance Territory resilience to natural disasters.</p> <p>Northern communities' to natural</p>	<p>Northern Territory</p>
Disaster Resilience Fund	<p>Natural disaster risk management studies.</p> <p>Disaster mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Investment in disaster resilient public infrastructure.</p> <p>Structural works to protect against damage from natural disasters.</p> <p>Disaster warning systems.</p> <p>Community awareness and readiness measures.</p> <p>Disaster mitigation related research of public benefit.</p> <p>Development of nationally consistent data collection and analysis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicating with and educating people about risk. • Partnering with those who effect change. • Empowering individuals and communities to exercise choice and take responsibility. • Reducing risks in the built environment. • Supporting capabilities for disaster resilience. 		

Project elements	Outputs	Outcomes	Reform/ Project Objectives	Responsibilities
<p>(continued)</p> <p>Disaster Resilience Fund</p>	<p>(continued)</p> <p>Development of nationally consistent post-disaster evaluations.</p> <p>Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based hazard and flood data for disaster mitigation purposes.</p> <p>Non-recurrent capacity development activities.</p>	<p>(continued)</p> <p>Strengthening community resilience to natural disasters consistent with the Northern Territory Risk Profile and the priority outcomes of the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience, in the areas of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading change and coordinating effort. • Understanding risk. • Communicating with and educating people about risk. • Partnering with those who effect change. • Empowering individuals and communities to exercise choice and take responsibility. • Reducing risks in the built environment. • Supporting capabilities for disaster resilience. 	<p>(continued)</p> <p>Enhance Territory resilience to natural disasters.</p> <p>Northern communities' to natural</p>	<p>(continued)</p> <p>Northern Territory</p>
<p>Territory Risk Priority Project Fund</p>	<p>Research or technical studies of disaster risk, community vulnerability, resilience measures, etc.</p> <p>Trials or pilots of community engagement measures.</p> <p>Conferences, workshops or other sector engagement activities.</p> <p>Development of guidelines for emergency management activities.</p> <p>Development of trial or specific software for emergency management activities.</p> <p>Development of training or other capability development resources.</p> <p>Non-recurrent capacity building activities.</p>			

Risk management

15. A risk management plan is in place. Risks have been actively identified, entered into a risk log and categorised in terms of impact and likelihood.

Relevant Northern Territory context

16. In developing this Implementation Plan consideration has been given to relevant Northern Territory context. Key factors that have influenced the proposed direction are listed below.
 - (a) Support for necessary frontline emergency service volunteer organisations, in particular those organisations located within remote communities.
 - (b) Fostering cooperation with Shires and Councils in order to develop increased resilience within the communities;
 - (c) Addressing those risks identified within the Northern Territory Disaster Risk Assessment; and
 - (d) Provision of access to health and communication services for remote communities adversely affected by inclement weather events.

PART 5: PERFORMANCE ARRANGEMENTS

Milestones

17. Payment milestones are outlined in Table 3 of the National Partnership Agreement.
18. To qualify for the associated payment, the Northern Territory must meet the following milestones

Table 3: Milestones: output and implementation

Milestones
Commonwealth agreement to this Implementation Plan
July 2013 – March 2014 Performance Report of the NTNDRP's key performance indicators as outlined in Sections 18 and 19 of this Implementation Plan
April – August 2014 Performance Report of the NTNDRP's key performance indicators as outlined in Sections 18 and 19 of this Implementation Plan
September 2014 – March 2015 Performance Report of the NTNDRP's key performance indicators as outlined in Sections 18 and 19 of this Implementation Plan

19. The Northern Territory will also prepare a Final Report within 90 days of the completion of all the outputs under the National Partnership Agreement.

Performance indicators

20. Achievement of the outcomes in this Implementation Plan will be evaluated in reference to the following performance indicators:

- (a) Activities/projects approved, commenced and completed for each of the three funding programs;
- (b) Activities that address risks identified in the State-wide risk assessment;
- (c) Activities that contribute to the achievement of the priority outcomes of the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience;
- (d) Activities that contribute to the attraction, support and retention of emergency management volunteers;
- (e) The increase of volunteer organisation response capacity and capability through funding of procurements, recruitment and training projects; and
- (f) Demonstrated progress of capital works for the Fog Bay Road Upgrade.

Sign off

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this agreement as follows:

Signature

Date

- 9 JUN 2014

The Hon Adam Giles MLA
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Service



19.6.19

Signature

Date

The Hon Michael Keenan MP
Minister for Justice