

Western Australia Implementation Plan

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 enhancement of Australian communities' resilience to natural disasters.
2. This Implementation Plan will address Western Australia's risk priorities by building on existing knowledge and programs, with three core programs previously identified continuing through 2013-14 and 2014-15, being the:
 - (a) State-wide Priority Hazard Risk Management Planning;
 - (b) State-wide Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program; and
 - (c) Disaster Resilience Grants Program.

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 Western Australia, represented by the Minister for 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 programs are intended to be delivered and demonstrate Western Australia'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 WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S IMPLEMENTATION

Project information

8. The core features of this Implementation Plan and the activities it outlines align closely with the action areas of the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience (NSDR), particularly:
- a) State-wide Priority Hazard Risk Management Planning (SPHRMP) – This project will increase awareness of major risks and associated impacts on a local, regional and State level. Enable mitigation proposals to be evaluated to support Risk Management strategies. Develop Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMA's) and Westplans to improve Capability Planning.
 - b) State-wide Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program (SBRMP) – This project identifies the risk to targeted communities and the level of that risk across local government areas. Develop risk reduction plans to identify timeframes and assist landowners to implement treatment plans to reduce risk to an acceptable risk level.
 - c) Disaster Resilience Grants Program (DRGP) – This program will enable organisations to submit applications for natural disaster resilience works, measures and related activities that will contribute to safer, sustainable and resilient communities, to be better able to respond and withstand the effects of natural disasters. Projects directly focused on the attraction retention and support of volunteers will be considered favourably.

The project elements planned are shown in table 1:

Table 1: Project elements

No.	Title	Short description	Planned start date	Planned end date	Dependent on projects
1	SPHRMP	Reduce the impact of natural disasters by enhanced understanding of risk factors and identification of strategic treatment programs	01/10/2014 *Existing program continuing under this Agreement.	30/06/2015	Independent project
2	SBRMP	Supporting bushfire risk management planning for target communities	01/07/2014 *Existing program continuing under this Agreement.	30/06/2015	Independent project

3	DRGP	DRGP funding is offered to organisations working in emergency management to support projects in the State's identified priority areas, with outcomes consistent with the NSDR priority outcomes	01/07/2014	30/06/2015	Independent project
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Estimated costs

9. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth for the project to the jurisdiction is \$6.264 million payable in accordance with the financial arrangements set out in Part 4 of this Implementation Plan. All payments are exclusive of GST.
10. The estimated overall budget (exclusive of GST) is set out in Table 2. The budget is indicative only and Western Australia 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 2: Estimated financial contributions

(\$ million)	2013-14	2014-15	Total
State-wide Priority Hazard Risk Management Planning	2.088	2.088	4.176
State-wide Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program	2.080	2.080	4.160
Disaster Resilience Grants Program	2.096	2.096	4.192
Total estimated budget	6.264	6.264	12.528
<i>less estimated Commonwealth contribution</i>	<i>3.132</i>	<i>3.132</i>	<i>6.264</i>
<i>equals estimated balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</i>	<i>3.132</i>	<i>3.132</i>	<i>6.264</i>
Total Commonwealth contribution	3.132	3.132	6.264

Note: Western Australia will also receive a Commonwealth contribution of \$1.566 million on the receipt and acceptance by the Commonwealth of the Western Australian 2012-13 Annual Report, representing funding carried over from the National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience (2009-13).

Program logic

11. The project elements detailed in this Implementation Plan will strengthen Western Australia's resilience to natural disasters and achieve the objectives stated in the National Partnership by recognising the importance of understanding risks and communicating risks to all levels of the community as described in the NSDR. Western Australia's DRGP, SPHRMP and SBRMP have a strong focus on:
 - (a) improving the underlying research, data and systems which inform and improve risk assessments for priority natural hazards.
 - (b) producing risk assessments for priority natural hazards; these risk assessments are critical to achieving the outcomes of reduced risk from the impacts of disasters and appropriate emergency capability and capacity consistent with Western Australia's risk profile; and

- (c) implementing projects or activities underpinned by these risk assessments to meet the outcomes of reduced risk from natural disasters and appropriate emergency management capability and capacity, including the attraction, support and retention of emergency management volunteers.

Risk management

- 12. 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 Western Australia Context

- 13. In developing this Implementation Plan consideration has been given to relevant Western Australian context. Key factors that have influenced the proposed direction are set out in Table 3.
- 14. The NSDR is a key consideration of the delivery of this Implementation Plan. In particular, it recognises the shared responsibility of governments and other organisations in improving disaster resilience.
- 15. To maximise the effectiveness of the NDRP funds in building natural disaster resilience in the state, resources will be allocated to align with the State's strategic focus. Allocation of resources will also take into consideration alignment with four key development themes:
 - (a) promoting shared responsibility;
 - (b) developing risk management (assessments and/or treatments);
 - (c) improving coordination; and
 - (d) developing continuous improvement (particularly capability development).
- 16. Funded projects are expected to leverage off existing structures and networks and establish partnerships with organisations and persons identified as having a role in emergency management, as recognised in a Westplan, consistent with the outcomes of the Western Australian State Risk Assessment and NSDR.

Table 3: Links with existing reforms or projects

Proposed project elements	Existing reforms or projects	Complementary nature of activities
State-wide Priority Hazard Risk Management Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information published in the 2013 Preparedness Report and online risk document • ISO: 31000 • NSDR • State Risk Register • National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on previous activity, this program will extend the State's understanding of risk from natural hazards in a comprehensive and consistent manner • Building understanding of risk and sharing information between State, District and local levels and between District and Local Emergency Management Areas

State-wide Bushfire Risk Management Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSDRI • SO: 31000 • National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines • Bushfire risk information is transformable into SPHRMP baseline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This program will extend the State's understanding of bushfire risk and develop tenure blind management plans across local jurisdictions • Building understanding of bushfire risk and sharing of information between local level jurisdictions and between multiple stakeholders involved in bushfire mitigation
Disaster Resilience Grants Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The revised DRGP grant program assessment criteria align with NSDR priority outcomes • NSDR • National Emergency Management Volunteer Action Plan • State Wide Risk Assessment Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These projects will build on the resilience to risks currently identified through previous risk assessments and complement community and organisational programs in support of the NSDR. • Building on previous years, the DRGP will be revised to improve access for NGOs, not-for-profits and volunteer bodies

PART 4: PERFORMANCE AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

Milestones

17. To qualify for the associated payments, Western Australia must meet the following milestones:

Table 4: Milestones

Milestones	Due date	Payment
Commonwealth agreement to the Western Australian Implementation Plan which demonstrates Western Australia's strategy to achieving the outcomes and outputs of the National Partnership	n/a	\$1.566m
Commonwealth acceptance of Western Australia's report demonstrating satisfactory progress against the performance indicators	Aug 2014	\$1.566m
Commonwealth acceptance of Western Australia's report demonstrating satisfactory progress against the performance indicators	December 2014	\$1.566m
Commonwealth acceptance of Western Australia's report demonstrating satisfactory progress against the performance indicators	April 2015	\$1.566m

Performance indicators

18. The following performance measures will be collected and reported in the milestone reports.

- (a) projects approved, funding agreements signed and projects completed as at the milestone due dates;
- (b) Implementation of activities that address risks identified in the Western Australia's State Risk Assessment;
- (c) Implementation of activities that contribute to the achievement of the priority outcomes of the NSDR; and
- (d) Implementation of activities that contribute to the attraction, support and retention of emergency management volunteers.

Reporting



- 19. Western Australia will report against the agreed performance indicators in accordance with Table 4 of this Implementation Plan.
- 20. Circumstances may give rise to additional reporting being sought from jurisdictions. Such requests should be kept to the minimum necessary for the effective assessment of the project. Requests should not place an undue reporting burden on jurisdictions or portfolio agencies.

Review and Evaluation

- 21. The Implementation Plan will be reviewed in conjunction with the review of the National Partnership with regard to progress made by the Parties in respect of achieving the agreed outcomes.

Sign off

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

Signature  <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> The Hon Joe Francis MLA Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services; Small Business; Veterans	Date <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
Signature  <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/> The Hon Michael Keenan MP Commonwealth Minister for Justice	Date 19.6.17 <hr style="border: 0.5px solid black;"/>