

Northern Territory

Implementation Plan 2012-13

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 provide for collaboration on natural disaster mitigation activities to strengthen communities' resilience to, and minimise the impact of, a range of natural disasters in Australia.
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 ensure Northern Territory communities are resilient to natural disasters. Results obtained through the Northern Territory Risk Profile and Assessment 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 Emergency Management, 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.

Part 3: Strategy for the Northern Territory's Implementation

Project information

7. The Northern Territory intends to deliver the NTNDRP through three funds that are strategically linked to the National Strategy on 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 recruitment, retention, training, equipment and facilities 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 Projects 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.

Estimated costs

8. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth in 2012-13 for the project to the jurisdiction is \$1,305,000 payable in accordance with the payment schedule set out in Part 5 of the National Partnership Agreement. All payments are exclusive of GST.
9. 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

(\$)	2012 – 13
Disaster Resilience Emergency Volunteer Fund	390,000
Disaster Resilience Fund	540,000
Territory Risk Priority Project Fund	395,000
Cyclone Shelter Upgrade Program	2,703,000
Total estimated budget	4,028,000
<i>less</i> estimated Commonwealth 2012-13 contribution	1,305,000
<i>Less</i> Commonwealth funds carried over from 2011-12	20,000
equals estimated balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	2,703,000
Total Commonwealth contribution	1,325,000

10. The Northern Territory Government contribution to the NTNDRP is the Cyclone Shelter Upgrade Program at a cost of \$2.703 million. The Cyclone Shelter Upgrade Program increases community cyclone shelter capacity thereby reducing risk from the impact of disasters to the community and increasing resilience. Northern Territory Government will also contribute to the program through any associated in-kind contributions.

11. NTNDRP will be utilised to cover any costs associated with the program administration.

Program logic

12. 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>	Support for volunteers	Northern Territory communities that are more resilient to natural disasters	Northern Territory
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> <p>Development of nationally consistent post-disaster evaluations</p>	Reduced risk from the impact of disasters		

Project elements	Outputs	Outcomes	Reform/ Project Objectives	Responsibilities
<i>(continued)</i>	<i>(continued)</i>	<i>(continued)</i>	<i>(continued)</i>	<i>(continued)</i>
Disaster Resilience Fund	Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based hazard and flood data for disaster mitigation purposes Non-recurrent capability development activities	Reduced risk from the impact of disasters	Northern Territory communities that are more resilient to natural disasters	Northern Territory
Territory Risk Priority Projects Fund	Research or technical studies of disaster risk, community vulnerability, resilience measures, etc. Trials or pilots of community engagement measures. Conferences, workshops or other sector engagement activities. Development of guidelines for emergency management activities. Development of trial or specific software for emergency management activities. Development of training or other capability development resources. Non-recurrent capacity building activities.	Appropriate emergency management capability and capacity, consistent with Territory risk profiles		

Risk management

13. 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.
14. Having regard to the estimated costs of project elements specified in the overall project budget, the Northern Territory will not be required to pay a refund to the Commonwealth if the actual cost of the project is less than the agreed estimated cost of the project. Similarly, the Northern Territory bears all risk should the costs of a project exceed the estimated costs. The Parties acknowledge that this arrangement provides the maximum incentive for the State to deliver projects cost-effectively and efficiently.

Relevant Northern Territory Context

15. 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 necessary for 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 additional community shelters from cyclones through the Cyclone Shelter Upgrade Program.

Part 4: Performance Arrangements

Performance measures

- 16. The Northern Territory will evaluate the performance of the program in meeting the outcomes of this Implementation Plan through:
 - (a) The proportion of applications approved, commenced and completed;
 - (b) The proportions to which funding is dispersed between:
 - i. Individual sectors,
 - ii. Natural disaster risks and resilience characteristics, and
 - iii. Geographical locations and high risk areas;
 - (c) The proportion of projects that address risks identified in the Northern Territory Natural Disaster Risk Assessment; and
 - (d) The increase in cyclone shelter capacity.

- 17. Support for volunteers will be provided through the implementation of the Disaster Resilience Emergency Volunteer Fund, and the performance of this fund will be measured by:
 - (a) The increase of volunteer organisation response capacity and capability through funding of procurement, recruitment and training projects; and
 - (b) The increase in volunteer participation relative to this funding.

Sign off

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

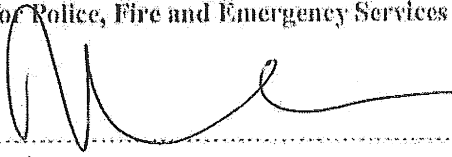
Signature



Date

03 AUG 2012

**The Hon Paul Henderson MLA
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services**



Signature

Date

1/10/12

**The Hon Nicola Roxon MP
Minister for Emergency Management**