

# Queensland 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 have Australian communities that are resilient to natural disasters.
2. This Implementation Plan will address Queensland's risk priorities. Risk identification and reduction are of key importance in increasing the efficacy of natural disaster resilience. Queensland's *State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment* identified that flooding (both riverine and flash flooding) is historically the most destructive natural hazard in Queensland. Where appropriate, other agencies, the private sector and local governments will be involved.
3. This Implementation Plan will complement the strategic work undertaken through Rounds 1, 2 and 3 under the Agreement. As this is the fourth and final year of operation under the Agreement, caution will be exercised regarding multiple year activities.

### PART 2: TERMS OF THIS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

4. 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 State of Queensland, represented by the Minister for Police and Community Safety.
5. 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 program is intended to be delivered and demonstrate Queensland's capacity to achieve the outcomes of the National Partnership.
6. 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.
7. This Implementation Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Commonwealth and State Ministers responsible for it under the overarching National Partnership.
8. 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 QUEENSLAND IMPLEMENTATION**

9. The National Strategy for Disaster Resilience is a key consideration in the delivery of this Implementation Plan. In particular, it recognises the shared responsibility of governments and other organisations in improving disaster resilience. The core features of this Implementation Plan and the activities it outlines align closely with the action areas in the Strategy, particularly the need for:
  - Leading change and coordinating effort
  - Understanding risks
  - Communicating with and educating people about risks
  - 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 information***

10. A key theme of the following activities is to leverage existing structures and networks and partner with those who effect change consistent with Queensland's State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment and the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience. The activities proposed under this Agreement are as follows:

- a. State General Fund

State General Fund projects will address identified capability gaps relevant to Queensland's State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment including:

- Flood Mitigation Works;
- Flood Mapping;
- Flood Studies;
- Flood Data Collation and Publication; and
- Bushfire Mapping.

- b. State Strategic Fund

State Strategic Fund projects will assist Queensland to address emerging issues to support resilience outcomes. Projects will deliver benefits across key priorities outlined in Queensland's State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment and the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience. The State Strategic Fund allows flexibility and prompt response with funding for issues that arise from State General Fund projects.

#### ***Estimated costs***

11. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth for the program to the jurisdiction is \$6,003,000 payable in accordance with the payment schedule set out in Part 5 of the National Partnership. All payments are exclusive of GST.
12. The estimated overall budget (exclusive of GST) is set out in Table 1. The budget is indicative only and Queensland 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**

Category	2012-13
Allocation for State General Fund	\$10,758,000
Allocation for State Strategic Fund	\$1,424,039.95
<b>Total estimated project budget</b>	<b>\$12,182,039.95</b>
<i>less</i> estimated Commonwealth contribution	\$6,003,000.00
<i>equals</i> estimated contribution from non-Commonwealth sources	\$6,179,039.95
<b>Total Commonwealth contribution</b>	<b>\$6,003,000.00</b>

### ***Program logic***

13. The projects conducted under this Implementation Plan will contribute to the outcomes and objectives stated in the National Partnership by:
- providing Queensland with a reduced risk from the impact of natural disasters;
  - recognising the central place of risk assessments in enhancing resilience as described in the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience;
  - improving the underpinning research, data and systems which inform and improve risk assessments for priority natural hazards ; and
  - implementing projects or activities underpinned by risk assessments to meet the outcomes of reduced risk from natural disasters and appropriate emergency management capability and capacity.

### ***Risk management***

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

### ***Relevant Queensland Context***

15. In developing this Implementation Plan consideration has been given to the Queensland context. Key factors that have influenced the proposed direction are set out below in Table 2.

Table 2: Links with existing reforms or projects

Funding Streams	Proposed project elements	Existing reforms or projects	Complementary nature of activities
State General Fund	Projects will address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood Mitigation Works</li> <li>• Flood Mapping</li> <li>• Flood Studies</li> <li>• Flood Data Collation and Publication</li> <li>• Bushfire Mapping</li> </ul>	Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry Interim and Final Reports	The flood related projects align closely with specific recommendations from the Floods Commission reports.
		Queensland State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment Implementation	All elements will be strongly tied to the implementation of the State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment.
		State Risk Register Development Program	All elements will be strongly tied to this program directly and through informing the State-wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment Implementation.
		Audit of Queensland Flood Warning Network: 2012 Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Bureau of Meteorology	The twenty-three local council areas and 48 towns and surrounding communities subject to riverine and/or flash flooding identified as high priority areas for enhancement of the flood gauge network will be strongly tied to this program.
		National Strategy for Disaster Resilience	Support the key actions under the National Strategy of understanding and reducing risks, and educating people about risks.
State Strategic Fund	Projects will address emerging capability issues to develop resilience in Queensland.	National Strategy for Disaster Resilience	Support for key actions under the National Strategy of understanding and reducing risks, and educating people about risks.

**PART 4: PERFORMANCE AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS**

***Performance benchmarks***

16. The performance of the Natural Disaster Resilience Program in Queensland under this Implementation Plan will be benchmarked on the following measures:
  - a. Common Performance Measures – The State General and State Strategic Funds will have the following common performance measures:
    - i. Proportion of projects that address priority hazards identified through Queensland’s State-Wide Natural Hazard Risk Assessment.
    - ii. Proportion of projects completed within 12 months of commencement.
    - iii. Proportion of projects that adhere to the approved budget.
    - iv. Number of Local Government Areas supported by the programs.
  - b. State General Funds Performance Measures – The State General Fund will have the additional following performance measures:

- i. Proportion of projects commenced by 1 January 2013.
- ii. Number of towns with reduced flood risk.
- iii. Number of towns with refined hazard mapping.

c. **State Strategic Funds Performance Measures** – The State Strategic Fund will have the additional following performance measure:

- i. Proportion of projects that progress one or more of the following action areas as identified in the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience:
  - Leading change and coordinating effort
  - Understanding risks
  - Communicating with and educating people about risks
  - 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.

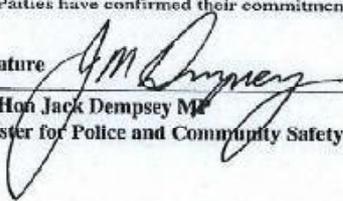
**Reporting**

- 17. Queensland will report against the agreed performance benchmarks every 12 months during the operation of the National Partnership. Reports are expected by 31 March each year.
- 18. Queensland will, no later than 30 days after approval by the Minister, provide the list of approved projects to the Commonwealth, through the Attorney-General's Department.
- 19. 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 or reform. Requests should not place an undue reporting burden on jurisdictions and portfolio agencies.

**Sign off**

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

Signature

  
The Hon Jack Dempsey MP  
Minister for Police and Community Safety

Date

6/3/13

Signature

The Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP  
Minister for Emergency Management

Date