

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – 2009/2010



An agreement between

- the **Commonwealth of Australia** and
- the **State of South Australia**.

This Implementation Plan forms a schedule to National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience.

## Context

- 1) South Australia, as the driest state in the driest nation, is particularly vulnerable to weather related hazard that includes bushfire, flood and extreme weather events that include heatwave. In addition to weather related hazards Adelaide has the highest earthquake risk of all Australian Capital cities. Demographic trends are further increasing the likelihood and consequence of natural emergency hazards impacting human populations. The predominance of coastal living as a lifestyle choice and increasing urban fringe development into bushfire prone areas is bringing more people into higher risk landscapes. South Australia has the highest proportion of older people in the nation with this sector being particularly vulnerable to heatwave otherwise known as the "silent killer". Climate change modelling predicts declining average rainfall, more extreme maximum temperatures of longer duration and summer thunderstorms, as well as increased wind speeds which collectively will increase risks for people and built development in South Australia.
- 2) The South Australian NDRP will promote evidence based risk management approaches that engage businesses, individuals and the community towards a paradigm of collective responsibility. The Program also recognises that the non-government and voluntary sectors are at the forefront of strengthening disaster resilience in South Australia. The commencement of a state risk assessment framework that can be applied at state, regional and local level will further inform the state emergency risk profile.
- 3) This Implementation Plan will address the above risk priorities by building on existing knowledge and programs. The incorporation of a natural disaster risk assessment into plans developed by Hazard Leaders will increase understanding of the natural disaster risk profile in SA. The continuation of a dedicated bushfire mitigation program and a grants scheme to support state and local risk management priorities aims to reduce natural disaster risk in SA. Specific emphasis will be placed on the utilisation of risk management processes to increase the efficacy of these grants programs.
- 4) Support for volunteers in 2009/2010 will be delivered through the National Emergency Volunteer Support Fund (NEVSF) which is being administered by the Commonwealth. The NEVSF will be incorporated into SA Implementation Plans from 2010/2011.

## Outcomes

- 5) The outcomes of this plan will be:
  - (a) reduced risk from the impact of disasters; and
  - (b) appropriate emergency management capability and capacity, consistent with the South Australia risk profile.

## Outputs

- 6) SA will deliver four programs under this Plan, being:

### ***The SA Natural Disaster Risk Assessment***

- 7) A State-wide prioritised natural disaster risk assessment developed in accordance with relevant Australian Standards. This will be implemented in conjunction with Hazard Leaders (as identified in the State Emergency Management Plan) and relevant stakeholders.

### ***The Bushfire Mitigation Grants Scheme***

8) The Bushfire Mitigation Grants Scheme (BMGS) is aimed at identifying and addressing bushfire mitigation risk priorities in SA to assist local communities to better prepare for bushfires. The Commonwealth, South Australia and local governments participate in this program on a cost sharing basis. The specific objective of the program are to:

- enhance the effectiveness of fire trail networks to increase the safety of fire fighting personnel,
- improve access to bushland areas for the purposes of fire fighting and hazard reduction, and
- Provide water supplies in remote or high risk locations to enhance fire fighter safety.

Local governments will be expected to match funding in the ratio of 1:1:1 (Commonwealth : SA : council) and agencies in the ratio of 1:1 (Commonwealth : agency).

### ***The Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme***

9) The Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS) will deliver funding to agencies, Zone Emergency Management Committees and Hazard Leaders to prepare natural disaster risk management plans (including risk assessments) and undertake treatments to reduce identified risks. Risk reduction works will contribute to safer, sustainable communities more resilient to the effects of natural disasters.

10) Local governments will be expected to match funding in the ratio of 1:1:1 (Commonwealth : SA : council) and government agencies in the ratio of 1:1 (Commonwealth : agency). A funding ratio may be varied by exception for:

- projects submitted by Indigenous communities and remote unincorporated communities (1:1 Commonwealth : SA), and
- high cost projects may have a reduced percentage of Commonwealth funds allocated.

Agencies will be encouraged to seek further co-contributions, whether financial or in-kind, on approved projects.

11) Natural disaster risk assessments and reduction works will be undertaken in accordance with relevant State policies and supporting documentation (including local government emergency risk management plan guidelines).

### ***Pre-2009 Legacy Projects – NDMP, BMP, RFMP and NDRMSP***

12) The SA Fire and Emergency Services Commission will facilitate finalisation of outstanding NDMP, BMP, RFMP and NDRMSP projects listed at Attachment A during the term of the NPA.

**INDICITIVE 2009/10 NDRP Budget**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Commonwealth Funds (\$)</b>	<b>SA Funds (\$)</b>	<b>Other Funding (\$)</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
SA Risk Assessment	150,000	\$300k (estimated) In-kind contribution by hazard leaders and stakeholders will significantly exceed Commonwealth funding and may exceed 2.5 FTE	2007/08 NDMP project funding Comm \$5,915 State \$11,832	<b>467,748</b>
BMGS	356,000	356,000		<b>712,052</b>
NDRGS	1,208,000	1,208,000		<b>2,415,948</b>
NDRGS/BMP Administration Costs	14,000	\$300k + (Input exceeds 2.5 FTE's)		<b>314,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,728,000</b> ✓	<b>2,164,000</b>	<b>17,748</b>	<b>3,909,748</b>

Notes:

- "SA Funds" includes funding from SA government, government agencies & local government
- SA funding is estimate only but will at least match Commonwealth funding.
- Allocation of funding to BMGS and NDRGS nominal only and subject to variation dependent on project priorities.

**Performance Measures**

13) Each individual program under this Implementation Plan will be measured separately. The following key performance indicators will be used in the 31 March Annual Report and during program evaluation:

**SA Natural Disaster Risk Assessment**

14) The performance measures for the SA Natural Disaster Risk Assessment are:

- (a) Compliance with relevant standards including ISO 31000 – Risk Management and the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG).
- (b) Number of Hazard Leaders participating.
- (c) Completion by 31 December 2011.

**Bushfire Mitigation Grants Scheme**

15) The performance measures for the Bushfire Mitigation Grants Scheme are:

- (a) Relevant agencies advised BMGS launched.
- (b) Proportion of projects approved, commenced by agencies.

- (c) Proportion of projects that;
  - i. enhance the effectiveness of fire trail networks,
  - ii. improve access for fire fighting and hazard reduction, and
  - iii. provide water supplies in remote or high risk locations.
- (d) Proportion of projects commenced within 3 months of approval.
- (e) Proportion of projects completed within 12 months of commencement.
- (f) Proportion of projects that adhere to the approved budget.

***Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme***

16) The performance measures for the Natural Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme:

- (a) Proportion of projects approved, supported by risk management plans.
- (b) Proportion of projects nominated to be completed in;
  - i. less than 12 months, or
  - ii. More than 12 months
- (c) Proportion of projects approved, commenced by agencies.
- (d) Proportion of projects commenced within 3 months of approval.
- (e) Proportion of projects completed within nominated timeline.
- (f) Proportion of projects that adhere to the approved budget.
- (g) Proportion of approved projects to be delivered by local government.
- (h) Proportion of projects that consider climate change.
- (i) Proportion of projects that incorporate community engagement strategies.

**Administration Arrangements**

- 17) SAFECOM will be responsible for the overall administration and reporting of the program to the Commonwealth.
- 18) The SA Natural Disaster Risk Assessment will be coordinated by SAFECOM for State Emergency Management Advisory Groups and reporting to the State Emergency Management Committee..
- 19) The BMGS will be administered by the SA Country Fire Service in accordance with best practice fire management principles. Projects will be assessed in conjunction with stakeholders and technical advisors. Funding agreements will be developed based on applications submitted by the local government councils and agencies. Payments will be in arrears and will require project acquittal before final payments are made.

- 20) The NDRGS will be administered by SAFECOM in accordance with the relevant SA administrative provisions.
- 21) State Assessment Panels for both BMGS and NDRGS, consisting of financial, local government and emergency management members, will determine priority projects to be recommended to the Minister of Emergency Services for approval. The State Assessment Panel will be informed by technical experts who will advise on the technical merit and soundness of projects.
- 22) Funding agreements will be developed based on detailed applications submitted by agencies. Progress of projects will be tracked and detailed evidence of completion required before final payments are made. Depending on the size of the project and the funding capacity of the agency, various payment schemes will be implemented. Generally payment will be made in arrears based on achieving milestones unless identified otherwise in the agreement.

### **Reporting**

- 23) SA will, no later than 30 days after approval of individual projects under the programs, provide a list of approved projects to be funded under the NDRP to the Commonwealth, through the Attorney General's Department, which includes the following information:
  - (a) organisation being funded;
  - (b) location of activity, including the federal electorate, where relevant;
  - (c) total approved funding;
  - (d) brief description of activity;
  - (e) period of funding.
- 24) By 31st March each year, SA will provide a report to the Commonwealth Attorney-General, for approval. The report will summarise achievements of the programs against the agreed performance indicators set out in this plan.

### **Evaluation**

- 25) A limited review will be undertaken by 31st March 2010 examining the appropriateness of the performance measures for each program. This will inform the development of the Implementation Plan for the 2010/2011 program.
- 26) Full evaluation of this implementation plan to determine how the objectives are being met by the performance measures will take place during 2010/2011 FY, involving stakeholder consultation.

### **Definitions**

For the purposes of this Plan the following definitions apply:

- Agency** Organisation receiving a grant under the NDRP. Includes SA Government departments, local government organisations, indigenous community councils, unincorporated remote communities and non-government volunteer based organisations delivering emergency management outputs.

**Works**

Projects that aim to deliver actual risk reduction in the community and improve community resilience to natural disaster risks. These include all structural mitigation projects, community education development programs, warning systems, emergency management capability and capacity development and land and building purchase schemes.

**Agreement**

The parties have confirmed their commitment to this plan as follows:

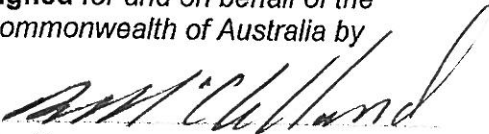
*Signed for and on behalf of the  
State of South Australia by*



**The Hon. Michael Wright, MP**  
Minister for Emergency Services

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*Signed for and on behalf of the  
Commonwealth of Australia by*



**The Hon. Robert McClelland, MP**  
Attorney General of the Commonwealth of  
Australia

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