

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN – 2010/2011



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.

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1. BACKGROUND

The NDRP National Partnership Agreement was signed by the Commonwealth Attorney General and Premier of South Australia in December 2009. The Agreement will be reviewed during the fourth year and will expire on 30th June 2013.

In entering the Agreement, the Commonwealth Government and South Australia Government recognise that they;

- have a mutual interest in reducing the impact of, and increasing resilience to natural disasters; and
- will work together and with other parties, such as volunteers, the private and non-government sectors and local government to achieve those outcomes.

The Agreement requires that an annual Implementation Plan is developed in consultation with the Commonwealth Government.

2. CONTEXT

South Australia is particularly vulnerable to weather related hazards that include bushfire, flood and extreme weather including heatwave. Adelaide also has the highest earthquake risk of all Australian capital cities.

Climate change predictions present further challenges in South Australia. In relation to sea level rise, the state has the fourth highest number of residential buildings at risk in Australia. Also with a temperate climate, South Australia is at risk of more frequent heatwave conditions in the future. This is a particular concern because heatwave is identified as one of the most significant health impacts of climate change, and South Australia has the highest proportion of older people in the nation who are particularly vulnerable.

Climatic increases in temperature and more frequent and protracted droughts are exacerbating the risk of extreme and catastrophic fire conditions. Also the prediction of more extreme rainfall patterns and storm surge activity is increasing the risk of major flooding in South Australia.

The State Emergency Risk Assessment Project is an output of the National Partnership Agreement. The project is sponsored by the State Emergency Management Committee and will produce a South Australian Emergency Risk Framework (consistent with ISO 31000:2009) and a State Risk Register by 30th December 2011. The project will enhance the NDRP by providing an evidence based risk identification and assessment process to allocate scarce resources for risk treatments and emergency preparedness measures in the future.

3. NDRP PROGRAM SCOPE, OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

The following program scope, objectives and outcomes align to the National Partnership Agreement.

Scope	The NDRP program focus is to build resilience to withstand natural disasters. Consideration may also be given to other emergency
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	priorities identified in State emergency risk assessments.
Objective	South Australian communities that are resilient to natural disaster.
Outcomes	<p>The outcomes are to:</p> <p>Reduce risk from the impact of disasters.</p> <p>Build appropriate emergency management capability and capacity, consistent with the State emergency risk profile.</p> <p>Support emergency management volunteers.</p>

4. NDRP 2010/2011 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

NDRP 2010/2011 Program Outputs.

The Implementation Plan objectives and outcomes will be achieved through the following program of activities.

Program Outputs	<p>Natural Disaster Resilience Grant Scheme (NDRGS).</p> <p>Emergency Management Volunteer Support Scheme (EMVSS).</p>
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NDRP 2010/2011 Program Launch

The NDRGS and EMVSS will be launched by the Minister, Emergency Services on Monday 26th July 2010 in consultation with the Commonwealth Attorney General's office.

The NDRGS and EMVSS will be promoted under the banner of the Natural Disaster Resilience Program. The application closing date is Friday 17th September 2010.

The program will be broadly promoted to eligible organisations, as well as information provided on the SAFECOM NDRP website.

Natural Disaster Resilience Grant Scheme (NDRGS)

In 2009/10, the NDRP funded the Natural Disaster Resilience Grant Scheme (NDRGS) and the Bushfire Mitigation Grant Scheme (BMGS). This was based on the previous NDMP and BMP programs.

From 2010/11, the BMGS will be integrated into the NDRGS that will be promoted as an 'all natural hazards' grant program. As requested by the Country Fire Service, the NDRGS will identify specific criteria for bushfire projects as identified below.

The NDRGS will deliver funding to state government agencies, government owned corporations, local government, indigenous community councils and unincorporated remote communities. These eligible organisations may also submit an application on behalf of other organisations where the project involves a partnership arrangement.

Partner organisations may be educational institutions, small business, not for profit organisations and volunteer groups.

The priority objectives of the NDRGS for 2010/2011 are to:

- Undertake research, hazard mapping and data collection to improve knowledge and understanding of natural hazards, including the impact of climate change.
- Develop systematic and structured emergency risk assessment programs that improve understanding of local and regional risk issues.
- Identify changes in disaster risk due to climate change and develop adaptation measures.
- Develop and implement evidence based, cost effective and sustainable disaster mitigation works, measures and related activities that contribute to safer communities.
- Support local government to assist them to effectively discharge their emergency management responsibilities.
- Encourage partnerships with business and community groups to improve their ability to assist communities and be integrated into response and recovery activities and arrangements.
- Enhance the community's own capacity to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters.

- **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES FOR BUSHFIRE MITIGATION PROJECTS.**
 - Fire fighter safety and welfare.
 - Safety of public citizens.
 - Protection of critical infrastructure.
 - Protection of other property.
 - Protection of the environment.

Assessment of bushfire project proposals will consider:

- Is it a bushfire protection area?
- Is it a bushfire safer place precinct?
- Is it an asset protection zone or bushfire buffer zone?
- Is it a proposed refuge of last resort?

Strategic priorities for bushfire mitigation projects are:

- Projects/initiatives to improve initial attack time (expedite fire suppression).
- Improve the provision of water supply.
- Fuel management initiatives

Emergency Management Volunteer Support Scheme (EMVSS)

The EMVSS recognises that a volunteer workforce provides the backbone of emergency management services, and that declining numbers is an issue of significance. The program will provide funding to support volunteer organisations in the development of strategies to boost the recruitment, retention and training for volunteers in response and recovery agencies at the frontline of emergency management.

To maximise the opportunity for volunteer agencies to benefit from funding, a notional cap of \$20,000 (GST exclusive) has been applied to each individual project. Applicants may seek funding for higher value or larger scale projects where there are measurable high value returns to the volunteer agency and community.

Eligible applicants are State and non-government agencies that provide a lead or support role under the State Emergency Management arrangements. Member agencies of the Australian Emergency Management Volunteer Forum are also eligible applicants.

The priority objectives of the EMVSS are to fund projects that:

- Address recruitment and retention issues.
- Provide appropriate additional skills training for volunteers.
- Provide leadership training for emergency services volunteers.
- Enhance capital equipment and infrastructure demonstrably focussed at better supporting the recruitment, retention and training of volunteers.

5. 2010/2011 NDRP BUDGET

The National Partnership Agreement requires the Commonwealth to provide a financial contribution of up to 50% of the estimated cost of delivering the activities specified in the Implementation Plan. South Australia will secure the balance through 25% State Cabinet approved funding, and at least 25% contribution by the applicant per the Agency Match Funding Arrangements provided in Table 2.

Table 1: Indicative Program Budget 2010/2011.

NDRP Program	Commonwealth Funded Expenditure \$	State Contribution - Consolidated Account \$	Agency Match Funding Contribution
Emergency Management Volunteer Support Scheme	\$150,000	\$150,000	Per Agency Match Funding Model
Natural Disaster Resilience Grant Scheme	\$1,816,000	\$858,000	
NDRP & Legacy Projects Admin Officer .7FTE (Level ASO4)	\$50,000	<i>At least \$120,000 (in kind)</i>	
Total	\$2,016,000	\$1,058,000	\$1,008,000¹

Note¹ – This figure is the minimal agency match funding requirement that may include fully costed in kind contribution as outlined in Table 2.

Table 2: Agency Match Funding Arrangements.

NDRP Agency Match Funding Arrangements			
NDRGS PROGRAM			
Eligible Organisation	Commonwealth Govt	State Govt	Agency Contribution
State Government Agencies and Authorities	Up to 50%	0%	At least 50%
Local Government	Up to 33%	Up to 33%	At least 33%
The funding model may be varied by exception for Indigenous communities and remote incorporated communities (eg: 1:1:Co-contribution and/or In kind).			
Non Government and volunteer groups	Up to 50%	Up to 50%	Large projects may require agency or other co-contribution. At a minimum 'in kind' contribution for all projects.

The intention of the Agency Match Funding model is to ensure that projects that address high levels of risk are funded regardless of whether the agency is able to financially contribute to the project. Alternatively high cost projects and/or lower priority projects may receive a lower proportion of Commonwealth and State funding as determined by the NDRP State Assessment Committee.

6. NDRP 2010/2011 PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The NDRGS and EMVSS programs will be evaluated against the following key performance measures.

The performance measures for the NDRGS are:

- Proportion of approved projects are supported by a risk assessment process.
- Proportion of approved projects will be completed within 12 months.
- Approved projects that will be completed beyond 12 months are agreed by exception.
- Proportion of approved projects improves understanding of local and regional risk issues.

- Proportion of approved projects assists local government to effectively discharge their emergency management responsibilities.
- Proportion of approved projects considers climate change.
- Proportion of approved projects incorporates community engagement to raise awareness and reduce risk exposure.

The performance measures for the EMVSS are:

- Proportion of approved projects are supported by a risk assessment process.
- Majority proportion of approved projects will be completed within 12 months.
- All projects to be completed and acquitted within 18 months.
- Proportion of approved projects address volunteer recruitment and retention issues.
- Proportion of approved projects provides additional skills and/or leadership training for volunteers.
- Proportion of approved projects fund new initiatives.

7. NDRP 2010/2011 ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

- i. SA Fire and Emergency Services Commission (SAFECOM) will be responsible for overall administration of the NDRP in accordance with the National Partnership Agreement and relevant SA administrative provisions.
- ii. The 2010/2011 Budget (Section 5) allocates \$50,000 of the Commonwealth contribution for administrative resources. This amount will be at least in kind match funded by the State to deliver activities specified in the Implementation Plan including administrative oversight of legacy projects.
- iii. SAFECOM will report to the Commonwealth under the terms of the NPA and the Implementation Plan.
- iv. The NDRP State Assessment Committee will recommend to the Minister, Emergency Services both NDRGS and EMVSS projects for approval.

The Committee will seek relevant advice from parent agencies and/or hazard leader organisations to ensure approved projects support the state emergency management objectives and priorities, and also the state hazard planning objectives and priorities.

- v. SAFECOM will provide a list of approved projects to the Commonwealth no later than 30 days after approval by the Minister, Emergency Services. The information will include:
 - Organisations being funded.

- Location of activity including federal electorate where relevant.
 - Total approved funding.
 - Brief description of activity
 - Period being funded.
- vi. A list of approved projects will be published on the SAFECOM NDRP website.
- A media release to targeted regional newspapers will promote approved projects of community interest. The release will acknowledge co-contribution of the Commonwealth and State under the NPA.
- vii. Funding agreements with successful applicants must be completed by the applicant for all approved projects within 8 weeks. The Agreement stipulates that the funded organisation must agree to:
- Complete the project within 12 months unless an extension has been formally granted.
 - Provide a progress report at least 6 monthly that reports progress of the project against agreed project deliverables.
- viii. For NDRGS projects, payment is made retrospective of achieved project deliverables. The final payment is made when the project is completed and fully acquitted.
- ix. For EMVSS projects, an upfront payment of 70% is made when the Funding Agreement is signed. The final payment of 30% is made when the project is completed and fully acquitted.

8. PROGRAM EVALUATION

SAFECOM will provide an NDRP 2010/2011 Annual Performance Report to the Commonwealth Attorney General no later than 31st March 2011. The Annual Performance Report will outline how the 2010/2011 program is:

- Effectively contributing to the outcomes as stated in the NPA.
- Meeting program performance measures as outlined in this Implementation plan (Section 6).
- Being effectively administered.
- Reaching those for whom the program is intended.
- Managing NDMP, BMP, RFMP and NDRMSP legacy projects.

The Report will also inform planning for the 2011/2012 NDRP program.

9. MANAGEMENT OF LEGACY PROJECTS

SAFECOM will coordinate the reporting of all legacy projects of the NDMP, BMP, RFMP and NDRMSP to the Commonwealth. This includes providing a Legacy Project Balance Sheet with the Annual Performance Report in March 2011.

NDMP, BMP and NDRMSP funds are held and managed by SAFECOM. The RFMP legacy funding is held and managed by the Stormwater Management Authority (Department of Transport, Energy and Infrastructure). A RFMP legacy projects funding and administrative agreement is currently being drawn up between SAFECOM and the SMA to ensure compliance to the NPA and relevant SA administrative instructions.

10. 2010/2011 IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

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

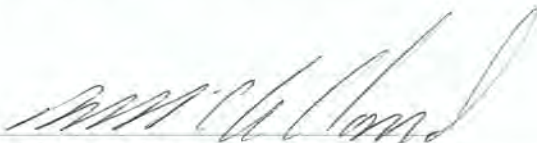
Signed for and on behalf of the State of South Australia by



The Hon. Michael Wright, MP
Minister for Emergency Services

22 / 7 / 2010

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



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

5 / 10 / 2010