



Government
of South Australia

Our ref: eA199839
Obj ID: A5988585
Receipt: 18156520

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

The Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC
Member of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Ms Centofanti *Nicola,*

Determination under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*

I refer to your application made under the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* received by the Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries on 9 August 2023 requesting access to the following:

“A copy of all correspondence between the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry between 26/09/2022 and 9/08/2023.”

On 18 August 2023, contact was made with your office seeking to narrow the scope of your application. Accordingly, the timeframe was revised to “26/09/2022 to 31/01/2023.”

The scope of your application includes a document to which you have already been provided, as per my determination made on 8 December 2022 (refer MPIRD eA198313 - Full Release: Document 1).

Accordingly, the following determination has been finalised.

I have located seventeen documents that are captured within the scope of your request.

Determination 1

I have determined that access to the following documents is **granted in full**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
1	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 11/11/2022 encl letter re oversupply of red wine grapes	3

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



2	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 28/11/2022 encl letter re oversupply of red wine grapes	3
3	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 22/11/2022 encl letter re Future Drought Fund Farm Business Resilience and Regional Drought Resilience Planning Programs	2
3a	Attachment to Document 3: Federation Funding Agreement – Environment	28
4	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 29/11/2022 encl letter re Livestock Traceability	3
5	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 29/11/2022 encl letter re Recreational Fishing and Camping Facilities Program	2
7	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 05/12/2022 encl letter re Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Project	3
8	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 14/12/2022 encl letter re Support Plantation Establishment Program	3
9	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 22/12/2022 encl letter re individual electronic identification (eID)	2
11	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 23/12/2022 encl letter re Future Drought Fund Farm Business Resilience and Regional Drought Resilience Planning Programs	2
11a	Attachment to Document 11: Programs Extension Schedule	28
12	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 23/12/2022 encl letter re Recreational Fishing, Boating and Camping Facilities Fund	2
14	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 16/01/2023 encl letter re Centre for Invasive Species Solution Investment	2

Determination 2

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
15	Email from Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt to Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development dated 18/01/2023	3

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 1(1)(e) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“1 – Cabinet documents

(1) A document is an exempt document –

(e) if it contains matter the disclosure of which would disclose information concerning any deliberation or decision of Cabinet;”

The information removed would reveal detail of a matter considered in Cabinet.

Determination 3

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
10	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 23/12/2022 encl letter re the Building Resilience to Manage Fruit Fly Package	2

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 5(1)(a)(i) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“5—Documents affecting inter-governmental or local government relations

(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter—

(a) the disclosure of which -

(i) could reasonably be expected to cause damage to intergovernmental relations; and

(b) the disclosure of which would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.”

The information removed consists of detail relating to negotiations with the Commonwealth Government on the allocation of funds.

In addressing the public interest test for the Clause 5(1)(a)(i) exemption, I have balanced the following factors:

In favour of the public interest:

- Meeting the objects of the Act favouring access to documents.
- Ensuring optimal use of public resources.
- High level of interest in the accountability of public office holders.
- The importance of transparency and openness and the interest that the public has in the decision-making processes of Government.

Contrary to the public interest:

- The need to preserve confidentiality of certain information being shared between government agencies.

- The recent age of the information was considered and the continuing relevance of the matters.
- To release this information would harm inter-governmental relationships with the Commonwealth and State Governments resulting in agencies reconsidering their position regarding their future interactions with the South Australian Government.

Having considered the various factors weighing for and against disclosure, I have determined that disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Determination 4

I have determined that access to the following document is **granted in part**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
13	Email from Office of the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to the Federal Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry dated 06/01/2023 encl letter re Support Plantation Establishment Program	2

The information removed from the above document is pursuant to Clause 9(1) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

“9—Internal working documents

(1) A document is an exempt document if it contains matter—

(a) that relates to -

(i) any opinion, advice or recommendation that has been obtained, prepared or recorded; or

(ii) any consultation or deliberation that has taken place, in the course of, or for the purpose of, the decision-making functions of the Government, a Minister or an agency; and

(b) the disclosure of which would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.”

The material removed consists of information for internal decision-making purposes.

In addressing the public interest test for the Clause 9(1) exemption, I have balanced the following factors:

In favour of the public interest:

- Meeting the objects of the Act favouring access to documents.
- Ensuring optimal use of public resources.
- High level of interest in the accountability of public office holders.
- The importance of transparency and openness and the interest that the public has in the decision-making processes of Government.

Contrary to the public interest:

- The recent age of the information was considered and the continuing relevance of the matters.
- Confidentiality of such matters must be maintained for internal decision-making purposes.
- Disclosure of this information may compromise the manner in which information is communicated and gathered for the decision-making processes of Government. If such processes were unable to be undertaken without fear of premature release, this would jeopardise the way in which the Government seeks input for decision-making purposes.

Having considered the various factors weighing for and against disclosure, I have determined that disclosure of this information would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest.

Determination 5

I have determined that access to the following document is **refused**:

Doc No.	Description of document	No. of Pages
15a	Attachment to Document 15	68

Access to the above document is refused pursuant to Clause 1(1)(e) of Schedule 1 of the Freedom of Information Act which states:

"1 – Cabinet documents

(1) A document is an exempt document –

(e) if it contains matter the disclosure of which would disclose information concerning any deliberation or decision of Cabinet;"

Disclosure of this document would reveal detail of a matter considered in Cabinet.

If you are unhappy with this determination you are entitled to exercise your rights of external review with the Ombudsman SA. Alternatively, you can apply to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT). If you wish to seek a review, you must do so within 30 calendar days of receiving this internal review determination.

For more information about seeking a review or appeal, please contact the Ombudsman SA on telephone (08) 8226 8699 or SACAT on 1800 723 767.

Should you require further information or clarification with respect to this matter, please contact Ms Rachael Colegate on 8226 2931 or email: Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

3 / 10 / 2023

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Friday, 11 November 2022 1:58 PM
To: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au
Cc: DTI:Office of Minister Champion; dlo.watt@awe.gov.au; senator.farrell@aph.gov.au
Subject: eA198378 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: eA198378 - Senator the Hon Murray Watt - Oversupply of Red Wine Grapes in Australia.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198378

Good Afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Scriven dated 11 November 2022.

Kindest regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide
GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001

T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

pir.sa.gov.au



The Department of Primary Industries and Regions respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations. We recognise Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters. We pay our respects to Aboriginal cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.

Disclaimer: The information in this email may be confidential and/or legally privileged. Use or disclosure of the information by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may be unlawful.

eA198378



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: dlo.watt@awe.gov.au

Dear Minister

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Murray'.

I write to you regarding the current red wine grape oversupply issue facing the industry in South Australia.

As you would be aware the wine industry has endured some unprecedented challenges which have restricted the ability of producers to establish and build new markets, thus lowering demand for red wine grapes well below sustainable levels.

Based on industry consultation there are a number of measures that could provide support to grape growers at this difficult time. This may include:

- A Research and Development program to fill industry knowledge gaps about effectiveness and safety of vineyard resting techniques in a non-drought situation. Any program would support the planned Wine Australia program which will be led by the SA Research and Development Institute (SARDI) and the Australian Wine Research Institute (AWRI). Taking this opportunity to fill knowledge gaps during an oversupply is vital to assisting industry with future decision making which may enable growers to reduce input costs and build resilience into their businesses.
- An initiative to support growers who opt to rest red wine vineyards in regions where demand does not meet supply. Support to offset some of the costs incurred by growers while resting would assist in meeting the target identified by Wine Australia to reduce vintage 2023 production by 300,000 tonnes across Australia, 40% of that from South Australia. A coordinated national approach will be vital to ensure all key production regions were committed to achieving this target.
- An update of the long-term strategy document led by Australian Grape and Wine to ensure a viable and sustainable grape and wine sector for Australia.
- Market development initiatives led by regional wine organisations to ensure inbound and outbound market activities can continue through downturn in production. Any program developed would complement the existing the South Australian Government's Department for Trade and Investment Wine Industry Recovery and Expansion Program activities.

A cohesive national approach is required to address these issues and I would like to commend your colleague, Minister for Trade and Tourism, Senator the Hon Don Farrell and my state cabinet colleague the Minister for Trade and Investment, the Hon Nick Champion for their efforts, early in the term of both new governments, to increase access to new wine markets.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



I have met with Wine Australia to receive a briefing and would welcome an opportunity to speak with you soon to discuss ways we can partner to support our wine industry at this challenging time.

Yours sincerely



Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

11 / 11 / 2022

cc:

Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Minister for Trade and Tourism, Australian Government

Hon Nick Champion MP, Minister for Trade and Investment, Government of South Australia

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 28 November 2022 4:28 PM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Cc: trade.minister@dfat.gov.au; DTI:Office of Minister Champion
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon. Murray Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MC22-014219 - Signed letter.pdf

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Senator the Hon. Murray Watt.

Thank you,
Asher

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MC22-014219

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister *Clare*

Thank you for your letter of 11 November 2022 about the red wine grape oversupply in South Australia and other jurisdictions and your suggestions for supporting industry to manage this challenge.

While Australian winemakers and grapegrowers are the best in the world, I recognise that the sector is facing serious challenges arising from the collapse in trade with mainland China, the impacts of natural disasters, labour supply and input costs. You and I both heard from industry about these issues when we attended the roundtable meeting hosted by Australian Grape and Wine in Adelaide on 16 November 2022.

I have noted your suggestions for providing support to the wine industry and have asked the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to ensure that these are considered in the development of future policy responses.

The Albanese Government is already taking action to assist the sector. To support trade growth and market expansion, we are providing more than \$2.8 million through grants under the Agricultural Trade and Market Access Cooperation program and we continue to negotiate Free Trade Agreements with India, the United Kingdom and the European Union. As you would appreciate, while this work will not replace the Chinese market, it is important as it helps to expand and diversify our market access, creating new opportunities for Australian wine. Round Four of the Wine Tourism and Cellar Door Grant program is also proceeding, providing \$10 million this year to boost agri-tourism and increase domestic demand for Australian wine.

While these measures are an important part of the Government's response to the challenges confronting the wine industry, I acknowledge that the oversupply of red wine grapes will continue to put additional pressure and hardship onto growers and winemakers, particularly in inland regions such as the Riverland in South Australia. I am keen to remain in touch with industry as conditions evolve ahead of the 2023 vintage and I welcome your suggested policy approaches.

I have asked my department to work closely with Wine Australia to target communications on support measures currently available to help businesses through the immediate period and to offer growers access to the advice and tools they need to make good business decisions. The department will also continue to work closely with officials from the three impacted jurisdictions, including the South Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regions, to ensure a consistent approach to industry engagement.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely



MURRAY WATT

26/11/2022

cc Senator the Hon Don Farrell, Minister for Trade and Tourism
The Hon Nick Champion MP, South Australian Minister for Trade and Investment

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 11:38 AM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon. Murray Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MS22-001515 - Signed letter to Minister Scriven.pdf; Attachment A.pdf; Attachment B.pdf

Categories: Corro - MP MLC EO

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Senator the Hon. Murray Watt and the enclosures referred to therein.

Thank you,
Asher

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MS22-001515

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister

Clare

Thank you for your letter of 29 June 2022 confirming your support for the extension of the Future Drought Fund Farm Business Resilience and Regional Drought Resilience Planning programs to 2023-24.

It's important to me that our work is carried forward through genuine partnerships and collaboration. We'll achieve more together than any of us can achieve alone. But I also know this takes time. With this in mind, I consider that the envisaged end date of 30 June 2024 is unlikely provide sufficient time for delivery of activities under these two programs.

I propose to further extend the timeframe for activities under the programs by 12 months, to 30 June 2025. This will ensure that our farmers and regions have greater opportunity to engage meaningfully in these important initiatives and, ultimately, increase our ability to build drought resilience together.

I understand that officials from our respective departments have been in discussions about this, and the extension is welcome. To give effect to the extension, I have executed amendments to the governing agreements under the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment and now present them for your signature.

To make the most of the additional time, I'm eager for us to move quickly to lock in delivery and co-funding arrangements and get the programs underway on the ground. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has already been in contact with officials from the SA Government offering greater flexibility in the way we match co-contributions, which I trust will help you to finalise forward planning.

I look forward to hearing from you soon and working together to support our farmers and regions.

Yours sincerely

MURRAY WATT

20 / 11 / 2022

Enc.

Future Drought Fund – Farm Business Resilience Program

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT - ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule																																																						
Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales Victoria Queensland Western Australia South Australia Tasmania Australian Capital Territory Northern Territory																																																					
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 31 December 2025.																																																					
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery of financial assistance from the Commonwealth to the State and Territory governments (States) to deliver the Farm Business Resilience Program (the Program). The States will use this funding to provide subsidised training for farm owners and farm managers to build their strategic management and planning skills.</p> <p>This Schedule is an extension to the 2020-21 foundational year Future Drought Fund – Farm Business Resilience Program Schedule, signed by all states in 2021.</p>																																																					
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$60m in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1.1 (\$)</th> <th>2022-23</th> <th>2023-24</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution</td> <td>45,000,000</td> <td>15,000,000</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>60,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NSW</td> <td>12,054,131</td> <td>3,936,013</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>15,990,144</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- VIC</td> <td>10,718,312</td> <td>3,507,784</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>14,226,096</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- QLD</td> <td>9,659,758</td> <td>3,168,439</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>12,828,197</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- WA</td> <td>4,927,979</td> <td>1,651,553</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>6,579,532</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- SA</td> <td>4,982,779</td> <td>1,669,121</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>6,651,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- TAS</td> <td>1,588,910</td> <td>581,134</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>2,170,044</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- ACT</td> <td>428,411</td> <td>209,108</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>637,519</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NT</td> <td>639,720</td> <td>276,848</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>916,568</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Table 1.1 (\$)	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total	Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution	45,000,000	15,000,000	Nil	60,000,000	- NSW	12,054,131	3,936,013	Nil	15,990,144	- VIC	10,718,312	3,507,784	Nil	14,226,096	- QLD	9,659,758	3,168,439	Nil	12,828,197	- WA	4,927,979	1,651,553	Nil	6,579,532	- SA	4,982,779	1,669,121	Nil	6,651,900	- TAS	1,588,910	581,134	Nil	2,170,044	- ACT	428,411	209,108	Nil	637,519	- NT	639,720	276,848	Nil	916,568
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Additional terms	<p>States will be responsible for providing an agreed minimum co-contribution as specified in the agreed Program Implementation Plan and maintenance of effort to support the implementation of this Schedule. Estimated Commonwealth financial contributions are subject to, and will be scaled up to, matched (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from the states up to the limits set out in Table 1.1. The Commonwealth's financial contribution will be finalised in the agreed Program Implementation Plan.</p> <p>States must deliver the program in accordance with the agreed Program Implementation Plan. Program Implementation Plans must be informed by and aligned to the Program Framework at Appendix A.</p> <p>In addition to Paragraph 21 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, and Schedule E, Clause 26 of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Commonwealth will provide states with a program Communication Plan and Co-branding guidelines. States must undertake program communications and branding consistently with the national guidance.2. the announcement of a program or a project under this Schedule must be made jointly with the Australian Government and the relevant jurisdiction, unless otherwise agreed by the Commonwealth.3. when referring to the program or a project under this Schedule, it must be described as "jointly funded by the Australian Government and (insert name of jurisdiction) under the Future Drought Fund". <p>In addition to Part 4 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, the Commonwealth will provide a program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). States will negotiate with the Commonwealth to agree a format for progress reporting in the context of their Program Implementation Plan, and the MEL plan.</p> <p>States are expected to deliver the program in accordance with public sector ethical values and duties such as probity, accountability, and transparency.</p> <p>As per the provision in Subsection 22(4) of the <i>Future Drought Fund Act 2019</i>, where states do not meet the requirements of the agreed Program Implementation Plan, states may be required to refund to the Commonwealth part or all of any previously distributed funding that remains unexpended.</p>
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Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Deliver revised Program Implementation Plan	Completion of a Program Implementation Plan, as evidenced in writing and signed by both the Commonwealth and the relevant state and territory government officials, that outlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Program delivery approach and timing, including alignment with program framework (Appendix A) and any jurisdictionally tailored inclusions b) Program governance, risk management and stakeholder engagement c) Program budget, including Commonwealth, State and participant co-contributions and any industry sponsorship and expected number of funded program participants d) Communication and co-branding strategy (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) e) Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) 	30/10/2022 or within one month of the Schedule being signed by both parties, whichever is later	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
Delivery of Farm Business Resilience program	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2022.	28/02/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2023	30/08/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2023.	29/02/2024	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2024.	30/08/2024	Nil
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2024.	28/02/2025	Nil

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
	Completion of all deliverables and provision of a final report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for the reporting period to 30 June 2025.	30/08/2025	Nil
	Provision of an evaluation report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, that describes the delivery, benefits and outcomes of the program as a whole (including the foundational year 2020-21) and evaluates the program, including assessing the extent to which the outcomes have been achieved, or not.	31/12/2025	Nil

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

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



Senator the Honourable Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;
Emergency Management

20/11/ 2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by

The Honourable Dugald Saunders MP
Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by

The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities

2022

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

The Honourable Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forestry Industries

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by

Ms. Rebecca Vassarotti MLA
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by

The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Agriculture; Training and Skills; Higher Education

2022

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

The Honourable Alannah MacTiernan MLC
Minister for Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Hydrogen Industry

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by

The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA
Minister for Agribusiness and Fisheries

2022



Future Drought Fund

Farm Business Resilience Program 2022-25

Overview

The Future Drought Fund

The Future Drought Fund (the Fund) is a long-term investment fund that provides a sustainable source of funding to help Australian farmers and communities become more prepared for and resilient to the impacts of drought. Established under the *Future Drought Fund Act 2019* in September 2019, the Fund began with a \$3.9 billion investment, with earnings to be reinvested by the Future Fund Board until the balance reaches \$5 billion. The Fund is part of the Government's Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan, and a key deliverable under the National Drought Agreement. From July 2020, \$100 million from the Fund is available each financial year to invest in drought resilience programs.

The Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020-2024

The *Future Drought Fund (Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020 to 2024) Determination 2020* (the Funding Plan) serves as a framework for all expenditure from the Fund, it guides the design of the program and types of projects offered.

The Funding Plan has three inter-connected strategic priorities:

- economic resilience for an innovative and profitable agricultural sector
- environmental resilience for sustainable and improved functioning of farming landscapes
- social resilience for resourceful and adaptable communities.

The Fund's three objectives to achieve the strategic priorities will enhance the public good by building drought resilience through programs that will:

- grow the self-reliance and performance (productivity and profitability) of the agricultural sector
- improve the natural capital of agricultural landscapes for better environmental outcomes and
- strengthen the wellbeing and social capital of rural, regional and remote communities.

The Farm Business Resilience Program 2022-25

The Farm Business Resilience Program (the program) is one of eight foundational programs under the Future Drought Fund.

The program builds the strategic management capacity of farmers/farm managers and employees to prepare for and manage risk, adapt to a changing climate and improve the farm business's economic, environmental and social resilience. The program supports learning in areas including strategic business skills, risk management, natural resource management, and personal and social resilience.

The program also supports farm business planning, tailored to participants' business and situation, and the opportunity for professional feedback on the plans. This planning is expected to have positive impacts on the self-reliance and viability of farm businesses in the face of all kinds of challenges, including drought.

The program takes a proactive approach to promoting long-term resilience and sustainable productivity and growth in farm businesses, before the times get tough – it is not a hardship program. It may, however, provide a pathway for farmers exiting hardship programs and looking to improve their strategic farm business management, planning and decision making to increase their resilience to future droughts and other impacts.



The program is a first step towards the creation of a national framework to improve farm business management and planning skills, delivering on the AGMIN decision from February 2020 to work towards a national program to improve farm business management and planning skills. The program is delivered through the state and territory governments in their respective jurisdictions with Commonwealth funding provided via a schedule to the *Federation Funding Agreement Environment* (Funding Agreement Schedule).

Detailed program design and tailoring in jurisdictions must involve consultation with peak industry bodies and the Rural Financial Counselling Services within jurisdictions to ensure the program will meet regional needs, reflect existing programs and learn from past efforts.

In 2020-21, the Australian Government invested \$15.97 million from the Future Drought Fund for a foundational year of the program (with activities to 30 June 2022) with a co-contribution from the state and territory governments.

A \$60 million extension to the program was announced in the 2021-22 Federal Budget. The extension aims to achieve change at a meaningful scale – extending the program beyond the foundational year, reaching more farmers, and providing follow-up support for participants. The extended program is supported by matching (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from state and territory governments.

Purpose of this document

This framework outlines the desired outcomes, guiding principles and core elements of the program. This framework for the extended program is included in an amendment to the Funding Agreement Schedule and should be read alongside it. State and territory governments will deliver the program in accordance with an agreed Program Implementation Plan. Program Implementation Plans must be informed by and aligned to this framework.

Program objectives and outcomes

The program aims to achieve the objectives and outcomes outlined in Table 1 (below).

Table 1: Farm Business Resilience Program objectives and outcomes 2020-25

Objectives	Program information
The strategy	Build the capacity of farmers to plan for and manage risks, including drought
What are we trying to achieve?	A step-change in the use of farm business management skills to proactively manage drought risks
How will this support drought resilience?	Farmers who have better business management skills, and plan for risks, are more likely to take actions that help sustain farm business productivity and profitability in times of drought
How will we assess whether it's successful?	Overall success measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There's an increase in the business management skills and confidence of farmers to manage risk • There's an increase in farm business plans that consider drought risks • More farmers are taking actions to manage risk, including drought



		Outcomes	
		Short-term (1-2 years)	Intermediate (2-4 years)
Economic resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producer awareness of the benefits and value of strategic planning, business management skills, and professional advice is increased • Participants have an increased understanding of their farm business drought resilience level • Participants have an improved capacity for strategic business management and decision making • Participating farmers have improved farm business planning in place • Participants seek to implement their Farm Business Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The owners, managers and employees of agricultural businesses have greater financial literacy and business acumen • More primary producers and businesses engage in strategic business planning and risk assessment on a regular basis • Farm businesses have improved access to new and existing knowledge and skills to enable more effective responses to risks • More primary producers incorporate Natural Resource Management philosophies and approaches in business planning and risk assessment to better manage their natural resources through drought 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants have improved natural resource management and planning skills and capability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More primary producers are aware of and experimenting with Natural Resource Management practices to manage drought • More primary producers have the skills, data and support to apply better Natural Resource Management practices 	
Social resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants have greater awareness of the importance of personal and social resilience • Formal or informal (peer) networks are established / utilised for farmers to share their knowledge and learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation by primary producers in local networks and programs to enhance drought resilience 	

Program administration outcomes along with longer-term outcomes, linking to the Funding Plan and FDF Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Framework, are detailed in the program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). The outcomes will continue to be refined collaboratively with the states and territories through the MEL Plan and associated reporting.

State and territory governments will be required to provide robust performance monitoring and reporting to ensure the program meets the program's outcomes, outputs and strategic priorities as documented in the MEL Plan. Performance monitoring and reporting should also be guided by the drought preparedness and recovery objectives in the National Drought Agreement and relevant objectives of the NFF National Drought Policy.

Core program elements

The program has three core elements: learning and development, farm business planning, and farm resilience benchmarking. These must be developed specifically for farm businesses and their employees and must include drought preparedness.

The program, and its content, must be developed specifically for farm businesses and their employees rather than a general business skills program. The program must be available to the agriculture, horticulture, pastoral, apiculture and aquaculture industries, even if the delivery model includes industry-specific course delivery (further detail below about potential delivery methods).



State and territory governments have flexibility to build on their existing expertise and delivery mechanisms where they exist, or to establish new programs if needed throughout the life of the program. Program content and delivery should be tailored to specific regional or industry priorities where possible, building on, or filling the gaps in existing programs.

Jurisdictionally tailored elements must contribute to the program's outcomes and objectives.

Learning and development

Learning areas

- All learning activities should be aimed at managing and mitigating risks to farm businesses, including the risk of drought and climate change.
- The Program must cover the following learning areas:
 - strategic farm business management and planning – such as, financial literacy (such as business structures, governance models, access to finance and investment in farm assets and other equity investments), best practice business planning approaches, long term profitability, benchmarking and monitoring performance, people management, farm mapping and analysis.
 - farm risk management and informed decision making – such as, tools and strategies, decision-making frameworks, understanding and using data, adverse event preparation and drought planning, climate adaptation, adoption of innovation and technology, on and off farm diversification opportunities (e.g. carbon market, agri-tourism, contracting), market access opportunities (e.g. product traceability, sustainability accreditation, biodiversity stewardship).
 - natural resource management – such as, understanding best practice activities that build drought resilience, experimenting with and implementing holistic natural resource management approaches (links between environmental, economic and social resilience) that improve the farm resource base on which agriculture depends, farm biosecurity (as related to drought resilience), integrated farm planning (such as farm design, pasture and grazing management, biodiversity and shelterbelts, farm water management, soil management), importance of landscape scale management (such as biodiversity, water flow management, erosion control).
 - personal and social resilience – such as, succession planning, digital literacy, leadership development, time management, building social and professional networks (including across regions and landscapes), community engagement, continuous learning/education, work health safety.
- The learning areas are underpinned by the three elements of drought resilience - environmental, economic, and social. The program recognises that these elements are interconnected and that the learning areas are likely to overlap and apply across learning categories. For these reasons, learning areas do not have to be delivered in a modular or categorical format, but can be integrated through comprehensive journey or coaching models.
- The learning areas as described above should be covered, but course content can and should, where possible, be tailored for regions, industry or production method (as appropriate) e.g. appropriate decision making tools or methods for pastoral regions or farm systems, and the wide range of participant abilities and current farm business resilience levels.
- Links into existing state-based programs and funding opportunities would be specific to each jurisdiction.
- Learning and development should be designed to:
 - embed resilience principles to encourage farmers to take a holistic and transformative approach to building resilience in their farm business



- provide practical skills, knowledge and advice relevant to individual farm businesses and that can be implemented on farm
- deliver enterprise-specific benefits that will, in turn, generate broader benefits for the agriculture sector and communities which depend on agriculture
- increase producer awareness of the benefits and value of strategic planning, business management skills, and professional advice
- utilise and encourage the use and sharing of best practice and innovative approaches, tools, resources, data and information to assist farmers to understand their business, strengthen business decision-making and establish sustainable and resilient risk management practices
- draw on local case studies and farming champions, as evidence shows farmers learn best from trusted local sources and local examples
- draw participants' attention to opportunities to obtain support to implement their Farm Business Plan and undertake further learning and education, to instil a culture of continuous improvement and establish a pathway for doing so.

Delivery

- Learning and development is to be primarily delivered through facilitated workshops by public or private local trainers with relevant qualifications, and utilising a variety of suitable delivery options where possible e.g. online learning and face-to-face.
 - A variety of delivery formats should be used including face to face group learning, online delivery (such as self-paced modules, YouTube or webinars through platforms such as Farm Table), utilise local and regional facilities for remote attendance at training sessions, such as those provided by Regional University Centres and explore other options to make it as easy as possible for participants to engage.
- State and territory governments are encouraged to tailor the training and support by region, industry or production method, as appropriate.
- There are a range of training delivery options depending on individual circumstances, including state and territory governments -
 - delivering the training directly
 - engaging a relevantly qualified training provider(s) to design and/or deliver the training package or modules
 - accrediting/approving private or industry-based training providers to design and/or deliver training modules aligned with program outcomes or expanding/tailoring their courses to align.
 - Utilising a range of existing industry providers would allow tailoring for different industries. Seeking co-contributions for interested industry providers could extend the reach of the program.
 - State and territory governments are required to ensure providers are appropriately skilled and qualified to undertake this function, and that across all leveraged programs the core program elements and outcomes are delivered.
- State and territory governments are encouraged to cater for different levels of engagement in the program. The program should primarily focus on supporting farmers to undertake the suite of learning and development opportunities and undertake business planning through the program (full participation) However, the program should also support participation through:
 - engagement in one-off intensive learning sessions or modules through the program (part participation) and

- broader events to support knowledge sharing and network building with the wider community (refer Knowledge Sharing and Transfer section below).
- Any online resources developed for the program (e.g. course outline, farm business plan template, self-assessment checklist etc.) should be accessible to all (at least to preview) to enable farm businesses that are not formal program participants to benefit from program materials and increase awareness of the program.

Costs, participant contributions and allowances

- Training costs are estimated at up to \$10,000 per participant (full amount assumes participant undertakes all training streams).
- Participants should be required to co-contribute to the course cost to encourage greater buy-in and commitment from participants in attending and finishing the program and to maximise program reach.
- The program should include support to assist with travel & childcare costs reasonably incurred to encourage farmers to participate in face-to-face sessions. Participants who do not genuinely need to incur these costs to participate in face-to-face training, or participate in online based learning, would not be eligible for this allowance.
 - The travel and childcare support is estimated at a value of up to \$1,000 per participant.
- Options to further maximise program reach should be considered, including collaborative cost sharing arrangements such industry cost-shared delivery, sponsorships and/or scholarships (including to cover participant contributions in certain circumstances).

Active follow-up

- The program should also support active follow-up for participants, including:
 - refresher training with benchmarking and planning playing a role in informing follow-up training needs
 - support touchpoints with advisors and coaches for participants post-program
 - periodic farm business resilience/performance assessments (see Farm Performance assessments and benchmarking section)
 - reviews of farm business plans (see Farm Business Planning section).

Knowledge sharing and transfer

- The program should encourage the establishment of knowledge sharing and transfer mechanisms to broaden the reach of the program to the broader community. The program should empower attendees and their communities to take ownership of building the knowledge and skills required to be better prepared to manage risk such as drought.
- Examples of knowledge sharing activities may include:
 - Establishment of communities of practice, knowledge leaders, and alumni networks for farmers upon completion of the program
 - Communities of practice should not be limited to participants. State and territory governments may also support program trainers and facilitators to stay up-to-date and take a consistent approach to training such as through a conference and/or online community of practice to access innovative resources and discussion forums.
 - Skill building and networking events for the farming communities as well as agricultural advisors, for example, large scale events, open days, field days and webinars adoption of hubs-based knowledge sharing.



- Pro-actively seek out and leverage learning and knowledge sharing opportunities with existing FDF programs and initiatives such as the annual Science to Practice Forum, participation with the Adoption and Innovation Hubs, Regional Drought Resilience Planning, and Drought Resilience Leaders and Networks to Build Drought Resilience programs.
- Participants engaging in and supporting broader discussions (regional, landscape-scale, network or community level) on strategic drought resilience planning.

Farm Business Planning

- The program must require and support participants to develop or update existing Farm Business Plans through providing participants individually tailored professional support and advice to complete their plan. Plans should be informed by and incorporate relevant learnings from the program learning and development.
- Farm Business Plans are to be underpinned by the following key principles:
 - There is no single approach to farm business planning - plans should be tailored and fit for purpose
 - Plans should guide decision-making and management of risk, including drought
 - Plans should be evidence-based
 - Best practice planning approaches & resilience principles, applied practically at the farm level, should be considered
 - Plans should consider the whole of the farm business - goals and actions should consider the triple bottom line, and the operational, tactical, and strategic aspects of the business
 - Plans should provide a baseline of farm business performance and establish a review and response process.
- The Commonwealth and state and territory governments will work together to provide resources and guidance to assist farmers in undertaking this planning.
- Participants will have the opportunity for advice and feedback on their Farm Business Plan, by an appropriately skilled and qualified independent professional(s). This will provide participants with individually tailored advice on the potential effectiveness of the plan in improving the drought resilience of their farm business.
 - The independent assessor, or network of assessors (e.g. a trusted farm business consultant/advisory network), will be approved and/ or engaged by state and territory governments. State and territory governments are responsible for ensuring assessors are appropriately skilled and qualified to undertake this function.
 - The principles (above) will inform assessors in reviewing Farm Business Plans.
 - Reviews of plans are estimated at a cost of up to \$2,500 per review (one per farm business, regardless of number of members of the farm business that participate in training).
- The program must support participants to use their Farm Business Plan to proactively manage risk.
 - The program should draw participants' attention to opportunities to obtain support to implement their Farm Business Plan e.g. grant programs such as the those available under the FDF, state-based grants, or private sector funding and lending options. State and territory governments could consider providing funding to support implementation of Farm Business Plans.
 - Follow-up support should be provided to participants e.g. assessment of current farm business resilience and the implementation and review of plans after 12-24 months.



Performance assessments and benchmarking

- The program will require participants to undertake a farm business resilience/performance assessment before (or during) and after participating in the program.
 - This will assist in determining a benchmark for participants to track their progress against, help participants target support to their specific needs and provide valuable data to feed into program monitoring, evaluation and future design.
- The program will support farmers to assess and monitor their performance against the benchmark. This support may come in the form of:
 - Repeating the farm business resilience/performance assessment periodically (e.g., 12-24 months after completing the program)
 - Complementary individually tailored professional advice to participants in the initial assessment of farm business resilience, and/or the implementation and review of plans after 12-24 months, including, where possible, support provided by the same provider throughout
 - Fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement. Building farmer's abilities to measure success via various learning opportunities, including peer-to-peer learning, coaching and communication activities, advisory resources, ongoing forums, and knowledge sharing to measure success across farming networks.
- State and territory governments (or their training providers) can select the most appropriate method or tool to undertake this assessment. This could be undertaken via an advisor or an appropriate data tool, which may differ based on industry e.g. AgriHive or DairyBase.
 - Once developed, if fit for purpose, the FDF Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool is expected to fulfil this purpose and provide national consistency of assessment method and data.

Eligibility

- The program is to be aimed at *members of viable farm businesses* (including those with genuine potential to become viable) that are looking to improve their farm business strategic management and planning skills, as a mechanism for building future drought resilience, particularly to prepare for impacts of climate change.
- Eligibility criteria will be streamlined and nationally consistent. This will support equitable access across Australia, limit unnecessary barriers to participation amongst eligible participants. The suggested criteria takes a balanced and proportionate approach to managing the risk of non-target cohort being able to participate in the program.
- State and territory governments will determine the most appropriate methods for applicants to demonstrate their claims to the eligibility criteria, allowing them to leverage existing programs' eligibility assessments.
- Attachment A sets out the core eligibility criteria for subsidised participation, along with guidance on evidentiary options state and territory governments might use to assess applicant's claims against the criteria.
- A maximum of two members of each farm business would be eligible to attend subsidised training. Additional members (beyond the subsidised places) would be encouraged to attend at their own cost, or through state funding or industry-sponsored positions.
- If state and territory governments choose to fund additional positions or allow applicants to pay in full, eligibility criteria would be more flexible e.g. more than two farm business members or employees of public companies may pay to attend (to be determined by state and territory governments).



- Key aspects of program design, including the tailoring, the development of Farm Business Plans and the requirement for a co-contribution from participants will assist to attract participation from members of viable farm businesses.
- A targeted approach to promotion of the program, particularly at the local level by state and territory governments and relevant providers will ensure the program reaches the target audience through their involvement with state farming bodies, industry representative bodies, grower groups, the Rural Financial Counselling Service and agricultural advisory networks (e.g. accountants, agronomists and agents).



ATTACHMENT A

Eligibility criteria – Commonwealth subsidised places in the Farm Business Resilience program	
Eligibility Criteria	Assessment & Evidentiary Options
PART 1 - Eligible farm businesses	
<p>An eligible <i>farm business</i> is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carried on by a primary producer and trades as a primary production business in the agriculture, horticulture, pastoral, apiculture, or aquaculture industries located in Australia and undertakes all primary production aspects of the business wholly within Australia registered for tax purposes in Australia with an Australian Business Number (ABN) and is registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST) established under the legal structure of a sole trader, trust, partnership or private company commercially <i>viable</i>. <p>A <i>viable farm business</i> is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> able to generate sufficient net profit under normal seasonal and market conditions after fixed and variable expenses to service borrowings (if applicable); able to provide an adequate standard of living for relevant members of the farm business; able to allow investment on-farm to maintain the farm's productive assets; and financially sustainable and productive long term OR able to demonstrate genuine potential to become a viable business (as outlined above). 	<p>Evidentiary options for determining an eligible <i>farm business</i> is to be determined by States and can include using existing data and information available on farm businesses from within government, examples may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABN or ACN number or Unique 'Holding reference number' from annual land and stock return (NSW) or other equivalent state-based system <p>Evidentiary options for determining a <i>viable farm business</i> may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABN number, indicating the business is registered for GST; or Previous financial statements, income tax returns, etc Financial reference letter from an accountant, or letter of support/comfort from a commercial bank, confirming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that over the past five years, the business is trading at a profit; or overall the business is commercially viable after consideration of factors such as the financial sustainability of the farm business and whether it provides/genuinely contributes to a livelihood for the people whose livelihoods depend on it.
PART 2 - Eligible farm business members	
<p><i>Eligible farm business members</i> must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the owner or manager or endorsed employee of a farm business through private companies, partnerships and trusts; and one of only two members of the farm business receiving a subsidised place in the program. 	<p>Evidentiary options for farm owners, managers and employees may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABN number, ACN, company search or other business registration documentation, certificates or taxation documents showing ownership and Declaration/letter of support from the farm business owner or manager indicating support for your participation in the course Payslips or tax returns showing employment in the farm business Declaration from landowner, employer or accountant, declaring the participant's relationship to the nominated farm business Declaration from associated farm business professional such as agronomist or agent, declaring the participant's relationship to the nominated farm business.

Future Drought Fund – Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule

Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales Victoria Queensland Western Australia South Australia Tasmania Australian Capital Territory Northern Territory																																																		
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 31 December 2025.																																																		
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery of financial assistance from the Commonwealth to the State and Territory governments (States) to deliver the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program (the Program). The States will use this funding to assist partnerships of local government consortia (or equivalent) and regional stakeholders to develop Regional Drought Resilience Plans (RDR Plans) for their region.</p> <p>This Schedule is an extension to the 2020-21 foundational year Future Drought Fund – Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program Schedule, signed by all states in 2021.</p>																																																		
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$29.4m in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1.1 (\$)</th> <th>2022-23</th> <th>2023-24</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution</td> <td>23,934,000</td> <td>5,466,000</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>29,400,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NSW</td> <td>5,803,479</td> <td>1,313,714</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>7,117,193</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- VIC</td> <td>6,147,634</td> <td>1,391,621</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>7,539,255</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- QLD</td> <td>5,237,630</td> <td>1,185,626</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>6,423,256</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- WA</td> <td>2,868,355</td> <td>649,301</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>3,517,656</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- SA</td> <td>2,486,741</td> <td>562,916</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>3,049,657</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- TAS</td> <td>736,497</td> <td>166,719</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>903,216</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- ACT</td> <td>150,000</td> <td>0</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>150,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NT</td> <td>503,664</td> <td>196,103</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>699,767</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Table 1.1 (\$)	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total	Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution	23,934,000	5,466,000	Nil	29,400,000	- NSW	5,803,479	1,313,714	Nil	7,117,193	- VIC	6,147,634	1,391,621	Nil	7,539,255	- QLD	5,237,630	1,185,626	Nil	6,423,256	- WA	2,868,355	649,301	Nil	3,517,656	- SA	2,486,741	562,916	Nil	3,049,657	- TAS	736,497	166,719	Nil	903,216	- ACT	150,000	0	Nil	150,000	- NT	503,664	196,103	Nil	699,767
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Additional terms	<p>States will be responsible for providing an agreed minimum co-contribution as specified in the agreed Program Implementation Plan and maintenance of effort to support the implementation of this Schedule. Estimated Commonwealth financial contributions are subject to, and will be scaled up to, matched (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from the states up to the limits set out in Table 1.1. The Commonwealth's financial contribution will be finalised in the agreed Program Implementation Plan.</p> <p>States must deliver the program in accordance with the agreed Program Implementation Plan. Program Implementation Plans must be informed by and aligned to the Program Framework at Appendix A.</p> <p>In addition to Paragraph 21 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, and Schedule E, Clause 26 of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Commonwealth will provide states with a program Communication Plan and Co-branding guidelines. States must undertake program communications and branding consistently with the national guidance.2. the announcement of a program or a project under this Schedule must be made jointly with the Australian Government and the relevant jurisdiction, unless otherwise agreed by the Commonwealth3. when referring to the program or a project under this Schedule, it must be described as "jointly funded by the Australian Government and (insert name of jurisdiction) under the Future Drought Fund" <p>In addition to Part 4 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, the Commonwealth will provide a program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). States will negotiate with the Commonwealth to agree a format for progress-reporting in the context of their Program Implementation Plan, and the MEL plan.</p> <p>States are expected to deliver the program in accordance with public sector ethical values and duties such as probity, accountability, and transparency.</p> <p>As per the provision in Subsection 22(4) of the <i>Future Drought Fund Act 2019</i>, where states do not meet the requirements of the agreed Program Implementation Plan states may be required to refund to the Commonwealth part or all of any previously distributed funding that remains unexpended.</p>
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Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

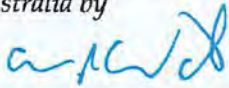
Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Deliver revised Program Implementation Plan	<p>Completion of a Program Implementation Plan, as evidenced in writing and signed by both the Commonwealth and the relevant state and territory government officials, that outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Program delivery approach and timing, including alignment with program framework (Appendix A) and any jurisdictionally tailored inclusions b) Program governance, risk management and stakeholder engagement c) Program budget, including Commonwealth, State and participant co-contributions and any industry sponsorship and expected number of funded program participants d) Communication and co-branding strategy (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) e) Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) 	30/10/2022 or within one month of the Schedule being signed by both parties, whichever is later	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
Delivery of Regional Drought Resilience Planning program	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2022.	28/02/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2023	30/08/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2023.	29/02/2024	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2024.	30/08/2024	Nil

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2024.	28/02/2025	Nil
	Completion of all deliverables and provision of a final report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for the reporting period to 30 June 2025.	30/08/2025	Nil
	Provision of an evaluation report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, that describes the delivery, benefits and outcomes of the program as a whole (including the foundational year 2020-21) and evaluates the program, including assessing the extent to which the outcomes have been achieved, or not.	31/12/2025	Nil

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

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



Senator the Honourable Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;
Emergency Management

20/11/2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by

The Honourable Dugald Saunders MP
Minister for Agriculture; Western New South Wales

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by

The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities

2022

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

The Honourable Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forest Industries

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by

Ms. Rebecca Vassarotti MLA
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by

The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Agriculture; Training and Skills; Higher Education

2022

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

The Honourable Alannah MacTiernan MLC
Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Hydrogen Industry

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by

The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA
Minister for Agribusiness and Fisheries

2022



Future Drought Fund

Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program 2022-25

Overview

The Future Drought Fund

The Future Drought Fund (the Fund) is a long-term investment fund that provides a sustainable source of funding to help Australian farmers and communities become more prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of drought. Established under the *Future Drought Fund Act 2019* in September 2019, the Fund began with a \$3.9 billion investment, with earnings to be reinvested by the Future Fund Board until the balance reaches \$5 billion. The Fund is part of the Australian Government's Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan, and a key deliverable under the National Drought Agreement. From July 2020, \$100 million from the Fund is available each financial year to invest in drought resilience programs.

The Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020-2024

The *Future Drought Fund (Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020 to 2024) Determination 2020* (the Funding Plan) serves as a framework for all expenditure from the Fund, it guides the design of the program and types of projects offered.

The Funding Plan has three inter-connected strategic priorities:

- economic resilience for an innovative and profitable agricultural sector
- environmental resilience for sustainable and improved functioning of farming landscapes
- social resilience for resourceful and adaptable communities.

The Fund's three objectives to achieve the strategic priorities will enhance the public good by building drought resilience through programs that will:

- grow the self-reliance and performance (productivity and profitability) of the agricultural sector
- improve the natural capital of agricultural landscapes for better environmental outcomes and
- strengthen the wellbeing and social capital of rural, regional and remote communities.

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program 2022-25

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program (the program) is one of eight foundational programs under the Future Drought Fund in 2020-21.

The program provides funding for consortia of regional partners to develop regional drought resilience plans (RDR Plans). The plans will be community led and owned, and focus on innovative ways to build regional drought resilience across the agricultural sector and supporting industries, through a triple bottom line, collaborative and evidence-based approach. This program contributes to each of the Fund's objectives and strategic priorities.

The program is delivered through the state and territory governments in their respective jurisdictions with Commonwealth funding provided via a schedule to the *Federation Funding Agreement - Environment* (Funding Agreement Schedule). The program creates a national framework for regional drought resilience planning, while providing flexibility for jurisdictions to deliver a program that builds on existing expertise and delivery mechanisms where they exist or establish new programs if needed.



In 2020-21 the Australian Government invested \$9.85 million from the Future Drought Fund for a foundational year of the program (with activities to 30 June 2022) with a co-contribution from state and territory governments.

A \$31 million extension to the program was announced through the 2021-22 Federal Budget. The extension is expected to enable RDR Plans to be developed across all agricultural regions in each jurisdiction, building on the foundational year. As part of this extension, small grants will be available to take forward priority actions identified in RDR Plans. The extended program is supported by matching (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from state and territory governments.

Implementation of the program will continue to be informed by any relevant findings of the National Royal Commission into Black Summer Bushfires (Natural Disaster Arrangements) as well as Federal and State Drought Inquiries where relevant.

Purpose of this document

This document outlines the desired outcomes, guiding principles and core elements of the program. This framework for the extended program is included in an amendment to the Funding Agreement Schedule and should be read alongside it. State and territory governments will deliver the program in accordance with an agreed Program Implementation Plan, which must be informed and aligned to this framework.

Program objectives and outcomes

The program aims to achieve the following objectives and outcomes outlined in Table 1 (below):

Table 1: Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program objectives and outcomes 2020-25

Objectives	Program information
The strategy	Establish drought resilience plans across all agricultural regions based on evidence and collaboration, to drive proactive management of drought risks
What are we trying to achieve?	Regional drought resilience plans, led and owned by the community, drive decisions, actions and investments to proactively manage drought risks
How will this support drought resilience?	Informed and planned action to manage drought risks at a regional scale will support resilience of the region’s economy, farmers, businesses, communities, and the landscape
How will we assess whether it’s successful?	<p>Overall success measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There’s an increase in the number of agricultural regions that have drought resilience plans • Plans have buy-in from key stakeholders in the region • Plans are informed by relevant data, co-design and best practice approaches to resilience planning • Plans are implemented



Outcomes	
Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regions have a plan against which to monitor their drought resilience status • Communities use best practice data and information to better understand their resilience to drought and make decisions • Regions have identified and planned for the impacts of drought on their region • Drought resilience planning draws on a wide range of inputs, informed by effective partnerships within the region • Communities empowered to identify the impacts of drought • Communities given the opportunity to communicate regional drought resilience needs and priorities which may inform future investment • Communities share their learnings about drought resilience with other regions • Regional level drought resilience planning leverages and aligns with planning at other scales
Intermediate (2-4 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of plans have had elements implemented • Actions, pathways and opportunities (including innovative and transformative) to improve regional drought resilience, mitigate risks and adapt to change are identified • Partnerships, networks and engagement are built between stakeholders managing natural resources • Communities share knowledge, collaborate and partner with government more often to build drought resilience • Greater sharing of learnings related to drought resilience between communities • The number of, and participation in, local networks and programs to enhance drought resilience increases • Increased community understanding of the region's current and future drought resilience, considering the region's unique economic, environmental and social characteristics • Regional leaders are in a stronger position to implement strategic actions, adapt to change and take advantage of opportunities to build economic resilience as they arise • Communities use best practice data and information to better understand their resilience to drought and plan for resilience to drought • Regional representatives have considered and planned incremental, transitional and transformational opportunities to strengthen resilience • Primary producers and businesses supported to improve their sustainability and resilience • Natural resource management capability is improved across region

Program administration outcomes along with longer-term outcomes, linking to the Funding Plan and FDF Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Framework, are detailed in the program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). The outcomes will continue to be refined collaboratively with the states and territories through the MEL Plan and associated reporting.

State and territory governments will be required to provide robust performance monitoring and reporting to ensure the program meets the program's outcomes, outputs and strategic priorities as documented in the program MEL Plan.

Core program elements

Regional Drought Resilience Plans

- RDR Plans will explore and focus on innovative and diverse pathways to build drought resilience in agricultural, primary production and agricultural supply chain industries. RDR Plans will also be underpinned by triple-bottom-line considerations and the impacts that future droughts may have on the broader landscape and regional communities which depend on or contribute to agriculture and rural economies. The process will foster learning and build social capital.



- RDR Plans must be developed:
 - using a partnership and co-design process (see 'Partnering' below) and harness the diverse region-specific knowledge and skills required for a triple-bottom-line approach to ensure the plans are community led and owned
 - using best-practice resilience planning principles including consideration of adaptation pathways and scenario testing
 - building on, complementing and taking account of existing strategic planning, to the extent it is available and relevant.
- RDR Plans must include:
 - a regional context, inclusive of an integrated assessment of how drought has affected the region in the past (if applicable) and how drought is likely to affect the region's economic, environmental and social characteristics in the future, based on up-to-date information, research and climate science (projections, mapping, modelling and scenarios) for the region.
 - The Commonwealth and the state and territories will provide, including through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund Climate Services for Agriculture Program, access to reliable, evidence-based information and research outputs to assist with the development of RDR Plans including available social research, climate data, and examples from other communities to encourage shared learning.
 - an evidence-based, triple-bottom-line strategy, outlining actions and pathways to mitigate and/or adapt to drought impacts, facilitate transformational change, and increase drought resilience within the region.
 - The strategy should consider the feasibility and practical implementation of actions to provide triple-bottom-line public good benefits to the region. Actions could include, for example, economic development opportunities, environmental management approaches, or wellbeing and social capital building initiatives.
 - The strategy should focus on innovative ways to build drought resilience in agricultural, primary production and agricultural supply chain industries. Supply chain industries include those genuinely involved in getting the agricultural product to the consumer and are therefore dependent on the agricultural industry.
 - a process to continue to engage and communicate with the community about proposed activities to be implemented under the plan and implementation progress, on a regular basis.
 - specify a monitoring, evaluation and review process to ensure transparency, adaptive management, and long-term implementation.
 - other relevant elements tailored to the jurisdiction or region may be included providing those additional elements are consistent with the program outcomes and objectives and do not affect delivery of core elements.
- Once complete, RDR Plans will be independently assessed by an assessor appointed by the Commonwealth.
 - the assessment framework will be nationally consistent and reflect the requirements of the Funding Agreement Schedule including the program framework contained within
 - following independent feedback, regional consortia will have the opportunity to consider and incorporate feedback into their RDR Plan prior to approval



- Final RDR Plans must be provided to the Commonwealth Minister for Drought for approval.
 - approval requirements will reflect the program framework and independent assessment criteria
- Approved RDR Plans will be published on the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment website (or other appropriate centralised location determined by the Commonwealth in consultation with the applicable jurisdiction), to enable communities to learn from each other and enable those with less expertise or capacity to benefit from access to examples and case studies. Plans may also be published elsewhere at the discretion of the state, territory or regions.

Funding for planning

- The program will provide funding not exceeding \$600,000 per regional project (in Commonwealth funding) for consortia or similar partnerships/alliances of regional stakeholders (regional consortia) to develop RDR Plans.
- The funding for RDR Plans is to be determined by the respective state or territory government, in consultation with the Commonwealth, considering factors such as the proposed regional planning project's scope and scale.
 - it is expected not every plan will require the maximum quantum of funding available.
 - it is expected that required funding will enable all agricultural regions in each jurisdiction to be covered by RDR Plans.
- For larger RDR planning projects, total funds spent on preparing an RDR Plan could exceed \$600,000, with the additional funding being provided from other sources, for example regional consortia, regional partners, local governments or state and territory government program co-contributions. Such co-contributions may also be used to fund additional elements to:
 - extend the reach of the program to more agricultural regions
 - support implementation of activities specified in the plans
 - cover administrative costs.
- State and territory governments are also permitted to use other sources of funding (not considered co-contributions) to connect regional drought resilience planning into broader strategic planning and other relevant initiatives; broaden the scope of planning beyond agricultural, primary production and agricultural supply chain industries; or broaden the scope of planning more generally (for example bushfire response planning).

Governance

Application and selection

- State and territory governments are responsible for defining agricultural regions and selecting regional drought resilience planning projects within their jurisdictions for funding and determining the priority and timing of these projects.
- Regional planning projects should be selected using a structured, transparent, and where appropriate, contestable process.
- In making a selection, state and territory governments should consider:
 - the significance of agriculture to the region
 - the relevance of, and necessity and urgency for, drought resilience planning in the region
 - the consortia's proposed process for co-design, partnering and collaboration.



- the consortia's proposed approach to build on, complement and take account of existing strategic planning, to the extent it is available and relevant
- potential qualitative and quantitative outcomes and expected public benefits—not necessarily in monetary terms
- probability of successful completion of the plan.

Eligibility

- Regional consortia can be formed from local governments and/or other appropriate entities to develop a RDR Plan under this program.
 - regional consortia must consist of two or more local governments or other appropriate entities
 - other appropriate entities are defined as legal entities that undertake planning at a regional scale and include Regional Development Australia committees, Indigenous organisations, Regional Natural Resource Management Organisations, statutory authorities or other entities as deemed relevant by state and territory governments for their jurisdiction
 - where possible Local Government Authority (LGAs) should be the project lead, however in areas without LGAs, areas with indigenous governance arrangements, or where LGAs lack capacity, or are unwilling or unable to partner together, development of an RDR Plan could be led by other appropriate entities
 - if a project has a non-local government lead, relevant local governments must still be partners in the planning process where possible and relevant
 - regional consortia can be based on existing regional groups or partnerships, including partnerships of councils (for example Joint Organisations of Council or Local Government Regional Organisations)
 - regional consortia members should be located in the same geographical area, with common regional interests and preferably, but not necessarily, share common borders
 - agricultural industries must be justifiably significant (or have the genuine potential to be significant) to the region in which the consortia is located, through its economy, landscape, and/or community/social aspects
 - regional consortia may participate in but are not permitted to be funded as part of more than one regional project
 - acknowledging that regions do not necessarily align with jurisdictional borders, consortia that straddle state and territory jurisdictional borders may apply for funding under this program. Facilitation of cross-jurisdictional applications will be undertaken on an ad-hoc basis.
- Whilst regional consortia will be responsible for developing RDR Plans, these plans will be community led and owned.

Partnering

- Regional consortia must partner, collaborate and consult widely with relevant regional, community and industry stakeholders, and organisations who undertake relevant planning processes to:
 - foster co-designed, community-led planning and collective ownership of the resulting plan and its implementation
 - leverage existing local, regional and state strategic planning and other relevant initiatives and avoid duplication of effort



- recognise the diversity of people, businesses and landscapes involved in agricultural production, including Indigenous groups and landholders
- harness diverse region-specific knowledge and skills for a triple-bottom-line approach.
- Partners and stakeholders to be engaged in co-design and/or consultation on RDR Plans include, where they exist in the region, but not necessarily limited to:
 - Farming groups and businesses
 - Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees
 - Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisations
 - Indigenous groups
 - Local government authorities / councils (where they are not the lead)
 - community organisations, community leaders, Local champions e.g. Country Women's Association, Rotary, Lions.
 - Research organisation
 - Agricultural industry representative groups (peak bodies)
 - development commissions
 - State or territory governments
 - power, emergency, fire and medical services
 - water authorities
 - banks, and/or other financial experts, organisations or institutions.
 - farm advisers, consultants, agronomists and stock and station agents.
- Regional consortia also need to partner with their local FDF Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs (the Hubs). This will ensure Hubs are embedded in the planning process to support regions to consider relevant evidence-based information and research outputs and connects the Hubs with the drought resilience needs of their area. The Hubs also provide an important linkage with networks of primary producers and community groups.

Implementation grants

- Regional consortia will be eligible to receive an implementation grant of up to \$150,000 (commonwealth contribution) per plan to support implementation of priority actions identified in their RDR plan.
 - the Commonwealth contribution is to be matched, or as otherwise agreed, by the respective state and territory government as part of the overall program budget specified in the Funding Agreement Schedule
 - the Commonwealth may negotiate, on a case by case basis, an increased grant amount if the relevant state or territory government meets the following requirements:
 - sufficient funding had been allocated to fund development of RDR Plans to the quality standard required by the program, AND
 - has achieved, or is on track to achieve, coverage of all agricultural regions, AND
 - has made provision for maximum implementation grant funding (\$300,000 including matching state co-contribution) per plan for all regions developing an RDR Plan, AND
 - any increased Commonwealth contribution towards implementation grants is matched by the relevant state or territory government.
- Activities funded through an implementation grant must:
 - be outlined in an independently assessed and approved RDR Plan
 - be endorsed/sponsored by the relevant consortia responsible for developing/approving the RDR Plan
 - take place within, or apply to, the region for which the approved RDRP Plan exists



- aim to improve drought resilience in the agricultural sector, and/or its supporting communities and supply chains
- deliver a public benefit
 - grants must not be used for payments direct to farmers, nor to provide on-farm infrastructure.
- Regional consortia are encouraged, but not required, to co-contribute towards the funded activities.
- State and territory governments will make decisions on and administer implementation grant funding to regions consortia.
 - method of administration of implementation grant funding will be tailored by each jurisdiction
 - Policy guidance will be developed by the Commonwealth, in consultation with the state and territory governments, to assist with administering implementation grant funding, consistent with the principles outlined above
 - grant funding administration will be underpinned by principles of probity, transparency and accountability.
- The Commonwealth, through the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, must be consulted prior to a decision on making a grant.
- Consistent with the Funding Agreement, implementation grant activities must be jointly branded and announced unless otherwise agreed.

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 November 2022 9:02 AM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon. Murray Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MS22-002072 - Letter to Minister Scriven.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: Corro - MP MLC EO

Good morning

Please find attached correspondence from Senator the Hon. Murray Watt.

Thank you,
Asher

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MS22-002072

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

minister.scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister *Clare*

I am writing to all state and territory ministerial colleagues in relation to the Australian Government's budget announcement on 25 October 2022 regarding livestock traceability, and our efforts to strengthen the national livestock traceability system through the rollout of individual electronic identification (eID) for sheep and goats, working toward implementation by 1 January 2025.

As you are aware, the 2022-23 Federal Budget included a major focus on preparedness, response, and management of increased biosecurity risks with \$134 million of new and redirected funding to bolster Australia's biosecurity capability.

As part of this package, the Australian Government announced \$46.7 million to support enhancements to Australia's livestock traceability system. This includes:

- \$20 million for co-investment with states and territories to support industry on-farm and off-farm traceability improvements, including supporting the transition to a nationally harmonised implementation of eID for sheep and goats, and
- \$26.6 million allocated to support upgrades to the database systems and associated activities to ensure Australia's industry-led national livestock traceability systems remain fit for purpose into the future.

We also have an opportunity to discuss funding considerations at our upcoming Agriculture Ministers' Meeting on 7 December 2022. I look forward to hearing proposed investments and activities in your jurisdiction to support this important reform. My department will then work with state and territory officials to understand how the Australian Government's co-investment can be best used to support proposed funding and incentive programs across jurisdictions to assist with implementation and uptake.

Livestock traceability is a shared responsibility between industry, states and territories, and the Australian Government. We all have a part to play, including in relation to equitable and sustainable funding of the national traceability system. The Commonwealth's \$46.7 million contribution will support work with industry and states and territories on a national approach to enhance livestock traceability and ensure it remains fit-for-purpose into the future.

I would also like to thank you for the significant contributions your agriculture department representatives have made to help advance the national rollout of eID for sheep and goats since our last meeting. This includes participation on the Sheep and Goat Traceability Task Force (SGTTF) under the National Biosecurity Committee.

I also commend the effort offered to ensure the success of the industry-government co-design initiative established by my department to support early work of the SGTTF. This initiative has now concluded, and the outputs from this work will continue to inform the considerations of the SGTTF and its ongoing advice to governments on areas such as governance, data, infrastructure and technology, cost implications, communication and engagement, and national timeframes.

I look forward to constructive discussions on 7 December 2022.

Yours sincerely



MURRAY WATT

26 / 11 / 2022

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 November 2022 4:15 PM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon. Murray Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MS22-001784 - Letter to Minister Scriven.pdf

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Senator the Hon. Murray Watt.

Thank you,
Asher

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MS22-001784

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

minister.scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister

Clare

I am writing regarding the Recreational Fishing and Camping Facilities Program (the program) under the Federation Funding Agreement – Environment (FFA–Environment).

I am pleased to confirm that, consistent with additional term 2 of the Schedule, South Australia's 2021-22 program underspend of \$1,709,000 has been carried over for remaining projects and is available as the maximum payment for milestone 6 in 2022-23.

I note that South Australia has 15 projects already underway and expected to be completed by the program end date of 30 June 2023. As these 15 projects account for South Australia's remaining funding allocation, I confirm that I accept these projects as meeting the milestone 5 requirement to provide the Commonwealth Minister a list of proposed projects.

I look forward to your written confirmation that payments have been made and projects completed by 1 May 2023, in accordance with milestone 6. Once confirmation has been received, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry will initiate the reimbursement process and keep your department updated on progress.

For any program enquiries, please contact Ms Sally Truong, Director, Multilateral, Aquaculture and Recreational Fisheries Section, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry by email at sally.truong@agriculture.gov.au or phone on (02) 6272 4212.

I look forward to seeing these projects completed during 2022-23 and I am confident that this funding will continue to deliver significant benefits to regional communities in South Australia.

Yours sincerely

MURRAY WATT

28 / 11 / 2022

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, 5 December 2022 10:33 AM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Cc: Madeleine.King.MP@aph.gov.au
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon. Murray Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MC22-011002 - Signed.pdf

Categories: Corro - MP MLC EO

Good morning,

Please find attached correspondence from Senator the Hon. Murray Watt.

Thank you,
Rebecca

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MC22-011002

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
GPO Box 1617
ADELAIDE SA 5290

minister.scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister *Clare*

Thank you for your letter of 11 October 2022 about the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Upgrade Project. I apologise for my delay in responding.

I recognise the importance of the livestock sector for Australia's regional communities, including in South Australia. I also appreciate the important contribution that modern infrastructure makes in underpinning efficient agricultural supply chains and supporting regional economies to grow and thrive. I note that the Mount Gambier and District Saleyards Upgrade Project includes 30 new selling pens, roofing and soft flooring as well as a reconfiguration of the existing selling pens, and that the South Australian Government has reiterated its funding commitment to the project, subject to the District Council of Grant securing Commonwealth funding.

The Government has reviewed all grants programs to ensure they are administered in line with best practice standards in accountability and transparency and provide value for money outcomes. As you would be aware from the announcement by the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, the Hon Catherine King MP on 24 October 2022, the Government has discontinued the Building Better Regions Fund (BBRF). This means that no further funding will be provided under this program.

As Minister King has announced, the BBRF is being replaced by a new Growing Regions Program. This program will be open and competitive with grants awarded on a merit basis. The program will be open to local government entities, including the District Council of Grant. While I appreciate that the District Council invested considerable time and effort into developing its earlier BBRF application and the delay is frustrating, at this stage the Growing Regions Program has yet to commence.

When the Growing Regions Program details have been settled information will be available at <https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/territories-regions-cities/regional-australia/growing-regions-program>. If you require any further information in the meantime, I encourage you to contact Minister King.

The Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Council, the Hon Nicola Centofanti MLC, has written to me separately on this matter and I have replied to her along the same lines.

Thank you again for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely



MURRAY WATT

1 / 12 / 2022

cc The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 December 2022 1:46 PM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Subject: Correspondence from the Hon. Murray Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MS22-002118 - Letter to Minister Scriven.pdf

Categories: Corro - MP MLC EO

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Senator the Hon. Murray Watt.

Thank you,
Asher

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MS22-002118

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Forest Industries
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

minister.scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister

Clare

I am pleased to let you know as part of the recent 2022–23 October Budget, the Australian Government announced the reframing of funding arrangements for the Support Plantation Establishment program (the program).

On 25 February 2022 the former Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries, Senator the Hon Jonathon Duniam, wrote to state and territory forestry ministers about the program, which was going to be delivered via a Federation Funding Agreement with each state and territory. The feedback from the state and territory forestry ministers did not support this delivery mechanism, so the government has revised the program and it will now be supported by Commonwealth grants.

The grants will support plantation and farm forest establishment and increase Australia's sustainable future wood supply, demonstrating the government's commitment to working with states, territories and industry to get more trees in the ground. This increase in the plantation estate will also have flow on benefits in helping achieve our shared climate change emission reduction targets.

State and territory government forestry enterprises will be eligible to participate in the program, along with private industry. The program will also complement current initiatives in a number of states and territories to expand the plantation and farm forestry estate.

I would like to thank you for your previous feedback on the program and I appreciate that to achieve long term success the collective best efforts across Australia will be needed. I look forward to working together through forestry ministers meetings and a forestry roundtable in early 2023, as we work towards developing a national Timber Fibre Strategy.

Detailed announcements regarding grant eligibility and application opening times will be made by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in due course. The contact in the department is Mr Luke Bulkeley, Director, Plantations and Strategy. He can be contacted on (02) 6272 3056 or by email at luke.bulkeley@agriculture.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



MURRAY WATT

12/12/2022

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Thursday, 22 December 2022 11:03 AM
To: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au
Subject: eA198546 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: eA198546 - Senator the Hon Murray Watt - eID - 21 December 2022.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198546

Good morning

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Scriven regarding electronic identification (eID) for sheep and goats.

Kind regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Minister for Forest Industries

Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001

T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

pir.sa.gov.au



The Department of Primary Industries and Regions respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations. We recognise Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters. We pay our respects to Aboriginal cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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eA198546



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

Murray,

Thank you for your letter dated 26 November 2022, regarding the Australian Government's budget announcement on 25 October 2022 to fund the rollout of individual electronic identification (eID) for sheep and goats for implementation by 1 January 2025.

As advised at our recent Agriculture Minister's Meeting (AMM), with financial assistance from the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA), Livestock SA has established the South Australian Sheep and Goat Traceability Steering Committee, which is developing a business case for implementing eID in South Australia and an implementation plan. This work will form the basis for implementing eID in sheep and goats in South Australia.

This committee will work with the Sheep and Goat Traceability Taskforce (SGTTF) through PIRSA's representative on the SGTTF and officials from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to determine how the Australian Government's co-investment can be best used to support funding and incentive programs in South Australia to assist with the implementation of eID in sheep and goats.

Thank you for writing to me; continued discussions on the funding arrangements and implementation will be key in the success of this important reform.

Yours sincerely

Clare Scriven

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

21 / 12 / 2022

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Friday, 23 December 2022 9:07 AM
To: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au
Subject: eA198595 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: A5673654 - Senator the Hon Murray Watt - BMRFF - 22 December 2022.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198595

Good Morning

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Scriven regarding the BRMFF funding package.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas.

Kind regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Minister for Forest Industries

Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001

T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

pir.sa.gov.au



Government of South Australia
Department of Primary Industries
and Regions

Artwork by Ngarrindjeri artist Jordan Lovegrove.

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A5673654



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Senator the Hon. Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
PO Box 6100
Senate, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au

Dear Minister *Murray,*

Thank you once again for the support that you and your department have offered in the form of national funding to build resilience to manage fruit fly. The \$20 million in funding that is slated for work in South Australia will significantly improve our ability to manage fruit fly.

I understand the national scoping study to confirm projects has now been completed and that Clause 5(1)(a)(i) in projects have been recommended for South Australia, with a further Clause 5(1)(a)(i) to support post-harvest treatment infrastructure which requires further investigation and consultation between the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Department of Primary Industries and Regions, and other key stakeholders, to ensure that the project aligns with national benefit objectives.

I would appreciate more clarity as to how you see the investigation and consultation being conducted. In particular, I would appreciate advice as to whether the intent is for that work to focus on a particular project and/or treatment facility in South Australia. As you would be aware, a major project to build a new treatment facility was submitted for consideration during the scoping study, so understanding that intent will be important in confirming the governance arrangements that we need to put in place within South Australia to manage these funds.

Thank you again for committing to fund fruit fly initiatives in South Australia.

Yours sincerely

Clare Scriven

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

22/12/2022

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Friday, 23 December 2022 10:35 AM
To: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au
Subject: eA198517 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: eA198517 - Senator the Hon Murray Watt - 22 December 2022.pdf; Attachment A - eA198517 - FDF FBR Program extension schedule.pdf; Attachment B - eA198517 - FDF RDRP Program extension schedule.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198517

Good Morning

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Scriven the Future Drought Fund Farm Business and Regional Drought Resilience Planning Programs 2023 - 24.

Kindest regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Minister for Forest Industries

Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001

T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

pir.sa.gov.au



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eA198517



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Minister for Emergency Management
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister *Murray,*

I am writing to you regarding your letter offering to provide a one year extension of the Future Drought Fund Farm Business Resilience and Regional Drought Resilience Planning Programs.

I am supportive of these programs and welcome the further extension of the program. I enclose the executed governing agreements which provide a further year for delivery of activities under these programs. I am advised that South Australian Department of Primary Industries and Regions officers will work with Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries officials to finalise program implementation.

I look forward to working with you to continue supporting South Australian farmers and regional communities to be more resilient to the impacts of drought and climate change.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'C. M. Scriven'.

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

22/12 / 2022

Attachments: Farm Business Resilience and Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program schedules

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



Future Drought Fund – Farm Business Resilience Program

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT - ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule																																																						
Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales Victoria Queensland Western Australia South Australia Tasmania Australian Capital Territory Northern Territory																																																					
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 31 December 2025.																																																					
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery of financial assistance from the Commonwealth to the State and Territory governments (States) to deliver the Farm Business Resilience Program (the Program). The States will use this funding to provide subsidised training for farm owners and farm managers to build their strategic management and planning skills.</p> <p>This Schedule is an extension to the 2020-21 foundational year Future Drought Fund – Farm Business Resilience Program Schedule, signed by all states in 2021.</p>																																																					
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$60m in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1.1 (\$)</th> <th>2022-23</th> <th>2023-24</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution</td> <td>45,000,000</td> <td>15,000,000</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>60,000,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NSW</td> <td>12,054,131</td> <td>3,936,013</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>15,990,144</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- VIC</td> <td>10,718,312</td> <td>3,507,784</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>14,226,096</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- QLD</td> <td>9,659,758</td> <td>3,168,439</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>12,828,197</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- WA</td> <td>4,927,979</td> <td>1,651,553</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>6,579,532</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- SA</td> <td>4,982,779</td> <td>1,669,121</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>6,651,900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- TAS</td> <td>1,588,910</td> <td>581,134</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>2,170,044</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- ACT</td> <td>428,411</td> <td>209,108</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>637,519</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NT</td> <td>639,720</td> <td>276,848</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>916,568</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Table 1.1 (\$)	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total	Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution	45,000,000	15,000,000	Nil	60,000,000	- NSW	12,054,131	3,936,013	Nil	15,990,144	- VIC	10,718,312	3,507,784	Nil	14,226,096	- QLD	9,659,758	3,168,439	Nil	12,828,197	- WA	4,927,979	1,651,553	Nil	6,579,532	- SA	4,982,779	1,669,121	Nil	6,651,900	- TAS	1,588,910	581,134	Nil	2,170,044	- ACT	428,411	209,108	Nil	637,519	- NT	639,720	276,848	Nil	916,568
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Additional terms

States will be responsible for providing an agreed minimum co-contribution as specified in the agreed Program Implementation Plan and maintenance of effort to support the implementation of this Schedule. Estimated Commonwealth financial contributions are subject to, and will be scaled up to, matched (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from the states up to the limits set out in Table 1.1. The Commonwealth's financial contribution will be finalised in the agreed Program Implementation Plan.

States must deliver the program in accordance with the agreed Program Implementation Plan. Program Implementation Plans must be informed by and aligned to the Program Framework at Appendix A.

In addition to Paragraph 21 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, and Schedule E, Clause 26 of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations:

1. The Commonwealth will provide states with a program Communication Plan and Co-branding guidelines. States must undertake program communications and branding consistently with the national guidance.
2. the announcement of a program or a project under this Schedule must be made jointly with the Australian Government and the relevant jurisdiction, unless otherwise agreed by the Commonwealth.
3. when referring to the program or a project under this Schedule, it must be described as "jointly funded by the Australian Government and (insert name of jurisdiction) under the Future Drought Fund".

In addition to Part 4 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, the Commonwealth will provide a program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). States will negotiate with the Commonwealth to agree a format for progress reporting in the context of their Program Implementation Plan, and the MEL plan.

States are expected to deliver the program in accordance with public sector ethical values and duties such as probity, accountability, and transparency.

As per the provision in Subsection 22(4) of the *Future Drought Fund Act 2019*, where states do not meet the requirements of the agreed Program Implementation Plan, states may be required to refund to the Commonwealth part or all of any previously distributed funding that remains unexpended.

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Deliver revised Program Implementation Plan	Completion of a Program Implementation Plan, as evidenced in writing and signed by both the Commonwealth and the relevant state and territory government officials, that outlines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Program delivery approach and timing, including alignment with program framework (Appendix A) and any jurisdictionally tailored inclusions b) Program governance, risk management and stakeholder engagement c) Program budget, including Commonwealth, State and participant co-contributions and any industry sponsorship and expected number of funded program participants d) Communication and co-branding strategy (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) e) Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) 	30/10/2022 or within one month of the Schedule being signed by both parties, whichever is later	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
Delivery of Farm Business Resilience program	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2022.	28/02/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2023	30/08/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2023.	29/02/2024	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2024.	30/08/2024	Nil
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2024.	28/02/2025	Nil

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
	Completion of all deliverables and provision of a final report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for the reporting period to 30 June 2025.	30/08/2025	Nil
	Provision of an evaluation report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, that describes the delivery, benefits and outcomes of the program as a whole (including the foundational year 2020-21) and evaluates the program, including assessing the extent to which the outcomes have been achieved, or not.	31/12/2025	Nil

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

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



Senator the Honourable Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;
Emergency Management

20/11/ 2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by

The Honourable Dugald Saunders MP
Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by

The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities

2022

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



The Honourable Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forestry Industries

22/12/ 2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by

Ms. Rebecca Vassarotti MLA
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by

The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Agriculture; Training and Skills; Higher Education

2022

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

The Honourable Alannah MacTiernan MLC
Minister for Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Hydrogen Industry

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by

The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA
Minister for Agribusiness and Fisheries

2022



Future Drought Fund

Farm Business Resilience Program 2022-25

Overview

The Future Drought Fund

The Future Drought Fund (the Fund) is a long-term investment fund that provides a sustainable source of funding to help Australian farmers and communities become more prepared for and resilient to the impacts of drought. Established under the *Future Drought Fund Act 2019* in September 2019, the Fund began with a \$3.9 billion investment, with earnings to be reinvested by the Future Fund Board until the balance reaches \$5 billion. The Fund is part of the Government's Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan, and a key deliverable under the National Drought Agreement. From July 2020, \$100 million from the Fund is available each financial year to invest in drought resilience programs.

The Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020-2024

The *Future Drought Fund (Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020 to 2024) Determination 2020* (the Funding Plan) serves as a framework for all expenditure from the Fund, it guides the design of the program and types of projects offered.

The Funding Plan has three inter-connected strategic priorities:

- economic resilience for an innovative and profitable agricultural sector
- environmental resilience for sustainable and improved functioning of farming landscapes
- social resilience for resourceful and adaptable communities.

The Fund's three objectives to achieve the strategic priorities will enhance the public good by building drought resilience through programs that will:

- grow the self-reliance and performance (productivity and profitability) of the agricultural sector
- improve the natural capital of agricultural landscapes for better environmental outcomes and
- strengthen the wellbeing and social capital of rural, regional and remote communities.

The Farm Business Resilience Program 2022-25

The Farm Business Resilience Program (the program) is one of eight foundational programs under the Future Drought Fund.

The program builds the strategic management capacity of farmers/farm managers and employees to prepare for and manage risk, adapt to a changing climate and improve the farm business's economic, environmental and social resilience. The program supports learning in areas including strategic business skills, risk management, natural resource management, and personal and social resilience.

The program also supports farm business planning, tailored to participants' business and situation, and the opportunity for professional feedback on the plans. This planning is expected to have positive impacts on the self-reliance and viability of farm businesses in the face of all kinds of challenges, including drought.

The program takes a proactive approach to promoting long-term resilience and sustainable productivity and growth in farm businesses, before the times get tough – it is not a hardship program. It may, however, provide a pathway for farmers exiting hardship programs and looking to improve their strategic farm business management, planning and decision making to increase their resilience to future droughts and other impacts.



The program is a first step towards the creation of a national framework to improve farm business management and planning skills, delivering on the AGMIN decision from February 2020 to work towards a national program to improve farm business management and planning skills. The program is delivered through the state and territory governments in their respective jurisdictions with Commonwealth funding provided via a schedule to the *Federation Funding Agreement Environment* (Funding Agreement Schedule).

Detailed program design and tailoring in jurisdictions must involve consultation with peak industry bodies and the Rural Financial Counselling Services within jurisdictions to ensure the program will meet regional needs, reflect existing programs and learn from past efforts.

In 2020-21, the Australian Government invested \$15.97 million from the Future Drought Fund for a foundational year of the program (with activities to 30 June 2022) with a co-contribution from the state and territory governments.

A \$60 million extension to the program was announced in the 2021-22 Federal Budget. The extension aims to achieve change at a meaningful scale – extending the program beyond the foundational year, reaching more farmers, and providing follow-up support for participants. The extended program is supported by matching (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from state and territory governments.

Purpose of this document

This framework outlines the desired outcomes, guiding principles and core elements of the program. This framework for the extended program is included in an amendment to the Funding Agreement Schedule and should be read alongside it. State and territory governments will deliver the program in accordance with an agreed Program Implementation Plan. Program Implementation Plans must be informed by and aligned to this framework.

Program objectives and outcomes

The program aims to achieve the objectives and outcomes outlined in Table 1 (below).

Table 1: Farm Business Resilience Program objectives and outcomes 2020-25

Objectives	Program information
The strategy	Build the capacity of farmers to plan for and manage risks, including drought
What are we trying to achieve?	A step-change in the use of farm business management skills to proactively manage drought risks
How will this support drought resilience?	Farmers who have better business management skills, and plan for risks, are more likely to take actions that help sustain farm business productivity and profitability in times of drought
How will we assess whether it's successful?	Overall success measures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There's an increase in the business management skills and confidence of farmers to manage risk • There's an increase in farm business plans that consider drought risks • More farmers are taking actions to manage risk, including drought



		Outcomes	
		Short-term (1-2 years)	Intermediate (2-4 years)
Economic resilience		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Producer awareness of the benefits and value of strategic planning, business management skills, and professional advice is increased • Participants have an increased understanding of their farm business drought resilience level • Participants have an improved capacity for strategic business management and decision making • Participating farmers have improved farm business planning in place • Participants seek to implement their Farm Business Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The owners, managers and employees of agricultural businesses have greater financial literacy and business acumen • More primary producers and businesses engage in strategic business planning and risk assessment on a regular basis • Farm businesses have improved access to new and existing knowledge and skills to enable more effective responses to risks • More primary producers incorporate Natural Resource Management philosophies and approaches in business planning and risk assessment to better manage their natural resources through drought
Environmental resilience		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants have improved natural resource management and planning skills and capability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More primary producers are aware of and experimenting with Natural Resource Management practices to manage drought • More primary producers have the skills, data and support to apply better Natural Resource Management practices
Social resilience		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants have greater awareness of the importance of personal and social resilience • Formal or informal (peer) networks are established / utilised for farmers to share their knowledge and learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased participation by primary producers in local networks and programs to enhance drought resilience

Program administration outcomes along with longer-term outcomes, linking to the Funding Plan and FDF Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Framework, are detailed in the program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). The outcomes will continue to be refined collaboratively with the states and territories through the MEL Plan and associated reporting.

State and territory governments will be required to provide robust performance monitoring and reporting to ensure the program meets the program’s outcomes, outputs and strategic priorities as documented in the MEL Plan. Performance monitoring and reporting should also be guided by the drought preparedness and recovery objectives in the National Drought Agreement and relevant objectives of the NFF National Drought Policy.

Core program elements

The program has three core elements: learning and development, farm business planning, and farm resilience benchmarking. These must be developed specifically for farm businesses and their employees and must include drought preparedness.

The program, and its content, must be developed specifically for farm businesses and their employees rather than a general business skills program. The program must be available to the agriculture, horticulture, pastoral, apiculture and aquaculture industries, even if the delivery model includes industry-specific course delivery (further detail below about potential delivery methods).



State and territory governments have flexibility to build on their existing expertise and delivery mechanisms where they exist, or to establish new programs if needed throughout the life of the program. Program content and delivery should be tailored to specific regional or industry priorities where possible, building on, or filling the gaps in existing programs.

Jurisdictionally tailored elements must contribute to the program's outcomes and objectives.

Learning and development

Learning areas

- All learning activities should be aimed at managing and mitigating risks to farm businesses, including the risk of drought and climate change.
- The Program must cover the following learning areas:
 - strategic farm business management and planning – such as, financial literacy (such as business structures, governance models, access to finance and investment in farm assets and other equity investments), best practice business planning approaches, long term profitability, benchmarking and monitoring performance, people management, farm mapping and analysis.
 - farm risk management and informed decision making – such as, tools and strategies, decision-making frameworks, understanding and using data, adverse event preparation and drought planning, climate adaptation, adoption of innovation and technology, on and off farm diversification opportunities (e.g. carbon market, agri-tourism, contracting), market access opportunities (e.g. product traceability, sustainability accreditation, biodiversity stewardship).
 - natural resource management – such as, understanding best practice activities that build drought resilience, experimenting with and implementing holistic natural resource management approaches (links between environmental, economic and social resilience) that improve the farm resource base on which agriculture depends, farm biosecurity (as related to drought resilience), integrated farm planning (such as farm design, pasture and grazing management, biodiversity and shelterbelts, farm water management, soil management), importance of landscape scale management (such as biodiversity, water flow management, erosion control).
 - personal and social resilience – such as, succession planning, digital literacy, leadership development, time management, building social and professional networks (including across regions and landscapes), community engagement, continuous learning/education, work health safety.
- The learning areas are underpinned by the three elements of drought resilience - environmental, economic, and social. The program recognises that these elements are interconnected and that the learning areas are likely to overlap and apply across learning categories. For these reasons, learning areas do not have to be delivered in a modular or categorical format, but can be integrated through comprehensive journey or coaching models.
- The learning areas as described above should be covered, but course content can and should, where possible, be tailored for regions, industry or production method (as appropriate) e.g. appropriate decision making tools or methods for pastoral regions or farm systems, and the wide range of participant abilities and current farm business resilience levels.
- Links into existing state-based programs and funding opportunities would be specific to each jurisdiction.
- Learning and development should be designed to:
 - embed resilience principles to encourage farmers to take a holistic and transformative approach to building resilience in their farm business



- provide practical skills, knowledge and advice relevant to individual farm businesses and that can be implemented on farm
- deliver enterprise-specific benefits that will, in turn, generate broader benefits for the agriculture sector and communities which depend on agriculture
- increase producer awareness of the benefits and value of strategic planning, business management skills, and professional advice
- utilise and encourage the use and sharing of best practice and innovative approaches, tools, resources, data and information to assist farmers to understand their business, strengthen business decision-making and establish sustainable and resilient risk management practices
- draw on local case studies and farming champions, as evidence shows farmers learn best from trusted local sources and local examples
- draw participants' attention to opportunities to obtain support to implement their Farm Business Plan and undertake further learning and education, to instil a culture of continuous improvement and establish a pathway for doing so.

Delivery

- Learning and development is to be primarily delivered through facilitated workshops by public or private local trainers with relevant qualifications, and utilising a variety of suitable delivery options where possible e.g. online learning and face-to-face.
 - A variety of delivery formats should be used including face to face group learning, online delivery (such as self-paced modules, YouTube or webinars through platforms such as Farm Table), utilise local and regional facilities for remote attendance at training sessions, such as those provided by Regional University Centres and explore other options to make it as easy as possible for participants to engage.
- State and territory governments are encouraged to tailor the training and support by region, industry or production method, as appropriate.
- There are a range of training delivery options depending on individual circumstances, including state and territory governments -
 - delivering the training directly
 - engaging a relevantly qualified training provider(s) to design and/or deliver the training package or modules
 - accrediting/approving private or industry-based training providers to design and/or deliver training modules aligned with program outcomes or expanding/tailoring their courses to align.
 - Utilising a range of existing industry providers would allow tailoring for different industries. Seeking co-contributions for interested industry providers could extend the reach of the program.
 - State and territory governments are required to ensure providers are appropriately skilled and qualified to undertake this function, and that across all leveraged programs the core program elements and outcomes are delivered.
- State and territory governments are encouraged to cater for different levels of engagement in the program. The program should primarily focus on supporting farmers to undertake the suite of learning and development opportunities and undertake business planning through the program (full participation) However, the program should also support participation through:
 - engagement in one-off intensive learning sessions or modules through the program (part participation) and



- broader events to support knowledge sharing and network building with the wider community (refer Knowledge Sharing and Transfer section below).
- Any online resources developed for the program (e.g. course outline, farm business plan template, self-assessment checklist etc.) should be accessible to all (at least to preview) to enable farm businesses that are not formal program participants to benefit from program materials and increase awareness of the program.

Costs, participant contributions and allowances

- Training costs are estimated at up to \$10,000 per participant (full amount assumes participant undertakes all training streams).
- Participants should be required to co-contribute to the course cost to encourage greater buy-in and commitment from participants in attending and finishing the program and to maximise program reach.
- The program should include support to assist with travel & childcare costs reasonably incurred to encourage farmers to participate in face-to-face sessions. Participants who do not genuinely need to incur these costs to participate in face-to-face training, or participate in online based learning, would not be eligible for this allowance.
 - The travel and childcare support is estimated at a value of up to \$1,000 per participant.
- Options to further maximise program reach should be considered, including collaborative cost sharing arrangements such as industry cost-shared delivery, sponsorships and/or scholarships (including to cover participant contributions in certain circumstances).

Active follow-up

- The program should also support active follow-up for participants, including:
 - refresher training with benchmarking and planning playing a role in informing follow-up training needs
 - support touchpoints with advisors and coaches for participants post-program
 - periodic farm business resilience/performance assessments (see Farm Performance assessments and benchmarking section)
 - reviews of farm business plans (see Farm Business Planning section).

Knowledge sharing and transfer

- The program should encourage the establishment of knowledge sharing and transfer mechanisms to broaden the reach of the program to the broader community. The program should empower attendees and their communities to take ownership of building the knowledge and skills required to be better prepared to manage risk such as drought.
- Examples of knowledge sharing activities may include:
 - Establishment of communities of practice, knowledge leaders, and alumni networks for farmers upon completion of the program
 - Communities of practice should not be limited to participants. State and territory governments may also support program trainers and facilitators to stay up-to-date and take a consistent approach to training such as through a conference and/or online community of practice to access innovative resources and discussion forums.
 - Skill building and networking events for the farming communities as well as agricultural advisors, for example, large scale events, open days, field days and webinars adoption of hubs-based knowledge sharing.



- Pro-actively seek out and leverage learning and knowledge sharing opportunities with existing FDF programs and initiatives such as the annual Science to Practice Forum, participation with the Adoption and Innovation Hubs, Regional Drought Resilience Planning, and Drought Resilience Leaders and Networks to Build Drought Resilience programs.
- Participants engaging in and supporting broader discussions (regional, landscape-scale, network or community level) on strategic drought resilience planning.

Farm Business Planning

- The program must require and support participants to develop or update existing Farm Business Plans through providing participants individually tailored professional support and advice to complete their plan. Plans should be informed by and incorporate relevant learnings from the program learning and development.
- Farm Business Plans are to be underpinned by the following key principles:
 - There is no single approach to farm business planning - plans should be tailored and fit for purpose
 - Plans should guide decision-making and management of risk, including drought
 - Plans should be evidence-based
 - Best practice planning approaches & resilience principles, applied practically at the farm level, should be considered
 - Plans should consider the whole of the farm business - goals and actions should consider the triple bottom line, and the operational, tactical, and strategic aspects of the business
 - Plans should provide a baseline of farm business performance and establish a review and response process.
- The Commonwealth and state and territory governments will work together to provide resources and guidance to assist farmers in undertaking this planning.
- Participants will have the opportunity for advice and feedback on their Farm Business Plan, by an appropriately skilled and qualified independent professional(s). This will provide participants with individually tailored advice on the potential effectiveness of the plan in improving the drought resilience of their farm business.
 - The independent assessor, or network of assessors (e.g. a trusted farm business consultant/advisory network), will be approved and/ or engaged by state and territory governments. State and territory governments are responsible for ensuring assessors are appropriately skilled and qualified to undertake this function.
 - The principles (above) will inform assessors in reviewing Farm Business Plans.
 - Reviews of plans are estimated at a cost of up to \$2,500 per review (one per farm business, regardless of number of members of the farm business that participate in training).
- The program must support participants to use their Farm Business Plan to proactively manage risk.
 - The program should draw participants' attention to opportunities to obtain support to implement their Farm Business Plan e.g. grant programs such as the those available under the FDF, state-based grants, or private sector funding and lending options. State and territory governments could consider providing funding to support implementation of Farm Business Plans.
 - Follow-up support should be provided to participants e.g. assessment of current farm business resilience and the implementation and review of plans after 12-24 months.



Performance assessments and benchmarking

- The program will require participants to undertake a farm business resilience/performance assessment before (or during) and after participating in the program.
 - This will assist in determining a benchmark for participants to track their progress against, help participants target support to their specific needs and provide valuable data to feed into program monitoring, evaluation and future design.
- The program will support farmers to assess and monitor their performance against the benchmark. This support may come in the form of:
 - Repeating the farm business resilience/performance assessment periodically (e.g., 12-24 months after completing the program)
 - Complementary individually tailored professional advice to participants in the initial assessment of farm business resilience, and/or the implementation and review of plans after 12-24 months, including, where possible, support provided by the same provider throughout
 - Fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement. Building farmer's abilities to measure success via various learning opportunities, including peer-to-peer learning, coaching and communication activities, advisory resources, ongoing forums, and knowledge sharing to measure success across farming networks.
- State and territory governments (or their training providers) can select the most appropriate method or tool to undertake this assessment. This could be undertaken via an advisor or an appropriate data tool, which may differ based on industry e.g. AgriHive or DairyBase.
 - Once developed, if fit for purpose, the FDF Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool is expected to fulfil this purpose and provide national consistency of assessment method and data.

Eligibility

- The program is to be aimed at *members of viable farm businesses* (including those with genuine potential to become viable) that are looking to improve their farm business strategic management and planning skills, as a mechanism for building future drought resilience, particularly to prepare for impacts of climate change.
- Eligibility criteria will be streamlined and nationally consistent. This will support equitable access across Australia, limit unnecessary barriers to participation amongst eligible participants. The suggested criteria takes a balanced and proportionate approach to managing the risk of non-target cohort being able to participate in the program.
- State and territory governments will determine the most appropriate methods for applicants to demonstrate their claims to the eligibility criteria, allowing them to leverage existing programs' eligibility assessments.
- Attachment A sets out the core eligibility criteria for subsidised participation, along with guidance on evidentiary options state and territory governments might use to assess applicant's claims against the criteria.
- A maximum of two members of each farm business would be eligible to attend subsidised training. Additional members (beyond the subsidised places) would be encouraged to attend at their own cost, or through state funding or industry-sponsored positions.
- If state and territory governments choose to fund additional positions or allow applicants to pay in full, eligibility criteria would be more flexible e.g. more than two farm business members or employees of public companies may pay to attend (to be determined by state and territory governments).



- Key aspects of program design, including the tailoring, the development of Farm Business Plans and the requirement for a co-contribution from participants will assist to attract participation from members of viable farm businesses.
- A targeted approach to promotion of the program, particularly at the local level by state and territory governments and relevant providers will ensure the program reaches the target audience through their involvement with state farming bodies, industry representative bodies, grower groups, the Rural Financial Counselling Service and agricultural advisory networks (e.g. accountants, agronomists and agents).

ATTACHMENT A

Eligibility criteria – Commonwealth subsidised places in the Farm Business Resilience program

Eligibility Criteria	Assessment & Evidentiary Options
PART 1 - Eligible farm businesses	
<p>An eligible <i>farm business</i> is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carried on by a primary producer and trades as a primary production business in the agriculture, horticulture, pastoral, apiculture, or aquaculture industries located in Australia and undertakes all primary production aspects of the business wholly within Australia registered for tax purposes in Australia with an Australian Business Number (ABN) and is registered for Goods and Services Tax (GST) established under the legal structure of a sole trader, trust, partnership or private company commercially <i>viable</i>. <p>A <i>viable farm business</i> is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> able to generate sufficient net profit under normal seasonal and market conditions after fixed and variable expenses to service borrowings (if applicable); able to provide an adequate standard of living for relevant members of the farm business; able to allow investment on-farm to maintain the farm's productive assets; and financially sustainable and productive long term <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> able to demonstrate genuine potential to become a viable business (as outlined above). 	<p>Evidentiary options for determining an eligible <i>farm business</i> is to be determined by States and can include using existing data and information available on farm businesses from within government, examples may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABN or ACN number or Unique 'Holding reference number' from annual land and stock return (NSW) or other equivalent state-based system <p>Evidentiary options for determining a <i>viable</i> farm business may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABN number, indicating the business is registered for GST; or Previous financial statements, income tax returns, etc Financial reference letter from an accountant, or letter of support/comfort from a commercial bank, confirming: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> that over the past five years, the business is trading at a profit; or overall the business is commercially viable after consideration of factors such as the financial sustainability of the farm business and whether it provides/genuinely contributes to a livelihood for the people whose livelihoods depend on it.
PART 2 - Eligible farm business members	
<p><i>Eligible farm business members</i> must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the owner or manager or endorsed employee of a farm business through private companies, partnerships and trusts; and one of only two members of the farm business receiving a subsidised place in the program. 	<p>Evidentiary options for farm owners, managers and employees may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ABN number, ACN, company search or other business registration documentation, certificates or taxation documents showing ownership and Declaration/letter of support from the farm business owner or manager indicating support for your participation in the course Payslips or tax returns showing employment in the farm business Declaration from landowner, employer or accountant, declaring the participant's relationship to the nominated farm business Declaration from associated farm business professional such as agronomist or agent, declaring the participant's relationship to the nominated farm business.

Future Drought Fund – Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program

FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule																																																						
Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales Victoria Queensland Western Australia South Australia Tasmania Australian Capital Territory Northern Territory																																																					
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 31 December 2025.																																																					
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support the delivery of financial assistance from the Commonwealth to the State and Territory governments (States) to deliver the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program (the Program). The States will use this funding to assist partnerships of local government consortia (or equivalent) and regional stakeholders to develop Regional Drought Resilience Plans (RDR Plans) for their region.</p> <p>This Schedule is an extension to the 2020-21 foundational year Future Drought Fund – Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program Schedule, signed by all states in 2021.</p>																																																					
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to the States of \$29.4m in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1.1 (\$)</th> <th>2022-23</th> <th>2023-24</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution</td> <td>23,934,000</td> <td>5,466,000</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>29,400,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NSW</td> <td>5,803,479</td> <td>1,313,714</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>7,117,193</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- VIC</td> <td>6,147,634</td> <td>1,391,621</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>7,539,255</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- QLD</td> <td>5,237,630</td> <td>1,185,626</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>6,423,256</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- WA</td> <td>2,868,355</td> <td>649,301</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>3,517,656</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- SA</td> <td>2,486,741</td> <td>562,916</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>3,049,657</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- TAS</td> <td>736,497</td> <td>166,719</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>903,216</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- ACT</td> <td>150,000</td> <td>0</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>150,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- NT</td> <td>503,664</td> <td>196,103</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>699,767</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Table 1.1 (\$)	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	Total	Estimated total Commonwealth financial contribution	23,934,000	5,466,000	Nil	29,400,000	- NSW	5,803,479	1,313,714	Nil	7,117,193	- VIC	6,147,634	1,391,621	Nil	7,539,255	- QLD	5,237,630	1,185,626	Nil	6,423,256	- WA	2,868,355	649,301	Nil	3,517,656	- SA	2,486,741	562,916	Nil	3,049,657	- TAS	736,497	166,719	Nil	903,216	- ACT	150,000	0	Nil	150,000	- NT	503,664	196,103	Nil	699,767
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Additional terms

States will be responsible for providing an agreed minimum co-contribution as specified in the agreed Program Implementation Plan and maintenance of effort to support the implementation of this Schedule. Estimated Commonwealth financial contributions are subject to, and will be scaled up to, matched (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from the states up to the limits set out in Table 1.1. The Commonwealth's financial contribution will be finalised in the agreed Program Implementation Plan.

States must deliver the program in accordance with the agreed Program Implementation Plan. Program Implementation Plans must be informed by and aligned to the Program Framework at Appendix A.

In addition to Paragraph 21 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, and Schedule E, Clause 26 of the Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations:

1. The Commonwealth will provide states with a program Communication Plan and Co-branding guidelines. States must undertake program communications and branding consistently with the national guidance.
2. the announcement of a program or a project under this Schedule must be made jointly with the Australian Government and the relevant jurisdiction, unless otherwise agreed by the Commonwealth
3. when referring to the program or a project under this Schedule, it must be described as "jointly funded by the Australian Government and (insert name of jurisdiction) under the Future Drought Fund"

In addition to Part 4 of the Federation Funding Agreement - Environment, the Commonwealth will provide a program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). States will negotiate with the Commonwealth to agree a format for progress-reporting in the context of their Program Implementation Plan, and the MEL plan.

States are expected to deliver the program in accordance with public sector ethical values and duties such as probity, accountability, and transparency.

As per the provision in Subsection 22(4) of the *Future Drought Fund Act 2019*, where states do not meet the requirements of the agreed Program Implementation Plan states may be required to refund to the Commonwealth part or all of any previously distributed funding that remains unexpended.

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Deliver revised Program Implementation Plan	<p>Completion of a Program Implementation Plan, as evidenced in writing and signed by both the Commonwealth and the relevant state and territory government officials, that outlines:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Program delivery approach and timing, including alignment with program framework (Appendix A) and any jurisdictionally tailored inclusions b) Program governance, risk management and stakeholder engagement c) Program budget, including Commonwealth, State and participant co-contributions and any industry sponsorship and expected number of funded program participants d) Communication and co-branding strategy (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) e) Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan (consistent with Commonwealth requirements) 	30/10/2022 or within one month of the Schedule being signed by both parties, whichever is later	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
Delivery of Regional Drought Resilience Planning program	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2022.	28/02/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2022-23 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2023	30/08/2023	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2023.	29/02/2024	50% Commonwealth financial contribution for 2023-24 identified in Table 1.1 as adjusted in accordance with the additional terms.
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 30 June 2024.	30/08/2024	Nil

Table 2: Performance requirements, reporting and payment summary (2022-25)

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
	Completion of deliverables and provision of a progress report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for reporting period to 31 December 2024.	28/02/2025	Nil
	Completion of all deliverables and provision of a final report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, detailing performance against this Schedule and the agreed Program Implementation Plan for the reporting period to 30 June 2025.	30/08/2025	Nil
	Provision of an evaluation report, as per the agreed Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Plan, that describes the delivery, benefits and outcomes of the program as a whole (including the foundational year 2020-21) and evaluates the program, including assessing the extent to which the outcomes have been achieved, or not.	31/12/2025	Nil

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

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



Senator the Honourable Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry;
Emergency Management

20/11/2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of New South Wales by

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by

The Honourable Dugald Saunders MP
Minister for Agriculture; Western New South Wales

2022

The Honourable Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Agriculture; Training and Skills; Higher Education

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Queensland by

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

The Honourable Mark Furner MP
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities

2022

The Honourable Alannah MacTiernan MLC
Minister for Regional Development; Agriculture and Food; Hydrogen Industry

2022

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



Signed for and on behalf of the State of Tasmania by

The Honourable Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and Minister for Forest Industries

22/12/2022

The Honourable Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

2022

Signed for and on behalf of the Australian Capital Territory by

Signed for and on behalf of the Northern Territory by

Ms. Rebecca Vassarotti MLA
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2022

The Honourable Paul Kirby MLA
Minister for Agribusiness and Fisheries

2022



Future Drought Fund

Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program 2022-25

Overview

The Future Drought Fund

The Future Drought Fund (the Fund) is a long-term investment fund that provides a sustainable source of funding to help Australian farmers and communities become more prepared for, and resilient to, the impacts of drought. Established under the *Future Drought Fund Act 2019* in September 2019, the Fund began with a \$3.9 billion investment, with earnings to be reinvested by the Future Fund Board until the balance reaches \$5 billion. The Fund is part of the Australian Government's Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan, and a key deliverable under the National Drought Agreement. From July 2020, \$100 million from the Fund is available each financial year to invest in drought resilience programs.

The Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020-2024

The *Future Drought Fund (Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020 to 2024) Determination 2020* (the Funding Plan) serves as a framework for all expenditure from the Fund, it guides the design of the program and types of projects offered.

The Funding Plan has three inter-connected strategic priorities:

- economic resilience for an innovative and profitable agricultural sector
- environmental resilience for sustainable and improved functioning of farming landscapes
- social resilience for resourceful and adaptable communities.

The Fund's three objectives to achieve the strategic priorities will enhance the public good by building drought resilience through programs that will:

- grow the self-reliance and performance (productivity and profitability) of the agricultural sector
- improve the natural capital of agricultural landscapes for better environmental outcomes and
- strengthen the wellbeing and social capital of rural, regional and remote communities.

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program 2022-25

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program (the program) is one of eight foundational programs under the Future Drought Fund in 2020-21.

The program provides funding for consortia of regional partners to develop regional drought resilience plans (RDR Plans). The plans will be community led and owned, and focus on innovative ways to build regional drought resilience across the agricultural sector and supporting industries, through a triple bottom line, collaborative and evidence-based approach. This program contributes to each of the Fund's objectives and strategic priorities.

The program is delivered through the state and territory governments in their respective jurisdictions with Commonwealth funding provided via a schedule to the *Federation Funding Agreement - Environment* (Funding Agreement Schedule). The program creates a national framework for regional drought resilience planning, while providing flexibility for jurisdictions to deliver a program that builds on existing expertise and delivery mechanisms where they exist or establish new programs if needed.

In 2020-21 the Australian Government invested \$9.85 million from the Future Drought Fund for a foundational year of the program (with activities to 30 June 2022) with a co-contribution from state and territory governments.

A \$31 million extension to the program was announced through the 2021-22 Federal Budget. The extension is expected to enable RDR Plans to be developed across all agricultural regions in each jurisdiction, building on the foundational year. As part of this extension, small grants will be available to take forward priority actions identified in RDR Plans. The extended program is supported by matching (or otherwise agreed) co-contributions from state and territory governments.

Implementation of the program will continue to be informed by any relevant findings of the National Royal Commission into Black Summer Bushfires (Natural Disaster Arrangements) as well as Federal and State Drought Inquiries where relevant.

Purpose of this document

This document outlines the desired outcomes, guiding principles and core elements of the program. This framework for the extended program is included in an amendment to the Funding Agreement Schedule and should be read alongside it. State and territory governments will deliver the program in accordance with an agreed Program Implementation Plan, which must be informed and aligned to this framework.

Program objectives and outcomes

The program aims to achieve the following objectives and outcomes outlined in Table 1 (below):

Table 1: Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program objectives and outcomes 2020-25

Objectives	Program information
The strategy	Establish drought resilience plans across all agricultural regions based on evidence and collaboration, to drive proactive management of drought risks
What are we trying to achieve?	Regional drought resilience plans, led and owned by the community, drive decisions, actions and investments to proactively manage drought risks
How will this support drought resilience?	Informed and planned action to manage drought risks at a regional scale will support resilience of the region's economy, farmers, businesses, communities, and the landscape
How will we assess whether it's successful?	<p>Overall success measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There's an increase in the number of agricultural regions that have drought resilience plans • Plans have buy-in from key stakeholders in the region • Plans are informed by relevant data, co-design and best practice approaches to resilience planning • Plans are implemented



	Outcomes
Short term (1-2 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regions have a plan against which to monitor their drought resilience status • Communities use best practice data and information to better understand their resilience to drought and make decisions • Regions have identified and planned for the impacts of drought on their region • Drought resilience planning draws on a wide range of inputs, informed by effective partnerships within the region • Communities empowered to identify the impacts of drought • Communities given the opportunity to communicate regional drought resilience needs and priorities which may inform future investment • Communities share their learnings about drought resilience with other regions • Regional level drought resilience planning leverages and aligns with planning at other scales
Intermediate (2-4 years)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The majority of plans have had elements implemented • Actions, pathways and opportunities (including innovative and transformative) to improve regional drought resilience, mitigate risks and adapt to change are identified • Partnerships, networks and engagement are built between stakeholders managing natural resources • Communities share knowledge, collaborate and partner with government more often to build drought resilience • Greater sharing of learnings related to drought resilience between communities • The number of, and participation in, local networks and programs to enhance drought resilience increases • Increased community understanding of the region's current and future drought resilience, considering the region's unique economic, environmental and social characteristics • Regional leaders are in a stronger position to implement strategic actions, adapt to change and take advantage of opportunities to build economic resilience as they arise • Communities use best practice data and information to better understand their resilience to drought and plan for resilience to drought • Regional representatives have considered and planned incremental, transitional and transformational opportunities to strengthen resilience • Primary producers and businesses supported to improve their sustainability and resilience • Natural resource management capability is improved across region

Program administration outcomes along with longer-term outcomes, linking to the Funding Plan and FDF Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Framework, are detailed in the program Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan). The outcomes will continue to be refined collaboratively with the states and territories through the MEL Plan and associated reporting.

State and territory governments will be required to provide robust performance monitoring and reporting to ensure the program meets the program's outcomes, outputs and strategic priorities as documented in the program MEL Plan.

Core program elements

Regional Drought Resilience Plans

- RDR Plans will explore and focus on innovative and diverse pathways to build drought resilience in agricultural, primary production and agricultural supply chain industries. RDR Plans will also be underpinned by triple-bottom-line considerations and the impacts that future droughts may have on the broader landscape and regional communities which depend on or contribute to agriculture and rural economies. The process will foster learning and build social capital.



- RDR Plans must be developed:
 - using a partnership and co-design process (see 'Partnering' below) and harness the diverse region-specific knowledge and skills required for a triple-bottom-line approach to ensure the plans are community led and owned
 - using best-practice resilience planning principles including consideration of adaptation pathways and scenario testing
 - building on, complementing and taking account of existing strategic planning, to the extent it is available and relevant.
- RDR Plans must include:
 - a regional context, inclusive of an integrated assessment of how drought has affected the region in the past (if applicable) and how drought is likely to affect the region's economic, environmental and social characteristics in the future, based on up-to-date information, research and climate science (projections, mapping, modelling and scenarios) for the region.
 - The Commonwealth and the state and territories will provide, including through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund Climate Services for Agriculture Program, access to reliable, evidence-based information and research outputs to assist with the development of RDR Plans including available social research, climate data, and examples from other communities to encourage shared learning.
 - an evidence-based, triple-bottom-line strategy, outlining actions and pathways to mitigate and/or adapt to drought impacts, facilitate transformational change, and increase drought resilience within the region.
 - The strategy should consider the feasibility and practical implementation of actions to provide triple-bottom-line public good benefits to the region. Actions could include, for example, economic development opportunities, environmental management approaches, or wellbeing and social capital building initiatives.
 - The strategy should focus on innovative ways to build drought resilience in agricultural, primary production and agricultural supply chain industries. Supply chain industries include those genuinely involved in getting the agricultural product to the consumer and are therefore dependent on the agricultural industry.
 - a process to continue to engage and communicate with the community about proposed activities to be implemented under the plan and implementation progress, on a regular basis.
 - specify a monitoring, evaluation and review process to ensure transparency, adaptive management, and long-term implementation.
 - other relevant elements tailored to the jurisdiction or region may be included providing those additional elements are consistent with the program outcomes and objectives and do not affect delivery of core elements.
- Once complete, RDR Plans will be independently assessed by an assessor appointed by the Commonwealth.
 - the assessment framework will be nationally consistent and reflect the requirements of the Funding Agreement Schedule including the program framework contained within
 - following independent feedback, regional consortia will have the opportunity to consider and incorporate feedback into their RDR Plan prior to approval



- Final RDR Plans must be provided to the Commonwealth Minister for Drought for approval.
 - approval requirements will reflect the program framework and independent assessment criteria
- Approved RDR Plans will be published on the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment website (or other appropriate centralised location determined by the Commonwealth in consultation with the applicable jurisdiction), to enable communities to learn from each other and enable those with less expertise or capacity to benefit from access to examples and case studies. Plans may also be published elsewhere at the discretion of the state, territory or regions.

Funding for planning

- The program will provide funding not exceeding \$600,000 per regional project (in Commonwealth funding) for consortia or similar partnerships/alliances of regional stakeholders (regional consortia) to develop RDR Plans.
- The funding for RDR Plans is to be determined by the respective state or territory government, in consultation with the Commonwealth, considering factors such as the proposed regional planning project's scope and scale.
 - it is expected not every plan will require the maximum quantum of funding available.
 - it is expected that required funding will enable all agricultural regions in each jurisdiction to be covered by RDR Plans.
- For larger RDR planning projects, total funds spent on preparing an RDR Plan could exceed \$600,000, with the additional funding being provided from other sources, for example regional consortia, regional partners, local governments or state and territory government program co-contributions. Such co-contributions may also be used to fund additional elements to:
 - extend the reach of the program to more agricultural regions
 - support implementation of activities specified in the plans
 - cover administrative costs.
- State and territory governments are also permitted to use other sources of funding (not considered co-contributions) to connect regional drought resilience planning into broader strategic planning and other relevant initiatives; broaden the scope of planning beyond agricultural, primary production and agricultural supply chain industries; or broaden the scope of planning more generally (for example bushfire response planning).

Governance

Application and selection

- State and territory governments are responsible for defining agricultural regions and selecting regional drought resilience planning projects within their jurisdictions for funding and determining the priority and timing of these projects.
- Regional planning projects should be selected using a structured, transparent, and where appropriate, contestable process.
- In making a selection, state and territory governments should consider:
 - the significance of agriculture to the region
 - the relevance of, and necessity and urgency for, drought resilience planning in the region
 - the consortia's proposed process for co-design, partnering and collaboration.



- the consortia's proposed approach to build on, complement and take account of existing strategic planning, to the extent it is available and relevant
- potential qualitative and quantitative outcomes and expected public benefits—not necessarily in monetary terms
- probability of successful completion of the plan.

Eligibility

- Regional consortia can be formed from local governments and/or other appropriate entities to develop a RDR Plan under this program.
 - regional consortia must consist of two or more local governments or other appropriate entities
 - other appropriate entities are defined as legal entities that undertake planning at a regional scale and include Regional Development Australia committees, Indigenous organisations, Regional Natural Resource Management Organisations, statutory authorities or other entities as deemed relevant by state and territory governments for their jurisdiction
 - where possible Local Government Authority (LGAs) should be the project lead, however in areas without LGAs, areas with indigenous governance arrangements, or where LGAs lack capacity, or are unwilling or unable to partner together, development of an RDR Plan could be led by other appropriate entities
 - if a project has a non-local government lead, relevant local governments must still be partners in the planning process where possible and relevant
 - regional consortia can be based on existing regional groups or partnerships, including partnerships of councils (for example Joint Organisations of Council or Local Government Regional Organisations)
 - regional consortia members should be located in the same geographical area, with common regional interests and preferably, but not necessarily, share common borders
 - agricultural industries must be justifiably significant (or have the genuine potential to be significant) to the region in which the consortia is located, through its economy, landscape, and/or community/social aspects
 - regional consortia may participate in but are not permitted to be funded as part of more than one regional project
 - acknowledging that regions do not necessarily align with jurisdictional borders, consortia that straddle state and territory jurisdictional borders may apply for funding under this program. Facilitation of cross-jurisdictional applications will be undertaken on an ad-hoc basis.
- Whilst regional consortia will be responsible for developing RDR Plans, these plans will be community led and owned.

Partnering

- Regional consortia must partner, collaborate and consult widely with relevant regional, community and industry stakeholders, and organisations who undertake relevant planning processes to:
 - foster co-designed, community-led planning and collective ownership of the resulting plan and its implementation
 - leverage existing local, regional and state strategic planning and other relevant initiatives and avoid duplication of effort



- recognise the diversity of people, businesses and landscapes involved in agricultural production, including Indigenous groups and landholders
- harness diverse region-specific knowledge and skills for a triple-bottom-line approach.
- Partners and stakeholders to be engaged in co-design and/or consultation on RDR Plans include, where they exist in the region, but not necessarily limited to:
 - Farming groups and businesses
 - Regional Development Australia (RDA) Committees
 - Natural Resource Management (NRM) organisations
 - Indigenous groups
 - Local government authorities / councils (where they are not the lead)
 - community organisations, community leaders, Local champions e.g. Country Women's Association, Rotary, Lions.
 - Research organisation
 - Agricultural industry representative groups (peak bodies)
 - development commissions
 - State or territory governments
 - power, emergency, fire and medical services
 - water authorities
 - banks, and/or other financial experts, organisations or institutions.
 - farm advisers, consultants, agronomists and stock and station agents.
- Regional consortia also need to partner with their local FDF Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs (the Hubs). This will ensure Hubs are embedded in the planning process to support regions to consider relevant evidence-based information and research outputs and connects the Hubs with the drought resilience needs of their area. The Hubs also provide an important linkage with networks of primary producers and community groups.

Implementation grants

- Regional consortia will be eligible to receive an implementation grant of up to \$150,000 (commonwealth contribution) per plan to support implementation of priority actions identified in their RDR plan.
 - the Commonwealth contribution is to be matched, or as otherwise agreed, by the respective state and territory government as part of the overall program budget specified in the Funding Agreement Schedule
 - the Commonwealth may negotiate, on a case by case basis, an increased grant amount if the relevant state or territory government meets the following requirements:
 - sufficient funding had been allocated to fund development of RDR Plans to the quality standard required by the program, AND
 - has achieved, or is on track to achieve, coverage of all agricultural regions, AND
 - has made provision for maximum implementation grant funding (\$300,000 including matching state co-contribution) per plan for all regions developing an RDR Plan, AND
 - any increased Commonwealth contribution towards implementation grants is matched by the relevant state or territory government.
- Activities funded through an implementation grant must:
 - be outlined in an independently assessed and approved RDR Plan
 - be endorsed/sponsored by the relevant consortia responsible for developing/approving the RDR Plan
 - take place within, or apply to, the region for which the approved RDRP Plan exists



- aim to improve drought resilience in the agricultural sector, and/or its supporting communities and supply chains
- deliver a public benefit
 - grants must not be used for payments direct to farmers, nor to provide on-farm infrastructure.
- Regional consortia are encouraged, but not required, to co-contribute towards the funded activities.
- State and territory governments will make decisions on and administer implementation grant funding to regions consortia.
 - method of administration of implementation grant funding will be tailored by each jurisdiction
 - Policy guidance will be developed by the Commonwealth, in consultation with the state and territory governments, to assist with administering implementation grant funding, consistent with the principles outlined above
 - grant funding administration will be underpinned by principles of probity, transparency and accountability.
- The Commonwealth, through the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, must be consulted prior to a decision on making a grant.
- Consistent with the Funding Agreement, implementation grant activities must be jointly branded and announced unless otherwise agreed.

Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Friday, 23 December 2022 9:46 AM
To: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au
Subject: eA198550 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: eA198550 - Senator the Hon Murray Watt - 22 December 2022.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198550

Good morning

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Scriven dated 23 December 2022.

Kind regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide
GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au
pir.sa.gov.au



The Department of Primary Industries and Regions respects Aboriginal people as the state's first people and nations. We recognise Aboriginal people as traditional owners and occupants of South Australian land and waters. We pay our respects to Aboriginal cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.

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eA198550



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Senator The Hon. Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANERRA ACT 2600

Email: senator.watt@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator Watt

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Murray'.

Thank you for your letter of 28 November 2022 regarding the South Australian component of the Commonwealth Recreational Fishing, Boating and Camping Facilities Fund to 2022-23.

I thank you for confirming the 2021-22 program underspend of \$1,709,000 from that fund has been carried over to 2022-23. Variations on all activities under the fund in South Australia have been affected with completion expected by 1 May 2023.

I will write to you confirming once final payments have been made and projects completed in 2023.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Clare Scriven'.

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

22 / 12 / 2022

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Friday, 6 January 2023 3:11 PM
To: minister.watt@awe.gov.au
Subject: eA198611 - Correspondence from Minister Scriven to Senator Watt - 06.01.23
Attachments: eA198611 - Correspondence from Minister Scriven to Senator Watt - 06.01.23.pdf

OFFICIAL

Document ID: eA198611

Dear Senator Watt

Please see attached correspondence from Minister Scriven regarding the reframing of funding arrangements for the Support Plantation Establishment program.

Kind regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide
GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au
pir.sa.gov.au



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eA198611



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Email: minister.watt@awe.gov.au

Dear Senator ~~Watt~~ *Murray,*

Thank you for your letter of 12 December 2022 regarding the reframing of funding arrangements for the Support Plantation Establishment program.

Its delivery through Commonwealth grants is welcome and will complement the South Australian Government's Trees on Farms initiative, the new Forestry Centre for Excellence, and expanded role of the Forest Industries Advisory Council of South Australia.

I look forward to working collaboratively in the upcoming forestry ministers' meetings and forestry roundtable. The development of a national Timber Fibre Strategy will further support forest industries and help to ensure sustainable resources for future generations.

I have asked an officer from the Department of Primary Industries and Regions South Australia to contact Mr Luke Bulkeley, Director, Plantations and Strategy to discuss grant eligibility, **Clause 9(1)** as previously proposed.

Once again, thank you for writing to me about the recent 2022-23 October Budget and the funding arrangements for the program.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clare Scriven".

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

6/1/2023

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



Gonos, Anthea (PIRSA)

From: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Sent: Monday, 16 January 2023 1:33 PM
To: minister.watt@agriculture.gov.au
Subject: eA198628 - Minister Scriven Correspondence
Attachments: eA198628 - Senator the Hon Murray Watt - CISS - 12 Jan 2023 .pdf

OFFICIAL

MPIRD/MFI ref: eA198628

Good afternoon

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Scriven regarding the Centre for Invasive Species Solution investment proposal for 2023-28.

Kind regards

Office of the Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

Government of South Australia | 1 King William Street, Adelaide
GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001

T: +61 8226 2931 | **E:** Minister.Scriven@sa.gov.au

pir.sa.gov.au



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eA198628



Government
of South Australia

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC

Hon Senator Murray Watt
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

senator.watt@aph.gov.au

Dear Minister *Murray,*

I write in support of the continuation of the Centre for Invasive Species Solution investment proposal for 2023-28.

Over the last 5 years, the Centre for Invasive Species Solution has provided much-needed national coordination of research, development and extension projects for pest animals and weeds.

The South Australian Government has formed numerous collaborative relationships through its work with the Centre for Invasive Species Solution, resulting in positive outcomes in the control of pest animal and weeds through targeted projects. Such projects include the National Feral Deer Coordinator and progressing both the national registration of Eradicat® bait for feral cats and a new toxin for feral deer.

The new Invasive Species Solutions 2030 Initiative, initiated by the Centre for Invasive Species Solution and designed collaboratively with members, partners, end users, and stakeholders, aligns with jurisdictional priorities and aims to produce solutions to Australia's growing pest animal and weed problems.

The Centre for Invasive Species Solution model is valuable in their approach to research, development and extension projects for pest animals and weeds because investors collaborate on nationally-agreed strategic priorities.

I strongly urge you to favourably consider the investment proposal.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss what the proposed reinvestment into the Centre for Invasive Species Solutions stands to deliver for South Australia.

Yours sincerely

Clare Scriven

Hon Clare Scriven MLC
MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR FOREST INDUSTRIES

12 / 1 / 2023

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries

GPO Box 1671 Adelaide SA 5001
Telephone 08 8226 2931 | Email minister.scriven@sa.gov.au



From: Minister Watt <minister.watt@awe.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 18 January 2023 9:05 AM
To: PIRSA:Minister Scriven
Subject: Correspondence from Minister Watt [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: MC22-008619 - Att Min Scriven.pdf; MC22-008619 - Ltr Min Scriven.pdf
Categories: Corro - MP MLC EO

Hello,

Please find attached correspondence from Minister Watt.

Regards,

Office of Senator the Hon Murray Watt

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Minister for Emergency Management

E: Minister.Watt@agriculture.gov.au | P: (02) 6277 7190

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**SENATOR THE HON MURRAY WATT
MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

MC22-008619

The Hon Clare Scriven MLC
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development
Minister for Forest Industries
PO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001

minister.scriven@sa.gov.au

Dear Minister

Clare

Thank you for your correspondence of 22 December 2022 concerning funding for fruit fly initiatives in South Australia under the Building Resilience to Manage Fruit Fly Package (the Package).

As you are aware, the purpose of the Package is to provide national benefit to help stop the spread of fruit flies, drive down pest pressure in vulnerable areas and grow exports through investing in post-harvest treatment infrastructure.

The Building Resilience to Manage Fruit Fly Scoping Study (enclosed) recommended 5 projects in South Australia which align with the intent of the funding package and total approximately \$10.2 million of the \$20 million allocated to South Australia. Recommended projects include:

- **Clause 1(1)(e)**
[REDACTED]
- Expansion of the Port Augusta Queensland fruit fly sterile insect facility: approximate cost \$3 million.
- Validating entry control conditions with updated Interstate Certification Assurance (ICA) protocols: approximate cost \$580,000.
- National rollout of electronic Plant Health Assurance Certification: approximate cost \$420,000.
- Implementation of random roadblocks to protect the Riverland PFA: approximate cost \$300,000.

Allocation of the remaining \$9.8 million funding is negotiable rather than being pre-determined without consultation. To promote good governance and due diligence in effective expenditure of public funds I support a project investigation process that involves cross-sector stakeholder consultation and targeted calls for projects. Proposals for expenditure from the South Australian Government will be considered by the Australian Government to ensure they are consistent with the objectives of the Package and support the national interest.

I look forward to continuing to work closely with South Australia on this initiative, to ensure the finalisation of the Schedule and successful delivery of key infrastructure projects.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely



MURRAY WATT

12/1/2023

Enc