

Disaster Ready Fund

The Australian Government has established the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) which provides up to \$200 million per year, over five years from 1 July 2023. The DRF will fund projects that build resilience to, prepare for, or reduce the risk of, future natural hazard impacts.

DRF Round One 2023-2024

The DRF Guidelines for Round One have been released and are available on the [National Emergency Management Agency's website](#). Applications opened on 10 **January 2023** and are expected to close on **6 March 2023**. Up to \$200 million in funding is available for Round One. Only Australian state and territory governments are eligible to apply in Round One. Applicants must consult local governments and First Nations communities before submitting any project proposal with a place-based focus and may engage third parties to deliver services on their behalf.

Applicants are expected to contribute at least 50 per cent of eligible project expenditure towards each project.

Eligible Projects

Projects under DRF Round One can target a broad range of natural hazards as outlined in the Guidelines, and may fall within either of the following categories:

Infrastructure projects, including:

1. investment in grey infrastructure (ie. engineered assets such as levees or cyclone shelters);
2. investment in green-blue infrastructure (including nature based solutions);
3. investment in hazard monitoring infrastructure; and/or
4. business case development for future infrastructure (including investigation, modelling, concept and detailed design activities).

Projects in this stream could include flood levees, fire breaks, early warning systems and planning to reduce risk.

Systemic risk reduction projects, including:

1. supporting a better understanding of risk, through a better evidence base to understand and raise awareness of risk;
2. strengthening decision making by enhancing governance networks and communities of practice;
3. adaptation projects that improve land use planning and development practice projects;
4. projects that build the capacity and capability of businesses, community sector organisations and/or at risk communities to improve their preparedness and resilience to the impacts of future disasters; and/or
5. projects that enable and incentivise private investment in disaster risk reduction.

Projects in this stream could include jurisdiction-wide hazard based information systems, updating resilience strategies and hazard research.

Further Information

Each state and territory has nominated a lead agency who has responsibility for coordinating proposals in their jurisdiction, and submitting applications to NEMA. The lead agencies are:

Jurisdiction	Lead Agency
Australian Capital Territory	Justice and Community Safety Directorate
New South Wales	NSW Reconstruction Authority
Northern Territory	Northern Territory Emergency Services
Queensland	Queensland Reconstruction Authority
South Australia	South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission
Tasmania	Resilience and Recovery Tasmania, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Victoria	Emergency Management Victoria
Western Australia	Department of Fire and Emergency Services

For further information including the DRF Guidelines for Round One, visit [NEMA's website](#) or email disaster.ready@nema.gov.au.

