Disaster Ready Fund

Round Two 2024-25 - Supporting cohorts at disproportionate risk

The Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) aims to reduce Australia's exposure to risk, harm, and/or severity of the impacts of natural disasters. This includes enabling initiatives that boost the resilience of communities and cohorts at disproportionate risk to disasters. Research shows that cohorts at disproportionate risk due to social and economic characteristics may include:

- Children and young people;
- culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) communities;
- First Nations communities;
- LGBTQIA+ community;
- migrant and refugee communities;
- people over the age of 65;
- people with a disability;
- those experiencing homelessness, unemployment or poverty;
- people who are marginalised due to their gender, including women and gender diverse people.

The National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) encourages Lead Agencies and all Applicants to consider the needs and perspectives of cohorts at disproportionate disaster risk in DRF project proposals. Project proposals could include, but are not limited to, the development of accessible infrastructure to support cohorts at disproportional disaster risk, risk assessment and education, and the development of inclusive and accessible disaster risk reduction plans including ensuring these cohorts are represented in design and decision making.

Co-contributions and waivers

The DRF requires a 50 percent co-contribution (cash or in-kind) for each project. In-kind co-contributions can include (but are not limited to) wages, supplies, materials and equipment to deliver projects.

In acknowledgement that some organisations and communities may have valuable project proposals but limited ability to provide a co-contribution, Applicants may submit a request for a waiver (or partial waiver) of the co-contribution requirement in exceptional circumstances *(see section 5.3 of the Guidelines).* Applicants should discuss this option with their Lead Agency before submitting a project proposal.

Contact us: If you have any further questions, we encourage you to contact the relevant Lead Agency in the first instance, alternatively you may email: disaster.ready@nema.gov.au