

# National Drought Agreement annual report 2021-22



Parties to the National Drought Agreement

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We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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# Preface

This is the third annual report of the National Drought Agreement (NDA), signed between the Australian Government and state and territory governments. An interim report on the NDA was provided to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) in March 2020. In keeping with the reporting obligations set out in clauses 12 to 16 of the NDA, progress reports are developed annually, or as required by the governing bodies. Progress reports cover the previous financial year and use the reporting framework agreed by the agriculture ministers on 22 February 2021.

The 2021–22 annual report provides an overview of national progress on implementing the NDA and covers the period from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. As the third annual report, data collection is available across multiple years, allowing for consideration of trends and comparative analysis over time. The next annual report will be completed for the 2022–23 financial year and is expected to be released in late 2023 or early 2024.

The NDA stipulates that the agreement should be reviewed approximately 2 years before it expires on 30 June 2024. The NDA review process commenced in early 2022 with the formation of a project board, which has developed a [Review of the National Drought Agreement](#) containing recommendations to inform the next version of the NDA.

## Background to the NDA

On 12 December 2018, the Australian Government and the states and territories (subsequently referred to as 'jurisdictions' or 'parties') signed the NDA. The NDA replaced the *2013 Intergovernmental Agreement on National Drought Program Reform* and operates until 30 June 2024.

The NDA focuses on long-term preparedness, sustainability, resilience and risk management for farming businesses and farming communities in Australia. It encourages Australian governments to cooperate and collaborate on drought-related programs and initiatives and outlines responsibilities when supporting farming businesses, families and communities. In doing so, the NDA aims to provide a collaborative jurisdictional framework for a consistent policy approach to drought response across Australia. It seeks to reduce duplication in program delivery between jurisdictions and enables shared monitoring and reporting on the progress of each jurisdiction's efforts.

The NDA is governed and reported on through existing jurisdictional forums – the Agriculture Senior Officials Committee (AGSOC) and the Agriculture Ministers' Meeting (AMM).

The former Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment assumed secretariat responsibility for the NDA from 1 July 2021, when drought policy functions were transferred from the then National Recovery and Resilience Agency (NRRRA), now known as the National Emergency Management Authority (NEMA). On 1 July 2022 the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) assumed secretariat responsibility for the NDA.





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# Agriculture ministers' message

The 2021–22 financial year marked a time of transition for Australian agriculture and drought policy.

Our farm sector continued to rebound strongly from the last widespread drought and the disruptions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Most areas of Australia received good rainfall, production was up, prices were high, and trade became more diversified. ABARES forecast the gross value of Australia's agriculture production would exceed \$81 billion over the 12-month period --the highest on record. Summer crop production was estimated to reach a new national record of 5.5 million tonnes.

However, not every farmer enjoyed this good fortune, and those who did will not benefit from favourable conditions indefinitely. Some regions continued to experience dry conditions, while others were beset by floods. Input costs for fuel, fertiliser, chemicals and labour rose sharply across the country, and will remain risks for producers in 2022–23.

Our farmers are on the frontline of a changing climate, experiencing variable swings between extreme dry and extreme rainfall. [Australia state of the environment 2021](#) predicts severe droughts will occur more frequently and last longer, with cool-season rainfall in particular continuing to decrease. There is already evidence of strong farm adaptation responses to climate change with improvements in technology and management practices helping to increase farm productivity and manage risk. However, with drought events expected to become more frequent, widespread, prolonged and severe in many regions, unique challenges will arise for farming businesses and communities no matter how resilient and prepared they are. Being prepared is a responsibility shared by a number of stakeholders, all of whom governments are proud to work alongside.

The National Drought Agreement recognises the inevitability of drought by prioritising long term preparedness, sustainability, resilience and risk management for farming businesses and farming communities. Under this agreement, state and territory governments have continued to provide practical support for farmers preparing for periodic drought and adapting to a drying climate. This has ranged from natural resource management and climate tools to farm finance, irrigation development, and on-farm infrastructure measures.

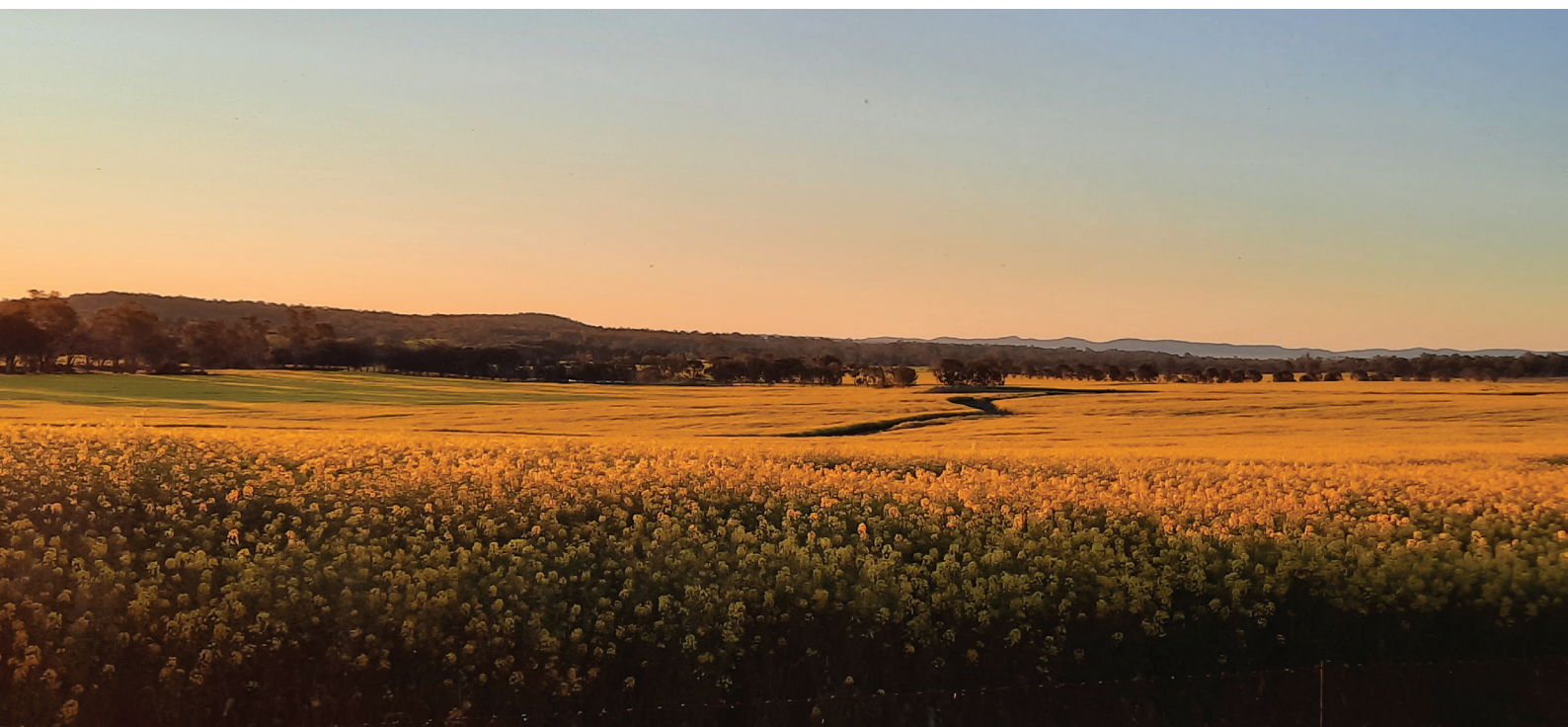


Image: Lachlan Reichstein

During 2022, the Commonwealth, states and territories reviewed the current National Drought Agreement with these uncertainties in mind. The one certainty we all face - that drought will return, sooner or later - drove this review.

We need a collaborative, inclusive, evidence-based and forward-looking framework to coordinate our joint efforts to support farmers and farming communities before, during and after drought. The review of the current National Drought Agreement is one step towards that end. The drafting of a new agreement, to start in 2023, will be another. Australian farmers have proven their capacity to adapt and thrive as conditions change. We want to ensure that national drought policy does the same.



Australian Government

**Murray Watt,**  
Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry



**The Hon Dugald William Saunders MP,**  
Minister for Agriculture and Minister for Western New South Wales



**Hon Gayle Tierney,**  
Minister for Agriculture



**Hon Mark Furner,**  
Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and  
Minister for Rural Communities



**Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLC,**  
Minister for Regional Development, Agriculture and Food,  
and Hydrogen Industry



**Hon Clare Scriven MLC,**  
Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development and  
Minister for Forest Industries



**Hon Jo Palmer MLC,**  
Minister for Primary Industries and Water



**Paul Kirby,**  
Minister for Agribusiness and Fisheries



**Rebecca Vassarotti MLA,**  
Minister for the Environment



# Summary

The NDA annual report 2021–22 demonstrates the ongoing commitment by Australian governments to partner with farm businesses and communities in the preparation for, response to, and recovery from drought. Australian farmers are some of the best in the world in innovation and adaptation, and are getting better at challenging the paradigm that Australia is a wet country that has droughts, instead of a dry country that gets infrequent wet periods. This is our 'new normal' and much of the work identified and explained in this report speaks to the investment by government, and the willingness of individuals, communities and regions, to prepare for the unique challenges to farming businesses and communities in the current climate context.

The rainfall deficiencies map (Figure 1) and soil moisture map (Figure 2) show that the majority of the country has received average or above-average rain, after 2 consecutive La Niña events. This rain has brought relief to many, but there has still been a need for financial assistance for some farmers through the Farm Household Allowance. This assistance is an ongoing measure of support available to anyone who is eligible, regardless of rainfall. Positively, the number of farmers who have needed to access this assistance since annual reporting on the NDA commenced has decreased each year.

Jurisdictions have continued to deliver on their roles and responsibilities as stipulated in the NDA, in a manner that is appropriate to the context in which they operate. Recent weather has shifted action from drought response to recovery, and in doing so, is allowing some farm businesses, greater scope to begin to plan for the next drought. From a government perspective, there are also actions to undertake in preparation for the next drought. Many of these are captured in the NDA review report and position governments to improve drought response efforts and create opportunities to improve interjurisdictional coordination, collaboration, and learning.



Image: Sarah Loveridge



# 1. Progress towards areas for improvement

This is the third annual report of the NDA, identifying areas in which the NDA reporting and governance arrangements can foster interjurisdictional collaboration and complementarity in drought policy, programs and response. As a commitment to continuous improvement, a status update on previously identified areas for improvement has been provided, as well as any newly identified areas for improvement. Areas that have been satisfactorily addressed are listed in the corresponding report upon completion, but do not appear in subsequent reports.

## 2019–20 areas for improvement

### Area for improvement 1: Data availability

The reporting process highlighted gaps and limitations in the data available to report against the proposed measures in the NDA reporting framework. Learnings from the initial report were used to review how information is collected and reported against the NDA for future reporting periods.

#### Status

Ongoing

#### 2021–22 progress

The reporting tool used by parties to collate and aggregate data for the annual report was revised and improved in 2021 as well as some additional changes made in 2022, to incorporate feedback from the parties. In the context of continuous improvement, NDA review feedback has recommended that the new reporting framework be developed alongside the negotiations to draft the text of the new agreement, which will facilitate greater alignment of outcomes and reporting requirements. A further recommendation of the NDA review is to explore improved data capabilities for monitoring, evaluation, learning and reporting purposes (including the potential to use data from industry and the finance sector).

### Area for improvement 2: Inter-jurisdictional collaboration

Providing clarity to end users about available support in any specific place or at any point in time is complicated by the fact that each jurisdiction employs different methodologies to classify or declare drought, and there is little guidance available for policymakers about when the impacts of drought 'start' and 'stop' at points in time. Despite potential complications, there would be benefit in working towards greater inter-jurisdictional consistency in the criteria to define drought and inform government intervention on drought assistance.

#### Status

Ongoing

#### 2021–22 progress

The Australian Government is developing drought indicators to bring together a broader suite of the best available data, including rainfall deficiency, soil moisture, pasture growth and farm profit data. The indicators will feed into an early warning system for drought, with the public able to access drought forecasts once the project is complete. They will also inform Australian Government decisions in relation to drought. To complement the work of these climate and farm-based indicators, in 2022 the Australian Government commenced work on a scoping study with CSIRO to identify potential socio-economic indicators of drought. The scoping study will conclude in June 2023.

### Area for improvement 3: Streamlining support

Urgent need experienced by stakeholders during the reporting period resulted in a strong reaction from governments and the proliferation of many measures to help. This generated administrative inefficiencies and, in some cases, confusion on the ground. As many parts of the country move into recovery from drought, it provides opportunity to improve the way we work during times of drought; to rationalise, streamline and simplify support, in order to prepare for the next drought.

#### Status

Ongoing

#### 2021–22 progress

During 2021–22, the Commonwealth and New South Wales completed [reviews](#) of their drought response efforts. In October 2021, the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee released the [Federal Government's response to drought report](#) on the Australian Government's response to the drought, and the adequacy and appropriateness of policies and measures to support farmers, regional communities and the Australian economy. This report contained further recommendations to improve how we work together, and the provision of information and services to impacted people and communities in drought. The Australian Government submitted a response to the report.

All jurisdictions have considered and collectively discussed options for the best ways in which we can work with each other, as well as with non-party stakeholders, in order to best position drought response efforts to be collaborative and complementary. Key recommendations of the NDA review include greatly increasing interjurisdictional communication and establishing ways of working with each other, and non-party stakeholders, before needing to do so in a crisis. Progression of this improvement is also through the work of the AMM Working Group on Drought.

### Area for improvement 4: AMM Working Group on Drought agenda

During the reporting period – and acknowledging the significant disruptions to business caused by the COVID-19 pandemic – the focus of the AMM Working Group on Drought has been dominated by developing and agreeing the reporting framework for the NDA. A more substantive forward agenda for the working group, focused on program and policy, would better serve the intent of Outcome 5 and the NDA more broadly.

#### Status

Achieved

#### 2021–22 progress

The working group has implemented a community of practice agenda, whereby members share information, case studies, trials, and relevant upcoming work with the broader group. This has facilitated peer learning, group problem-solving, and has also opened up channels of communication which are progressed out-of-session. The working group members were surveyed in January 2022, and all members identified that they found the working group useful.

## 2020–21 area for improvement

### Area for improvement 5: Policy integration

Through the 2020–21 report, the majority of jurisdictions noted greater integration between drought, soil, water and climate policy. Improving the management of our natural resources – and the ecological systems that underpin them – is fundamental to sustainable, profitable agricultural production and strong regional economies. However, this is a complex space and there will be inevitable challenges in fully integrating policy and translating policy to practice. Opportunities exist to utilise collaboration under the NDA to build shared understandings, identify successful approaches, and collectively seek to address common challenges.

#### Status

Ongoing

#### 2021–22 progress

Through the NDA review, there has been appetite and opportunity to recommend that the next iteration of the agreement acknowledge intersecting policy and recognise linkages to other policy areas that intersect with drought, such as climate change, soil, water and biodiversity. The review has also recommended that the next agreement include a principle for aligning drought policy and programs with intersecting policy activity where practicable. As a more immediate action, there has been significant sharing of intersecting policy information in the working group meetings, to better equip members to be aware of opportunities and advantages of creating linkages with intersecting policy.

## Newly identified area for improvement

### Area for improvement 6: Community support

The 2021–22 report shows that there is ongoing jurisdictional work to fund a greater level of community-driven, place-based resilience activities, reflecting the growing recognition that communities are best able to self-identify what actions or skill sets they need to increase their resilience to drought. Opportunity exists for jurisdictions to further work together to support local governments, regional organisations, communities, and industry, to identify actions to prepare for and recover from drought.



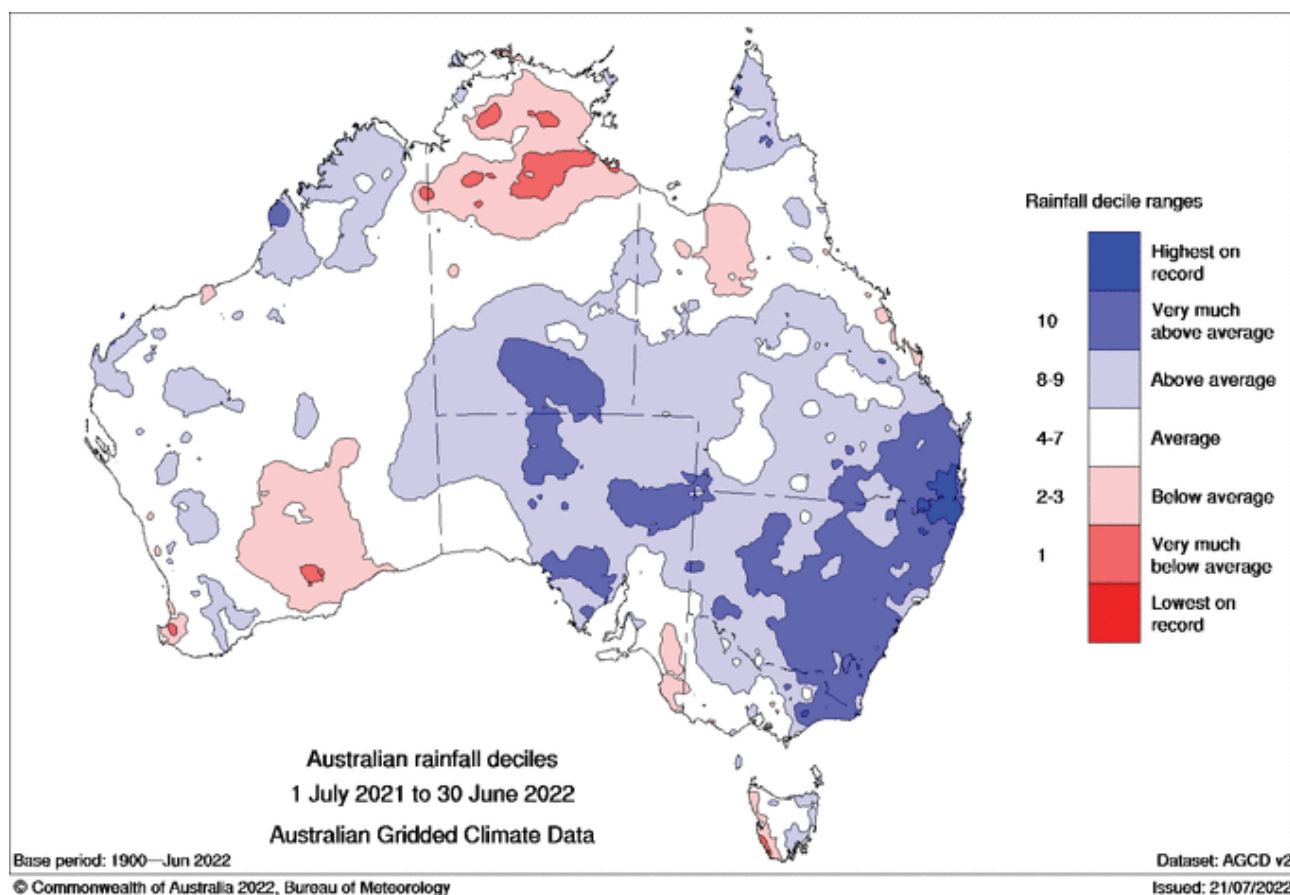
Image: [Shutterstock](#)



## 2. Climate

2021 was Australia's coolest year since 2012, though it remains around half a degree warmer than the 1961 to 1990 average. Rainfall for the year was above average for Australia as a whole, including the wettest November on record. Above average rainfall in November brought relief from drought in Queensland (Bureau of Meteorology 2022a). Figure 1 shows the rainfall deciles for 2021–22.

**Figure 1** Australian rainfall deciles, July 2021 to June 2022

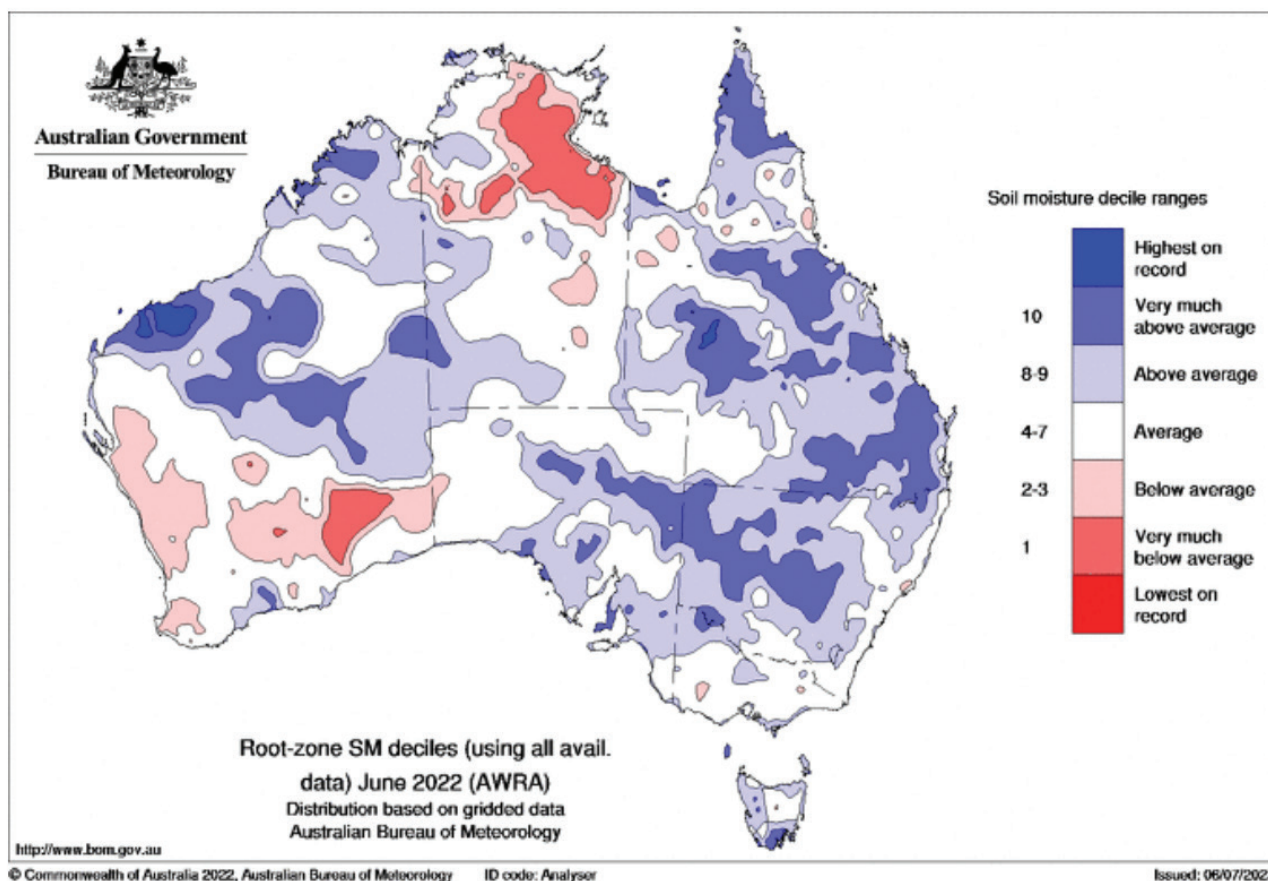


Source: Bureau of Meteorology

The above-average rainfall led to significant increases in water storages across the Murray–Darling Basin with many reaching full capacity. Increased water availability resulted in many irrigators receiving their full allocation. Storages in South-East Queensland and northern Australia remained low (Bureau of Meteorology 2022a).

In February 2022 low-pressure troughs brought rainfall to northern and eastern parts of the country with intense storms, resulting in localised flooding to parts of northern New South Wales and South-East Queensland (ABARES 2022a). Minor flood events continued in New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia during June 2022 (Bureau of Meteorology 2022b). In response to above-average rainfall towards the end of the financial year, the root-zone soil moisture improved significantly across most of Australia during 2021–22 (see Figure 2). At the end of 2021, soil moisture in the east of the country, including the Murray–Darling Basin, and South Australia, was above-average to highest on record. Western Victoria, eastern South Australia and central Western Australia experienced below-average soil moisture for 2021 (Bureau of Meteorology 2022a).

**Figure 2** Root-zone soil moisture deciles, June 2022



Source: Bureau of Meteorology

The gross value of agricultural production was a record high for 2021–22 at \$85.3 billion (ABARES 2022b), with total crop production reaching a record high of \$48 billion (ABARES 2022c). Total winter crop production is estimated to be the highest on record at around 62 million tonnes in 2021–22, driven by record production in Western Australia and near record production in New South Wales. Well above-average rainfall during autumn contributed to finishing off an excellent summer cropping season in Queensland and northern New South Wales. This was despite well above-average rainfall between February and March, which led to flooding, weather damage, harvest delays, and the inundation and loss of some summer crops. The extent of damage was significant for some growers but was localised and did not have a major impact on national volumes (ABARES 2022c). The gross value of agricultural production is forecast to be second highest on record at \$81.8 billion in 2022–23 (ABARES 2022b).

## 3. NDA outcomes

The NDA supports work towards 7 agreed outcomes. The report presents a national picture of how jurisdictions are collectively progressing achievement of outcomes and meeting the roles and responsibilities of the NDA, identifying shared areas for improvement. The 7 outcomes of the NDA are:

- 1) Farming businesses have an improved capability to manage business risks and the tools to implement sustainable and resilient risk management practices.
- 2) Farming businesses, industry service providers, agri-finance, community organisations and local government are partners of government and support rural communities to prepare for, and respond to, drought.
- 3) Farming businesses, farming families and farming communities are supported in times of hardship and have an increased understanding of, and access to, available support.
- 4) Roles and responsibilities of jurisdictions in responding to drought:
  - a) are clear
  - b) promote consistency of drought policy and reform objectives
  - c) complement drought preparedness, response and recovery programs
  - d) reduce gaps and unnecessary duplication.
- 5) Improved sharing, and quality, of common sources of data and information across jurisdictions to strengthen policy and business decision-making.
- 6) Future programs related to the objectives of this agreement are consistent with the principles for reform at Attachment A of the NDA.
- 7) Future programs providing temporary in-drought support are consistent with the principles and processes at Attachment B of the NDA.

### 3.1 Summary of outcomes

The 2021–22 reporting data demonstrates that all jurisdictions are undertaking activities to further drought resilience and preparedness, in line with the policy position of the NDA which is to prioritise objectives and outcomes that enhance long-term preparedness, sustainability, resilience and risk management for farming businesses and farming communities. This preparedness and resilience focus, as well as the impact of widespread rain, is reflected in the national proportional expenditure on drought for preparedness and in-drought support (64% and 26% respectively). Support for farming communities was evident by the national proportional expenditure on drought, 10% towards supporting communities (see Table 2), which is also an increase from the 2020–21 reporting period.

The focus on being prepared for drought is also reflected in the increase in the number of farmers who, to some extent, have a farm plan that includes strategies for coping with drought (71.9%), and which is used to help make decisions about the farm business (76.4%). These 2021–22 figures show a significant increase from 2020–21, which already showed a significant increase from 2019–20. The upward trend of drought preparedness as an element of the farm plan is positive. Farm plans come in all forms and have to suit the individual farmer, their business, enterprise and preferred ways of working. Regardless of specifics, there is great benefit when farmers have considered potential actions to take, and know the range of information that they will consider, to help support objective decision-making when operating in periods of drought.



Widespread rainfall across the country has had a significant impact on the economic position of farming businesses. The average annual farm climate adjusted profit over the period 2016–17 to 2020–21 was \$102,745. This was \$24,899 higher than average annual climate adjusted profit for the previous reporting period. Additionally, the average drought risk to farm profit, and to farm household income has approximately halved since the last reporting period. Average drought risk to farm profit refers to the percentage decrease in farm profits under drought conditions (a 1 in 10 adverse weather year), relative to typical (median) weather conditions. Potentially related to this, is the significant reduction in off-farm income. Large and very large farms showed similar off-farm income supplementation from the last reporting period. The income generated by off-farm activities for small and medium farms showed a substantial decrease, from 75% to 51%, and 31% to 18%, respectively.

There has been a substantial increase in the number of working group meetings from last reporting period (from 0 to 11). This reflects the shared priority held by the jurisdictions in working collegiately and in a coordinated, proactive manner to enhance drought preparedness and response efforts. All jurisdictions have also continued to be involved in AGSOC and AMM meetings as well as their own jurisdictional level coordination mechanisms.

For the full outcomes reporting data, see [Appendix A](#).



# 4. Delivering on roles and responsibilities

This section of the report considers how the roles and responsibilities of the NDA have been met. This is a collective analysis, using a graphic barometer to indicate the overall national progress against each area of responsibility. This rating was agreed by all parties, taking into consideration both quantitative and qualitative data, and the ratings are based on self-assessments provided by each jurisdiction.

See [Appendix B](#) for a full list of programs by jurisdictions and corresponding NDA roles and responsibilities.

**Table 1** Rating criteria

Rating	Criteria
On track	You have fully met, and continue to meet, the role/responsibility.
Good progress	You have met the role/responsibility, but a small amount of additional work/changes is required.
Some progress	You have taken steps to meet the role/responsibility, but more steps are required.
Substantial work ahead	You have only just begun to address this role/responsibility, and substantial further work is required.
Plans but no progress	You have not yet addressed the role/responsibility, and only have basic plans in place to progress the work.
No progress or plans	You have not met the role/responsibility at all and have no immediate plans for work in this area.

## 4.1 Role of Australian Government

From 1 July 2021 drought policy and coordination functions moved from NEMA to DAFF. This aligns the development of drought policy with the delivery of the \$5 billion Future Drought Fund and other drought and hardship measures. The NEMA's network of Recovery Support Officers (RSOs) continued to deliver on the ground drought recovery and resilience outreach and community engagement. The ongoing role of the RSOs will ensure policy development and government decisions on drought are informed by the experience of farmers and their communities.

### 4.1.1 NDA role and responsibility 9a

Funding and delivering a time-limited household support payment based on individual and farming family needs, including:

- reciprocal obligations that encourage resilience
- case management to support reciprocal obligation requirements.



The [Farm Household Allowance](#) (FHA) assists farming families who are experiencing financial hardship. It doesn't matter what caused the hardship – FHA may be the first port of call for those farmers who are impacted by illness, unexpected weather conditions, a change in global market conditions, a biosecurity outbreak, or anything in between. The program offers a package of assistance through income support that drives financial self-reliance, resilience and structural change. FHA helps farmers put food on the table and provides access to vital support when they are at their most vulnerable. Everyone who is eligible will get paid. Assistance is available for up to 4 years in every 10-year period, with the second 10 years starting on 1 July 2024.

Highlights for the 2021–22 financial year include:

- Services Australia commenced the processing of a permanent waiver of repayments for most historical business income reconciliation debts (to be completed by 30 June 2024).
- Training on new case management guidance developed by the department, was delivered to frontline Farm Household Case Officers in June 2022. The aim was to better support case officers to have focused conversations that move recipients into proactive decision-making and business improvements.
- The convening of an external panel of agribusiness people for the FHA Communications Advisory Panel to help the department better target a range of communication products.

Since July 2014, FHA has assisted over 17,500 farmers and their partners who were experiencing financial hardship. In 2021–22, the FHA made over \$100 million in payments to over 7,500 recipients, providing around \$8.5 million each month to rural communities. At 30 June 2022, around 5,240 farmers and their partners were being supported through the FHA program.

### 4.1.2 NDA role and responsibility 9b

Establishing and operating a Future Drought Fund, to enhance drought preparedness and resilience.



The \$5 billion [Future Drought Fund](#) (FDF) provides secure, continuous funding for drought resilience initiatives. \$100 million is available each year to help Australian farmers, agricultural businesses and communities be better prepared for inevitable future droughts. In 2021–22 many programs were delivered in accordance with the principles outlined in the FDF's [Drought Resilience Funding Plan 2020 to 2024](#). Key outcomes in 2021–22 include:

- Working with state and territory governments to support better planning for drought, with over 6,546 people taking part in farm business training and planning, and 23 regions undertaking drought resilience planning.
- Launching 2 climate information tools, with progressive updates to help farmers understand how the future climate will impact their farm and region (see [Responsibility 9d](#)).

- Supporting the uptake of drought resilient farming practices and technologies through 8 Drought Resilience and Innovation Hubs and 150 projects underway to support trial demonstration and extension of drought resilience practices.
- Building stronger community leadership and networks, with 246 community leaders participating in leadership development across 9 regions, 537 participants in the national drought resilience mentoring network, and 93 projects to strengthen community organisations and networks.

More detail on the FDF's activities during 2021–22 is available in the [Future Drought Fund annual report 2021–22](#).

### 4.1.3 NDA role and responsibility 9c

Providing continued access to incentives that support farming businesses' risk management, including taxation concessions, the Farm Management Deposits Scheme and concessional loans.



#### Concessional loans

The [Regional Investment Corporation](#) (RIC) was established in 2018 to deliver Commonwealth farm business concessional loans continued to make its suite of concessional loan products available throughout 2021–22. The RIC currently offers 5 loan products, including 2 drought-related loan products. The RIC approved 180 concessional loans valued at \$186 million in 2021–22. Of these, 135 were for farm business Drought Loans valued at \$153 million.

The RIC's Drought Loans are available to help farmers manage through drought and support recovery once the season breaks, including by assisting with replanting and restocking. RIC Drought Loans are available at any time to support drought preparedness activities – the business does not need to be affected by or recovering from drought conditions, provided other eligibility criteria are met, including being in financial need. RIC Drought Loans support farm businesses' risk management, including through the need for applicants to have a drought management plan covering the business's drought preparedness, management and recovery strategies. The RIC also provides AgBiz Drought Loans to drought-affected small businesses that supply primary production related goods or services to farm businesses.

While on-ground conditions have continued to improve throughout 2021–22, the vast majority of the RIC's clients have continued to benefit from a 2-year interest-free period on their loans. It is estimated that each RIC Drought Loan customer will have benefited from around \$120,000 in interest savings through the loan's 2-year interest-free terms (based on a \$1 million loan at a 6% business loan interest rate). The 2-year interest-free terms were available to Drought and AgBiz Drought Loan applications made before 1 October 2020.

During 2021–22 the RIC settled 1,499 loans worth \$1.67 billion. This included remaining loans in the backlog generated by overwhelming demand for Drought Loans during 2019–20 and 2020–21. A small number of these loans have not yet settled due to factors outside the RIC's control, and the RIC continues to follow-up these applications to their conclusion. In 2021–22, over 98% of new loan applications received were finalised within the RIC'S target of 65 handling days.

An Independent Review of the RIC released in December 2021 found that the RIC's Drought Loans are consistent with the National Drought Agreement and are suitably designed to meet drought policy objectives. While it is too early to determine if medium and long-term program outcomes are being achieved, the RIC has continued to refine its own monitoring and evaluation program in 2021–22 to ensure that the impact of RIC loans against government policy objectives can be measured appropriately.



## Farm Management Deposits Scheme

The [Farm Management Deposits](#) (FMD) Scheme assists primary producers to deal more effectively with fluctuations in cash flows. It is designed to increase the financial resilience and self-reliance of Australian primary producers by helping them manage their financial risk and meet their business costs in low-income years by building up cash reserves.

At 30 June 2022, the level of FMD holdings was more than \$6.759 billion, held in 48,284 FMD accounts. This is an increase of around \$562 million (9.08%) from 1 July 2021. An increase in FMD holdings was recorded nationally for the 12 months to 30 June 2022, with all jurisdictions except the Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory (ACT) recording increases. The largest increases were recorded in New South Wales (\$238.85 million or 17.89%), Victoria (\$152.78 million or 9.79%) and Queensland (\$116.91 million or 8.84%).

In 2021 the department completed an internal evaluation of the FMD scheme, which assessed the delivery of the scheme's stated outcomes and its administrative efficiency. The evaluation was released, along with a government response, in December 2021.

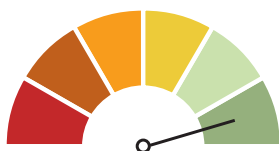
The evaluation found that the scheme:

- is one of a suite of tools used by primary producers to manage business and climatic risks
- provides financial benefits to those who can participate and has the support of most stakeholders
- may have reduced the need for in-drought support from governments in 2019–20
- is managed efficiently with low administrative costs and sufficient risk management and compliance processes.

The evaluation outlines 7 recommendations to improve the scheme, including ensuring consistency with other government priorities such as drought resilience, and better communication, monitoring and reporting. All recommendations were agreed to by government.

### 4.1.4 NDA role and responsibility 9d

Improving and maintaining national, regional and local predictive and real-time drought indicator information, drawing on the Bureau of Meteorology's observation network and forecasting.



#### Weather radars

In the 2019–20 Budget, the Australian Government invested \$77.2 million for new weather radars and rain gauges in the Queensland regions of Darling Downs (near Toowoomba), Upper Burdekin (near Greenvale), Taroom and Flinders catchment (near Richmond). The Moree radar will also be relocated to Boggabilla in northern New South Wales. The new weather radars, which are being installed and operated by the Bureau of Meteorology, will fill significant radar coverage gaps and provide the community, agriculture and other industries with improved access to real-time weather information.

Images from the Upper Burdekin and Taroom weather radars went live to the community in November 2021 and April 2022, respectively. Site works have been completed for the Flinders radar, and radar installation began in July 2022. Images from the Flinders radar are expected to be available to the community before the 2022–23 wet season commences. Site selection activities have commenced for the Darling Downs radar, which is anticipated to be available to the community in mid-2023. COVID-19 has caused global interruptions to logistics, and the Bureau is informing key stakeholders on any impacts to delivery timelines.

## Climate Services for Agriculture

In July 2021 a prototype of the [Climate Services for Agriculture](#) (CSA) website was released to provide Australian farmers with access to information that can assist them to better adapt to climate variability and to support viability of their farm businesses.

Combining climate science and agricultural expertise, the website is being delivered by the Bureau of Meteorology in partnership with CSIRO as part of a \$28.9 million program through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.

The CSA tool has been designed to make climate information more accessible and useful for farmers, industry, and rural and regional communities. It aims to build resilience within agricultural communities by enabling them to anticipate what the future climate is likely to look like in their region, understand how this compares with what has occurred over recent decades and what it could mean for the commodities they produce. It will also provide information on what can be done to prepare for these impacts. The platform shows historical climate information, seasonal forecasts and climate projections for 2030, 2050 and 2070 (based on different emissions scenarios) across Australia at 5km<sup>2</sup> resolution.

Since the release of the tool in December 2021, available data has grown to include temperature, rainfall, heat and frost risk, evapotranspiration, and seasonal forecasts as well as specific information for commodities such as beef, sheep, wheat, almonds, apples, barley, canola, lupins, oranges, sugarcane, cotton, sorghum, dairy and wine-grapes. Additional commodities will continue to be added over the next 2 years as well as regular updates to historical data for all current commodity indices across Australia.

The development of the platform involves co-design and engagement within pilot regions (North Queensland Dry Tropics, Condamine and Northern Tablelands, Victorian Mallee and south-east South Australia and Western Australian sheep-wheat belt, Tropical North, Central-West NSW, Riverina and Goulburn-Murray and Gippsland and Northern Tasmania). These regions were selected to include a broad range of different climatic zones, commodities, and production systems. This provides a basis for extrapolating from pilot regions to a national capability.

The CSA website will continue to be refined in the coming years, informed by user feedback. The website builds on the previous Regional Weather and Climate Guides, which provide information on weather and climate corresponding to Australia's 56 natural resource management (NRM) regions. They were developed in collaboration with representatives from each NRM region to ensure the information was tailored to the needs of local farmers and agribusinesses. In addition to the CSA, \$4.1 million was allocated to the Australian Government in late 2021 for the development of the drought indicators and drought early warning system. A Community of Practice has been established and at the conclusion of the project in mid-2023, the Australian Government will have access to information to measure the extent and severity of drought impacts in the Australian agricultural sector.

## 4.2 Role of the states and territories

This reporting period has seen jurisdictions continue to prioritise actions that strengthen drought resilience and preparedness at a farm and regional level. It is heartening to see that the focus on drought preparedness is becoming broader. While previously often viewed as something which occurred at a farm level, there is increasing awareness of the impacts of drought on communities and regions. It is therefore fitting that where there are drought impacts, there should be drought preparedness and programs, such as the Regional Drought Resilience Planning program, which is working to enable preparedness on a new scale.

Sound business judgement has always been a key component of successful farming, and there have been many measures implemented across the country to give tools and opportunities for people to grow their skill set, or to mentor others who are pursuing development in this area. Climate change is increasingly impacting farm businesses and sophisticated business risk management will be necessary going forward. It is when farming businesses plan and prepare for the future they are in a better position to make informed and timely decisions that will maximise their sustainability and profitability. All jurisdictions have reported delivering capacity building programs to best position and support farming businesses in this way.

### 4.2.1 NDA role and responsibility 10a

Encouraging the delivery and uptake of capability-building programs to improve farming businesses' skills and decision-making that are flexible and tailored to farming businesses' needs.



### 4.2.2 NDA role and responsibility 10b

Ensuring animal welfare and land management issues are managed during drought.



## 4.3 Shared roles and responsibilities

This reporting period has seen all shared responsibilities reported as 'on track' or 'good progress'. Widespread rain has led to a shift to recovery and preparedness activities, with demand for finance and business planning advice.

Data, and associated tools, remain an area of ongoing investment and effort at all levels of government. There are multiple tools under development to bring together multiple data sets in a user friendly format to assist in informing farm business decisions. Tools are also under development to help inform decision-making by governments, who have a responsibility to plan and prepare for drought.

The jurisdictional measures demonstrate an increasing shift to undertake actions and programs that equip farming businesses and rural communities to operate in a multi-hazard environment. This shift, where preparedness and resilience activities are multifaceted, and actions undertaken lead to broader benefit (such as resilience to adverse weather events, market shocks, and better sustainability) reflects the current operating environment of farm businesses and communities. In turn, this enables these businesses and communities to be more prepared for the range of risks they face and will continue to face, particularly in the context of a changing climate.



### 4.3.1 NDA role and responsibility 11a

Developing, designing, implementing and funding drought preparedness, response and recovery programs that are consistent with the NDA, encourage robust risk management and seek to avoid market distortions.



### 4.3.2 NDA role and responsibility 11b

Developing capability-building programs, tools and technologies to inform and improve farming businesses' decision-making and promote resilience.



### 4.3.3 NDA role and responsibility 11c

Provision of rural financial counselling services.



### 4.3.4 NDA role and responsibility 11d

Support to mitigate the effects of drought on the health and wellbeing of farming families and farming communities.



### 4.3.5 NDA role and responsibility 11e

Sharing, coordinating, collaborating and communicating information on drought preparedness, response and recovery policies and programs being developed and implemented.



### 4.3.6 NDA role and responsibility 11f

Ensuring information on assistance for drought preparedness, response and recovery is accessible and readily available.



### 4.3.7 NDA role and responsibility 11g

Ensuring consistency of drought policy and reform objectives and complementarity of drought preparedness, response and recovery programs.



### 4.3.8 NDA role and responsibility 11h

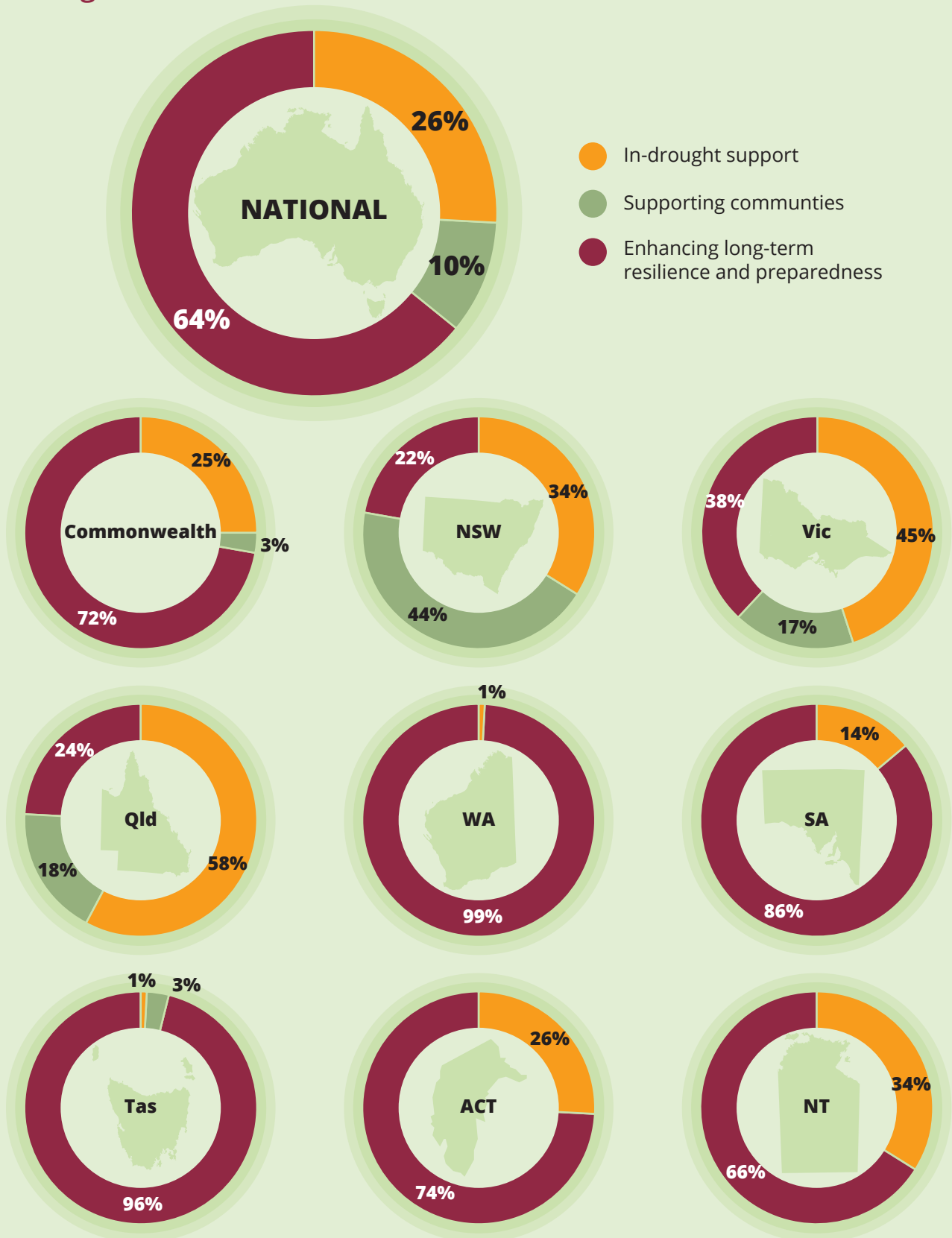
Contributing to the development of quality, publicly available data, including:

- weather, seasonal and climate forecasts
- regional and local predictive real-time drought indicator information
- a consistent early warning system for drought
- an improved understanding of fodder crops and holdings across Australia.



# 5. Investment

Proportional investment across the drought cycle since the NDA was signed in 2018



Note: Includes funding committed since the NDA was signed in 2018 until 30 June 2022.  
 Source: NDA parties' self-assessment data



## 6. Reviews and evaluations

The 2020–21 NDA annual report included an analysis of several reviews and evaluations of drought measures by parties. Recommendations included:

- Increase collaboration between those delivering complementary drought support measures. These connections could provide referral opportunities between measures and minimise duplications in support offerings.
- Improve communication about measures, particularly clearer messaging regarding program eligibility and drought definitions, to resolve confusion experienced by end-users and remove consequential barriers to the uptake of support.
- Improve systems for the collection of reporting data. This would reduce the administrative burden for clients, service providers and government and help improve transparency of the outputs and outcomes of measures.
- Improve the way funding is provided. In particular, increased funding certainty across the drought cycle, greater speed of delivery during drought and a scalable provision of funding to target areas with the greatest needs.

This reporting period saw additional reviews and evaluations of drought measures provided by some parties (see Table 3). Recommendations from these newly added reviews and evaluations included:

- Cover all aspects of rural adversity rather than focussing on a single issue such as drought.
- Carry out a suitable needs analysis to ensure services are appropriately targeted, and conduct reasonable levels of community consultation about proposed emergency responses.
- Include funding and related provisions to support marketing and communication.
- Include regular program meetings with all participating organisations to facilitate interorganisational collaboration.
- Develop an evidence-based rapid response framework (a collection of best practices that future program designers could use).

The senate inquiry into the Australian Government's response to the drought, and the adequacy and appropriateness of policies and measures to support farmers, regional communities and the Australian economy was released on 21 October 2021. The recommendations in the report were broadly consistent with the [2020 Review of Australian Government Drought Response](#) and the Australian Government is already embedding improvements to identified gaps into drought policy. The Australian Government's Response to the inquiry was tabled on 31 March 2022. Of the 20 recommendations, the government supported 9, supported in-principle 8 and noted 3. The senate inquiry recommended the addressing of several issues before the next drought, including:

- improve eligibility criteria so that people and businesses which need support receive it
- streamline application processes
- improve communication around available drought support
- plan ahead about when and how government should offer support, rather than provide reactive support in drought.

**Table 2** Reviews of Parties' drought support measures

Name of measure	Responsible jurisdiction	Review date	Review and any government response
Rural Financial Counselling Service	Australian Government	2019	<a href="#">Rural Financial Counselling Service Review</a>
Farm Household Allowance	Australian Government	September 2018 to February 2019	<a href="#">Farm Household Allowance review report</a> <a href="#">Australian Government response</a>
Drought Communities Programme Extension	Australian Government	January 2020	<a href="#">Drought Communities Programme Extension review</a>
Water for Fodder	Australian Government	April 2020	<a href="#">Water for Fodder review</a>
Review of Australian Government Drought Response	Australian Government	October 2020	<a href="#">Review of Australian Government Drought Response</a>
Farm Management Deposit Scheme <b>a</b>	Australian Government	June 2021	<a href="#">Farm Management Deposit Scheme review</a>
Federal Government's response to the drought, and the adequacy and appropriateness of policies and measures to support farmers, regional communities and the Australian economy <b>a</b>	Australian Government	October 2021	<a href="#">Federal Government's response to the drought, and the adequacy and appropriateness of policies and measures to support farmers, regional communities and the Australian economy</a> <a href="#">Australian Government response</a>
NSW Strategic Drought Evaluation	New South Wales	2018 to 2021	Report due late 2022
Drought Stimulus Package <b>a</b>	New South Wales	2021	<a href="#">Process and interim outcomes evaluation of the Drought Stimulus Package</a>
NSW Emergency Drought Relief: Mental Health Support Package Final Evaluation Report <b>a</b>	New South Wales	2020	<a href="#">The NSW Emergency Drought Relief: Mental Health Supports Package Final Evaluation Report</a>
2018 to 2020 Drought Response Support Package	Victoria	2018 to 2020	Report due late 2022
Queensland Government Response Drought Program review	Queensland	January 2019	<a href="#">Queensland Drought Program review</a>
Drought and Climate Adaptation Program	Queensland	July 2020	<a href="#">Drought and Climate Adaptation Program report</a>
Evaluation of the Western Australian Drought Pilot Programs	Western Australia	June 2019	<a href="#">Evaluation report of WA Drought Pilot Programs</a>
Pest Animal Control – State Barrier Fence <b>a</b>	Western Australia	2019	<a href="#">Pest Animal Control State Barrier Fence update</a>
Review of the Animal Welfare Act 2002 – Government response	Western Australia	June 2021	<a href="#">Review of the Animal Welfare Act 2002 - Government response</a>
State Barrier Fence Esperance Extension – Public Environmental Review	Western Australia	2018	<a href="#">State Barrier Fence Esperance Extension Public Environmental Review</a>

Name of measure	Responsible jurisdiction	Review date	Review and any government response
Pipeline to Prosperity	Tasmania	2018	<a href="#">Final report on Tasmanian Irrigation</a>
Financial Literacy programme	Northern Territory	-	-
Land Management Agreements	Australian Capital Territory	June 2022	Not yet available

Note: Includes reviews of measures since the NDA was signed in 2018 until 30 June 2022.

**a** Added in this reporting period.



Image: Shutterstock

# 7. Next steps

## 7.1 Future NDA priorities

Over the upcoming 2022–23 reporting period, 2 key priorities have been identified for action by the NDA parties.

- 1) The NDA must be reviewed at least 2 years before its expiry on 30 June 2024. A project board made up of a representative from all NDA parties was established to oversee the review, which commenced in February 2022. The review included extensive stakeholder consultation and focused on how the NDA can be strengthened to ensure that farmers and farming communities are well supported in advance, during, and in recovery from drought events. The final review report will be published in December 2022 and contain recommendations to inform the development of a new agreement. The negotiation of the new agreement will begin in 2023. The development of a new agreement allows the NDA parties to reflect key policy changes and priorities, and offers the opportunity to strengthen key intentions of the current agreement such as interjurisdictional collaboration.
- 2) The next reporting period will see progression of the ongoing areas for improvement outlined in the [Summary](#). These areas for improvement are primarily concerned with all actors in the drought space working together effectively and proactively to better assist farmers, farming businesses and farming communities prepare for and respond to drought, and to make information consistent and readily available. Further work will be undertaken with jurisdictions to develop ideas for what greater collaboration could look like, and to identify opportunities which, if progressed, would allow relevant groups in the drought space to be connected and able to exchange information on an ongoing basis.

## 7.2 Upcoming jurisdictional activity

### Future Drought Fund

The next reporting period will see further programs stood up or extended as part of the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund (FDF). FDF programs explicitly implemented in partnership with state and territory governments are listed in this section. Full detail of all programs can be found on the [Future Drought Fund website](#).

Working with the state and territory governments, the Regional Drought Resilience Planning program will continue to support regions to develop regional drought resilience plans to prepare for and manage future drought risks. These plans will be community led and will be owned through partnerships of local governments, regional organisations, communities and industry. They will be independently assessed by CSIRO and published to allow communities to learn from each other, considering each region's unique social, economic, and environmental conditions. While initial planning occurred in some regions in this reporting period, there is a substantial amount of work to come, and it is expected that planning will span all agricultural regions by 30 June 2024.

In partnership with state and territory governments, the Farm Business Resilience Program is providing farmers, including farm managers and employees, with access to learning and development opportunities in strategic business management, farm risk management and decision-making, natural resource management, and personal and social resilience. This program is under negotiation to be extended until 30 June 2024.



The *Future Drought Fund Act 2019* establishes a 4-year review cycle to ensure the Future Drought Fund remains effective. As part of this review cycle, the Future Drought Fund is now approaching a significant review point beginning with the Productivity Commission review expected to commence by late 2022. This review will inform the development of a new funding plan and suite of new programs by mid-2024. The review will involve opportunities for public consultation.

### **Drought data and decision making**

The Australian Government is developing a range of drought indicators including rainfall deficiency, soil moisture, pasture growth and socio-economic indicators, to feed into a drought early warning system (DEWS). Once the project is complete, the DEWS will inform Australian Government decisions in relation to drought as well as providing public access to drought forecasts. The Australian Government is also developing a Drought Decision-making Framework to help inform decisions when periods are dry, or when regions are in drought. These bodies of work are designed to give more clarity about current and upcoming conditions across the country, and also response options that governments may wish to consider when conditions become dry.

### **Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan**

The Australian Government is also reviewing its [Drought Response, Resilience and Preparedness Plan](#). The plan is the guiding document for drought policy at the Australian Government level and explains how the Australian Government will deliver on its commitments under the NDA. A new interim plan will be released in mid-2023 and will be in place while the next Future Drought Fund Funding Plan and new NDA are being finalised. The plan will then be updated to align with these 2 documents, with the final Australian Government Drought Plan to be published by early 2024.

### **State and territory priorities**

The NSW Government is committed to supporting regional communities to better prepare for drought. This will be addressed through initiatives like the Drought Signals Framework, and the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program. The NSW Government will continue to work with councils across Regional NSW to develop a drought signals framework. The framework will support evidence-based decision making in our communities preparation for and during the next drought. The implementation of the Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program will also commence across the state in the most drought affected areas. The program will see regional communities come together to plan and build social, economic and environmental resilience to drought. Drought resilience plans will focus on the role of local government in building drought resilience.

In 2022–23 Agriculture Victoria will extend the Farm Business Resilience program. This will help farmers to develop the knowledge and skills to improve their farm businesses, and to be better equipped to manage the impacts of drought and other shocks. The Regional Drought Resilience Planning program will be extended to support all agricultural regions across Victoria to develop a drought resilience plan and to invest in priority actions in those plans. Agriculture Victoria have commenced the implementation of the Primary Production Adaptation Action Plan, designed to improve the adaptive capacity and capabilities of primary industries and give them a better understanding of how to transition to business models that are resilient to the current climate and emerging climate projections. In 2022–23 a working group will develop and pilot a self-assessment tool and collate a resource library to assess and build the climate adaptation content in programs and other resources. Priority areas for further investment will be identified and tested with stakeholders and industry.

In the 2021–22 State Budget, Queensland launched its new Drought and Drought Preparedness Package. While honouring its commitment to maintain existing drought assistance measures such as the Drought Relief Assistance Scheme (DRAS) for the duration of the current drought, it has now introduced new measures including drought preparedness grants and loans consistent with the principles of the NDA that better support producers in preparing for and managing drought.

The WA Government will focus on addressing the on-farm impacts of climate change through initiatives like 'Making Dams Work Again' and the Southern Rangelands Revitalisation Project. These provide long-term solutions and new and emerging technologies which support preparedness and build resilience to prepare for managing drought and seasons with reduced rainfall. In 2022–23 the state will provide investment in climate-smart R&D through the WA Agriculture Research Collaboration, financial support to the Grower Group Alliance (Operators of the SW Hub) and deliver capacity building and awareness campaigns for the development of business skills, natural resource management, resources and tools, and industry capability networks. The Agriculture Climate Resilience Fund (\$15 million) will see investment in natural resource accounting, carbon farming and soil health to support farmers develop resilience to climatic changes and the changing market expectations.

The South Australian delivery of the FDF will continue, with the extension of the FBR Program and the Regional Drought Resilience Program. Evaluation of the foundational year of both programs, which is currently underway, will inform the delivery of this extension. The SA Government will continue its investment and involvement as a partner in the South Australian Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub (SA Drought Hub).

Tasmania will continue to implement the first 5 projects under the Tranche Three Pipeline to Prosperity irrigation development program. The Rural Water Use Strategy Implementation Plan, released in May 2022, will be implemented to underpin sustainable irrigation development over the next decade. Implementation of the RDRP program will also be commenced across the state's 3 regions. The state will engage a consultant to provide advice on the content and structure of the next phase of the FBR program, following the pilot phase focusing on the dairy sector.

The Northern Territory will continue to deliver the FDR and RDRP modules of the FDF. Education and awareness campaigns will be run for the development of business skills, management, resources and tools and industry capability networks. Activities will be undertaken to raise awareness of on and off-farm diversification opportunities, and primary industry stakeholders will also be encouraged to engage with professional advisors. The development of Aboriginal enterprise will be supported, as well as the development of secondary industries such as the processing and packaging of NT produce within the Northern Territory. The development of agricultural precincts will be undertaken. Compliance with legislation and frameworks surrounding land management and development, environmental protection, animal welfare and biosecurity remains a priority, as will the prevention and control of biosecurity incursions. Reform of water management and usage will be undertaken.

The ACT will finalise its RDRP as well as the broader Capital Food and Fibre Strategy, which is a new agriculture policy for the territory. The FBR will continue to provide training and support to local landholders. Invasive species and grazing block management activities will also be a priority.

# Appendix A: Outcomes reporting data

Outcome 1: Farming businesses have an improved capability to manage business risks and the tools to implement sustainable and resilient risk management practices.

**Table A1** Outcome 1 reporting data

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
Farm businesses enhance their productivity and performance during drought	Climate-adjusted farm profit (farm profit under drought conditions)	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Based on averaged annual 2016–17 to 2020–21 data: \$102,745 (climate adjusted). This was \$24,899 higher than average annual climate adjusted profit over the period 2015–16 to 2019–20 <b>a</b>
	Climate-adjusted total factor productivity (TFP growth under drought conditions)	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Cropping industry from 2016–17 to 2020–21: +2.2% per year <b>a</b>
Farm businesses enhance their management of financial risk	Change in farm household income during drought	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Broadacre sector from 2016–17 to 2020–21: -0.5% per year <b>a</b>
	Change in farm profit during drought	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Average drought risk on farm household income: 2.7% (2016–17 to 2020–21), +0.3% relative to previous period (2015–16 to 2019–20) <b>b</b>
	Income from off-farm activities	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Refer to the updated 2021–22 report data	Average drought risk on farm business profit: 17.7% (2016–17 to 2020–21), +0.9% relative to previous period (2015–16 to 2019–20) <b>b</b>
Value of Farm Management Deposit holdings and number of holders	Off-farm activity income (based on data across 2018-19):	Off-farm activity income (based on data across 2019–20):	Off-farm activity income (based on data across 2020–21):	Off-farm activity income (based on data across 2020–21):
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small farms (less than \$250,000 turnover): 65%</li> <li>Medium farms (\$250,000-\$750,000): 22%</li> <li>Large farms (\$750,000 to \$2,000,000): 6%</li> <li>Very large farms (&gt; \$2,000,000): 1% <b>c</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small farms (less than \$250,000 turnover): 75%</li> <li>Medium farms (\$250,000-\$750,000): 31%</li> <li>Large farms (\$750,000 to \$2,000,000): 7%</li> <li>Very large farms (&gt; \$2,000,000): 2% <b>c</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small farms (less than \$250,000 turnover): 51%</li> <li>Medium farms (\$250,000-\$750,000): 18%</li> <li>Large farms (\$750,000 to \$2,000,000): 9%</li> <li>Very large farms (&gt; \$2,000,000): 2% <b>c</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small farms (less than \$250,000 turnover): 51%</li> <li>Medium farms (\$250,000-\$750,000): 18%</li> <li>Large farms (\$750,000 to \$2,000,000): 9%</li> <li>Very large farms (&gt; \$2,000,000): 2% <b>c</b></li> </ul>
Value of Farm Management Deposit holdings and number of holders	Accumulated value: \$6,493,710,000 <b>d</b>	Accumulated value: \$6,196,647,000 <b>d</b>	Accumulated value: \$6,759,403,000 <b>d</b>	Accumulated value: \$6,759,403,000 <b>d</b>
	Number of accounts: 49,269 <b>e</b>	Number of accounts: 46,946 <b>e</b>	Number of accounts: 48,284 <b>e</b>	Number of accounts: 48,284 <b>e</b>

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
Provision of in-drought, transaction-based subsidies provided by jurisdictions is reduced	Value of transactional subsidy programs and number and value of payments to farmers	Insufficient data available <b>f</b>	\$99,080,296 <b>g</b>	\$23,513,678 <b>h</b>
Farm businesses undertake better business planning for drought	% farmers who agreed that 'on our farm, we have a plan in place for the next drought'	% farmers who agreed that 'on our farm, we have a plan in place for the next drought': 33.7% <b>i</b>	% farmers for whom farm plan includes strategies for coping with drought: 59.3% <b>j</b>	% farmers for whom farm plan includes strategies for coping with drought: 43.2% <b>k</b>
	% farmers who agreed that 'on our farm, we regularly draw on our planning to make decisions about the business'	% farmers who agreed that 'on our farm, we regularly draw on our planning to make decisions about the business': 32.2% <b>i</b>	% of farmers who agreed that 'the farm plan is used to help make decisions about the farm business': 61.1% <b>j</b>	% of farmers who agreed that 'the farm plan is used to help make decisions about the farm business': 42% <b>k</b>
	Number of people accessing farm business planning (note that Activity Supplement data includes but is not limited to farm business planning and management)	FHA Activity Supplement: 2,100 people <b>l</b> Rural Financial Counselling Service: 7,100 clients <b>m</b>	FHA Activity Supplement: 3,175 people <b>l</b> Rural Financial Counselling Service: 5,780 clients <b>m</b> State and territory programs: 6,247 <b>n</b>	FHA Activity Supplement: 1,611 people <b>l</b> Rural Financial Counselling Service: 6,346 clients <b>m</b> State and territory programs: 21,275 <b>n</b>

**a** Based on ABARES Australian Agricultural and Grazing Industries Survey (AAGIS) data and *farmpredict* model for broadacre farms. **b** ABARES Measuring drought risk report November 2020. **c** Based on preliminary estimates and on average income per farm ABARES AAGIS. **d** Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE). The value of deposits reported may be greater than the actual level recorded here as primary producers may choose not to claim a tax deduction for all deposits held in FMD accounts. **e** DAWE. The total number of accounts does not indicate the number of primary producers participating in the Farm Management Deposits (FMD) scheme as a primary producer may hold multiple FMD accounts. **f** *Analysis of Government Support for Australian Agricultural Producers* report found Australian farmers are some of the least subsidised in the world, with benefits for productivity, overall sector growth and international market participation and competitiveness. **g** WA Water Carting, NSW Emergency Drought Transport Subsidy Scheme, Qld Drought Relief Assistance Scheme, Qld Drought Relief from Electricity Charges, Qld land rent rebate and water license waiver, NT pastoral rent waivers, ACT transport rebates, SA On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme, SA Council Rate Rebate Scheme, SA Pastoral Rent Rebate Scheme. **h** NSW Training Subsidy, Qld Drought Relief Assistance Scheme, Qld Drought Relief from Electricity Charges, WA Water Carting, ACT Transport Subsidy, ACT On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme. **i** 2018 Regional Wellbeing Survey datasets, University of Canberra. **j** 2020 Regional Wellbeing Survey datasets, University of Canberra. **k** 2021 Regional Wellbeing Survey datasets, University of Canberra. **l** DAWE, and Services Australia. **m** Rural Financial Counselling Service portal. **n** Combined figure as reported by jurisdictions via annual NDA self-assessment reports. **FHA** Farm Household Allowance. **TFP** total factor productivity. Note: the calculations used for the report data in a and b involve retrospective updates to data from previous years. As a result, a comparison of this data with previous reports isn't possible.



**Table A2 Outcome 2 reporting data**

Outcome 2: Farming businesses, industry service providers, agri-finance, community organisations and local government are partners of government and support rural communities to prepare for, and respond to, drought.

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
Rural stakeholders coordinate, cooperate and collaborate in support of drought preparedness and resilience, and in response to drought	Governments regularly share and seek advice on drought conditions, impacts, and measures through organised networks	<p>3 minister’s drought roundtables <b>a</b></p> <p>4 Whole-of-Government Drought Communications Network meetings <b>d</b></p> <p>All jurisdictions participate in the AGSOC meetings and the AMM. Most of the jurisdictions also report through their own jurisdictional level coordination mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA: Grower Group Alliance (GGA), WA Local Government Association (WALGA)</li> <li>• Vic: Drought Interdepartmental Co-ordination Group, Regional Drought Coordinators, the Rural Assistance Commissioner (RAC), regional specific seasonal conditions committees</li> <li>• SA: Dry Condition Working Group, health and charity working groups, drought community action groups, bank forums, working group with farming systems organisation, Regional Coordinators</li> <li>• Qld: Drought Industry Coordination Group</li> <li>• NSW: Drought Hub, Local Land Services officers network</li> <li>• NT: Pastoral Industry Advisory Committees, Northern Australia Climate Program Network, Departmental Rangelands Officers, Livestock Extension Officers and Stock Inspectors</li> <li>• Tas: Forum of Rural Stakeholders (FoRS) convened by Rural Business Tasmania</li> </ul>	<p>2 minister’s drought roundtables <b>b</b></p> <p>12 Whole-of-Government Drought Communications Network meetings <b>d</b></p> <p>All jurisdictions continued to participate in the AGSOC meetings and the AMM. All jurisdictions also report through their own jurisdictional level coordination mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA: Agricultural Water Council, Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, Grower Group Alliance (GGA), Regional Development Commission, WA Local Government Association (WALGA), National Water Grid Authority (NWGA) Committee</li> <li>• Vic: Victorian Agriculture and Climate Change Council, Regional Drought Coordinators, the Rural Assistance Commissioner (RAC), regional specific seasonal conditions committees</li> <li>• SA: Dry Conditions Working Group, SA Drought Hub.</li> <li>• Qld: Drought Industry Coordination Group, Drought Reform Industry Working Group</li> <li>• NSW: Rural Resilience Program (RRP) supports 26 Rural Support Service Networks across NSW</li> <li>• NT: Alice Springs Pastoral Industry Advisory Committee (ASPIAC), Katherine Pastoral Industry Advisory Committee (KPIAC), Barkley Research Advisory Committee (BRAC), NT/WA Drought Hub, NT Cattlemen’s Association branches, NT Farmers Association, Centralian Land Management Association, Northern Australia Climate Program</li> </ul>	<p>2 minister’s drought roundtables <b>c</b></p> <p>9 Whole-of-Government Drought Communications Network meetings <b>d</b></p> <p>All jurisdictions continued to participate in the AGSOC, AMM, and AMM Working Group on Drought meetings. All jurisdictions also report through their own jurisdictional level coordination mechanisms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA: National Climate Change Work Program Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, Future Drought Fund networks, Regional Development Commission, WA Local Government Association (WALGA), National Water Grid Authority (NWGA) Committee, Grower Group Alliance (GGA)</li> <li>• Vic: Victorian Agriculture and Climate Change Council, Agriculture Victoria’s Regional Leaders, RAC and regional specific seasonal conditions committee</li> <li>• SA: SA Drought Hub, Future Drought Fund Advisory Group (SA)</li> <li>• Qld: Drought Industry Coordination Group, Drought Reform Industry Working Group</li> <li>• NSW: NSW Primary Industry ITAB, Smart and Skilled Provider Networks, NSW ACE Network and Young Farmers Business Program</li> <li>• NT: Alice Springs Pastoral Industry Advisory Committee (ASPIAC), Katherine Pastoral Industry Advisory Committee (KPIAC), Barkley Research Advisory Committee (BRAC), Northern NT/WA Drought Innovation Hub, NT Cattlemen’s Association branches, NT Farmers Association, Centralian Land Management Association, Northern Australia Climate Program, Pastoral Land Board</li> </ul>

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ACT: Rural Landholders Association (RLA), Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator (RALF), direct support information sessions through ACT Natural Resource Management (ACT NRM) and Biosecurity and Rural Services (BRS)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tas: Forum of Rural Stakeholders, Resilience Program Collaboration Group</li> <li>ACT: NSW DPIE Seasonal Conditions Reporting / Soil Moisture Probe Network</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tas: Forum of Rural Stakeholders, Rural Business Tasmania</li> <li>ACT: NSW DPIE Seasonal Conditions Reporting / Soil Moisture Probe Network, BOM forecasting services including seasonal condition updates</li> </ul>
	Governments form partnerships with other governments and non-government bodies to build drought preparedness and resilience, and deliver in-drought support	All jurisdictions report drought support measures implemented through partnership arrangements with other government and non-government bodies.	All jurisdictions report drought support measures implemented through partnership arrangements with other government and non-government bodies.	All jurisdictions report drought support measures implemented through partnership arrangements with other government and non-government bodies.

**a** From March 2019 to June 2020. National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency. **b** Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. **c** Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. **d** National Emergency Management Authority. **AGSOC** Agricultural Senior Officials Committee. **AMM** Agriculture Ministers' Meeting.

**Table A3** Outcome 3 reporting data

Outcome 3: Farming businesses, farming families and farming communities are supported in times of hardship and have an increased understanding of, and access to, available support.

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
Farming businesses, families and communities access support during times of hardship	Number of farm businesses or families accessing services during times of hardship	FHA payments: 10,900 farmers and their partners received a payment in 2019–20, delivering over \$134 million to recipients in the 2019–20 financial year. <b>a</b>  Rural Financial Counselling Service: 7,100 clients <b>b</b>	FHA payments: Over 9,800 farmers and their partners received a payment in 2020–21, delivering approximately \$180 million to recipients in the 2020–21 financial year. <b>c</b>  Rural Financial Counselling Service: 5,780 clients <b>b</b>	FHA payments: Over 7,500 farmers and their partners received a payment in 2021–22, delivering approximately \$102 million to recipients in the 2021–22 financial year. <b>d</b>  Rural Financial Counselling Service: 6,346 clients <b>b</b>
	Communities accessing stimulus measures	Total number of LGAs accessing community in-drought support: 230 <b>e</b>	Total number of LGAs accessing community in-drought support: 293 <b>f</b>	Total number of LGAs accessing community in-drought support: 318 <b>g</b>
Farming businesses, families and communities access available support programs	Number of people accessing information channels that hold information on support measures	Number of registered Farmhub users: 69,487 <b>h</b>	Number of registered Farmhub users: 46,942 <b>h</b>	Number of registered Farmhub users: n/a <b>k</b>
		Number of Farmhub page views: 341,396 <b>h</b>	Number of Farmhub page views: 113,234 <b>h</b>	Number of Farmhub page views: 47,073 <b>h</b>
			Number of Recovery Connect page views: 4,772 <b>i</b>	Number of Recovery Connect page views: 16,740 <b>l</b>
		Number of jurisdictional centralised online platform page views: 397,936 <b>j</b>	Number of jurisdictional centralised online platform page views: 64,452 <b>m</b>	

**a** Services Australia SAP Hana **b** Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) Portal **c** FHA, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment, and Services Australia. **d** Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, and Services Australia. **e** Includes 180 DCPE-eligible LGAs, plus LGAs not eligible for DCPE that received funding under BBRF, FRRR and CCCF. This report only reported LGAs of Commonwealth measures due to data limitations. **f** Includes LGAs that received Australian Government funding under BBRF, DCPE and TTTT, as well as additional LGAs that received support from state government measures in NSW, QLD, WA, SA and TAS. **g** Includes LGAs that received Commonwealth funding under BBRF, DCPE and TTTT, as well as additional LGAs that received support from state government measures in NSW, QLD, VIC and TAS. **h** National Farmers' Federation. **i** Number of users accessing drought content on Recovery Connect from 1 October 2020 to June 2021, National Recovery and Resilience Agency. **j** Aggregated data of centralised online platform page views from jurisdictional self-assessments. **k** National Farmers' Federation contract to deliver Farmhub has expired. **l** National Emergency Management Authority. **m** Aggregated data of centralised online platform page views from jurisdictional self-assessments. **n/a** Not applicable. **FHA** Farm Household Allowance. **LGA** local government area.

**Table A4 Outcome 4 reporting data**

Outcome 4: Roles and responsibilities of jurisdictions in responding to drought are clear; promote consistency of drought policy and reform objectives; complement drought preparedness, response, and recovery programs; and reduce gaps and unnecessary duplication.

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
All jurisdictions are able to clearly report on their roles and responsibilities	Annual progress reports are clear on the roles, responsibilities and progress of each jurisdiction	2019–20 annual report	2020–21 annual report	2021–22 annual report
All jurisdictions act on their respective roles and responsibilities in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from drought	All jurisdictions report against 9, 10, 11 as appropriate	Number of AMM meetings (previously known as AGMIN meetings) with drought on the agenda: 4 <b>a</b>	Number of AMM meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>b</b>	Number of AMM meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>c</b>
	Regular meetings at different levels across government to maintain momentum on drought preparedness, response, recovery and reform	Number of AGSOC meetings with drought on the agenda: 3 <b>a</b>	Number of AGSOC meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>b</b>	Number of AGSOC meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>c</b>
		Number of AMM Drought Working Group meetings: 2 <b>d</b>	Number of AMM Working Group on Drought meetings: 0 <b>e</b>	Number of AMM Working Group on Drought meetings: 11
All drought actions are consistent with the NDA sections 9, 10, 11, with new programs consistent with attachments A and B of NDA	All jurisdictions report against 9, 10, 11 as appropriate All new drought measures are consistent with attachments A & B of NDA	See 'Roles and Responsibilities' section of the 2019–20 annual report published September 2021, and data reported against Outcome 6 and 7.	See 'Roles and Responsibilities' section of the 2020–21 annual report, published February 2022, and data reported against Outcome 6 and 7.	See <a href="#">Roles and Responsibilities</a> and data reported against Outcome 6 and 7.
Commonwealth and state/territory measures are complementary, avoid overlap and duplication, and minimise gaps in support	All jurisdictions report against 9, 10, 11 as appropriate Jurisdictions note any complementarity (or lack of), overlap, duplication, and any gaps in support as they operate in each state or territory	See 'Roles and Responsibilities' section of 2019–20 annual report.	See 'Roles and Responsibilities' section of 2020–21 annual report.	See <a href="#">Roles and Responsibilities</a>

**a** Meetings held December 2018 to June 2020, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE). **b** Meetings held July 2020 to June 2021, DAWE. **c** Meetings held July 2021 to June 2022, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. **d** Established since February 2020, National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency. **e** AMM Drought Working Group members were engaged out of session to develop the 2019–20 NDA annual report. **AGSOC** Agricultural Senior Officials Committee. **AMM** Agriculture Ministers' Meeting.



**Table A5 Outcome 5 reporting data**

Outcome 5: Improved sharing, and quality, of common sources of data and information across jurisdictions to strengthen policy and business decision-making.

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
Jurisdictions are aware of each other's drought measures and how they relate to each other	Regular meetings at different levels across government to share information on drought preparedness, response, recovery and reform measures	Number of AMM meetings (previously referred to as AGMIN meetings) with drought on the agenda: 4 <b>a</b>	Number of AMM meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>b</b>	Number of AMM meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>c</b>
		Number of AGSOC meetings with drought on the agenda: 3 <b>a</b>	Number of AGSOC meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>b</b>	Number of AGSOC meetings with drought on the agenda: 1 <b>c</b>
		Number of AMM Working Group on Drought meetings: 2 <b>d</b>	Number of AMM Working Group on Drought meetings: 0 <b>e</b>	Number of AMM Working Group on Drought meetings: 11
NDA annual progress report	2019–20 NDA annual report published September, 2021	2020–21 NDA Annual report published February, 2022	2021–22 NDA Annual report published December, 2022	
Information on drought policy and programs is easy to find and regularly updated	All jurisdictions have central online platforms that have regularly updated drought policy and program information. <b>f</b>	All jurisdictions have central online platforms that have regularly updated drought policy and program information. <b>g</b>	All jurisdictions have central online platforms that have regularly updated drought policy and program information. <b>h</b>	
Improvements to common information and data sources		Number of datasets added to National Drought Map: 2 <b>i</b>	Number of datasets added to National Drought Map: 8 <b>j</b>	Number of datasets added to National Drought Map: 2 <b>k</b>
		Number of climate guides published by the Bureau of Meteorology: 57 <b>l</b>	Number of climate guides published by the Bureau of Meteorology: 0 <b>m</b>	Number of climate guides published by Bureau of Meteorology: 0 <b>m</b>
		Number of monthly Bureau of Meteorology drought statements released: 19 <b>n</b>	Number of monthly Bureau of Meteorology drought statements released: 12 <b>o</b>	Number of monthly Bureau of Meteorology drought statements released: 12 <b>o</b>

**a** Meetings held December 2018 to June 2020, Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE). **b** Meetings held July 2020-June 2021, DAWE. **c** Meetings held July 2021-June 2022, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). **d** Established since February 2020, National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency. **e** AMM Drought Working Group members were engaged out of session to develop the 2019–20 NDA annual report. **f** Jurisdictional self-assessments, April 2020. **g** Jurisdictional self-assessments, June 2021. **h** Jurisdictional self-assessments, June 2022. **i** National Drought and North Queensland Flood Response and Recovery Agency. **j** National Recovery and Resilience Agency. **k** Published in October, DAFF. **l** Guides previously published are still available for download from the Bureau's [website](#). **m** December 2018 to June 2019, Bureau of Meteorology. **n** Bureau of Meteorology. **AGSOC** Agricultural Senior Officials Committee. **AMM** Agriculture Ministers' Meeting.

### Table A6 Outcome 6 reporting data

Outcome 6: Future programs related to the objectives of the NDA (clause 6) are consistent with the principles for reform in Attachment A of the NDA.

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
New programs are consistent with Attachment A.	New programs meet an assessment undertaken against Attachment A.	62% of programs meeting all principles at Attachment A of the NDA. <b>a</b>	62% of programs meeting all principles at Attachment A of the NDA. <b>b</b>	96% of programs meeting all principles at Attachment A of the NDA. <b>c</b>

**a** Jurisdictional self-assessments, April 2020. **b** Jurisdictional self-assessments, June 2021. **c** Jurisdictional self-assessments, June 2022.

### Table A7 Outcome 7 reporting data

Outcome 7: Future programs providing temporary in-drought support are consistent with the principles and processes in Attachment B of the NDA.

Indicator	Measure	2019–20 report data	2020–21 report data	2021–22 report data
New programs are consistent with Attachment B.	New programs meet an assessment undertaken against Attachment B.	68% of programs meeting all principles at Attachment B of the NDA. <b>a</b>	82% of programs meeting all principles at Attachment B of the NDA. <b>b</b>	88% of programs meeting all principles at Attachment B of the NDA. <b>c</b>

**a** Jurisdictional self-assessments, April 2020. **b** Jurisdictional self-assessments, June 2021. **c** Jurisdictional self-assessments, June 2022.

# Appendix B: 2021–22 jurisdictional measures

**Table B1** NDA roles and responsibilities met by each measure, by jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
Commonwealth	Farm Household Allowance	9a, 11a, 11b, 11d
Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund	9b, 11a, 11b, 11d, 11e
Commonwealth	Regional Investment Corporation Loans <b>a</b>	9c, 11d
Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	9c, 11a, 11b, 11e
Commonwealth	Regional Small Business Support Program pilot	11a, 11b, 11e
Commonwealth	Drought Community Support Initiative	11d
Commonwealth	Drought Community Outreach Program	11e, 11f
Commonwealth	Recovery Support Officer Network <b>a</b>	11g
Commonwealth	FarmHub <b>a</b>	11e, 11f
Commonwealth	Improving Great Artesian Basin Drought Resilience	11a,
Commonwealth	Taxation measures <b>a</b>	11a, 11b
Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme	11a
Commonwealth	Mental Health and Wellbeing Support <b>a</b>	11d
Commonwealth	Communities Combating Pest and Weed Impacts During Drought Program	11a
Commonwealth	National Drought Map	9d, 11a, 11h
Commonwealth	Farm Management Deposit Scheme <b>a</b>	9c, 11a, 11b
Commonwealth	Drought Communities Programme Extension	11a, 11d
Commonwealth	Drought Communities Programme Extension – Roads to Recovery	11a, 11d
Commonwealth	Building Better Regions Fund Round 4	11d
Commonwealth	Tackling Tough Times Together	11d
Commonwealth	National Water Grid Fund & National Water Grid Authority <b>a</b>	11a, 11d
Commonwealth	National Landcare Program <b>a</b>	11a, 11b

Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
Commonwealth	Agriculture Stewardship Package <b>a</b>	11a, 11b
Commonwealth	Emissions Reduction Fund <b>a</b>	11a, 11b
Commonwealth	National Soil Strategy and National Soil Action Plan <b>a</b>	11a, 11b
Commonwealth	National Agricultural Innovation Priorities <b>a</b>	11a, 11b
NSW	Future Ready Regions	10a, 10b, 11b, 11f, 11g
NSW	Drought Signals Framework	11a, 11b
NSW	Drought Loans (Farm Innovation Fund)	11c
NSW	Doppler radars and BoM <b>a</b>	11h
NSW	DPIE groundwater resourcing	11d, 11g
NSW	Drought Staffing Entitlement Maintenance	10a
NSW	Support for farmers and businesses	10a
NSW	Young farmer Business Program <b>a</b>	10a
NSW	Drought Hub	11e
NSW	Drought and Supplementary Feed Calculator	11h
NSW	DPI support for improved animal welfare outcomes <b>a</b>	10b
NSW	Fish Deaths Mitigation Program	10b
NSW	Major dams program <b>a</b>	11d, 11g
NSW	Emergency Relief for Regional Town Water Supplies	11d, 11g
NSW	Water Infrastructure projects <b>a</b>	11d, 11g
NSW	Drought Fund	10a, 11a, 11b
NSW	National Association of Loss and Grief <b>a</b>	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Farmgate Counsellors and Drought Peer Support workers	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Mental Health Sports Fund	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Peer Support Australia <b>a</b>	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Royal Flying Doctors for West Drought Support	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Aboriginal Wellbeing	11d, 11e, 11f



Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
NSW	Pharmacy Guild	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Virtual Mental Health Support	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	Connections Program <b>a</b>	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW	DPI Farm Tracker application <b>a</b>	11h
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Southern Qld and Northern NSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs	10a, 11a, 11b
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Southern NSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs	10a, 11a, 11b
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	11d, 11e, 11f
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	10a, 11a, 11b
NSW/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	11c
NSW/Commonwealth	National Landcare Program <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b
Vic.	Drought response, recovery and preparedness programs	10b, 11g
Vic.	Farm business skills and risk management programs <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b
Vic.	Information and forecasting programs <b>a</b>	11e, 11f, 11h
Vic.	Health and wellbeing programs <b>a</b>	11d
Qld	Drought and Climate Adaptation Program <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b, 11e, 11f, 11h
Qld	Drought Relief Assistance Scheme	10b
Qld	Communities Assistance Program (Drought Support Package)	11d
Qld	Drought Preparedness Grants	11a
Qld	Farm Management Grants	11a
Qld	Drought Ready and Recovery Loans Scheme	11a
Qld	Drought Carry-on Finance Loan Scheme	11a
Qld	Emergency Drought Assistance Loan Scheme	11a
Qld/Commonwealth	Co-contribution to the RFCS <b>a</b>	11c
Qld/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	11d
Qld/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	11a, 11b, 11e, 11f
WA	State Natural Resource Management Program: Community Stewardship Grants	10a, 11a, 11b, 11h

Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
WA	Grants for Biosecurity Groups	10b
WA	Grower Group Alliance	10a
WA	Southern Rangelands Restoration Project <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11d
WA	WaterSmart Farms Project <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11d
WA	WaterSmart Farms: Making Dams Work Again <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11d
WA	Horticulture Business Capacity Building Program <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b
WA	Western Australia Agricultural Research Collaboration <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11h
WA	Western Australian Agriculture Climate Resilience Fund <b>a</b>	11a, 11b, 11e, 11f, 11g, 11h
WA	Soils Systems Master Class <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b
WA	Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program <b>a</b>	10b, 11a, 11b, 11e, 11h
WA	Rural Business Development Corporation: Farm Debt Mediation Scheme (FDMS) <b>a</b>	11c, 11f
WA	DPIRD Regional Intelligence and Adoption Team <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11d, 11e, 11h
WA	Western Farming Systems <b>a</b>	11a, 11b, 11e, 11f, 11g, 11h
WA	Wild Dog Action Plan 2021-2025 <b>a</b>	10b, 11a, 11b
WA	Animal Welfare <b>a</b>	10b
WA	Animal Welfare Grant Programs <b>a</b>	10b
WA	Animal Welfare in Emergencies Grant Program – Local Government <b>a</b>	10b
WA	Making Every Drop Count – Below and Above Ground Targeted Soil Moisture Conservation from Paddock to Landscape <b>a</b>	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11d
WA	Soil and Land Conservation Council <b>a</b>	10b
WA	Soil re-engineering project <b>a</b>	11b
WA	Grains Science Partnerships <b>a</b>	11b
WA	InterGrain Pty Ltd Majority Shareholding <b>a</b>	11a
WA	Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre membership <b>a</b>	11h
WA	WA SheepLinks Program <b>a</b>	10b, 11a, 11b, 11e, 11h
WA	Katanning Research Station <b>a</b>	10b, 11a, 11b, 11e, 11h
WA	Katanning Research Station Demonstration Site <b>a</b>	11b, 11h

Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
WA	Operation of Web Application Portal Interface (API) <b>a</b>	11h
WA	Operation of Weather Stations & Doppler Radar <b>a</b>	10b, 11b, 11h
WA	Regional Telecommunications Resilience: Mobile Network Hardening Program <b>a</b>	10b, 11b, 11h
WA	WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program <b>a</b>	10b, 11b, 11h
WA	Digital Farm Grants & Regional Telecommunication Project <b>a</b>	11b, 11d, 11f, 11h
WA	Pastures from Space service <b>a</b>	10b, 11b, 11h
WA	Digital Tools, Mapping and Apps <b>a</b>	11e, 11f, 11h
WA	Mosaic Agriculture <b>a</b>	10b, 11b
WA	Aboriginal Corporate Governance Development Grant <b>a</b>	10a, 11b
WA	Land Enterprise Support – Native Grains Trial <b>a</b>	10a, 11b
WA	Bushfoods Guide and Indigenous Ecological Knowledge <b>a</b>	10a, 11b
WA	Climate Dashboard <b>a</b>	11b, 11d, 11f, 11h
WA	Cropping after paddock fires <b>a</b>	11a, 11e, 11f
WA	Bushfire Recovery Support <b>a</b>	11b, 11d, 11f, 11h
WA	District Recovery Co-ordinator <b>a</b>	11a, 11e, 11f
WA	Regional Snapshots <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b, 11h
WA	Pirra Jungku: Contemporary and traditional fire management approaches in the desert <b>a</b>	10b, 11b, 11d, 11h
WA	Water Carting <b>a</b>	10b, 11d, 11g
WA	Regional Climate Alliance pilot program <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b, 11h
WA	Community town dam project <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b, 11h
WA	Climate Science Initiative <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b
WA	Climate Action <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11b
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Southwest WA Drought Resilience and Innovation Hub	10a
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Northern WA & NT Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub	10a
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	10a, 10b, 11a 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 11g, 11h

Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	10a, 11a, 11b, 11d, 11e, 11f, 11g, 11h
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool	10a, 11d, 11e
SA	Family and Business Support Program <b>a</b>	10a, 11a, 11c, 11d
SA	Wild Dog Management Programs <b>a</b>	10b
SA	Animal Health Officers <b>a</b>	10b
SA	Rebuilding the Dog Fence in South Australia <b>a</b>	10b
SA	Fox Bounty <b>a</b>	10b
SA	Animal Welfare Legislation and Policy Framework <b>a</b>	10b
SA	Growing Carbon Farming pilot <b>a</b>	10a, 11h
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	10a, 11a, 11b, 11d
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Climate Services for Agriculture	11h
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub (state contribution)	10a, 11a, 11e, 11f
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	11a, 11d
SA/Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme <b>a</b>	10b, 11a
SA/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	10a, 11c, 11d
Tas.	Pipeline to Prosperity program <b>a</b>	11a
Tas.	Enterprise Suitability mapping <b>a</b>	11b, 11h
Tas.	Rural Water Use Strategy <b>a</b>	11a
Tas.	Rural Alive and Well <b>a</b>	11d
Tas.	Drought and Weed Management Program	10b
Tas.	Rural Relief Fund	11d
Tas.	TIA assistance to drought-affected farmers	10b, 11b
Tas.	TFGA fodder register and drought community support events	10b, 11d, 11e
Tas./Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	11c
Tas./Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11d, 11e, 11f, 11g
Tas./Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	10a, 10b, 11b



Jurisdiction	Measure	NDA roles and responsibilities met
NT	Financial Literacy Program a	10a, 11b
NT	Pastoral Feed Outlook a	10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 11h
NT/Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme	10b, 11a, 11d, 11f
NT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	10b, 11a, 11b, 11d, 11e, 11f, 11h
NT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	10a, 11a, 11b, 11d
NT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund NT/Northern WA Drought Hub	10a, 11a, 11b, 11e, 11f, 11h
NT/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service a	11c
ACT	Landholder training and capacity building	10a
ACT	Training and capacity building technologies	11b
ACT	Formation of an ACT Grazing Management Group	11d
ACT	Consultation with peak landholder body: ACT RLA a	11e
ACT	Drought Assistance information dissemination	11f
ACT	Soil Moisture Probe Network a	11h
ACT	Animal welfare and land management a	10b
ACT	Drought relief grazing	11f
ACT	Transport subsidies	11a, 11d, 11f
ACT	Pest and weed control measures a	11a
ACT	Collaboration with NSW programs a	11f
ACT	Provision of mental health support services a	11c
ACT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	11a
ACT/Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme	11a
ACT/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service a	11c

a Measure is not drought-specific but supports agricultural resilience and productivity more broadly.

**Table B2** How measures meet NDA roles and responsibilities, by jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
Commonwealth	Farm Household Allowance <b>a</b>	Provides assistance to farming families experiencing financial hardship. The program focusses on helping farmers make important decisions to improve their long-term financial situation.
Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund	The Future Drought Fund provides secure, continuous funding for drought resilience initiatives. It will help Australian farms and communities prepare for the impacts of drought. In 2021–22, the following programs and initiatives continued to be implemented: Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs, Innovation Grants, National Enabling Activities, Farm Business Resilience Program, Regional Drought Resilience Planning, Climate Services for Agriculture, Drought Self-Assessment Tool, Networks to Build Drought Resilience, Drought Resilience Leaders, NRM Drought Resilience – Landscapes and Grants and Drought Resilient Soils and Landscapes. New programs to further support the development, commercialisation and adoption of drought resilience technologies and practices have been announced for delivery in 2022–23.
Commonwealth	Regional Investment Corporation Loans <b>a</b>	Concessional loans provided through the RIC help farmers improve their long-term strength, resilience and profitability, through refinancing existing debt or accessing new debt.
Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.
Commonwealth	Regional Small Business Support Program pilot	Small business counsellors assist small businesses to understand their financial position, identify ways to improve the viability of their business, and develop and implement plans to achieve their business goals.
Commonwealth	Drought Community Support Initiative	Up to \$3,000 per household to support farmers, farm workers and suppliers/contractors facing hardship due to drought.
Commonwealth	Drought Community Outreach Program	A partnership with Rotary Australia and the CWA, to take services and information to farmers and communities in regional Australia through drop-in sessions and deliver \$500 vouchers for eligible households experiencing financial hardship due to drought.
Commonwealth	Recovery Support Officer Network <b>a</b>	Deliver on the ground drought recovery and resilience outreach and community engagement.
Commonwealth	FarmHub <b>a</b>	Provides a centralised point of information on support from all levels of government, industry, and not-for-profit organisations.
Commonwealth	Improving Great Artesian Basin Drought Resilience	Co-funded (dollar for dollar) support for participating jurisdictions for immediate and long-term measures that improve water security and drought resilience in the Great Artesian Basin.
Commonwealth	Taxation measures <b>a</b>	A range of concessions available to help farmers better manage their cash flows and invest in their farms, including income tax averaging, accelerated depreciation arrangements, and immediate deductible purchases of eligible assets up to specified caps.
Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme (OFEWIRS)	The Scheme provided rebates to drought-affected farmers to install critical on-farm infrastructure for stock and permanent plant watering to build their drought resilience.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
Commonwealth	Mental Health and Wellbeing Support <b>a</b>	<p>The provision of telehealth services - both in person via general practitioners and through access to online psychological therapies - was increased. eligible people can continue to access up to 20 individual sessions per calendar year under the Better Access to Psychiatrists, Psychologists and General Practitioners through the MBS initiative until 31 December 2022. Eligible people can receive their Better Access treatment sessions by phone or telehealth where safe and clinically appropriate for their needs.</p> <p>The National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Agreement (the National Agreement) came into effect on 8 March 2022. The National Agreement sets out the shared intention of the Australian Government and states and territories to work in partnership to improve the mental health of all Australians, while ensuring the sustainability and enhancing mental health and suicide prevention services.</p>
Commonwealth	Communities Combating Pest and Weed Impacts During Drought Program	Stimulating employment and local economies and supporting communities and land managers to reduce the impact of pest animals and weeds on agricultural production and the local environment when they have little capacity to do so.
Commonwealth	National Drought Map	Online tool that brings together population data and information on drought conditions.
Commonwealth	Farm Management Deposit Scheme <b>a</b>	Assists farmers to deal more effectively with fluctuations in cash flows, allowing eligible famers to set aside up to \$800,000 in pre-tax income to draw on in future years when needed, such as for restocking or replanting when conditions improve.
Commonwealth	Drought Communities Programme Extension (DCPE)	Provides economic stimulus by funding local infrastructure projects and drought-relief activities that provide employment and support local businesses in regions experiencing hardship due to drought.
Commonwealth	Roads to Recovery	Communities receive funding for road infrastructure, providing additional economic stimulus in drought-affected communities.
Commonwealth	Building Better Regions Fund Round 4	Projects in drought-affected areas to create jobs, drive economic growth and build stronger communities into the future.
Commonwealth	Tackling Tough Times Together	A small grants program for community groups and non-profit groups in drought-affected regions.
Commonwealth	National Water Grid Fund (NGWF) & National Water Grid Authority (NGWA) <b>a</b>	The NWGF provides funding to state and territory governments to accelerate the planning and construction of water infrastructure that will deliver new and affordable water, enhance water security and underpin regional economic growth including irrigated agriculture. Through the Science Program, the NWGA also partners with and funds leading national science institutions, such as Geoscience Australia, CSIRO and the Bureau of Meteorology, as well as with state and territory governments, to deliver best-practice scientific research that informs the planning and investment of the next generation of water infrastructure for Australia.
Commonwealth	National Landcare Program <b>a</b>	Create partnerships with governments, industry, Indigenous and local communities, and individuals to protect and conserve Australia's water, soil, plants, animals and ecosystems and support the productive and sustainable use of these valuable resources.
Commonwealth	Agriculture Stewardship Package <b>a</b>	The Agriculture Stewardship Package is working to develop market arrangements and kick start private investment in farm biodiversity and other sustainability opportunities. Pilot programs will help improve the resilience of farm businesses by providing farmers with opportunities to diversify into less drought-exposed income streams.
Commonwealth	Emissions Reduction Fund <b>a</b>	Supports businesses, farmers, and land managers to take practical actions to reduce emissions and sequester carbon, which may result in co-benefits such as improved soil health and resilience.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
Commonwealth	National Soil Strategy and National Soil Action Plan <b>a</b>	<p>The National Soil Strategy is a Commonwealth, state and territory government initiative that recognises Australia’s soil as a vital natural asset. The strategy sets out how we will value, manage and improve this important resource over the next 20 years. It sets 3 goals: to prioritise soil health, empower soil innovation and stewards, and strengthen soil knowledge and capability. Pursuing these goals to improve soil health is critical to building our resilience to the impacts of climate change, including the increasing frequency and severity of drought.</p> <p>The National Soil Action Plan (2022 to 2027) will provide a nationally agreed path to guide the management and improvement of our soil over the next 5 years. The action plan is being developed in consultation with key soil stakeholders and will reflect the efforts and initiatives undertaken across states and territories in working towards the vision, goals and objectives of the strategy.</p>
Commonwealth	National Agricultural Innovation Priorities <b>a</b>	National priorities to drive more coordinated and strategic agricultural innovation, including a cross-industry approach to innovation for agricultural productivity, sustainability and profitability and to fast-track action on the ground.
NSW	Future Ready Regions	<p>Upgrade the Enhanced Drought Information System (EDIS) to provide farms with world-leading weather and climate data through the so they can make better business decisions. The Enhanced Drought Information System (EDIS) tracks all phases of drought onset and production recovery. It is an interactive tool which provides a snapshot of current seasonal conditions for NSW, factoring in rainfall, soil moisture and pasture/crop growth indices.</p> <p>Invest in an expanded Farms of the Future program to accelerate the adoption of “ag-tech” enabled production methods which make farms more efficient, profitable and resilient.</p> <p>Undertake a comprehensive evaluation of drought support programs. The evaluation will consider quantitative data, stakeholder feedback via surveys and other data sources to identify opportunities to improve the Government’s strategic response to drought and the delivery of support programs.</p>
NSW	Drought Signals Framework	DRNSW will develop and implement a Drought Signals Framework and tool to monitor direct and indirect drought metrics, and adjust policy, program and service levers accordingly to moderate the impacts of extreme drought.
NSW	Drought Loans (Farm Innovation Fund)	Long term, low interest rate loan for NSW farmers.
NSW	Doppler radars and BoM <b>a</b>	Installation of Doppler radars.
NSW	DPIE groundwater resourcing <b>a</b>	Staff resources to assess groundwater applications in a timely manner.
NSW	Drought Staffing Entitlement Maintenance	Maintenance of staff in schools affected by the drought. Provided to schools as part of budget for annual staffing entitlement.
NSW	Support for farmers and businesses	Fully subsidised training for individuals affected by the drought.
NSW	Young farmer Business Program <b>a</b>	This program builds business and personal resilience of primary production businesses, families and individuals.
NSW	Drought Hub	The NSW Drought Hub is a one-stop online portal for NSW Primary Producer drought assistance and information.
NSW	Drought and Supplementary Feed Calculator	This app allows producers to make informed decisions surrounding feed purchases given different livestock classes and was a key tool during the recent drought.



Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
NSW	DPI support for improved animal welfare outcomes <b>a</b>	Stock Welfare panels address animal welfare issues.
NSW	Fish Deaths Mitigation Program	Measures to offset fish deaths in inland river systems.
NSW	Major dams program <b>a</b>	New or upgraded dams to support the Lachlan, Namoi and Border Rivers regions to have increased drought resilience.
NSW	Emergency Relief for Regional Town Water Supplies	Water carting for small regional communities; critical town water infrastructure projects; capital water infrastructure projects.
NSW	Water Infrastructure projects <b>a</b>	Replacing or investigating installing infrastructure such as weirs, pumps and pipelines at Wilcannia, Cobar, Lake Rowlands, lower Macquarie, and in the Hunter.
NSW	Drought Fund	Drought resistance soils and landscapes to trial and demonstrate how scaling of particular practices (or combinations of practices) to improve management of natural capital can build drought resilience.
NSW	National Association of Loss and Grief <b>a</b>	Drought and wellbeing events tailored to communities in Western NSW Local Health District.
NSW	Farmgate Counsellors and Drought Peer Support workers	The program delivers assertive outreach, coordination with local services and communities, and the provision of ongoing support to individuals and their families and carers.
NSW	Mental Health Sports Fund	A grants program where sporting bodies partnered with a mental health organisation to provide a sport-based mental health initiative in regions affected by drought.
NSW	Peer Support Australia	Delivery of an additional 13 workshops to support parents to build resilient children and young people across drought affected areas.
NSW	Royal Flying Doctors for West Drought Support <b>a</b>	Peer Ambassador Program to recruit and train identified community members to act as role model 'champions' of good mental health and resilience in Far West NSW.
NSW	Aboriginal Wellbeing <b>a</b>	Aboriginal social and emotional wellbeing services, delivered by Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and targeted to the needs of local communities.
NSW	Pharmacy Guild <b>a</b>	Delivery of mental health first aid training to regional pharmacists to assist them to address and manage mental health issues in their clients.
NSW	Virtual Mental Health Support <b>a</b>	Expand access to virtual mental health teams will provide community mental health services by telephone and video to rural and remote communities, where face-to-face service options are limited.
NSW	Connections Program <b>a</b>	The program supports consumers coming out of mental health inpatient care to engage with the community and reduce hospital readmissions.
NSW	DPI Farm Tracker application <b>a</b>	The app helps primary producers record seasonal conditions. Using the app, primary producers can: complete a simple crop, pasture or animal survey, keep and manage a photo diary of their farm and monitor the same paddock over many years.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Southern Qld and Northern NSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs	The hubs support farmers and communities to get ready for drought. They connect farmers with regional agricultural experts, innovation and new practices.
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Southern NSW Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hubs	The hubs support farmers and communities to get ready for drought. They connect farmers with regional agricultural experts, innovation and new practices.
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	This program aims to build regional NSW's resilience to drought.
NSW/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience 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.
NSW/Commonwealth	National Landcare Program <b>a</b>	NLP is a Commonwealth funded program, which LLS is contract to deliver. The program is funding a number of local initiatives including: Sustainable Farming, Climate ready aquaculture, The Paddock Between the Ears: Leveraging social capital to build natural capital, Building Resilient Grazing Systems to adapt to changes in climate and meet market demands, and Farming Smarter - a soils project for the next generation.
NSW/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.
Vic.	Drought response, recovery and preparedness programs	Ensuring animal welfare and land management issues are managed during drought. Ensuring consistency of drought policy and reform objectives and complementarity of drought preparedness, response and recovery programs.
Vic.	Farm business skills and risk management programs <b>a</b>	When farming businesses plan and prepare for the future, underpinned by a risk management planned approach, they are in a better position to make informed and timely decisions. Examples of the programs delivered directly and indirectly by Agriculture Victoria include: young and new farmers business bootcamps, training and scholarships, farmer networks and extension activities, developing farm management practices, e.g. stimulating the use of electronic identification devices through the supply chain, whole farm planning, particularly in times with low water allocations, supporting the design and improving efficient of irrigation systems, support to improve on-farm biosecurity and animal welfare, resource management on-farm, climate risk management, adaptation, and innovation.
Vic.	Information and forecasting programs <b>a</b>	The provision of accessible and easy to understand information and forecasting data supports farm businesses to plan and prepare for the impacts of increased climate variability and climate and change. Examples of the programs delivered directly and indirectly by Agriculture Victoria include: agriculture recovery coordinators in each region coordinating services, gathering intelligence, and engaging with stakeholders, agriculture relief and recovery activities, industry networks, coordination, and engagement, farm economic analysis and benchmarking, seasonal forecasting, soil moisture tools and monitoring.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
Vic.	Health and wellbeing programs <b>a</b>	The maintenance of good health and wellbeing of farmers, farming families and farming communities is essential in times of drought and recovery. Examples of the programs delivered directly and indirectly by Agriculture Victoria include: bush nursing centres in Gippsland targeted to farmers and their families, place-based resilience and rural community wellbeing promoting social connectedness and wellbeing for farmers, farming families and farming communities.
Qld	Communities Assistance Program (Drought Support Package)	In 2021–22, the Community Drought Support Package comprised:  Flexible Financial Hardship (FFH) funding to alleviate hardship and cost of living pressures for individuals, households and communities impacted by the drought.  Funding for community events and activities that strengthen resilience in drought affected communities by improving wellbeing, connectedness and supporting the community to thrive.
Qld	Drought Preparedness Grants	Grants for the implementation of on farm capital investments that improve the drought preparedness of the farm business enterprise.
Qld	Farm Management Grants	Provides rebates of up to \$2,500 for professional advice related to the development of farm business resilience plans.
Qld	Drought Ready and Recovery Loans Scheme	Provides a concessional loan for primary producers to implement on farm capital investments that improve the drought preparedness of the farm business enterprise.
Qld	Drought Carry-on Finance Loan Scheme	A concession loan of up to \$250,000 available during drought for primary producers to fund carry on activities where the Emergency Drought Assistance Loan Scheme is insufficient. This program replaces DRAS which is being phased out and will not be offered in future droughts.
Qld	Emergency Drought Assistance Loan Scheme	An interest free concessional loan of up to \$50,000 to assist primary producers with emergency carry on activities. Will replace the DRAS program which is being phased out and not offered in future droughts.
Qld/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	This measure is a subcomponent of the Future Drought Fund. It provides funding for the development of Regional Drought Resilience Plans by consortia of local governments.
Qld/Commonwealth	Co-contribution to the RFCS <b>a</b>	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.
WA	State Natural Resource Management Program: Community Stewardship Grants	Grants are available for community-based projects that help conserve, restore, rehabilitate or enhance a local natural area, conserve WA's biodiversity and maintain or build the capability of NRM community groups across WA.
WA	Grants for Biosecurity Groups <b>a</b>	Feral animals pose a significant threat to our native species, and weeds have the potential to invade and degrade landscapes if left uncontrolled. Recognised Biosecurity Groups (RBGs) are community groups established under the State's Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007 (BAM Act), have access to funding to provide support to landholders to manage widespread and established declared pests, feral animals and weed management. Regenerating productive perennial vegetation, lifting landscape health to build resilience to climate variability.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
WA	Grower Group Alliance (GGA) <b>a</b>	DPIRD provides funding, office, accommodation and staff to the GGA to develop a range of training sessions, field visits and events to aid regional communities to lift the overall investment in, and uptake of demand driven and farmer-led applied agricultural research in WA. The GGA is the lead of the SWWA Drought Hub.
WA	Southern Rangelands Revitalisation Project <b>a</b>	The project is about a whole system approach to improve WA's southern rangelands to drought with a focus on both protection of the resource base and the livestock production that it generates. The project will support pastoralists to investigate and design long-term solutions through demonstrated drought resilience strategies and land management practices for on-station improvements in rangeland conditions, and livestock profitability.
WA	WaterSmart Farms Project <b>a</b>	The Project aims to optimise water availability and increase the use of 'fit for purpose' water. It will focus on developing practical systems for on-farm desalination plants in agricultural regions, to process brackish groundwater into a suitable resource for livestock, crop agronomy and other agribusiness activities and improve the effectiveness of farm dams and catchments to support drying climate conditions. The project will also assess the technology, economics and systems, suitable groundwater resources and options for the disposal of reverse osmosis (RO) reject water. This will reduce farmers reliance on community water supplies reducing overall demand.
WA	Making Dams Work Again <b>a</b>	A partnership with growers to better understand how dams can function in dry years, make water investment decisions with confidence and reduce the cost to government of water carting for stock and dam purposes in dry and drought seasons, and through co-design develop new farm water planning tools to create more drought-resilient farm enterprises and regional communities.
WA	Horticulture Business Capacity Building Program <b>a</b>	Applicants will learn skills in business analysis and data collection and receive expert advice and an examination of farm management practises to identify opportunities to modify their enterprises to improve profit margins, business resilience and sustainability to improve the overall viability of their business.
WA	Western Australia Agricultural Research Collaboration <b>a</b>	Deliver a leverage fund to reverse the decline in industry RDC funding into Western Australia to enable on ground research to harness and apply cutting edge science and expertise to WA's unique challenges and opportunities and contribute to agricultural priorities. To ensure the ongoing development of WA primary industries supporting rural and regional communities to adopt new agricultural technologies across grains, livestock and irrigated agriculture.
WA	Western Australian Agriculture Climate Resilience Fund <b>a</b>	The fund is to help WA farmers and industry to respond to the challenges of climate change, through supporting projects that will support farmers develop resilience to changes in climate, and the consequential changes in market expectations.
WA	Soils Systems Master Class <b>a</b>	DPIRD delivers a series of free Soil Systems Master Classes featuring agronomists, farmers, economists and researchers discussing the science that underpins sustainable, low carbon and biological farming systems, to help farming businesses become more resilient, profitable and sustainable, while capturing carbon opportunities.
WA	Carbon Farming and Land Restoration Program <b>a</b>	The program aims to unlock the potential of carbon farming in the Southwest Land Division and enable rural businesses to establish carbon farming projects that deliver priority environmental, community and economic co-benefits, and contribute to the long-term sustainability of the farming industry.
WA	Rural Business Development Corporation: Farm Debt Mediation Scheme (FDMS) <b>a</b>	The FDMS provides an opportunity for farmers or pastoralists and their financial institution to resolve commercial debt disputes through professional mediation.



Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
WA	DPIRD Regional Intelligence and Adoption Team <b>a</b>	The framework is designed to translate regional and seasonal condition monitoring information and data into intelligence to inform industry, government and operational teams of current and emerging risks and opportunities impacting the profitability and sustainability of primary industries in Western Australia.
WA	Western Farming Systems <b>a</b>	The project explores a range of farming systems risks and opportunities, including crop diversity, expanded seeding windows, and integrating greenhouse gas mitigation strategies into farming businesses.
WA	Wild Dog Action Plan 2021–2025 <b>a</b>	The Plan plays an important role in minimising the impact of invasive species, such as wild dogs, emus and others that pose a significant threat to agricultural industry through loss of livestock and degradation of natural landscapes, perennial. A Research and Development Fund as part of the Plan provides grants to investigate and develop alternative approaches to wild dog management and control for improved livestock production in WA, and to undertake social and ecological assessments of wild dog management techniques to enhance control efforts.
WA	Animal Welfare <b>a</b>	The WA Government released its response to the <i>Animal Welfare Act</i> Review recommendations on 2 June 2021. Changes to the Act will include being clear on standards of care expected for animals, strengthening compliance, and developing legislation and policies that are science-based and reflect community expectations.
WA	Animal Welfare Grant Programs <b>a</b>	Grants are available to eligible not-for-profit activities that rehabilitate wildlife, and provide low-cost or free animal health and veterinary services, systems, infrastructure or equipment that improve the efficiency and effectiveness of animal rescue, rehabilitation of displaced and injured wildlife Western Australia.
WA	Animal Welfare in Emergencies Grant Program – Local Government <b>a</b>	Promotes preparedness, response and recovery capacity building for local governments to enhance their response to animal welfare issues during an emergency, like a bushfire, cyclone or severe storm.
WA	Making Every Drop Count – Below and Above Ground Targeted Soil Moisture Conservation from Paddock to Landscape	The project demonstrates a combination of practices to improve drought resilience of cropping and grazing lands. This involves maintaining permanent groundcover by managing pasture legume systems, sowing techniques, stubble height and other elements.
WA	Soil and Land Conservation Council <b>a</b>	The Soil and Land Conservation Council advises the Minister for Agriculture and Food and the Commissioner of Soil and Land Conservation on policy, management and conservation of Western Australia’s soil and land resources.
WA	Soil re-engineering project <b>a</b>	Explores the use of a combination of soil amelioration techniques and full soil profile re-engineering to address multiple constraints typically associated with sandy, gravel and duplex soils, to determine the maximum grain yield potential on difficult soil.
WA	Grains Science Partnerships <b>a</b>	The department started field trials across the Grainbelt as part of a \$2.78m State Government investment to deliver 5 new grains research projects which aim to develop strategies to drive industry growth, diversity, resilience and capture market opportunities, and develop tools and technologies to boost industry productivity and profitability.
WA	InterGrain Pty Ltd Majority Shareholding <b>a</b>	InterGrain offers market leading research and development with an eye to providing industry with a range of genetic tools to suit various farming situations and diverse Australian environments for wheat, barley and oat varieties.
WA	Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre membership <b>a</b>	AEGIC’s work assists in obtaining markets for lower quality feed grains in dry years and seeking best markets for Australian grains in good years, this leads to improved resilience for grain growers.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
WA	WA SheepLinks Program <b>a</b>	The SheepLinks Program will increase the profitability of the sheep industry across the whole supply chain, providing opportunities for the creation of regional jobs and industry growth and enhance financial resilience and social acceptance of the sheep industry, enabling it to deal with emerging challenges including variable seasons, changing markets and environmental impacts.
WA	Katanning Research Station <b>a</b>	A purpose-built 300 capacity Sheep Feed Intake Facility (SFIF) was built to specialise in feed efficiency research to allow farmers the ability to select sheep that are more efficient in converting feed to wool and meat and be better adapted to dry/drought years and changing seasons with low forage availability.
WA	Katanning Research Station Demonstration Site <b>a</b>	R&D investment to reduce carbon emissions at the Katanning Research Station and to help industry reduce emissions in broadacre farming sector across WA.
WA	Operation of Web Application Portal Interface (API) <b>a</b>	DPIRD will continue to utilise this framework to release further data sharing capabilities in future. We also aim to open 2-way communication via API so that we will have the ability to run data through some of our models to provide results back.
WA	Operation of Weather Stations & Doppler Radar <b>a</b>	DPIRD's network of automatic weather stations and Doppler radars throughout the State provide timely, relevant and local weather data to assist growers and regional communities make more informed decisions.
WA	Regional Telecommunications Resilience: Mobile Network Hardening Program <b>a</b>	There are 141 mobile network upgrades across the State to help improve resilience and keep mobile towers operating during natural disasters to improve amenity and public safety through faster emergency response times, and access to online networks, telehealth, distance education and other government services including access to mapping, drought, flood and access to hardship support.
WA	WA Regional Digital Connectivity Program <b>a</b>	The program will see mobile phone coverage expanded and high grade, flexible broadband services delivered to regional businesses and communities to improve amenity and public safety including access to portable generators for positioning at regional towns and supplementary battery modules at strategic hubs for use in emergency response times.
WA	Digital Farm Grants & Regional Telecommunication Project <b>a</b>	Provides funding to deliver enterprise-grade broadband to agribusinesses, allowing widespread adoption of smart farm technologies and improved business and agricultural productivity.
WA	Pastures from Space service <b>a</b>	DPIRD launched the revamped online mapping tool covering the southwest WA and pastoral region to help farmers, stock feed suppliers and grower groups to understand available pastures in real time. The tools' ability to view cumulative pasture growth rates as an average across a property weekly, monthly and to previous years provides a comparison growth across seasons to allow industry to respond appropriately.
WA	Digital Tools, Mapping and Apps <b>a</b>	A range of tools to assist farm businesses: eConnect Decision Support Tools, Rainfall to Date, Statistical Seasonal Forecast System, Interactive Groundwater and Salinity Map, WA Digital Infrastructure Atlas, Extreme Weather Event Tool, NRInfo.
WA	Mosaic Agriculture <b>a</b>	DPIRD is supporting WA's northern pastoral industry to address feed base requirements with the establishment of new research sites in the West Kimberley and Pilbara to help pastoral irrigators produce better quality feed and boost productivity by addressing feed gaps caused by seasonal variability, allowing pastoralists to supplement native grass pastures during the dry season with high-quality fodder.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
WA	Aboriginal Corporate Governance Development Grant <b>a</b>	The ACGD Grant was a targeted grant round for eligible Aboriginal pastoralists in the Southern Rangelands to support completion of training in corporate governance, and assist them to leverage new diversification opportunities through coaching on corporate governance, business management and modelling, and economic diversification opportunities, such as carbon farming, and tourism, to support long-term resilience and diversification in a drying conditions.
WA	Land Enterprise Support – Native Grains Trial <b>a</b>	The Esperance Tjaltiraak Native Title Aboriginal Corporation (ETNTAC) conceived and developed an ancient grains trial to combine long-held indigenous knowledge with modern scientific practice to build and develop knowledge on how specific ancient grains can be produced in a modern agricultural setting.
WA	Bushfoods Guide and Indigenous Ecological Knowledge <b>a</b>	A Setting up for Success: Bushfoods guide for Aboriginal businesses wanting to enter or increase their participation in the bushfoods industry was developed in light of environmental changes and an increased consumer demand for new and emerging alternative food sources. This 'how to' guide outlines the considerations that bushfood businesses need to consider when producing, harvesting, manufacturing, developing and selling bushfoods.
WA	Climate Dashboard <b>a</b>	Provides an online platform housing updates of climate change actions and related data, which will be available to local governments, communities and businesses to increase accessibility and understanding of climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives.
WA	Cropping after paddock fires <b>a</b>	A fire can affect soil, weeds, insects and diseases in different ways limiting erosion and stabilising paddocks after a fire will be a priority. Awareness of these potential changes will assist with targeted crop management and crop monitoring.
WA	Bushfire Recovery Support <b>a</b>	Supports coordination of on-farm bushfire recovery to assist impacted communities in the Wheatbelt following the February 2022 bushfires.
WA	District Recovery Co-ordinator (DRC) <b>a</b>	The DRC will support communities recovering from the aftermath of catastrophic bushfires that hit the Wheatbelt region in February 2022. The DRC will also chair a District Recovery Coordination Group that will be established to ensure targeted support is delivered to fire-affected communities.
WA	Regional Snapshots <b>a</b>	The snapshots enable easy comparison of cropping, livestock and horticultural industries across and within the Wheatbelt, Mid-West, Great Southern and Goldfields-Esperance regions, including the relative value of broadacre agriculture and annual broadacre cropping production.
WA	Pirra Jungku: Contemporary and traditional fire management approaches in the desert <b>a</b>	The project aims to reduce the impact of high intensity bushfire on biodiversity and monitor the impact of biodiversity through fire management that is supported by science, operational evidence, indicators of conservation, cultural knowledge and weather information.
WA	Water Carting (DWER) <b>a</b>	When water deficiencies are declared - animal welfare and domestic use. Carting occurs across WA when needed for small towns where the local water scheme relies heavily on rainfall.
WA	Regional Climate Alliance pilot program (DWER) <b>a</b>	Encourages regional local governments to work together through projects that reduce the increased risk of bushfires, mitigate the impacts of drought and improve the uptake of renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions to address climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
WA	Community town dam project <b>a</b>	DWER community town dam (FED/States) upgrade to 70 town dams and catchments to improve farm and town water security.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
WA	Climate Science Initiative <b>a</b>	The Climate Science Initiative will provide updated projections on how Western Australia's climate may change over the next century, the scientific research will provide farmers with projections enabling them the opportunity to diversify and prepare for drought and water reductions.
WA	Climate Action (DWER) <b>a</b>	Supporting WA regional communities and primary industries to strengthen resilience and adoption of sector climate action.
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Southern WA Drought Resilience Adoptions and Innovation Hub	DPIRD provides in-kind contribution for staff, including facilities across WA to the Southwest Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub.
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Northern WA & NT Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub	DPIRD provide in-kind contribution for staff, including facilities at Kununurra and Broome to the Northern Western Australian and Northern Territory Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub.
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	The program will build 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 businesses economic, environmental and social resilience.
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	The Regional Drought Resilience Planning (RDRP) program will support partnerships of regional organisations, local government, communities and industry to develop Regional Drought Resilience Plans that: prepare for and manage through future droughts and focus on innovative ways to build drought resilience across the region's agricultural sector and allied industries.
WA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool (DR.SAT)	The DR.SAT is a free tool to help farmers prepare for future drought. Users can explore the current and past condition of their property through satellite imagery and complete simple surveys to assess how they are tracking in terms of financial performance and personal wellbeing.
SA	Family and Business Support (FaBS) Program <b>a</b>	Funds mentors to provide non-clinical counselling support and business support to farmers and, where appropriate, refer them to relevant government or industry support services.
SA	Wild Dog Management Programs <b>a</b>	Between July 2018 and July 2022, 723 wild dogs were euthanised to help ensure animal welfare, particularly within the sheep meat and wool sectors, during drought conditions and the period of recovery post drought.
SA	Animal Health Officers <b>a</b>	Animal Health officers are available to provide advice and support related to animal health and welfare during dry conditions, livestock transport requirements, and biosecurity requirements such as requesting commodity declarations when buying in feed sources.
SA	Rebuilding the Dog Fence in South Australia <b>a</b>	More than 440 kilometres of the Dog Fence has been rebuilt and the rebuild of more than 450 kilometres of fence is under way, The fence is designed and build to suit the terrain, type of ground, and pressure from wild dogs and other animals. The program reduces the number of attacks experienced by livestock and improves their welfare.
SA	Fox Bounty	The South Australian fox bounty program supports drought-affected primary producers by providing \$10 per fox humanely killed on their land, helping to ensure animal welfare issues are managed during drought.
SA	Animal Welfare Legislation and Policy Framework <b>a</b>	South Australia has a comprehensive suite of Animal welfare legislation and a policy framework that the Department of Environment and Water and PIRSA lead and work with landholders to ensure it is upheld.
SA	Growing Carbon Farming pilot <b>a</b>	This initiative will support a minimum of 6 commercial demonstration pilots to undertake carbon farming practices that either sequester carbon and/or reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	The Farm Business Resilience Program assists farmers to build knowledge and skills in strategic farm business management and planning, farm risk management and decision-making, natural resource management, personal and social resilience.
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	The Regional Drought Resilience Planning Program supports regions to develop regional drought resilience plans to prepare for and manage future drought risks.
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Climate Services for Agriculture	The Climate Services for Agriculture prototype helps Australian farmers to adapt to climate variability and related trends and thereby improving the viability of their businesses.
SA/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub (state contribution)	The hub is focused on the adoption of innovative tools to assist mixed farmers become more drought resilient.
SA/Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme	This Scheme provides rebates to primary producers in drought affected areas towards meeting the costs associated with the purchase and installation of various on-farm water infrastructure that addresses animal welfare needs during drought and assists primary producers to be more resilient for future droughts.
SA/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.
Tas.	Pipeline to Prosperity program <b>a</b>	Irrigation development improves water security, enabling farm enterprises to manage the risk of dry conditions. It builds resilience at the enterprise level by enabling farmers to lift productivity, diversify their businesses, and minimise forced livestock sales and crop losses during drought. It can also help to balance supply and demand for fodder across the agricultural sector.
Tas.	Rural Water Use Strategy <b>a</b>	The Strategy contains 4 goals and 29 actions to guide Tasmania's water management arrangements to ensure integrated, fair and efficient regulation of water resources, deliver sustainable outcomes for rural water users, communities and the environment, and maintain Tasmania's competitive advantage in a changing climate. It will underpin sustainable irrigation development in Tasmania over the next decade.
Tas.	Enterprise Suitability Mapping	Enterprise Suitability Maps enable farmers to select agricultural crop and pasture species best suited to their local climate, soil and landscape.
Tas.	Rural Alive and Well (RAW) <b>a</b>	RAW is a not-for-profit organisation helping individuals, families and communities through mental health issues with a focus on suicide prevention. RAW started in 2007 as a community-driven response to drought and was incorporated in 2009. It helps individuals, families and the community through mental health issues with a focus on reducing the prevalence of suicide in rural communities.
Tas.	Drought and Weed Management Program <b>a</b>	The program provided funding towards the cost of weeds officers and weed management activities post-drought in 5 local government areas on Tasmania's East Coast and in the South-East.
Tas.	Rural Relief Fund <b>a</b>	The fund is administered by Rural Business Tasmania (RBT) and assists farming families in crisis with direct household and farm business expenses. As Tasmania's RFCS service provider, RBT is well-placed to efficiently and effectively deliver support to farming families in greatest need. Applications for assistance can be turned around in as little as 24 hours.



Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
Tas.	TIA assistance to drought-affected farmers	TIA is a joint venture between the Tasmanian Government and the University of Tasmania. It is the Tasmanian Government's preferred supplier of publicly-funded research, development and extension services to Tasmanian agriculture. The initiative drew on TIA's expertise in the areas of pasture development, animal management, resource management, climate change and irrigation management.
Tas.	TFGA fodder register and drought community support events	The Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) received funding to upgrade its online Feed & Fodder register to include information on agistment opportunities, thereby helping to create a marketplace among producers for these goods and services, and to deliver community support events in drought-affected areas.
Tas./Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	The program addresses Tasmanian Government's responsibilities to encourage the delivery and uptake of capability-building programs to improve farming businesses' skills and decision making that are flexible and tailored to farming businesses' needs.
Tas./Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	The program will produce a Regional Drought Resilience Plan for each of Tasmania's 3 regions. Each plan will document opportunities to build drought resilience, consistent with Tasmania's responsibilities under the NDA.
Tas./Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.
NT	Financial Literacy Program <b>a</b>	Peak bodies and industry groups access funds to engage professional delivery of courses that improve the knowledge of primary producers, thereby increasing the robustness of the businesses they run.
NT	Pastoral Feed Outlook <b>a</b>	The quarterly report uses a combination of data to provide a snapshot of past, current, and future trends in pasture availability across the eleven pastoral districts of the NT, allowing primary industries to shape their plans for future operational activities.
NT/Commonwealth	FDF - NT/Northern WA Drought Hub	NT and WA governments, universities, industry bodies and land management groups formed a joint venture dedicated to multi-levelled collection and dissemination of information including, weather, information systems and tools, knowledge brokering, extension and adoption, research and development to prepare for and mitigate against the effects of future droughts.
NT/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.
NT/Commonwealth	On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme	Through the OFEWIRS the NT ensures animal welfare issues are managed by providing rebates for strategically placed water infrastructure, ensuring survival of permanent plants and livestock in emergency situations.
NT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	Regional consultation will deliver current responses to drought and will be used to design future responses for regional groups, and individual businesses within regions, to prepare for and mitigate the effects of future droughts.
NT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Farm Business Resilience Program	Farm business plans, business and management skills, risk mitigation, resource use efficiency and related elements of agribusiness management will be taught to prepare for and mitigate the effects of future droughts.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
ACT	Landholder training and capacity building	ACT NRM has offered Business Edge training designed to enhance farmer knowledge and skills in basic financial and business management to improve farm business efficiency and profitability particularly in preparation for drought, during drought and part of drought recovery; drought preparedness; sponsorship for NSW DPI Farm Business Resilience coaching program; Farm Business Resilience webinars and sponsorship for training in natural resource management.
ACT	Training and capacity building technologies	The soil moisture probe network allows landholders to make fine scale decisions around stocking, destocking, purchase or sowing of feed and more - making them more prepared and resilient to drought. The network allows landholders to look at seasonal projections for pasture growth based on soil moisture and rainfall and make informed decisions on stock management, feed and ground cover management.
ACT	ACT Grazing Management Group	This peer-based group aims to support farming families by bring farming families together to discuss and share experiences in managing drought. This measure supports improved farming family well-being and improved mental health outcomes, by supporting families to have difficult discussions around drought preparedness, farm management and cashflows and succession planning.
ACT	Consultation with peak landholder body: ACT RLA <b>a</b>	The ACT Government meets regularly with the ACT Rural Landholders Association to work together to support farmers to manage during drought. Regular attendance by BRS and ACT NRM at the ACT RLA meetings to present information on drought, drought preparedness and opportunities (training/capacity building, grants and rebates, trials and demonstrations) that are currently available.
ACT	Drought Assistance information dissemination	Information on drought assistance is posted on EPSDD website ACT Farmers Support package web page, distributed to ACT rural landholders through direct emails and through the ACT RALF email newsletter and BRS and ACT NRM regularly attend meetings of the ACT RLA.
ACT	Soil Moisture Probe Network <b>a</b>	The soil moisture probe is to allow landholders to look at seasonal projections for pasture growth based on soil moisture and rainfall and make informed decisions on stock management, feed and ground cover management.
ACT	Animal welfare and land management <b>a</b>	The government veterinarian within BRS has assisted landholders with stock water testing, stock feed testing and worm tests enabling improved animal husbandry and animal health outcomes.
ACT	Drought relief grazing	Biosecurity and Rural Services offered 15 grazing blocks with 3-month grazing licences, free of charge to ACT farmers in an effort to allow paddocks to recover and give stock fresh pasture.
ACT	Transport subsidies	In line with the NSW guidelines, ACT Primary Producers received transport rebates. This included freight for fodder, stock to slaughter, to and from agistment, seed, and chemicals.
ACT	Pest and weed control measures <b>a</b>	Supporting landholders with additional pest and weed control measures through joint control programs. Over 3 catchment areas involved. BRS offers landholders the use of chemical spray trailers and rabbit smokers, free of charge to assist with pest and weed control.
ACT	Collaboration with NSW programs <b>a</b>	ACT promotes and provides access to NSW run programs. In addition, BRS and ACT NRM regularly attend meetings run by the ACT RLA to provide input and address any landholder concerns. The teams run Farmers Forums, where information on drought, drought preparedness and opportunities (training/capacity building, grants and rebates, trials and demonstrations) that are currently available and discussed.

Jurisdiction	Measure	How measure meets NDA roles and responsibilities
ACT	Provision of mental health support services <b>a</b>	Information was provided to ACT landholders and representatives from Rural Adversity Mental Health Program attended forums to talk to landholders.
ACT/Commonwealth	Future Drought Fund: Regional Drought Resilience Planning	Under the Future Drought Fund funded Drought Resilience Planning Program, the ACT is developing the ACT Regional Drought Resilience Plan, which will identify opportunities and actions for adaption and preparedness activities to increase ACT rural landholders' drought resilience.
ACT/Commonwealth	On-farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme	A rebate to farmers who have expended funds on installing water infrastructure for stock water or permanent plantings (orchards and grape vines). This program aims to build the capacity of rural landholders to manage drought through supporting the installation of infrastructure which builds farm resilience to drought.
ACT/Commonwealth	Rural Financial Counselling Service <b>a</b>	The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free and independent financial counselling to eligible farmers, fishers, foresters and small related enterprises who are experiencing, or at risk of, financial hardship. The objectives of the program are to transition clients out of financial crisis, improve clients' business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit, and improve clients' financial wellbeing and resilience.

**a** Measure is not drought-specific but supports agricultural resilience and productivity more broadly.

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