

## Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund 2021-22

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

This information complements the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding Guidelines 2021-22 available at <https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrf>.

#### **Q) Who administers Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund 2021-22?**

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) administers Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund 2021-22.

#### **Q) How much funding will be available under the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund 2021-22 and where does it come from?**

In total, \$19.1 million will be made available in 2021-22 comprising:

- a. \$6 million of Commonwealth funding from the Managing Disaster Risk program specifically for the 14 local government areas most-impacted by the 2019 North Queensland monsoon trough to support the region's long-term recovery, and
- b. \$13.1 million of a combination of Commonwealth and Queensland Government funding to actively reduce the risk of natural hazards and strengthen disaster resilience across all of Queensland.

#### **Q) Why is \$6 million allocated specifically for projects in the 14 local government areas most-impacted by the 2019 North Queensland monsoon trough?**

As part of the 2020-21 Budget, the Australian Government committed \$60 million for locally-led projects to support the region's long-term recovery following the devastating 2019 monsoon trough disaster event.

The Managing Disaster Risk program forms part of this commitment making \$12 million available to mitigate disaster risks and build resilience across the 14 most flood-affected local government areas.

The Managing Disaster Risk program was designed to occur over two rounds, with \$6 million allocated under the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund 2020-21 and the remaining \$6 million being made available under the 2021-22 round.

#### **Q) What are the key documents for applicants?**

Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding Guidelines 2021-22 (the Guidelines) and the 2021-22 Expression of Interest (EOI) Form are available at <https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrf>.

### Q) What is the process for applying?

Applying for funding under the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding 2021-22 is a two-stage process – an Expression of Interest (EOI) stage followed by a detailed application stage.

Following consideration of EOIs, the full application form will be made available to short-listed applicants.

### Q) When do EOIs close?

Applicants will be able to submit EOIs up until **18 February 2022**.

### Q) Who is eligible to apply for Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding 2021-22?

Eligible applicants include:

- local government bodies constituted under the *Local Government Act 2009*; or the *City of Brisbane Act 2010*, and the Weipa Town Authority
- Regional Organisations of Councils
- Regional Natural Resource Management bodies
- River Improvement Trusts (constituted under the *River Improvement Trust Act 1940*)
- Water authorities and local water boards (Category 2 only)
- Queensland Government departments and agencies and Government Owned Corporations
- incorporated non-government organisations (including volunteer groups)
- not-for-profit organisations, including universities.

### Q) How do applicants apply?

Applicants can apply through the online EOI form, available at <https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrf>.

### Q) Can applicants outside Queensland apply?

Yes. However, recognising projects must be for the direct benefit of Queensland communities, priority will be given to Queensland-based applicants, including Queensland-based branches of national organisations.

### Q) What types of projects are eligible under the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund 2021-22?

Projects can be **infrastructure** or **non-infrastructure** projects that deliver resilience and/or risk reduction outcomes for Queensland communities. The Guidelines provide examples of eligible projects.

**Q) Are projects *primarily* focussed on addressing the impact of drought considered eligible?**

No. The program has a primary focus of increasing resilience to, and reducing the risk of **sudden onset natural hazards**. However, projects that achieve this end, as well as addressing the impact of drought, are considered eligible.

**Q) Are projects primarily focussed on addressing impact of pandemic considered eligible?**

The program has a primary focus of increasing resilience to and reducing the risk of **sudden onset natural hazards**. However, projects that achieve this end, as well as addressing the impact of pandemic, are eligible.

**Q) Is work on private land eligible?**

Works on private land are generally not eligible. In the past, applications for works on private land have not been successful. However, there may be cases where an applicant can demonstrate that there is significant public benefit from works that may involve private land. These will be considered on a case by case basis.

**Q) How much funding can I get?**

Applicants can apply for a maximum of \$2 million *per project*. The amount awarded for a project is a *capped* amount and is a subsidy towards *eligible project costs*.

**Q) Can I submit more than one EOI?**

Applicants may apply for more than one project. The \$2 million maximum amount of funding applies *per project*, not *per applicant*. If an applicant submits more than one EOI, the priority given to each project must be identified. This is indicated in the EOI form.

Should the funding round be oversubscribed, QRA may limit assessment of applications to an applicant's highest priority application.

**Q) Is GST to be included in the funding amount sought?**

No. When claiming reimbursement of expenditure the amount to be lodged must be the GST exclusive actual cost incurred.

Depending on an applicant's GST status, QRA may gross up the grant amount to include GST.

**Q) Do applicants need to make a co-contribution to the costs of the project?**

Yes. There is no fixed or minimum co-contribution, and this can be an in-kind co-contribution. The amount of the applicant's co-contribution and the surety of this co-contribution are considered during the process.

### Q) When do projects need to be completed?

Projects approved for Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding 2021-22 must be completed by **30 June 2024**.

Project acquittal reports are due within three months of the end of the financial year in which the project is completed, i.e. –

- for projects completed in the 2022-23 financial year, the project acquittal report is due by 30 September 2023
- for projects completed in the 2023-24 financial year, the project acquittal report is due by 30 September 2024.

### Q) How often are progress updates required?

Progress reports are required monthly throughout the delivery period until project completion. All reporting requirements are set out in the Project Funding Schedule/Agreement for successful projects.

### Q) What happens if a project ends up costing more than the approved amount?

Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Funding 2021-22 is approved as a *capped* amount. Successful applicants are responsible for any expenditure over the approved amount.

### Q) What happens if a project does not deliver all of the approved scope?

Successful applicants need to ensure the resilience and/or risk reduction outcomes are achieved as per the approved scope. Where a project does not deliver all of the approved outcomes, then the project funding may be reduced based on the undelivered scope.

### Q) What happens if a project ends up costing less than the approved amount?

Unspent funds will be returned to the program and may be reallocated to other projects.

### Q) Who decides on the successful projects?

QRA may consult with relevant agencies, partners and/or relevant Minister for review and/or endorsement of projects.

For projects in the 14 local government areas most impacted by the 2019 North Queensland monsoon trough (refer Appendix 1 of the guidelines), the Steering

Committee established under the *National Partnership Agreement on Grants Assistance to Primary Producers Impacted by the North Queensland Floods* will endorse projects put forward by QRA for approval.

The QRA CEO provides final project approval.

**Q) When will the approved projects be announced?**

Successful projects will be announced by 30 June 2022.

**Q) Where can applicants find more information?**

More information can be found at <https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/qrrf>.