

**HOME AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS**

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE:

.Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources

*Inquiry into the Impact on the Agricultural Sector of Vegetation and Land
Management Policies, Regulations and Restrictions*

27 February 2019

QoN Number: SCAWR/001

Subject: Examples of disaster resilience initiatives

Written

Question Submitted by: Mr Rick Wilson

Question:

In order to supplement the answer provided at the hearing, could you give some more examples of disaster resilience initiatives the Government's yearly investment of \$26.1 million for the National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience is used towards, with a more detailed breakdown from current and past years?

Answer:

The National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience (NPA) was a joint funding arrangement between the Commonwealth and the states and territories to strengthen community resilience to natural disasters. The NPA expired on 30 June 2018. Projects were selected and delivered by the states in accordance with their state-wide natural disaster risk assessments and the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience.

Examples of initiatives funded under the NPA include:

- updating state-wide risk assessments
- hazard reduction burning
- developing and upgrading fire breaks and fire trails
- strategic and local hazard planning
- community education, resilience and preparedness programs
- communications system upgrades for community refuges
- volunteer leadership and training programs
- natural hazard studies and mapping
- evacuation plans
- construction and upgrades to flood mitigation works, cyclone shelters and evacuation centres

National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience – Funding Distribution						
	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	Total
NSW	\$6,786,000	\$6,786,000	\$6,786,000	\$6,786,000	\$6,786,000	\$33,930,000
Vic	\$4,176,000	\$4,176,000	\$4,176,000	\$4,176,000	\$4,176,000	\$20,880,000
Qld	\$6,003,000	\$6,003,000	\$6,003,000	\$6,003,000	\$6,003,000	\$30,015,000
WA	\$3,132,000	\$3,132,000	\$3,132,000	\$3,132,000	\$3,132,000	\$15,660,000
SA	\$2,088,000	\$2,088,000	\$2,088,000	\$2,088,000	\$2,088,000	\$10,440,000
Tas	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$6,525,000
ACT	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$6,525,000
NT	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$1,305,000	\$6,525,000
Total	\$26,100,000	\$26,100,000	\$26,100,000	\$26,100,000	\$26,100,000	\$130,500,000

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PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE:

. Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water Resources

*Inquiry into the Impact on the Agricultural Sector of Vegetation and Land
Management Policies, Regulations and Restrictions*

27 February 2019

QoN Number: SCAWR/002

Subject: New initiatives to the National Bushfire Mitigation Programme

Written

Question Submitted by: Mr Rick Wilson

Question:

Are there any newer equivalent initiatives to the National Bushfire Mitigation Programme previously administered by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (in partnership with state and territory governments and the then programme in the Attorney-General's Department)?

a. If so, how do these link into current mitigation strategies and plans that Home Affairs administer?

Answer:

There are no equivalent initiatives to the National Bushfire Mitigation Programme currently in operation. However, states and territories were able to use funding provided under the National Partnership Agreement on Natural Disaster Resilience on bushfire mitigation activities.

The Australian Government also provided \$26.1 million in the 2018-19 financial year for key national emergency management initiatives and disaster resilience initiatives, including to boost aerial firefighting capabilities and for the implementation of a new National Fire Danger Rating System.

In April 2018, the Australian Government established the National Resilience Taskforce to lead nation-wide reforms to reduce the impact and financial burden of disasters on communities and the economy. The taskforce has developed a new National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework in consultation with states and territories, and private sector and community representatives. The framework, which is due to be released in 2019, will focus national efforts to proactively reduce existing disaster risk, minimise the creation of new risk and improve disaster risk information. The framework will inform Australian Government funding arrangements to reduce the risk of bushfires and other disasters from 2019-20 onwards.