



Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought Initiative Evaluation

Final reporting guidance for CIP and SNG organisations

Nous is evaluating the Helping Regional Communities Prepare for Drought (HRPCD) Initiative.

The evaluation aims to:

- 1 Capture compelling stories of impact
- 2 Build an evidence base of what works
- 3 Provide recommendations to refine and adapt the Initiative
- 4 Equip community organisations with practical skills
- 5 Inform future drought policy in Australia

This pack contains:



Final reporting requirements



The evaluation short-term outcomes



Guidance on data collection



An example of a short-term outcome question response

Your final report to FRRR consists of two components.

You will be required to complete a grant acquittal report and an additional outcomes form as part of your final grant reporting. This pack provides guidance on the additional outcomes reporting.

1. Grant acquittal report - Grants Gateway

This is where you will report on grant funding expenditure.

You will be asked to report on:

- **Project details** – any changes to your project, the activities that took place (where, when and who participated?)
- **Project outcomes** – these are the outcomes you selected in your grant application.
- **Budget** and statements of income and expenditure.
- **Any photos** from your project
- **Feedback** on your experience with grant process.

2. Additional outcomes questions – Microsoft Forms

This form helps the evaluation understand the outcomes and impact of your project.

You will be asked to report on:

- **Outputs** - things you delivered (e.g. how many workshops or events did you deliver? how many assets were upgraded).
- **Nature of activities** in your project (e.g. the type of asset or focus of your workshops/events).
- Estimated **number of people** that have benefited from your project and their **demographic information**.
- How your project contributed to the **indicators for each selected short-term outcome** - refer to the working session materials. The data you collect will help answer this.
- **Any changes in your community** related to the outcome. You can reference your data here.
- The **data or evidence** that supports your claims – you can upload data, including any surveys, photos, newspaper articles or other relevant information.

The MS Forms outcome report will ask you to report on two *primary* outcomes that your project has achieved.

You will be asked to select **two short-term outcomes** that your project contributed towards from a list of seven¹:

- 1 **Improved communication, social connection and collaboration** within and between communities to support drought preparedness.
- 2 **Improved access to and use of services, resources, infrastructure and facilities** by communities that support drought preparedness.
- 3 **A greater diversity of community members and organisations** contribute to drought preparedness activities.
- 4 **Increased awareness, knowledge and understanding of strategies** by communities, volunteers and not-for-profit organisations to prepare for and adapt to drought.
- 5 **Increased implementation and improved effectiveness of place-based practices** by communities to build and enhance resilience to drought.
- 6 **Strengthened individual leadership capacity and capability** to support community and drought resilience.
- 7 **Community-based networks** that strengthen drought resilience are **expanded, diversified or created**.

You will also be asked to comment on the extent to which your project is on track to achieve the **five intermediate outcomes** and **two long-term outcomes** of the HRCPD Initiative:

Intermediate outcomes:

1. There is an increase in the reach and activities of community leaders, mentors, networks and organisations driving action on drought resilience.
2. There is a change in awareness of and attitudes to drought preparedness at the community level
3. Communities experience improved cohesion and belonging that supports an ability to prepare for drought.
4. Communities have strong adaptive capacity and are empowered to respond to drought.
5. Communities have effective networks and resources that support local responses to drought.

Long-term outcomes:

1. Stronger connectedness and greater social capital within communities, contributing to wellbeing and security.
2. Communities implement transformative activities that improve their resilience to drought.

1. We understand that some projects will have contributed to more than two short-term outcomes. The report asks for only two short-term outcomes to reduce the reporting burden for organisations and to focus on the primary impacts resulting from CIP projects.

There are many ways to collect outcomes data to validate your statements of impact.

- Collecting the right data helps you know what has worked and what can change to deliver impact.
- The amount of data you collect will vary based on the size of your project.
- Focus on reporting the **change your project creates** – not the number of activities delivered (e.g., don't just count the things you delivered or the number of participants you engaged, focus on *what change* occurred as a result of your activity).

DATA COLLECTION METHODS

- Surveys
- Interviews
- Observations / observer ratings
- Focus groups
- Photos or videos
- Case studies

OUTCOME REPORTING EXAMPLES

- Describe what happened and to whom (e.g., X% of participants aged below 35 years reported X)
- Share common themes, topics, ideas reported by participants
- Develop case studies that highlight the impact of your project

We have provided one example of how you might provide evidence against the short-term outcome questions in the outcome report.

Nous encourages you to use any data you collect during your project—such as participant surveys, registration forms, or feedback—to help you assess how well your project has delivered against the outcome indicators. You'll need to provide evidence to support the ratings you give. This could include summaries of survey results, examples of feedback, or data showing participation or engagement.

For example:

First outcome selected PO1 - Improved communication, social connection and collaboration within and between communities to support drought preparedness.

1. To what extent did your project achieve the following?	Rating
Created more effective communication channels in the local community or with another community.	<i>Unsure or not applicable.</i>
Increased frequency of communication in the local community or with another community	<i>To some extent.</i>
Strengthened social connection within the local community, region or state.	<i>To a large extent</i>
Increased community satisfaction with the strength of social connections in the local community, region or state.	<i>To a large extent</i>
Improved collaboration within the local community or between different communities	<i>Unsure or not applicable</i>
Improved sense of community belonging	<i>To some extent</i>
Increased awareness of supports available in the local community.	<i>To some extent</i>
2. Please describe what changes you have observed in your community that relate to this outcome. Please provide evidence that supports your assessment.	
<p>"Our event brought together 50 women from four different towns in the region. I observed many women meeting each other for the first time. We did a phone survey with five women after the event. All of them said that they enjoyed meeting women from other towns that they hadn't met before and that they will use these new networks to deliver future activities and events. Two women said that they are still in touch with the other participants they met."</p>	



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We are inspired and determined to improve people's lives in significant ways. When our strengths complement yours and we think big together, we can transform businesses, governments, and communities. We realise a bigger idea of success.

750

PEOPLE

75

PRINCIPALS

5

COUNTRIES