

Key Dates



Note: Projects funded in this round must be undertaken between Sept 2026 and October 2027.

All applications close 5pm Victorian time (AEST).

About FRRR

FRRR (Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal) supports remote, rural and regional communities across Australia to be vibrant, resilient, empowered and sustainable. We work alongside communities to catalyse locally led solutions, especially in areas facing systemic challenges.

To do this, we connect resources, build enduring local skills and knowledge, and reshape how rural and remote Australia is seen, valued and supported.

FRRR recognises that small and remote areas are vulnerable to climate change and disasters, and experience capacity challenges in responding to and preparing for disasters where often existing disadvantage is exacerbated.

That is why our grant programs focus on building resilience and strengthening communities, and actively seek to support a **more prepared and climate resilient** remote, rural and regional Australia.

Learn more: frrr.org.au.

Program Information



Program Purpose

The Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) Prepare and Recover program supports communities in remote, rural and regional communities across Australia to implement initiatives that **prevent and prepare** for future climate-related impacts, or **recover** from existing disasters in the medium to long-term timeframe, generally one to ten years after a disaster.

Priority will be given to projects that:

- Respond to a specific climate impact or event, either historic or likely to occur in the future;
- Focus on [community-led resilience building](#) in recovery or preparedness to strengthen the capacity and capability of local people and systems to manage the impact of future disasters, through inclusion, networks, communication, information sharing, self-organising systems, local decision making and resourcing, tools and support; or
- Are from local community groups and not-for-profits or organisations that do not have DGR status.



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FRRR also wants to support projects that, in the context of **preventing and preparing** for future climate-related impacts, or **recovering** from existing disasters:

- Invest in outback, remote and less-resourced communities where they may be more highly impacted by disasters or future climate impacts;
- Support First Nations-led initiatives that strengthen culture, Country, economic participation and self-determination;
- Support communities to implement generational transition.

If you want to discuss a project to support disaster preparedness, resilience or recovery, please call us on 1800 170 020.

Types of Projects Supported

SRC Prepare and Recover aims to support projects that:

- Assist communities to prevent and prepare for, respond to, or recover from disasters, weather events or climate impacts;
- Demonstrate broad community benefit, are locally determined, support collaboration and build capacity for the future;
- Build networks or resources so that local communities can share information, increase climate related knowledge, and strengthen social connection;
- Aim to 'build back better' infrastructure following a disaster event, accounting for historical and future climate risks;
- Recognise First Nations knowledge and strengthen cultural practices to foster healing, connection and care for Country; and
- Have limited ability to attract funds from other donors or government.

FRRR funds projects that align with the following types of charitable projects and outcomes:

- Fostering and celebrating a sense of identity, diversity and cultural connection within the community;
 - Supporting diverse groups within remote, rural and regional communities including, but not limited to, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, culturally and linguistically diverse, those living with disability, and LGBTQIA+;
 - Improving community health and social wellbeing;
 - Enabling people to develop skills, knowledge and confidence to lead and contribute to the prosperity and renewal of their community;
 - Building a sustainable volunteer base and/or supporting the wellbeing of volunteers;
 - Celebrating and resourcing volunteer-led efforts;
 - Enhancing places where communities gather; and
 - Reducing the divide on access to digital technology and connectivity for remote, rural and regional communities.
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Funds Available

Grants **up to \$25,000** are available for a broad range of initiatives.

These grants are available thanks to the generous support of the donors listed on the [SRC Prepare and Recover](#) program page.

Examples of previous projects:

- [New life for the Katanning pool hall](#)
 - [Community hub takes on disaster response](#)
 - [Disaster preparedness workshops for Far North Queensland](#)
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What Can be Funded

A broad range of charitable activities are considered under this program, including:

- Delivering, or providing projects, events, programs, initiatives and services;
- Purchasing or hiring equipment and materials;
- Community infrastructure;
- Organisational capacity building;
- Community resource development; and
- Proportionate costs associated with staffing as required to deliver the activity.

Additional specific funding is available for:

- Projects to support communities affected by the 2026 Victorian bushfires to prevent and prepare for future climate-related impacts and/or recovery.

What Can't be Funded

There are several areas that we **cannot fund** through this program. If in doubt, please contact us:

- Projects that support core business and areas of responsibility of Federal, State and Local Governments;
- Solely ongoing core organisational operational costs (e.g. rent, utilities, regular wages, loan repayments);
- The encouragement or advancement of sport, recreation and social activities are not considered charitable activities under Australian law.

Applications from sporting organisations need to clearly demonstrate charitable outcomes and benefit to the wider community that are above and beyond the sporting activities of the club;

- Overseas travel and overseas projects;
- Prizes, gifts, trophies or awards;
- Political lobbying;
- Projects that primarily benefit private business, a sole trader, or private interests;
- Projects solely focused on animal welfare;
- Initiatives relating to pandemic recovery, mice plagues, other environmental disease, economic disruptions, or other events causing significant community impacts; and
- Projects for infrastructure or repairs that are subject to / eligible for an insurance claim.

Eligibility

To apply, you must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant organisations must be a **not-for-profit organisation** with either an **Incorporation Certificate and/or an ABN**. If you are unsure if your organisation is a registered not-for-profit (e.g. if you are a Co-operative, Other Unincorporated Entity, Public Company, or Trust), please contact FRRR;
- There are three streams of funding available within the Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) program: **Small and Vital** (including Larger Leverage); and **Prepare and Recover**. Organisations may submit their application in **only one** of these streams per SRC grant round and any other applications in this round will be considered ineligible;
- Project must be for charitable purposes and offer clear public benefit;
- Not-for-profit organisations with or without DGR-1 endorsement are eligible;
- Projects must benefit communities in remote, rural or regional Australia.



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Please note, you will be considered ineligible if the:

- Application is submitted by individuals, sole traders, private or commercial businesses (as per the submitted ABN);
- Application is submitted by an organisation that is not a legal entity (i.e. a registered not-for-profit), without the written consent of the governing / partnering body who holds the ABN / Incorporation Certificate;
- Application is submitted without required financial information (see below);
- Final report/s from any FRRR grants awarded in the previous seven years have not been acquitted (delivery organisations should check with legal organisation to see if there are any outstanding final reports);
- Application is for a project or activity that has already occurred / is occurring prior to the announcement of funding;
- Application is incomplete. **NOTE:** Due to the volume of applications received, applications are assessed based on the documentation received at the time of application. **FRRR is unlikely to follow up missing documentation after applications have been submitted.**

How to Apply

Before beginning your application, please read the information on the following pages. It sets out critical, additional information that we require and explains why it is important.

FRRR accepts applications online via the Blackbaud Grants Portal.

We recommend you download this [sample copy of the application form](#).

[Click here to apply](#).

BLACKBAUD
Grants Portal

FRRR

Definitions

- **Disaster:** A serious disruption of the functioning of a community or a society at any scale due to hazardous events interacting with conditions of exposure, vulnerability and capacity, leading to one or more of the following: human, material, economic and environmental losses, and impacts. This can include climate related conditions, such as drought, heatwaves and bushfire; earthquake; flood; storm; cyclone; storm surge; landslide; tsunamis; meteorite strike; or tornado.
- **Disaster Prevention:** Activities and measures taken to avoid or reduce existing and new disaster risks and climate-related impacts.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** Knowledge and activities undertaken in advance that help individuals, communities or organisations get ready and make plans to cope with the effects of a disaster.
- **Disaster Recovery:** Both a process and an outcome. As a process, recovery is coming to terms with the impacts of a disaster and managing the disruptions and changes caused, which can result in a new way of living. As an outcome, recovery is restoring or improving a disaster-affected community to make it stronger should a disaster occur again.
- **Disaster Risk:** The potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society or a community as a function of hazard, exposure, vulnerability and capacity.
- **Resilience:** The ability of a system, community or society exposed to hazards to resist, absorb, accommodate, adapt to, transform and recover from the effects of a hazard in a timely and efficient manner, including through the preservation and restoration of its essential basic structures and functions through risk management.

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Contact
Details

If at any time you need help with your application, do not hesitate to contact the FRRR office on free call 1800 170 020, or email us at granting@frrr.org.au.

IMPORTANT NOTES RE: APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Please read the information below to support the planning and preparation of your project. It also sets out what you **MUST** include for your project to be considered. The FRRR website also includes a list of [Frequently Asked Questions](#) that provide valuable information. Contact FRRR if you have any questions about this information or any aspect of the application form.

Eligible legal entities

Every application needs to include an organisation that holds either an **ABN or Incorporation Certificate**. If your organisation does not have that, FRRR may still fund the project, but you need another organisation's support, which we refer to as the '**legal organisation**' (with your organisation being the **delivery organisation**). This situation often occurs when the organisation **delivering** the activity or project is a branch of an overarching organisation - such as a local CWA or YMCA branch. In this case, the CWA or YMCA would be the legal organisation.

Even though your organisation may complete the application (and will be doing the work), **it is the 'legal organisation's' legal and financial information that needs to be provided**. They also need to provide a letter of support, confirming they are willing to play this role, with a [template available here](#).

FRRR conducts a broad range of due diligence queries when reviewing applications, such as: reviewing current and past incorporation, DGR and ACNC status. If your organisation has happened to have their incorporation status, DGR status or ACNC status changed or ACNC registration revoked or voluntarily withdrawn, please let us know the reasons for this.

Applications from ACNC and/or unincorporated associations are required to submit their organisation's Constitution.

Why is this important?

This program is only able to distribute funds to not-for-profit organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate and FRRR needs to know that the organisation with that ABN / Incorporation Certificate understands and agrees to fulfill their responsibilities in relation to your project, if successful.

Financial information

Applications received without the requested financial information are ineligible. Providing incorrect financial information is currently the most common reason applications are not able to be considered. You must include the organisation's:

- Annual income (total income in your financial year);
- Annual expenditure (total expenses in your financial year); and
- Current assets (from your audited financials, or bank balance minus any debts).

Please note:

- Provide a brief explanation of any large financial surplus or current assets and reasons why FRRR funds are still required.
- If financial information is more than 18 months old, please provide an explanation as to why the organisation does not have more recent documents.
- Please explain any deficits and steps to sustain the organisation financially.

Please contact us if you cannot provide the required financial information or are unsure about what to provide.

Why is this important?

FRRR uses this information to understand your organisation's financial viability and ability to manage grant funds.

Project Budget

You must include a project budget that clearly shows the items that FRRR grant funding would be used for and that also shows all income and expenses related to your project.

Budgets should be realistic and must add up – i.e., total expenditure must match total income.

Applicant contributions in cash or in-kind are highly regarded. Quotes or detailed rationale for items over \$1,000 are required, where possible. Note: FRRR suggests costing unskilled volunteer labour at \$45 per hour.

For more info on costing volunteer labour, visit: <https://explore.fundingcentre.com.au/help-sheets/valuing-volunteer-labour>.

Why is this important?

A clear budget helps FRRR to understand the size of your project, exactly how FRRR funds will be spent and helps demonstrate community support for your project through in-kind contributions either from your organisation or partners / community members.

Supporting Materials

FRRR strongly recommends that you provide supporting materials such as [letters of support](#), [evidence of permission from the property owner](#), community plans, survey results, photographs, media clips and research reports that can show broad-community support and partnerships involved in the project. For more information on supporting documentation, [watch this recording](#). Large documents should be referenced and explained in the application.

Why is this important?

FRRR seeks to fund projects that are well-supported by the broader local community, are locally led and delivered, show good partnerships, and benefit multiple parts of the community. As FRRR is not always familiar with your community, our staff consider support material as evidence toward understanding level of community need, benefit, and support.

Clear Project Information

A clear description of exactly **what** the grant funds will be used for, **when** and **where** the project will happen, **who** will benefit and **who** will be involved in delivering the project, **why** the project and grant funds are needed, **how** funds will be spent and **how** the activities and success of the project will be recorded, evaluated, and shared.

Where possible, we encourage you to make it clear that your organisation is ready and able to deliver the project and, if required, provide ongoing support for the initiative.

Why is this important?

FRRR needs to clearly understand your project to assess its merits. Applicants should focus on addressing what, when, where, who, why and how of the project, as this is the best way to clearly communicate the details of the project.

A ready community is best placed to achieve the aims of your project, so during assessment, our staff look for information that tells us that good leadership, skills and awareness exist in your community to support the project now and in the future.

IMPORTANT NOTES FOR SUCCESSFUL GRANTEES

Bank Account

To receive the grant funds, successful grantees (the legal entity) must have a bank account registered under the organisation's name. Without a bank account, the grant funds cannot be disbursed, and the grantee will not receive the funds.

Reporting Requirements

When the project is complete, the grantees will be required to provide a [Project Report](#) on the project's activities, impacts and outcomes, and include a **financial acquittal** of your grant. Project reporting is an opportunity for the organisation to reflect on and celebrate what has been achieved and to share learnings.

Grantees have up to 12 months to deliver their SRC Prepare & Recover project. **The online Project Report is due 8 weeks after project completion.**

Organisations with an overdue Project Report are not eligible to apply for further FRRR funding until the report is received. If the Project Report is not received, the applicant organisation may be suspended from applying for any FRRR grant programs until it is supplied.