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Future Drought Fund

Farm Business Resilience Program



The Farm Business Resilience program looks to the long term and aims to build the resilience of farm businesses, *before* the times get tough.

The program gives farmers and their staff access to subsidised learning and development opportunities in strategic business management, farm risk management and decision-making, natural resource management, and personal and social resilience.

Funding

The Australian Government has committed \$16 million towards the roll out of the foundational year. The government is working with state and territory governments to deliver the program. A further \$60 million was announced in the 2021–22 Federal Budget for the next three years.

This program received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund, and contributions from state and territory governments.

Need for the program

Australian farmers are already among the world's most resilient when it comes to managing uncertainty and complexity, however the business of farming is becoming increasingly challenging. To effectively manage drought risk, farm businesses need to adapt and plan ahead.

State and territory governments are working with the Australian Government to connect farmers with professional business advisors and provide practical tools to improve resilience of their farm business.

Key points

- The Future Drought Fund's Farm Business Resilience program helps farmers take their knowledge and skills to the next level.
- The Program provides farmers with the tools they need to plan for and face all kinds of challenges, including drought.
- The Australian Government has committed \$16 million towards the foundational year of the program and a further \$60 million was announced in the 2021–22 Federal Budget for the next three years.
- The program is being delivered in partnership with states and territories.

Benefits for farmers

Farmers, including farm managers and their employees will have access to subsidised learning and development opportunities so they can:

- upskill their strategic farm business management and planning approaches to best-practice industry standards
- use data to understand their farm business's strategic risks and improve decision making
- learn about innovation and diversification options, new farming practices, systems and markets
- think about succession planning and learn new ways to manage people and time.

The Program will also offer farmers:

- an assessment of their business's performance, to identify opportunities to build resilience and help track progress
- support to develop or update farm business plans, tailored to their farms
- access to one-on-one professional advice on their plan
- practical tools and resources to take back to the farm
- follow-up support post program.

Program roll out

The program will be run right across Australia – delivered through each state and territory. States and territories will work with industry to tailor the program to the needs of their farmers, and make sure it builds on and is complementary to other support available.

This program will roll out until June 2024.

Further information

Find out how to access the Program in your area by visiting the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment's website, www.awe.gov.au/dfd.

You can also register for updates at haveyoursay.awe.gov.au/future-drought-fund.

An Australian Government Drought Initiative

