

Fighting for our Farmers 2018 Drought Relief Appeal:
Drought Funds Distribution Sub-Committee
Statement of Principles

This statement sets out the principles guiding the distribution of funds from the *Fighting for our Farmers 2018 Drought Relief Appeal*.

Purpose: To provide short-term and targeted assistance to farmers and their families, [and regional business people and regional communities?] that provides some support to help them make longer-term decisions about their personal circumstances.

Objectives: To provide effective assistance to those in need in a timely way.

Prioritised target areas of need:

		Weighting
Short term (70% funds)	Bill relief	Critical
	Mental health support	Critical
	Water (domestic)	High
	Regional communities / businesses	Medium
	Fodder & stock water (core herd)	Medium
Medium term (30%)	Childcare / education	High
	Rebuild regional economies	High
	Land/animal care	Medium
	Replanting	Medium

Geographic focus: Initially NSW and QLD – monitor on monthly basis based on drought maps and feedback from RFCS and NFF members.

Process: Appeal funds to be distributed to reputable charities able to meet NFF objectives and priority areas of need.

We seek charities that have:

- established and sound governance structures
- existing capacity to deliver services on the ground
- reach across geographic areas
- sound processes for determining eligibility and
- a practice of collaboration with other charities, community and/or government organisations.

Charities must:

- deliver >90% funds on ground (charities which deliver 100% on ground will receive priority)
- provide evidence of current programs and delivery channels (charities which deliver directly on ground will receive priority)
- provide (indicative) numbers of farmers and/or regional businesses assisted
- provide information on their total drought program budget and
- report back to NFF about changing on ground needs as they arise.

Funding

- Funds will be deployed in \$250,000 parcels.
- Funds will be released regularly, with no more than 70% of new income deployed in any one fortnight. The remaining 30% will be withheld for medium term support/recovery.
- We will target 70% directly to farmers and 30% to regional communities and businesses.