FRRR recognises that there are many areas significantly impacted by the long-term effects of drought in Queensland. In response, FRRR developed a grant program to support communities to build their skills and leadership during tough times and to facilitate strong social cohesion. The Tackling Tough Times Together (TTTT) program has a specific focus on providing funds for grassroots, community-led projects across Council areas of Queensland that have been drought-declared.

The program is currently being supported by the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, the Qantas Foundation and a number of individual donors. The grants program is managed independently by FRRR.

The objectives of the program are to:

1. Reduce social isolation by facilitating strong social cohesion and connection;
2. Support and engage the community in leadership development and skills training; and
3. Support local economic recovery or renewal

The TTTT program is guided by the charitable objective ‘to promote for the public benefit rural and regional renewal, regeneration and development in Australia in social, economic, environmental and cultural areas.’

Grants are available for projects that directly benefit the immediate and medium-term needs for the target communities. Two streams of grants are available:

- Small grants of up to $15,000; and
- Large grants or multi-year grants of up to $50,000 (limited number of grants available) are offered through a two-phase process. Groups should initially speak to the FRRR Program Manager before being invited to lodge an application.

Who can apply?

- Community groups and not-for-profit organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- The program has a strong preference to support grassroots organisations based in the listed regions over those delivering services to, but not based in the listed regions. Projects led by local communities will be given strong preference.
- Please note no specific tax status is required.
- Groups with outstanding final reports are not eligible to apply unless a time extension has been granted. We encourage groups to complete their final reports so that they can then apply.

What types of projects can be funded?

- Projects must directly support communities listed in Table 1 as the target communities, in the Queensland drought declared areas (areas become ineligible approximately 12 months after their drought declaration revocation).
- Projects must be for a charitable purpose (benefit the wider community; not an individual, business, or only members of particular groups).
- Projects must be able to demonstrate strong community support and involvement of a range of community groups/representatives.
- Projects must be undertaken within 18 months of receiving the funding (projects will not be retrospectively funded).
PROGRAM GUIDELINES
TACKLING TOUGH TIMES TOGETHER

Approaches:

Applicants will need to nominate one of the following delivery approaches

- Investing in infrastructure and equipment
- Building organisational resilience
- Developing awareness, knowledge & skills
- Providing access to services or activities

Outcomes:

Applicants will need to identify up to three of the following outcomes that the project will support

- Innovate or respond to local opportunities and issues
- Improve financial security and relieve poverty or financial stress
- Support community engagement and participation
- (Re)build community identity, wellbeing and sense of place
- Build individual or community resilience
- Build a friendly and inclusive community and strengthen social fabric
- Give children the best start in life and start school ready to learn
- Build a creative and culturally vibrant community
- Promote environmental health and sustainability
- Strengthen ability to respond to individual and community challenges
- Strengthen the local economy
- Increase engagement in learning and strengthen educational outcomes

Examples of projects that can be funded include, but are not limited to:

**Projects that enhance community connectivity, wellbeing and resilience such as:**

- Hosting a cultural festival showcasing local talent or film nights showing movies for all the family;
- Creating community gardens;
- Drama and creative expression groups to assist people to creatively express their experiences.

**Projects that build community capacity such as:**

- Tools and equipment to boost community capacity to fundraise and provide local support including BBQs, trailers, water tanks and signage;
- Creating or enhancing tourism assets (events or infrastructure) to encourage visitors, and economic activity;
- Training local artists/creative people in developing and implementing creative workshops to assist people suffering from stress and anxiety;
- Local community-built small scale community infrastructure that enhances local meeting places;
- Equipment for the local men’s or activity shed or support for activities that encourage participation;
- Providing training and support to potential and current community leaders to further build capacity, capability and to drive community led responses to the issues that matter to them. This may include forums and training workshops; and
- Salaries and wages will be considered if part of a larger project.
PROGRAM GUIDELINES
TACKLING TOUGH TIMES TOGETHER

Note: Examples of previously funded projects can be found at http://www.frrr.org.au/cb_pages/tackling_tough_times_together.php#Case%20Studies.

Criteria for large-scale and multi-year projects up to $50,000

- Multiple locations (delivery points), which are coordinated centrally;
- Provide broader, more medium term impact – multi-year grants will be considered;
- Offer activities that could be repeated over a period of time;
- Deliver larger scale activities that provide short term relief to alleviate drought impacts;
- Support a coordinated approach with a regional focus; and
- Address the outcomes listed above.

What cannot be funded?

- Federal, State and Local Government core business and areas of responsibility;
- Projects that do not directly relate to the target regions, issues and communities;
- Projects that benefit a single individual rather than a community;
- Physical infrastructure that could be funded by other programs;
- The encouragement or advancement of sport, recreation and social activities is not considered a charitable activity by the Australian Tax Office. Applications from sporting organisations need to clearly demonstrate benefits to the wider community;
- The project must not duplicate an existing project or service;
- Retrospective projects; i.e. projects that have already occurred or which will have occurred by the time funds are received;
- Projects that are for animal welfare;
- Projects outside Australia and overseas travel; nor
- Projects that support private businesses and commercial activities (excepting social enterprise).

What makes a stronger application?

- Demonstrable partnerships between local organisations, with defined project plans and evaluation of impact and outcomes.
- Letters of support from organisations directly involved in the project, clearly stating their contribution towards the project, are highly desirable.
- Financial or in-kind contribution towards the project from the applicant organisation is highly desirable and will be taken into account when assessing applications. Organisations that are unable to contribute either financially or in-kind should clearly articulate why they are unable to do so.

What information should be provided?

FRRR considers all eligible applications on their merit. However, we are only able to make a proper assessment of funding requests when we have adequate information about the applicant organisation and the project that funds will support.
The following are important to be aware of and FRRR suggests attending to these early in the preparation of grant applications:

- The most recent organisational financial statement that shows 12 months of activity. This is preferably a profit & loss statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement. At a minimum, and only where an applicant doesn’t have the above, bank statements (over 12 months) can be provided.
- A copy of your current ABN or Incorporation Certificate.
- Letters of support and quotes can significantly strengthen your application, as does the inclusion of in-kind support e.g. volunteer hours, and other sources of funding in your project budget. We highly recommend that you include letters of support, in-kind support and quotes with your application.
- Note: we suggest costing unskilled volunteer labour at $25/hr.
- All supporting material MUST be submitted with the application.

If you need assistance with any of the above, please contact our office on 1800 170 020.

How to Apply

FRRR accepts applications via its online application portal, Grants Gateway.

If you have questions about your project, are unable to apply online, or experience any problems in using Grants Gateway, please contact us on free call 1800 170 020 or email info@frrr.org.au.

If you have previously applied using FRRR’s Grants Gateway, login using your user account and start a new application.

If you have not previously applied for a grant with FRRR via this system, you need to set up an account to start your first application.

Click on the Apply Now button on the Tackling Tough Times Together program page and then follow the link to ‘Set up an account’. You will be prompted to create an online account to access the application form, using an email address and password.

Please use an email address associated with your organisation or group (rather than a personal email address) to create the account. This ensures that any member of your organisation or committee will be able to access the account even if the person managing the application changes. It will also ensure your history is there for future applications, and for reporting.

Once the account has been established, you will be able to start the application, save your progress and finally submit via the online portal, until the program closes at 5pm AEDT on Wednesday 28 March 2018. We recommend that you print a copy of the form (top right of the online application screen), so you can see all the information required and begin drafting your answers and collating the required information.

Tips for using the Grants Gateway: We strongly recommend preparing your application content in a Microsoft Word document and then transferring your final application content to the Grants Gateway form. This will assist in managing versions and will reduce the risk of losing work if an internet connection times out – although continual saving is also recommended. Working offline also makes it easier for multiple people to work on an application before entering your application into Grants Gateway for submission.

To return to your application once started, you will need to use the application link that is automatically generated by the system and emailed to your nominated Grants Gateway user email account – you will only be able to access your application by using this link.
We have developed various tools to help you navigate the application process. We strongly suggest you read the How-To Guide and FAQs, and watch our helpful tips on How to Navigate the Activity Tree before you start your application.

**Process for consideration of applications**

From April 2018, Tackling Tough Times Together is a rolling grants program, so applications are accepted at any time. FRRR will consider and approve applications every six months, with outcomes being advised in April and September each year. Please see the table below for the date of the round that best suits your project.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Applications accepted</th>
<th>Applications considered</th>
<th>Outcomes advised</th>
<th>Project delivery period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by email within 12 weeks of the final acceptance date of each round. Successful applicants may also be contacted by program donors and invited to participate in announcement activities including media releases, social media, and profiling of projects in newsletters and websites.

**Eligible drought-declared areas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUEENSLAND</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Balonne</td>
<td>Diamantina</td>
<td>North Burnett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Banana</td>
<td>Doomadgee</td>
<td>Paroo</td>
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<td>Barcaldine</td>
<td>Etheridge</td>
<td>Pormpuraaw</td>
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<td>Barcoo</td>
<td>Flinders</td>
<td>Quilpie</td>
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Guidelines: Tackling Tough Times Together
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Blackall Tambo</th>
<th>Fraser Coast</th>
<th>Richmond</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bouli</td>
<td>Goondiwindi</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bullo</td>
<td>Gympie</td>
<td>South Burnett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundaberg</td>
<td>Isaac (part declared)</td>
<td>Southern Downs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burdekin</td>
<td>Kowanyama</td>
<td>Tablelands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burke</td>
<td>Longreach</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carpentaria</td>
<td>Maranoa</td>
<td>Townsville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Highlands</td>
<td>Mareeba</td>
<td>Western Downs</td>
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<td>Charters Towers</td>
<td>McKinlay</td>
<td>Whitsundays (part declared)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherbourg</td>
<td>Mount Isa</td>
<td>Winton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cook (part declared)</td>
<td>Murweh</td>
<td>Woorabinda</td>
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<td>Croydon</td>
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*Table 1: Drought Declared LGAs*