Aim of the Program
The Tackling Tough Times Together (TTTT) program gives drought affected communities across rural, regional and remote Australia the opportunity to access funds that benefit their immediate and long-term needs. Grants are available for grassroots, community-led initiatives that directly benefit local communities.

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**;
3. Support opportunities for **social and educational participation and address disadvantage** caused by the drought, for children and young people;
4. **Reduce volunteer fatigue and build the capacity**, capability and sustainability of local not-for-profit organisations to provide support to their communities, particularly where they are playing an increased role during the drought; and
5. Support **local economic recovery or renewal** through projects that stimulate economic activity and cash-flow within communities.

The TTTT program accepts applications any time. Current round applications must be received by 5pm AEDT, Thursday 24 October 2019. Expressions of Interest in the $150,000 tier must be received by 5pm AEST, Tuesday 10 September 2019. Please refer to the decision timeframes at the end of this document to see when outcomes are announced.

Organisational Eligibility

Who can apply?
- Not-for-profit community-based organisations from drought affected communities across rural, regional and remote Australia where funds support projects and activities that offer clear public benefit (i.e. are for a charitable purpose) and address a need in the community (see What Can be Funded below);
- Organisations with an ABN or Incorporation Certificate;
- Organisations with and without DGR endorsement;
- An organisation is eligible to submit one application per grant round.

FRRR considers all eligible applications on their merit. Due to the volume of applications received, applications are assessed based on the documentation received at the time of application.

**NOTE:** FRRR is unlikely to follow up missing documentation after applications have been submitted.

Projects funded in this round should be undertaken between February 2020 and August 2021, or as agreed in multi-year projects. Projects cannot be funded retrospectively. Community organisations seeking funding for projects in Q1 2020 should apply in this round.

Applications are welcome from any eligible organisation for any eligible purpose; however, the following applications will be prioritised:
- Projects initiated and delivered by local community groups;
- Organisations that do not have Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Tax status.
Who can’t apply?

- Individuals, private or commercial businesses are not eligible;
- Projects that support core business and areas of responsibility of Federal, State and Local Governments are not eligible.

If you have any questions about your organisation’s eligibility, please call FRRR on freecall 1800 170 020.

Project Eligibility

What can be funded?

Projects must clearly demonstrate how they fit within one activity from the following seven project activity areas:

1. Building Community Resilience
2. Developing Organisational Resilience and Capacity
3. Enhancing Environmental Sustainability
4. Fostering Cultural Vibrancy
5. Lifelong Education and Training
6. Economic Strength
7. Improving Community Health and Social Wellbeing

Visit the Tackling Tough Times Together webpage for examples of what can be funded in each activity area.

Costs that can be considered include:

- Delivering activities, programs and services;
- Purchasing or hiring equipment and materials;
- Community infrastructure projects;
- Art, drama and creative expression projects to assist people to creatively express their experiences, which are otherwise limited due to the drought;
- Experiences for school children such as camps that connect young people and provide an opportunity to have fun with other young people off-farm.

Operational and administrative costs associated with your project will be considered. This could include wages, paying a skilled contractor, or paying for overhead costs incurred in the project’s delivery.

What can’t be funded?

- 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;
- Projects that have already occurred or will occur before the grant is confirmed;
- Political lobbying;
- Projects solely focused on animal welfare cannot be considered;
- Projects that are for private benefit or which are the core responsibility of Government;
- Projects that do not directly support drought affected communities.
It is important to note that applications will be considered ineligible if the:
- Application is submitted without required financial documentation;
- Final report/s from any FRRR grant program from the previous seven years has not been acquitted (auspiced organisations should check with your head organisation to see if there are any outstanding final reports owed to FRRR);
- Application is not for charitable purposes, i.e. is for private benefit or is the core responsibility of Government;
- Application is for a project or activity that has already occurred / is occurring;
- Application is incomplete.

**Funding Available**

There are three tiers of grants available:
- Up to $20,000 – Projects to be finalised within 18 months of approval;
- Up to $60,000 – Projects to be finalised within 18 months of approval;
- Up to $150,000 – Applications for this tier are by Expression of Interest. Multi-year projects (up to three years) are welcomed. Projects that deliver long-term community benefits are highly regarded.

The schedule below shows the decision timeframes across all tiers and should be considered depending on when your project funding is required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Round</th>
<th>Outcomes advised for all tiers - $20K, $60K &amp; $150K</th>
<th>Expressions of Interest for $150K tier must be received by:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Round 15</td>
<td>Late February 2020 for applications received by 5pm AEDT, Thursday 24 October 2019</td>
<td>5pm AEST, Tuesday 10 September 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 16</td>
<td>Late May 2020 for applications received by 5pm AEDT, Tuesday 25 February 2020</td>
<td>5pm AEDT, Thursday 12 December 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Round 17</td>
<td>Late August 2020 for applications received by 5pm AEST, Thursday 28 May 2020</td>
<td>5pm AEST, Thursday 16 April 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FRRR Assessment Considerations
Please read the table below to support the planning and preparation of your project. A printable copy of the Tackling Tough Times Together application form is available here. Please call FRRR should you have any questions about this table or the application form.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What we request from you</th>
<th>Why FRRR requests this information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Clear Project Information</strong></td>
<td>FRRR needs to clearly understand your project to assess its merits. Applicants should focus on addressing the what, when, where, who, why and how of the project, as this is the best formula to clearly communicate the details of the project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where possible, also indicate that your community is ready to deliver the project and if required, can support the initiative ongoing, i.e. awareness of need is widespread, appropriate leadership, resources, skills and knowledge exist in the community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Budget</strong></td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A project budget that clearly shows the items that FRRR grant funds will be used for and shows all income and expenses related to your project.</td>
<td>For more info on costing volunteer labour, visit: <a href="https://www.fundingcentre.com.au/help/valuing-volunteer-labour">https://www.fundingcentre.com.au/help/valuing-volunteer-labour</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budgets should be realistic and must add up.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicant contributions in cash or in-kind are highly regarded and quotes or detailed rationale for items over $1,000 are required, where possible. Note: FRRR suggests costing unskilled volunteer labour at $41.00 per hour.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organisational Financials</strong></td>
<td>FRRR uses this information to understand your organisation’s ability to manage the grant funds, and its financial viability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For organisations that have audited financials:</td>
<td>Bank Statements are only acceptable as financial documentation if your organisation has been operating for less than one year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attach the most recent annual audited statements.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For organisations that do not have audited financials:</td>
<td>Please contact us if you cannot provide required financials or you are unsure about what to provide.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attach most recent 12 months Income and Expenditure Statement. If you have a Balance Sheet, please also submit.</td>
<td><strong>Applications received without the requested financial information are not eligible.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For organisations less than one year old:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provide bank statements for the period you have been operating.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applicants should provide a brief explanation of any large financial surplus or current assets and reasons why FRRR funds are still required, as well as explanations of deficits and steps to sustain the organisation financially.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Supporting Materials</strong></td>
<td>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 considers supporting materials as evidence toward understanding the level of community need, benefit and support.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting materials such as letters of support, community plans, survey results, photographs, media clips and research reports that show the wider community support and partnerships involved in the project.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letters of support from community groups are highly regarded.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Application Checklist**

Before you submit your application, please ensure that all items below have been addressed. If you need assistance with any of the items in this list, please contact FRRR prior to submitting.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
<th>CHECK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is your organisation and project eligible?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Has the Project Activity Area (see page 2) been identified?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>If your project involves building, modifying or upgrading facilities or public spaces, do you have the required Council permits and permission from the owners of the land or building?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have any outstanding FRRR grant acquittals been submitted?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Have you attached the required financial information?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does the project include working with children? If so, does your organisation have relevant working with children policies in place?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you attached quotes for goods and services over $1,000?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you attached supporting materials? (including Letters of Support where relevant)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you answered all the questions in the application form?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** FRRR is unlikely to follow up missing documentation after applications have been submitted.

**FRRR Grant Application Assessment Process**

The process below outlines the FRRR process for assessing all applications.

- Assess eligibility of application
- Ineligible applicants notified
- Recommended/not recommended applications identified
- Assessment Committee considers recommended applications
- FRRR Board Approval
- Applicants notified of outcome by email
- Successful grants announced

All eligible applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by email within 18 weeks of the closing date.
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 freecall 1800 170 020 or email info@frrr.org.au.

[Click here to apply.](#)

**How to use Grants Gateway:** Visit the [Tackling Tough Times Together webpage](#) to access the Grants Gateway FAQS document and How-To Guide, which explain in detail how to use the online Grants Gateway portal.

**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 that link, or the Return to your Applications link from the Tackling Tough Times Together web page.

**Our Donor Partners**

FRRR’s [Tackling Tough Times Together](#) program is collectively funded through a range of valued partnerships. Round 15 - October 2019 is generously supported by:

- ANZ
- Australian Government
- Australia Post
- Friends of FRRR
- Henroth Group
- NRMA
- Paul Ramsay Foundation
- Pratt Foundation
- Ronald Geoffrey Arnott Foundation
- REX Airlines
- Santos
- Sidney Myer Fund
- Stockland CARE Foundation
- The Snow Foundation
- Tim Fairfax Family Foundation
- Stockland CARE Foundation
- Westpac Group

**Contact Us**

If you have any questions about the Tackling Tough Times Together program, please call FRRR on 1800 170 020 or email toughtimes@frrr.org.au.