



# Growing Regions Program – Round 1

## Co-funding requirements

The Growing Regions Program requires project proponents to contribute toward the cost of their projects. However, we recognise there are a number of project circumstances where applicants may have limited access to contribute a minimum of 50 per cent co-funding towards their projects. The program guidelines for Round 1 included three co-funding groups to ensure eligible applicants delivering projects under these circumstances could access reduced co-funding requirements and deliver projects targeted towards the objectives and intended outcomes of each specific round.

## Round 1 co-funding methodology

The table below summarises the information provided in section 3 of the guidelines for the three co-funding groups, and outlines the methodology used to determine co-funding eligibility specific to the objectives and intended outcomes for Round 1:

Co-funding group	Project circumstance	Total Australian Government funding towards eligible project costs	Methodology used and evidence required to support the request for co-funding
Group 1	Projects run by <b>First Nations Community Controlled Organisations</b> .	Up to 90%	Meet organisational definition as <b>defined in glossary</b> within program guidelines.
	Projects located in <b>'very remote'</b> locations per ABS Remoteness Structure.		Program <b>mapping tool</b> identifies project address as 'very remote' per ABS 2016 Remoteness Structure, which identified <b>72 LGAs</b> classified as 'very remote'.
	Projects located in areas impacted by <b>natural disaster</b> where the specific project site was directly impacted by the disaster.		Project location <b>identified as impacted</b> on Department of Home Affairs website.
Group 2	Projects located in <b>'remote'</b> locations per the ABS Remoteness Structure.	Up to 70%	<b>Mapping tool</b> identifies project address as 'remote' per the ABS 2016 Remoteness Structure, which identified <b>52 LGAs</b> classified as 'remote'.

	<p>Projects run by <b>22 identified ‘low rate-based’ councils</b>, determined using the ratio of Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income.</p>		<p><b>Council is one of 22 councils listed in section 3</b> of the guidelines.</p> <p>Low rate-based councils, determined using <b>the ratio of Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income</b>. The <b>higher the ratio the more reliant</b> a council is on a Financial Assistant Grant.</p> <p>The Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income <b>ratio used to identify eligible low rate-based councils</b> was the <b>median ratio across remote and very remote LGAs of 106.2%</b>. This threshold was then applied to each council eligible for the program (those located outside of GCCSAs) which identified <b>22 additional councils</b> – 20 outer regional and 2 inner regional LGAs.</p>
<b>Group 3</b>	All remaining projects.	Up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs	Application demonstrates <b>eligibility for up to 50% Commonwealth co-funding</b> .