Australian Government
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Growing Regions Program – Round 2

**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 2 includes three co-funding groups to ensure eligible applicants delivering projects under these circumstances can access reduced co-funding requirements and deliver projects targeted towards the objectives and intended outcomes of each specific round.

**Round 2 co-funding methodology**

The table below summarises the information provided in section 3 of the guidelines for the three co-funding groups for Round 2, and outlines the methodology used to determine co-funding eligibility specific to the objectives and intended outcomes for Round 2:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **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 **First** **Nations Community Controlled Organisations.** | Up to 90% | Meet organisational definition **as defined in glossary** within program guidelines. |
| Projects located in **‘very remote’** locations per ABS Remoteness Structure. | Program **mapping tool** identifies project address as ‘very remote’ per ABS 2016 Remoteness Structure, which identified **72 LGAs** classified as ‘very remote’. |
| **Group 2** | Projects located in **‘remote’** locations per the ABS Remoteness Structure. | Up to 70% | **Mapping tool** identifies project address as ‘remote’ per the ABS 2016 Remoteness Structure, which identified **52 LGAs** classified as ‘remote’. |
| Projects run by **47 identified ‘low rate-based’ councils,** determined using the ratio of Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income. | **Council is one of 47 councils listed in Appendix E** of the guidelines.  Low rate-based councils, determined using **the ratio of Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income**. The **higher the ratio the more reliant** a council is on a Financial Assistant Grant.  The Financial Assistance Grant to Net Rate Income **ratio used to identify eligible low rate-based councils (those outside GCCSAs)** was the **average ratio** across remote and very remote LGAs **of 75%.** This threshold was then applied to each council eligible for the program whichidentified **47 additional councils** – 37 outer regional and 10 inner regional LGAs. |
| **Group 3** | All remaining projects. | Up to 50 per cent of eligible project costs | Application demonstrates **eligibility for up to 50% Commonwealth co-funding.** |