Future Resilience Fact Sheet

Supporting long-term recovery by investing in more resilient infrastructure.

NSW GOVERNMENT

What is future resilience?

Future resilience, sometimes referred to as betterment, involves rebuilding or upgrading infrastructure that has sustained direct damage as a result of the event, so it is better able to withstand future natural disasters. It's about more than replacing what was lost. It's strengthening what is rebuilt to reduce vulnerability and improve the business' ability to recover and adapt after natural disaster events. To meet the principles of future resilience, infrastructure should be rebuilt in a way that reduces the risk of damage and disruption from future natural disasters.

Why does it matter?

Investing in future resilience is critical to helping producers become more disaster-resistant. Rebuilding with resilience in mind ensures:

- lower vulnerability to future disasters
- continued functionality of key infrastructure
- reduced repair costs over time
- improved long-term economic outcomes.

What should I provide to the RAA if I'm rebuilding with future resilience in mind?

To help the RAA assess whether your proposed rebuild meets the principles of future resilience, please provide:

- **A business case** explaining how and why your proposed works incorporate future resilience. This could include a description of the existing infrastructure (for example, "2-bay timber and iron shed, approx. 20 years old"), details of the damage sustained, (for example, "shed inundated and deemed structurally unsound"), proposed improvements (for example, "rebuild using steel/Colorbond and away from flood-prone area"), clarification on any expansion works and associated costs (note: expansion is not eligible for funding), and how the proposed works align with the eligible expenditure under the Program Guidelines.
- **Photos** of the damaged infrastructure, ideally with date, time, and location.
- **Invoices or quotes** for the works, clearly identifying whether any part relates to infrastructure expansion.

Can expansion be included?

The future resilience clause is designed to support replacement of damaged infrastructure, not business expansion. If expansion is part of your rebuild, those additional costs must be self-funded. The grant can only cover the like-for-like replacement of original infrastructure, incorporating resilience improvements.

What qualifies as future resilience?

Future resilience may look different depending on the asset type. The examples below are for guidance only.

Private roads, bridges and causeways

Example resilience measures:

- widening or increasing the span of bridges
- raising road or bridge height or improving drainage
- realigning roads or bridges to reduce flood exposure
- replacing gravel roads with bitumen or concrete.

Sheds and outbuildings

Example resilience measures:

- relocating sheds to higher ground
- installing mezzanine levels to reduce flood impact
- replacing timber or gravel components with steel or concrete.

Fencing and stockyards

Example resilience measures:

- moving fence lines or yards away from flood prone areas
- using more durable materials for rebuild.

Earthworks

Example resilience measures:

- expanding levy banks
- building retaining walls as part of rebuilds
- repairing erosion or riverbanks, and undertaking preventative soil works.