



Australian Government
**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

AUSBIOAGPLAN

Australian Government Biosecurity and Agricultural Response Plan

25 February 2026 – Version 4.0

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the continuous connection of First Nations Traditional Owners and Custodians to the lands, seas and waters of Australia. We recognise their care for and cultivation of Country. We pay respect to Elders past and present, and recognise their knowledge and contribution to the productivity, innovation and sustainability of Australia's agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries.

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1. Acronyms

ABF	Australian Border Force
ACDP	Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness
AGCMF	Australian Government Crisis Management Framework
AGD	Attorney-General's Department
AgriCCC	Agriculture Crisis Coordination Centre, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
AHA	Animal Health Australia
AHPC	Australian Health Protection Committee
APVMA	Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
AUSRIAPLAN	Australian Government Reception of International Assistance Plan
AUSBIOAGPLAN	Australian Government Biosecurity and Agricultural Response Plan
CASP	Crisis Appreciation and Strategic Planning
COMDISPLAN	Australian Government Disaster Response Plan (for the provision of Australian Government non-financial assistance to Australian states and territories in an emergency or disaster)
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DHDA	Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
DISR	Department of Industry, Science and Resources
DITRDCA	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
EADRA	Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Animal Disease
EPPRD	Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Plant Pest Response

FSANZ	Food Standards Australia New Zealand
IDETF	Interdepartmental Emergency Task Force
IMT	Incident Management Team
LCC	Local Control Centre
LEADDR	Laboratories for Emergency Animal Disease Diagnosis and Response
LO	Liaison Officer
NBCEN	National Biosecurity Communication and Engagement Network
NCC	National Coordination Centre
NCM	National Coordination Mechanism
NCM-AUSGOV	Australian Government National Coordination Mechanism
NEBRA	National Environment Biosecurity Response Agreement
NED	National Emergency Declaration
NEMA	National Emergency Management Agency
NJCOP	National Joint Common Operating Picture
NMG	National Management Group
NSR	Australian Government National Situation Room
OSCR	Office of Supply Chain Resilience
PHA	Plant Health Australia
PM&C	Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
RCG	Response Coordination Group
RFA	Request for Assistance
SCC	State Coordination Centre
WOAH	World Organization for Animal Health

2. Definitions

Australian Government Coordinating Agency	The agency required to lead the coordination across the Australian Government for a significant crisis (or concurrent crises with converging consequences) caused by one or more identified hazards under the AGCMF. This agency also leads the consequence management activities within its agency functions and sector-specific responsibilities.
Australian Government Crisis Communication Guidelines	Provides guidance on coordinating Australian Government crisis communication, including development and dissemination of talking points, media holding lines and response strategies for media management and collaboration with state and territory operations centres.
Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (AGCMF)	The AGCMF is the Australian Government's capstone policy framing Australia's national crisis management arrangements.
Australian territory	Australia, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands and their airspace and coastal seas and any external territory and its airspace and coastal seas to which the provisions of the <i>Biosecurity Act 2015</i> and its regulations extend.
biosecurity	Is the management of risks to Australia's plant and animal health, the environment, or the economy, from pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australian territory or part of Australian territory.
biosecurity emergency	An incident where a disease or pest is posing a severe and immediate threat, or causing harm to Australia's animal or plant health, the environment, or the economy, and requires a whole-of-government response.
biosecurity risk	The likelihood of a disease or pest entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australian territory or a part of Australian territory and the potential for the disease or pest to harm animal or plant health, the environment, or the economy.
consequence management	Refers to a process undertaken to predict, identify, manage and minimise negative outcomes and impacts from crises.
crisis	An event that requires an immediate Australian Government response outside business-as-usual arrangements to manage potential or realised acute consequences and mitigate further harm.

Crisis Appreciation and Strategic Planning (CASP)	The CASP is a structured, systematic methodology that uses strategic and critical thinking and conceptualises the big picture in crisis planning. It supports practitioners to manage challenges including concurrent events, consequences of uncertainty and complexity. It can be used by Australian, state and territory governments to conduct strategic planning and informs crisis decision-making at all levels.
disease	(a) the signs or symptoms of an illness or infection caused by a disease agent (b) a collection of signs or symptoms that is clinically defined, for which the causal agent is unknown, or (c) a disease agent that has the potential to cause, either directly or indirectly, an illness or infection.
early recovery	Temporary, near-term measures that support anticipated community needs, such as transitional shelter, services and supplies. During early recovery, the restoration of critical infrastructure would also be underway. This may occur alongside operational response and relief efforts.
Enabling Agency	An Australian Government agency that administers relevant programs, provides specialist technical, scientific, intelligence or information capabilities, service delivery or conducts any other enabling activities to support consequence management activities.
environmental biosecurity	The management of risks to Australia's environment, including ecosystems and their constituent parts and natural physical resources, from pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australian territory or part of Australian territory.
Inter-departmental Emergency Taskforce (IDETF)	The IDETF is the peak senior officials' crisis coordination mechanism during Australian Government responses to international crises.
incident	An incident is an event, occurrence or set of circumstances that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • has a definite spatial extent and duration • calls for human intervention • has a set of concluding conditions that can be defined • will be under the control of an individual who has the authority to make decisions about how it will be brought to an end.
Incident Controller	The individual responsible for management of all incident control activities across the department for the department's operational response.
Lead Coordinating Senior Official	The designated senior official within an Australian Government Coordinating Agency who is responsible for leading the Australian Government coordination for a significant crisis (or concurrent crises with converging consequences).

Lead Minister	The Australian Government minister responsible for leading coordination in response to a significant crisis (or concurrent crises with converging consequences) caused by one or more identified hazards under the AGCMF.
National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)	The NCM is the peak senior officials' crisis coordination mechanism for national crises, providing a national picture of crisis to governments and key stakeholders.
pest	A species, strain or biotype of a plant or animal, or a disease agent, that has the potential to cause, either directly or indirectly, harm to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) animal or plant health; or (b) the environment.
preparedness	Preparedness refers to arrangements that ensure that, should a crisis occur, the required resources, capabilities and services can be efficiently mobilised and deployed.
recovery	Early and longer-term measures to restore or improve the livelihoods, health, economic, physical, social, cultural and environmental assets, systems and activities, of a disaster-affected community or society.
response	Actions taken to ensure that crisis impacts and consequences are minimised, and that those affected are supported as quickly as possible
Response Coordinator	The individual responsible for the management of all activities across the department for the response.
Sector Lead Agency	An Australian Government agency that contributes to whole-of-Australian Government crisis coordination activities and leads the consequence management activities relevant to agency functions and sector-specific responsibilities.
zoonoses	Disease and infections that are naturally transmitted between vertebrate animals and humans (including via vectors). A zoonotic agent may be a bacterium, a virus, a fungus or other communicable disease agent.

3. Authorising environment

3.1. Authority

The Australian Government Biosecurity and Agricultural Response Plan (AUSBIOAGPLAN) derives its authority from the Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (AGCMF). The AGCMF outlines the roles and responsibilities of the Australian Government in preparing for, responding to and recovering from crises. It is the Australian Government's capstone policy framing Australia's national crisis management arrangements.

AUSBIOAGPLAN is maintained by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF). It provides a mechanism for Australian Government coordination of domestic biosecurity and agricultural crises.

The minister responsible for this plan is the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

AUSBIOAGPLAN is approved by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

3.2. Review and amendments

This Plan is subject to a major review at least once every 3 years or when relevant updates are made to the AGCMF. Recommendations for amendments or suggestions for improvement may be forwarded to:

Crisis and Emergency Management Branch

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Email: CEMB@aff.gov.au.

3.3. Version details

This version supersedes all previous versions.

Version	Date	Authorisation	Description of change
1.0	July 2008	DAFF	Original version.
2.0	17 December 2012	DAFF	Rewrite to include Australian Government Crisis Management Framework.
3.0	27 July 2022	DAFF	Rewrite to reflect revised Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (V3) and current Australian Government departmental responsibilities.
4.0	25 February 2026	DAFF	Administrative review to reflect updates to Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (V4.1) and transfer to new template.

4. Introduction

4.1. Purpose

AUSBIOAGPLAN outlines the mechanisms and coordination arrangements for an Australian Government response to domestic biosecurity crises. The plan can also apply to events impacting the agricultural sector where no other Australian Government plan applies under the Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (AGCMF).

4.2. Scope

AUSBIOAGPLAN applies to:

- a) **domestic biosecurity crises** – incidents relating to pests and diseases entering, emerging, establishing or spreading in Australian territory.

These incidents may include:

- pests and diseases causing harm to animal health (terrestrial and aquatic)
- pests and diseases causing harm to plant health
- pests and diseases causing harm to Australia's environment or economy.

- b) **agriculture crises** – incidents impacting the agricultural sector (agriculture, fisheries and forestry) where DAFF will lead Australian Government coordination.

4.3. Out of scope

AUSBIOAGPLAN does not apply to the management of biosecurity incidents primarily impacting humans or public health (including those resulting from zoonoses). The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing is the responsible for the management of biosecurity incidents primarily impacting humans or public health.

4.4. Principles

1. Crises will be managed in accordance with relevant legislative and ministerial authority and in accordance with existing coordination arrangements, including the relevant national biosecurity emergency response agreements (where applicable). See [Appendix A](#) and [Appendix B](#).
2. Engagement with Australian Government agencies will occur at all levels of operation. Agencies will coordinate internally and with their state or territory counterparts (where appropriate) in line with their sector-specific arrangements and mechanisms.
3. Engagement with relevant state and territory agriculture agencies and peak industry bodies will occur at all levels of operation, including through the National Management Group (NMG) and Consultative Committee established under the relevant national biosecurity emergency response agreements.
4. Unity of effort is supported through centralised strategic planning and coordination. When the scale or complexity of an event requires national leadership across jurisdictions or agencies, the level of coordination is scalable and flexible relative to the situation.
5. Impacts and consequences will be assessed and managed throughout all phases to inform strategic priorities, support affected communities, and guide recovery planning.
6. State and territory governments maintain legislation and related arrangements to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from hazards within their jurisdiction.

4.5. Consideration of diverse groups

Under AUSBIOAGPLAN, decisions and crisis communication made through preparedness, response, and early recovery phases will consider the needs of people who may be disproportionately at risk of harm and ensure they are included in preparedness planning and considered during response and recovery activities. This may include:

1. the recognition of the unique, environmental and cultural responsibilities of First Nations people and communities
2. rural and/or regional communities experiencing high levels of stress, burden or vulnerability
3. people who have limited English, including refugee and migrant populations, including workers under labour mobility schemes
4. people experiencing or at risk of gender-based violence
5. culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

5. Roles and responsibilities

AUSBIOAGPLAN establishes clear responsibilities to ensure Australian Government coordination and response activities are aligned and responsive to impacts and consequences of domestic biosecurity and agricultural crises on the economy, environment or community.

The responsibilities of the Lead Minister, Australian Government Coordinating Agency, Lead Coordinating Senior Official, Sector Lead Agencies and Enabling Agencies under AUSBIOAGPLAN are outlined in [section 5.1](#).

5.1. Lead Minister

Under the AGCMF, the Lead Minister for AUSBIOAGPLAN is the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is responsible for:

1. providing advice to the Prime Minister and the National Security Committee of Cabinet (or other Committees of Cabinet) on whole of Australian Government crisis priorities and consequence management objectives for domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises
2. overseeing a coordinated Australian Government response to domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises by collaborating with other Australian Government and jurisdictional counterparts
3. exercising executive responsibilities and decision-making in consultation with Australian Government ministers with relevant interests
4. ensuring there are systems and procedures available so that they are readily contactable
5. acting as the key Australian Government spokesperson in alignment with a whole of Australian Government crisis communications strategy
6. determining if a disease or pest is posing a severe and immediate threat, or is causing harm, on a nationally significant scale to animal or plant health, the environment or economic activities related to animals, plants or the environment and advise the Governor-General to declare a biosecurity emergency if the declaration is necessary to prevent or control the establishment or spread of the disease or pest in Australian territory or part of Australian territory.

Should a crisis require Tier 4 coordination as defined by the AGCMF, the Prime Minister will become the Lead Minister. The Prime Minister may delegate some, or all responsibilities, to another minister.

5.2. Australian Government Coordinating Agency

Under the AGCMF, DAFF is the Australian Government Coordinating Agency for domestic biosecurity crises. DAFF may also become the Australian Government Coordinating Agency for other crises impacting the agricultural sector.

DAFF is responsible for:

1. maintaining a surge cohort of appropriately trained staff with appropriate security clearances to coordinate and respond to a domestic biosecurity or agricultural crisis
2. coordinating across Australian, state and territory governments to respond to domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises
3. leading consequence management activities to predict, identify, manage and minimise impacts of domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises
4. monitoring events that may impact DAFF equities and notifying the National Situation Room (NSR) of significant events that may occur or are occurring to ensure situational awareness across Australian Government
5. providing advice on the requirement for, or requesting, the establishment of Australian Government decision-making and coordination mechanisms such as the National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)
6. using the national biosecurity emergency response agreements to support decision-making and facilitate unity of effort, including through the National Management Group and Consultative Committees, or other sector-specific committees
7. supporting the Lead Coordinating Senior Official to make decisions and recommendations on the level of coordination and response required
8. undertaking, or arranging for others to undertake, on-ground biosecurity control operations in Commonwealth places (such as Australian external territories, first points of entry, Indigenous Protected Areas and areas managed by Commonwealth agencies such as the land and waters used by the Department of Defence), in consultation with state and territory agencies and relevant First Nation communities
9. identifying capability and resource needs and leveraging surge arrangements to fulfil requirements
10. developing and coordinating an Australian Government crisis communications strategy and supporting products (such as whole of government talking points and briefing material)
11. deploying or receiving liaison officers as required to support a coordinated response
12. maintaining continuity of DAFF critical business functions
13. maintaining records of decisions and actions relevant to domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises
14. transferring any continuing functions and responsibilities to relevant officials and agencies (including state and territory leads) and recovery coordination mechanisms, as crisis coordination concludes
15. conducting exercises and evaluations to identify lessons and contribute to continuous improvement of Australian Government crisis management arrangements.

If the role of Australian Government Coordinating Agency is transferred from DAFF to another agency, DAFF still leads consequence management activities to predict, identify, manage and minimise negative outcomes and impacts of domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises.

5.3. Lead Coordinating Senior Official

The Lead Coordinating Senior Official is the DAFF Deputy Secretary responsible for Biosecurity and is responsible for:

1. advising, briefing and supporting the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to execute their responsibilities
2. notifying other Australian Government agencies of AUSBIOAGPLAN phase changes
3. establishing an appropriate level of coordination to maintain effective situational awareness, appreciation of impacts and consequences, strategic planning and prioritisation of resources across all relevant sectors. This includes awareness of Australian Government agencies' capacity to coordinate response efforts
4. facilitating Australian Government coordination of priorities and advice to relevant Ministers and committees
5. adapting the level of coordination in response to changes in the crisis level, including recommending changing the Australian Government Coordinating Agency or the coordination tier under the AGCMF (see [section 6.3](#))
6. requesting NEMA to convene and co-chair the NCM with the Deputy Coordinator General of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), if required
7. engaging counterparts in Australian Government Sector Lead Agencies and Enabling Agencies as outlined in [Appendix B](#)
8. engaging with counterparts in state, territory or foreign governments and maintaining oversight of any requests or offers of assistance
9. ensuring consistent messaging across government and coordinating an Australian Government crisis communication strategy, disseminating of whole-of- Government talking points, key messages, media releases and public information
10. co-opting people and resources internally as appropriate to resolve the crisis
11. ensuring records of decisions and actions are maintained
12. ensuring the transfer of any continuing functions and responsibilities to relevant officials and agencies (including state and territory leads) and recovery coordination mechanisms as crisis coordination concludes
13. determining when the Active phase ends and overseeing deactivation arrangements, including evaluations, debriefs and after-action reviews.

Should a crisis require Tier 4 coordination as defined by the AGCMF, the Lead Coordinating Senior Official role will transfer to Deputy Coordinator General, Emergency Management and Response, NEMA.

5.4. Australian Chief Veterinary Officer, Australian Chief Plant Protection Officer, Australian Chief Environmental Biosecurity Officer

The relevant Chief Officer is responsible for:

1. receiving notifications of actual or suspected domestic biosecurity incidents
2. notifying the Lead Coordinating Senior Official of actual or suspected domestic biosecurity incidents, if required
3. coordinating with Australian, state and territory government agency counterparts as appropriate, including the Director of Human Biosecurity regarding potential public health ramifications

4. chairing the relevant CC and leading the technical response to domestic biosecurity crises
5. advising the NMG on response strategies
6. collaborating with international counterparts, including notifications to World Organisation for Animal Health or the International Plant Protection Convention secretariat.

5.5. Sector Lead and Enabling Agencies

The roles and responsibilities of Sector Lead and Enabling agencies for responses to domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises are listed at [Appendix B](#).

6. Operational activities

6.1. Authority

The DAFF Secretary (or a person nominated by the DAFF Secretary) has the authority to initiate phase changes under AUSBIOAGPLAN.

A phase change from STANDBY to ALERT or ACTIVE will be authorised if an event to which AUSBIOAGPLAN applies is imminent or occurring.

DAFF will advise relevant Australian Government agencies and jurisdictions of phase changes to AUSBIOAGPLAN.

6.2. Phases and actions

AUSBIOAGPLAN consists of 3 phases:

- STANDBY
- ALERT
- ACTIVE.

STANDBY

STANDBY is the default phase of AUSBIOAGPLAN.

The following activities are undertaken in STANDBY:

1. Monitoring potential risks and events that may impact Australian Government equities and the agricultural sector.
2. Developing, training, exercising and evaluate the capabilities required to use AUSBIOAGPLAN.
3. Undertaking contingency planning for potential responses, including maintaining business continuity plans.
4. Reviewing and maintain AUSBIOAGPLAN.

AUSBIOAGPLAN reverts to STANDBY when ACTIVE finishes or when the ALERT phase expires and does not proceed to ACTIVE.

ALERT

ALERT phase may be authorised when there is a reasonably held suspicion that an event to which AUSBIOAGPLAN applies is likely to occur.

The following activities are undertaken in ALERT:

1. Advising key stakeholders that AUSBIOAGPLAN has moved to ALERT.
2. Establishing and maintaining shared situational awareness.
3. Undertaking Crisis Appreciation and Strategic Planning (CASP) to identify potential impacts and consequences.
4. Considering thresholds and triggers that may require the establishment of the NCM.
5. Bringing DAFF capabilities to an enhanced level of readiness.

ALERT phase automatically reverts to STANDBY phase after 72 hours unless advised otherwise.

ACTIVE

ACTIVE phase may be authorised when an event to which AUSBIOAGPLAN applies is imminent or has occurred.

The following activities are undertaken in ACTIVE:

1. Advising key stakeholders that AUSBIOAGPLAN has moved to ACTIVE.
2. Activating DAFF crisis coordination arrangements, including the Response Coordination Group (RCG) and an Incident Management Team (IMT).
3. Activating the relevant national biosecurity emergency response agreements (if not already activated by an affected state or territory).
4. Establishing and maintaining shared situational awareness.
5. Using CASP methodology to identify impacts and consequences, agreed national strategic priorities and establish lines of effort.
6. Requesting NEMA to convene the NCM (in collaboration with DAFF) to provide situational awareness and coordinate response efforts, if required.
7. Developing and coordinating a crisis communication strategy, including the dissemination of whole-of-Australian Government talking points.
8. Coordinating with relevant Australian, state and territory government agencies, and industry peak bodies, including through the deployment or receipt of Liaison Officers.
9. Once the crisis has been resolved or can be effectively managed without enhanced Australian Government coordination:
10. Advising key stakeholders AUSBIOAGPLAN is moving to STANDBY.
11. Conducting debriefs or undertaking an after-action review.

ACTIVE phase ends when a decision is made by the Secretary on advice from the Lead Coordinating Senior Official.

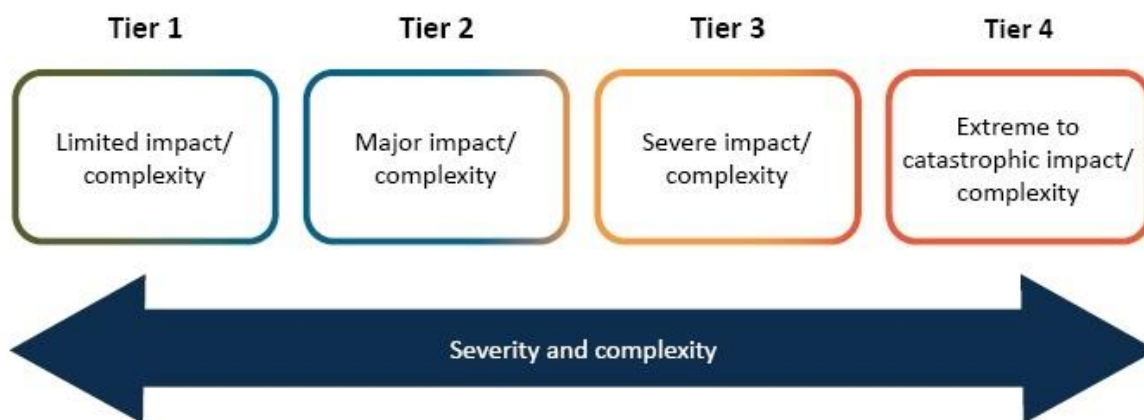
6.3. Categorisation of coordination response

AUSBIOAGPLAN uses a 4-tiered crisis coordination model ([Figure 1](#)) as outlined in the AGCMF to:

1. assess the severity and complexity of a crisis and its impacts and consequences
2. determine the appropriate level of crisis coordination and response mechanisms

3. decide when to escalate or de-escalate crisis coordination
4. manage responses to crisis and their consequences as they become clear
5. adjust the coordination over time including the ability to change the Lead Minister and Australian Government Coordinating Agency.

Figure 1 AGCMF 4-tiered crisis coordination model



6.4. Tier-4 coordination

Tier 4 coordination may be triggered by a domestic biosecurity or agricultural crisis when the complexity and severity of impacts and consequences requires the highest level of coordination across the Australian Government.

If a domestic biosecurity or agricultural crisis is determined to require Tier-4 crisis coordination under the AGCMF:

1. the Lead Minister role will transition to the Prime Minister who may wish to delegate some, or all, responsibilities to another minister
2. the Deputy Secretary responsible for Biosecurity, as the Lead Coordinating Senior Official, will transition Australian Government Coordinating Agency responsibilities to NEMA, with the role of Lead Coordinating Senior Official transferring to Deputy Coordinator General, Emergency Management and Response, NEMA.

The transition does not displace portfolio specific responsibilities. Should a transition occur, DAFF will remain the Sector Lead Agency for agriculture, fisheries and forestry and will continue to lead consequence management activities to predict, identify, manage and minimise negative outcomes and impacts of domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises.

DAFF will support NEMA as the Australian Government Coordinating Agency following the transition.

6.5. Recovery

Consideration of recovery commences at the same time as response activities are implemented. Under most circumstances, responsibility for the management of recovery from crises that fall within the scope of AUSBIOAGPLAN will sit with state and territory government agencies.

However, the Australian Government can provide direct recovery support to communities or to state and/or territory governments.

This assistance may include:

1. the provision of Australian Government capabilities
2. the provision of financial assistance
3. national coordination functions.

Recovery efforts in Commonwealth places (such as Australian external territories, first points of entry, Indigenous Protected Areas and areas managed by Commonwealth agencies such as the land and waters used by the Department of Defence) will sit with the Commonwealth Place land manager, in consultation with state and territory agencies and relevant First Nation communities.

Where Australian Government recovery coordination is required, DAFF will work with NEMA through AGCMF arrangements, or directly with other Australian Government agencies and stakeholders to support this function. The need for Australian Government or nationally coordinated recovery efforts will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

6.6. Deactivation

Upon completion of all response actions and confirmation of no further requirement for Australian Government coordination, AUSBIOAGPLAN will revert to STANDBY.

Following deactivation, DAFF will conduct a post-response evaluation and after-action review process to identify lessons. For Tier 3 or Tier 4 crisis coordination, an Australian Government evaluation process is required under the AGCMF. The outcomes of any review process will be distributed to relevant stakeholders, including Australian Government agencies, and will inform updates to AUSBIOAGPLAN and Australian Government crisis management arrangements.

6.7. Coordination mechanisms and arrangements

DAFF will engage with other Australian Government agencies, state and territory biosecurity and agriculture agencies and impacted industries primarily through the NCM, National Management Group, relevant Consultative Committee and State Coordination Centres.

The NCM can be used for shared situational awareness, national coordination and synchronisation of effort under AUSBIOAGPLAN. It may bring together relevant Australian, state, territory and local government officials, industry, peak bodies, non-government organisations (NGOs) and eminent individuals for coordination, communication and collaboration. NCM participation can be restricted when required, as with the Australian Government NCM (NCM-AUSGOV).

The structures in [Figure 2](#) and described in this section outline how AUSBIOAGPLAN integrates with Australian Government coordination mechanisms, national biosecurity systems, and state and territory arrangements.

Australian Government coordination mechanisms

National Coordination Mechanism (NCM)

The NCM is the peak senior officials' crisis coordination mechanism providing a national picture of crisis to governments and key stakeholders. The NCM provides the convening mechanism to bring together Australian Government, state and territory government and nongovernment representatives immediately before, during and after a crisis.

When AUSBIOAGPLAN is in ALERT and or ACTIVE phase the NCM may be used for coordination of near term preparedness activities, maintain situational awareness, ensure strategic alignment, agree to national priorities and objectives and synchronise Australian Government and national activities.

National Coordination Mechanism Australian Government

A specialised NCM that supports a shared whole-of-Australian Government picture of crisis, with participants drawn from across the Australian Government.

National biosecurity emergency response agreements

Australia's biosecurity system includes sector specific national biosecurity emergency response agreements (cost sharing deeds). The following coordination mechanisms enable collaborative decision-making under the cost sharing deeds.

National Management Group (NMG)

The NMG is the decision-making body for national biosecurity emergency responses. The NMG approves national pest or disease emergency response plans and agrees to the proportional sharing of costs between affected parties. It comprises Australian Government, states and territories and relevant industry parties. DAFF chairs, participates in and provides secretariat support to the group.

Consultative Committee (CC)

The CC is the technical body that agrees to the technical response to national biosecurity emergencies and advises the NMG on response strategies. It comprises Australian Government, state and territories and affected industry parties. DAFF chairs, participates in, and provides secretariat support to consultative committees.

DAFF coordination mechanisms

Response Coordination Group (RCG)

The RCG provides an agency-wide strategic coordination function to facilitate leadership and oversight of DAFF's response efforts. The RCG supports shared situational awareness across the department. The RCG is led by a Response Coordinator and comprises senior executive service (SES) representation. The Response Coordinator may seek to co-opt the support of representatives of other Australian Government agencies to support enhanced coordination where AGCMF mechanisms have not been activated.

Incident Management Team (IMT)

The IMT manages DAFF's operational response and provides a centralised command and control capability within DAFF. Where appropriate, other agencies can provide Liaison Officers to the IMT. If responding to more than one incident, DAFF can establish multiple IMTs.

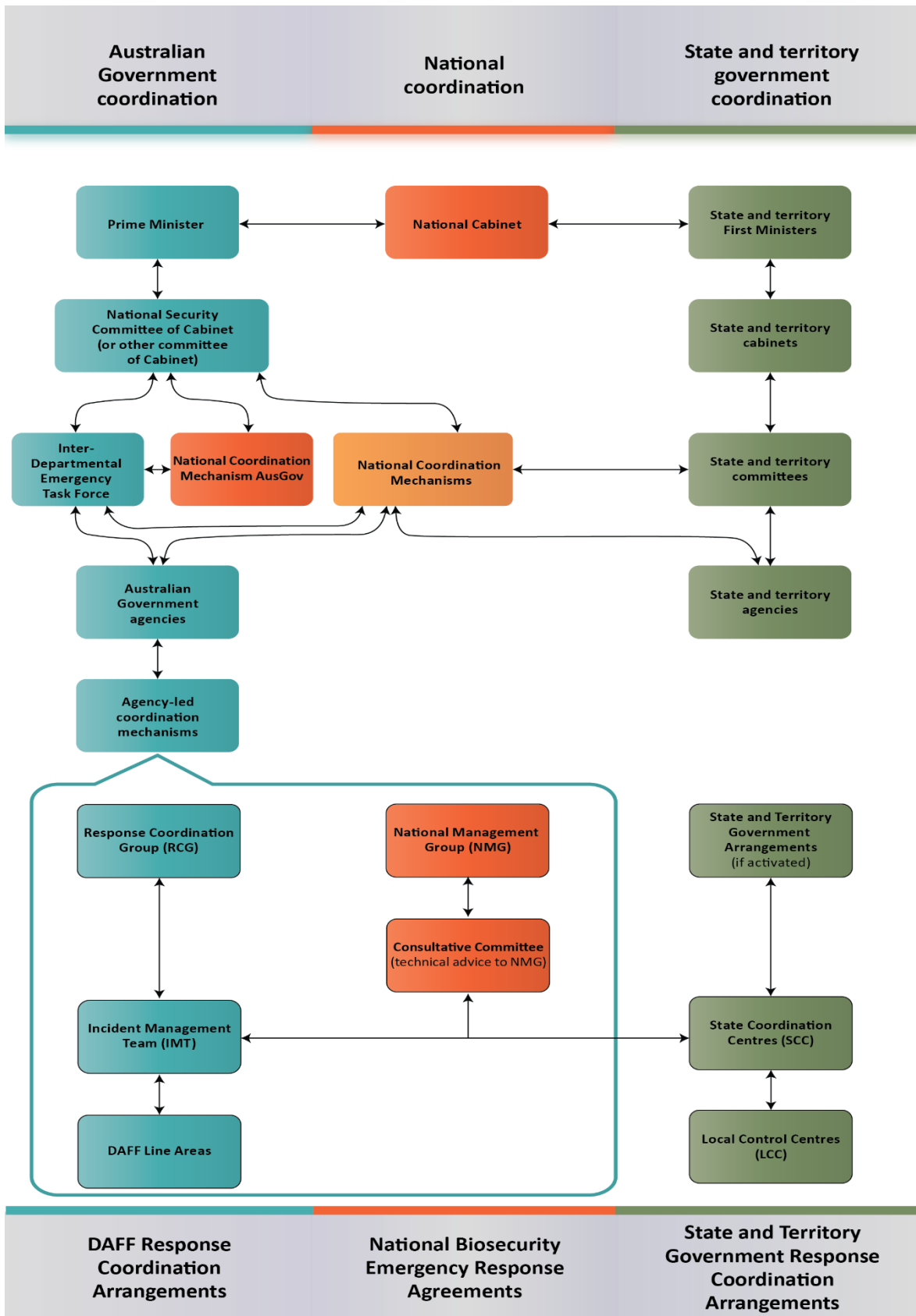
Agriculture Crisis Coordination Centre (AgriCCC)

The AgriCCC function is a virtual conduit between DAFF and the NSR. The AgriCCC shares situational awareness between agencies, coordinates general communication and facilitates agency representation for coordination mechanisms, such as the NCM. Situational awareness materials, including scientific, technical and operational information, will be shared with relevant Australian Government agencies, state and territory agriculture and biosecurity agencies and affected industries to maintain a common operating picture.

Liaison Officers

In addition to Liaison officers received from other agencies, DAFF can deploy Liaison Officers to other operations centres or agencies to facilitate shared situational awareness and response coordination. For example, DAFF can deploy Liaison Officers to the NSR, State Coordination Centres and other Australian Government agencies.

Figure 2 AUSBIOAGPLAN integration with the AGCMF, national biosecurity systems, and state and territory arrangements



6.8 Crisis communication

To ensure consistent messaging across government during AUSBIOAGPLAN activation, the Lead Coordinating Senior Official, supported by DAFF, is responsible for coordinating an Australian Government crisis communication strategy and disseminating of whole-of-Australian Government talking points, key messages, media releases and public information.

During a biosecurity crisis DAFF will:

- Develop a crisis communications strategy in line with the relevant Australian Government Crisis Communication Guidelines.
- Develop and disseminate national talking points.
- Coordinate crisis communication key messages and products with relevant states and territories.
- Confirm key spokespeople and tempo of engagement.
- Liaise with media and public information officers across government, and other stakeholders including media outlets as required.
- Anticipate and resolve communication risks, including misinformation and disinformation.
- Incorporate and prioritise coordinated and consistent key messages across government.
- Adjust communications as the event, the media cycle and community needs evolve.
- Disseminate crisis communication products across the Australian Government, state and territory governments, industry and other stakeholders as required or deemed relevant.
- Support other areas of government that are organising media conferences.

National Biosecurity Communication and Engagement Network

The National Biosecurity Communication and Engagement Network (NBCEN) supports the national biosecurity response arrangements and advises the CC and NMG on best practice crisis communication. It provides a forum to support unity of effort and maintain national consistency of communication and engagement efforts for biosecurity events.

NBCEN comprises communication managers from Australian and state and territory agencies responsible for biosecurity, Animal Health Australia, and Plant Health Australia. NBCEN can also include communication managers from affected industries, other agencies or organisations critical to the response.

NBCEN will engage across governments, and with industry and stakeholders such as media outlets, to ensure relevant information is provided to the public in a timely manner.

6.9. Resourcing and surge

The Lead Coordinating Senior Official may co-opt people and resources internally as appropriate to resolve the crisis. A prolonged biosecurity crisis or a crisis of significant scale or complexity could erode DAFF's capacity to respond to a crisis event. When internal surge options are exhausted, DAFF may use surge workforce options across the Australian Public Service to augment its coordination arrangements. These options may include the surge reserve maintained by the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC), which mobilises staff in large numbers to respond to significant crises when required.

7. Requests for assistance

7.1. Domestic

A domestic biosecurity or agricultural crisis may require Australian Government resources to support the impacted jurisdiction.

The National Biosecurity Response Team (NBRT) is a group of trained and experienced personnel that may be deployed to assist a jurisdiction in the response to biosecurity incidents. NBRT members are personnel from government agencies with knowledge, experience and training in responding to biosecurity incidents. NBRT includes a functional cohort (personnel for working in a response team) and a more experienced mentor cohort (which can assist in setting up an initial response structure and provide guidance to less experienced response personnel). Deployment is managed using the Interstate Deployment Arrangements for Biosecurity Responses.

The Interstate Deployment Arrangements (IDA) for Biosecurity Responses are national arrangements to facilitate the sharing of non-financial resources between biosecurity agencies. DAFF may provide a national coordination function under these arrangements.

DAFF as the Australian Government Coordinating Agency will maintain contact with impacted jurisdictions to understand the resourcing needed to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the crisis. If additional non-financial assistance may be required, or a Request for Assistance (RFA) is anticipated, contact should be made with DAFF as the responsible Australian Government Coordinating Agency.

If additional non-financial assistance may be required, or a Request for Assistance (RFA) is anticipated through existing arrangements in the *Australian Government Disaster Response Plan (COMDISPLAN)*, contact should be made with DAFF as the Australian Government Coordinating Agency. For further information on the provision of non-financial assistance to states and territories, see *COMDISPLAN*.

7.2. International

During a domestic biosecurity or agricultural crisis, international non-financial assistance may be required or offered to Australia to assist with response or recovery efforts. Offers of international assistance, or requests for international assistance, and coordinating the reception of international assistance is covered by arrangements in the interim *Australian Government Reception of International Assistance Plan (AUSRIAPLAN)*.

The International Animal Health Emergency Reserve (IAHER) is a formal arrangement that provides participating countries access to additional human resources in the event of an emergency animal disease outbreak. Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom and United States of America are signatories.

8. Financial arrangements

Agencies under AUSBIOAGPLAN are responsible for their own expenses consistent with their responsibilities. If assistance in the form of personnel or physical resources is provided across agencies or jurisdictions, financial considerations are managed according to the arrangements under which the assistance is provided.

9. Associated documents and legislation

Agencies should read AUSBIOAGPLAN in conjunction with:

- *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act 1994*
- *Australian Government Crisis Communication Guidelines*
- *Australian Government Crisis Management Framework*
- *Australian Government Disaster Response Plan 2025 (COMDISPLAN)*
- *Biosecurity Act 2015 (Biosecurity Act)*
- *Biosecurity Emergency Management Interstate Deployment Arrangements for Biosecurity Response – for resource coordination in a biosecurity response*
- *Crisis Appreciation and Strategic Planning (CASP) Guidebook*
- *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*
- *Export Control Act 2020*
- *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991*
- *Gene Technology Act 2000*
- *Imported Food Control Act 1992*
- *Interim Australian Government Reception of International Assistance Plan (AUSRIAPLAN)*
- *National Emergency Declaration (NED) Act 2020 and NED Aide-Memoire.*

10. Appendices

Appendix A: Related Australian Government and national response arrangements

This is not an exhaustive list. The complete list of plans are contained within the AGCMF appendices.

Related response arrangements are set out in tables A1 to A4:

- [Table A1](#) lists Australian Government generic enabling plans and agreements.
- [Table A2](#) lists Australian Government agency specific plans and agreements.
- [Table A3](#) lists national cost sharing agreements.
- [Table A4](#) lists national agriculture biosecurity plans.

Table A1 Australian Government generic (All Hazards) enabling plans and agreements

Title	Sponsor or owner	Application	Purpose and scope
Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (AGCMF)	Australian Government Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet	Generic – incidents that require coordination across Australian Government agencies	AGCMF outlines the Australian Government’s approach to preparing for, responding to and recovering from crises. The AGCMF provides ministers and senior officials with guidance on their respective roles and responsibilities, including those relevant to the response to biosecurity crises. It also sets out the arrangements that link ministerial responsibility to the work of key officials, committees and facilities.
Australian Government Disaster Response Plan (COMDISPLAN)	National Emergency Management Agency	Generic	COMDISPLAN describes the coordination arrangements for the provision of Australian Government non-financial assistance [to states and territories] in the event of a disaster or emergency in Australia or its offshore territories.

Title	Sponsor or owner	Application	Purpose and scope
Interim Australian Government Reception of International Assistance Plan (AUSRIAPLAN)	National Emergency Management Agency	Generic	AUSRIAPLAN details the process for the reception and coordination of international assistance. The provision International offers of assistance may vary significantly, arise from any source and be made to any Australian Government agency. Any offers of assistance received should be appropriately coordinated, considered and actioned as required to support jurisdictions and the Australian Government's crisis management priorities

Table A2 Australian Government (agency specific) plans and agreements

Title	Sponsor or owner	Subject	Purpose and scope
Head Memorandum of Understanding for the collaborative working relationship between Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (Health)	Joint Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (DHDA)	Activities that require coordination between DAFF and DHDA (includes annex on imported food – an arrangement for coordination of procedures and communication of imported food issues between Food Standards Australia New Zealand and DAFF)	The framework under which DAFF and DHDA work together to provide a high level of collaboration, support and service to each other and the Australian Government.
Statement of Intent between the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Services Australia	DAFF and Services Australia	Generic agreement that covers arrangements to facilitate Services Australia in the delivery of payments and services on behalf of DAFF	The Head Agreement and Services Schedules describe the financial arrangements for providing services or delivering payments on behalf of DAFF. A Service Schedules exists for provision of National Emergency Call Centre Surge Capability – which involves the activation of a virtual call centre for provision of telephony overflow services for a DAFF call centre

Title	Sponsor or owner	Subject	Purpose and scope
Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and the Department of Home Affairs (Home Affairs)	DAFF and Home Affairs	Generic agreement that covers arrangements collaboratively shared risk and harness new opportunities	Principles-based document setting out the overall framework in which DAFF and Home Affairs will collaboratively manage shared risk and harness new opportunities to achieve policy and regulatory objectives of the Australian Government.

Table A3 National biosecurity incident response and cost-sharing agreements

Title	Sponsor or owner	Application	Purpose and scope
Government and Livestock Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Animal Disease Response (EADRA)	Animal Health Australia (AHA) (custodian) and the Parties to the EADRA (owners)	Terrestrial animal disease incidents	The EADRA is a legally binding agreement between AHA, the Australian Government, all states and territory governments and national livestock industry body signatories. It covers the management and funding of responses to Emergency Animal Disease (EAD) incidents, including the potential for reimbursement and cost sharing. It also formalises the role of livestock industry signatories participating in decision making, as well as their contribution towards the costs related to EAD responses.
Government and Plant Industry Cost Sharing Deed in Respect of Emergency Plant Pest Responses (EPPRD)	Plant Health Australia (PHA) (custodian) and the Parties to the EPPRD (owners)	Plant pest and disease incidents	The EPPRD is a legally binding agreement between PHA, the Australian Government, all states and territory governments and national plant industry body signatories. It covers the management and funding of responses to Emergency Plant Pest (EPP) incidents, including the potential for owner reimbursement costs for growers. It also formalises the role of plant industry signatories participating in decision making as well as

Title	Sponsor or owner	Application	Purpose and scope
			their contribution towards the costs related to EPP responses.
National Environmental Biosecurity Response Agreement (NEBRA)	National Biosecurity Committee – DAFF (custodian)	Biosecurity incidents primarily affecting the environment or economy	<p>The purpose of the NEBRA is to establish national arrangements for response to nationally significant biosecurity incidents where there are predominantly public benefits.</p> <p>The scope of the NEBRA is to reduce the impacts of pests and diseases on Australia’s environment and economy. It establishes national response arrangements, including cost sharing, to be applied by agreement of the parties where there are no pre-existing arrangements.</p>

Table A4 National biosecurity plans

Title	Sponsor or owner	Application	Purpose and scope
Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN)	AHA (custodian) and the Parties to the EADRA (owners)	Terrestrial animal disease incidents	AUSVETPLAN is a series of technical response manuals that describe the proposed Australian approach to an emergency animal disease incursion. The documents provide guidance based on sound analysis, linking policy, strategies, implementation, coordination and emergency management plans. AUSVETPLAN includes a range of documentation to guide strategic and operational decision making.
Australian Aquatic Animal Disease Veterinary Emergency Plan (AQUAVETPLAN)	DAFF	Aquatic animal disease incidents	AQUAVETPLAN is a series of manuals that describe the proposed Australian approach to an aquatic animal disease emergency. These manuals outline national emergency preparedness, response and control strategies for aquatic animal disease emergencies in Australia.

Title	Sponsor or owner	Application	Purpose and scope
Australian Emergency Marine Pest Plan (EMPPlan)	Consultative Committee on Invasive Marine Pest Emergencies (CCIMPE), through DAFF	Incursions of introduced marine pests	<p>AQUAVETPLAN includes a range of documentation to guide strategic and operational decision making.</p> <p>EMPPlan is a series of response manuals that outline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the national approach to marine pest preparedness technical response and control strategies to activate in a national marine pest emergency. <p>Within this series, the Rapid response manual generic describes the intended generic response to a marine pest emergency within Australia.</p>
Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan (PLANTPLAN)	PHA (custodian) and the Parties to the EPPRD (owners)	Plant pest and disease incidents	<p>PLANTPLAN is the generic emergency response plan for emergency plant pest and disease incursions and will be used by all plant industries and government agencies as a guide to management of emergency plant pest and disease incursions.</p> <p>PLANTPLAN provides a description of the general procedures, management structure and information flow system for the handling of emergency plant pest incursions at the national, state and/or territory and district levels.</p>

Appendix B: Sector Lead and Enabling Agency roles and responsibilities

In addition to the agencies listed in Appendix B other relevant agencies may be involved relative to their portfolio. These may include:

- Australian Climate Service
- Australian Taxation Office
- Bureau of Meteorology
- Department of Education
- Department of Employment and Workplace Relations
- Department of Social Services
- Food Standards Australia New Zealand
- Office of the Gene Technology Regulators.

The following table identifies the responsibilities Australian Government and related agencies may have during the response to a crisis when AUSBIOAGPLAN is in active phase. This is not an exhaustive list, as input from different agencies may be needed depending on the situation.

Table B1 Sector Lead and Enabling Agency responsibilities

Agency	Responsibilities
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and maintain AUSBIOAGPLAN. • Manage impacts and consequences to the economy, the environment and the community of a domestic biosecurity or agricultural crisis. • Undertake response actions relevant to the legislation the department administers and its administrative responsibilities. • Undertake, or arrange for others to undertake, on-ground control operations in Commonwealth places in consultation with state and territory agencies (such as Australian external territories, first points of entry and areas managed by Commonwealth agencies such as the land and waters used by the Department of Defence). • Undertake surveillance and/or horizon scanning and monitoring of events and risks that could cause domestic biosecurity or agricultural crises. • Invoke, or make recommendation to the relevant delegate to invoke, the provisions of the Biosecurity Act 2015 to assist with pest and disease control operations.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impose import controls under the Imported Food Control Act 1992, as determined in consultation with Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ). • Facilitate and coordinate the deployment of incoming international assistance (such as resources through the International Animal Health Emergency Reserve). • Coordinate the deployment of national surge resources (such as the National Biosecurity Response Team). • Maintain or regain market access through the provision of technical briefings and other information to trading partners and overseas posts. • Trace imported and exported agricultural commodities to support response objectives and comply with international reporting requirements. • Meet Australia's international reporting obligations, particularly to the World Organisation for Animal Health, the International Plant Protection Convention secretariat, the World Trade Organization and International Maritime Organization. • Where necessary work with other agencies, in consultation with the Attorney General's Department, and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to exercise our rights and obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization to minimise the impacts of a crisis on trade. 	
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<p>Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with DAFF and other relevant agencies under the Australian Government Radiological and Nuclear Events Plan (AUSRNEPLAN) to produce nationally consistent public messages. • Provide scientific and technical advice to DAFF and DHDA. • Undertake and coordinate response actions relevant to responsibilities described in the AUSRNEPLAN notification to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) of radiological or nuclear incidents into the environment, which may impact the agricultural sector.
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<p>Attorney-General's Department (AGD)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Office of International Law, within the Attorney-General's Department may be called upon to assist DAFF to ensure compliance with international legal obligations such as trade law and environmental law.
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<p>Australian Border Force</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake customs and immigration clearance functions for essential materials and supplies and/or personnel pursuant to customs and migration legislation. • Assist DAFF in investigation of possible non-compliance and offences under customs legislation and take infringement action where necessary. • Through Maritime Border Command (MBC), respond to Civil Maritime Security threats that pose a biosecurity threat to Australian territory.

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- Undertake response actions relevant to the legislation the department administers and its administrative responsibilities.
 - Undertake customs and immigration clearance functions for essential materials and supplies and/or personnel pursuant to customs and migration legislation.
 - Provide advice relevant for the importation, exportation, transit, permit and/or license requirements and customs reporting of goods, vessels and aircraft provide customs and immigration clearance for essential materials and supplies and/or personnel on request from DAFF.
 - Manage and conduct investigations of offences under the *Customs Act 1901* and *Migration Act 1958*.
-

Australian
Maritime Safety
Authority (AMSA)

- Provide advice on safety requirements and compliance regarding livestock export vessels.
 - Investigate and take appropriate action concerning safety compliance breaches regarding livestock export vessels.
 - Respond to emergency crises involving ships, including maritime assistance to ships in distress and marine oil and chemical spills responses.
 - Provide search and rescue services, including medical evacuation from ships.
-

Australian
Pesticides and
Veterinary
Medicines
Authority (APVMA)

Biosecurity crises

- Provide advice on existing registered products that may be appropriate for use against the disease or pest.
- Provide advice on residues aspects of pesticide or veterinary medicine use.
- Provide advice on timeframes and requirements for potential permit applications based on information and assessment requirements.
- Evaluate emergency permit applications for use of registered or unregistered products against the disease or pest and approve the application if appropriate.
- Provide advice on longer term permits or registration if a disease or plant is declared non-eradicable.

Agricultural crises

- Provide advice on existing registered products that may be appropriate for use to address outcomes of the crisis.
 - Provide advice on residues aspects of pesticide or veterinary medicine use.
 - Provide advice on timeframes and requirements for potential permit applications based on information and assessment requirements.
 - Evaluate emergency use permits applications for use to address outcomes of the crisis, and approve if appropriate.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice on longer term permits or registration if the crisis presents a long-term issue. • Monitor and enforce compliance with the <i>Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Code Act 1994</i> and other legislation administered by the agency.
Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide scientific and technical support to DAFF regarding vertebrate and invertebrate pests, weeds and diseases (e.g. pest risk assessment, diagnostics, and biological, genetic and integrated mitigation interventions).
Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)	<p>If a crisis is declared, DCCEEW would have the following responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice on impacts on, and priority response actions for, matters of national environmental significance protected under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). • Responding as managers of Commonwealth places, for the places the DCCEEW administers (for example, national parks and botanic gardens, marine parks), in consultation with state and territory agencies. • Responding as managers of the Australian Antarctic Program and the following Australian external territories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Australian Antarctic Territory – Heard Island and McDonald Islands.
Department of Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has a range of military capabilities that may be called upon to provide assistance to the civil community in emergency situations, as required and as appropriate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In seeking assistance from Defence, the most effective method is to define or outline the outcome or result required (the effect to be achieved) rather than seek assistance of a specific capability. By defining the desired outcome, Defence can consider a broader range of available capabilities and can assign the most suitable and available assets to achieve the required result. • Capabilities may include logistics support including airlift (fixed and rotary wing aircraft), sealift, land transport, engineering and medical support, temporary accommodation, imagery, and communications. • Responding as managers of Commonwealth places, for the places the Department of Defence administers.

Department of Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice on budgetary and financial aspects of the Australian Government’s response to the crisis. • Review and agree costings of initiatives proposed in response to the crisis, consistent with the Budget Process Operational Rules. • Provide advice on insurance, risk management and procurement matters.
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist DAFF to provide information to international trading partners. • Work closely with DAFF and industry to minimise disruption to agricultural exports. • Assist DAFF in working with international trading partners to maintain and re-establish export markets. • Assist DAFF to ensure compliance with international trade obligation. • Assist DAFF and work with other relevant Australian government agencies to coordinate international deployments where the International Animal Health Emergency Reserve is activated. • Assist DAFF to facilitate and coordinate acquisition and deployment of overseas assistance into Australia. <p>Austrade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide timely advice and assistance to clients to protect Australian commercial interests. • If an agricultural or biosecurity crisis in Australia or overseas causes sudden change to market access arrangements that would impact on Australian exports, or to an Australian businesses’ ability to export, Austrade may be called upon to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Advise DAFF and DFAT on the extent of the commercial impact to Australian businesses overseas – support DAFF and DFAT by providing approved advice to Australian exporters, overseas customers and allies (for example, business chambers) on the crisis.
Department of Health Disability and Ageing (DHDA)	<p>DHDA, the interim Australian Centre for Disease Control (CDC) and DAFF work closely in response to biosecurity crises that have human health impacts, including those known to be or with the potential to be zoonotic in nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure appropriate and timely information flow through the National Incident Centre in DHDA, during all stages of a response. • Share information on health investigations with relevant Australian jurisdictional health agencies through the Australian Health Protection Committee (AHPC) and relevant Australian Government agencies through the NCM and other relevant mechanisms. • Coordinate with DAFF and other relevant agencies to produce nationally consistent public messages and responses to enquiries through the National Biosecurity Communication and Engagement Network (NBCEN).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate with DAFF and other relevant Australian Government agencies to develop notifications for the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), in response to crises with both human and agricultural impacts. • Undertake response actions relevant to the legislation the department administers and its portfolio responsibilities. • Contribute to post crisis joint debriefs and reviews.
Department of Home Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administers and provides advice on operational policy matters relevant to the National Emergency Declaration (NED) Act.
Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR)	<p>Australian Centre for Disease Preparedness (ACDP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide timely, quality-assured diagnostic services for exotic, new and emerging diseases of terrestrial and aquatic animal species, including those affecting both animals and humans (zoonotic). • Undertake confirmatory diagnosis, new test development and in-depth disease investigation, including disease intervention measures, to support crisis response. • Provide scientific and technical advice to the Australian Chief Veterinary Officer and state or territory chief veterinary officers both directly and through the Consultative Committee on Emergency Animal Disease. • Transfer suitable screening tests to state and territory laboratories and provide relevant technical support, including specific reagents supply, proficiency testing programs, training and other quality assurance needs. • Coordinate laboratory response and surveillance through the LEADDR (Laboratories for Emergency Animal Disease Diagnosis and Response) network and the national Sample Tracking and Reporting System (STARS). • Undertake specific disease research activities that require high-level biocontainment facilities for microbiological security reason. • Participate in NBCEN and contribute to producing and disseminating nationally consistent public information. <p>Office of Supply Chain Resilience (OSCR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide general supply chain advice when requested, relating to the supply of agricultural chemicals, including insecticides, pesticides, soil drenches and fumigants and other relevant products to assist with response efforts.
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to the development of Australian Government recovery measures to assist impacted regions. • Partner with key stakeholders including Regional Development Australia committees and local governments to better understand the needs and priorities of regions.

Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond as managers of Commonwealth places and Australian external territories, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Christmas Island – Norfolk Island – Jervis Bay Territory – Ashmore and Cartier Islands – Coral Sea Islands – Cocos (Keeling) Islands – Australian Antarctic Territory – Heard and McDonald Islands. • Advise on transport issues that may arise and liaise with the transport industry as appropriate.
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice and support to the Prime Minister, including advice on key decision points, such as recommending a National Emergency Declaration be made; or convening of a Committee of Cabinet or National Cabinet. • Development, and oversight of, whole-of-government crisis management policy arrangements, and providing advice to agencies on these arrangements. • Liaising with state and territory first ministers' departments to support a national response on decisions at the highest level. • Contributing to public communication. • Co-chair the IDETF and/or the NCM, where deemed appropriate. • Initiates escalation to NEMA-led coordination where appropriate.
National Emergency Management Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support whole of government situational awareness through the NSR. • Support implementation of the Australian Government Crisis Management Framework mechanisms and tools including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – convening and co-chairing the NCM – developing and maintaining the National Joint Common Operating Picture (NJCOP) – offering the services of the Australian Government Crisis Coordination Team. • Provide whole-of-government advice, strategic coordination and communication strategies

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- Respond to state and territory government requests for Australian Government physical assistance in accordance with the COMDISPLAN.
 - Provide advice on operational policy matters relevant to the *NED Act 2020*.
 - In consultation with DAFF, lead and coordinate Australian Government recovery efforts.
 - Engage across all levels of government and the non-government sector to support a national approach to recovery in line with best practice.
 - Deliver relevant recovery and resilience support services and programs to affected communities.
 - If required, provide financial assistance to impacted people and businesses.
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- Services Australia
- Coordinate the provision of the National Emergency Call Centre Surge Capability (NECCSC).
 - Provide surge assistance in the form of service officers, social workers and other health and allied health professionals.
 - Support the delivery of relevant Commonwealth support payments to impacted individuals.
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