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Future Drought Fund

Making climate information more accessible and useful for farmers



- The Australian Government is continuing its investment to build a Climate Services Platform and Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool with an additional \$12 million to 2023–24.
- These investments are about making climate information more accessible and useful, so farmers, industry and communities are better able to assess the drought and other climate risks they face.
- Work is already underway, focused on four pilot regions. The additional funding will enable the capability of the Platform and Tool to be progressively expanded, and ultimately provide national coverage.

Drought in Australia is an enduring feature of our landscape. Its impacts can be economic, environmental and social, affecting the sustainability and productivity of our agricultural sector.

To help Australian farmers and communities prepare for future drought, the Australian Government has established the \$5 billion Future Drought Fund (FDF). The FDF provides \$100m each year for programs that build drought preparedness and resilience.

Accessible and relevant climate information

An additional \$12 million will be provided to continue the development of a Climate Services for Agriculture Platform and a Drought Resilience Self-Assessment Tool.

The Platform will provide easily accessible, regionally tailored climate information and projections. It is being developed by the CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology.

The Tool will enable farmers to add their data to that of the Platform to get a farm-scale understanding of their climate risks and resilience.

These investments aim to make climate information more accessible and useful, helping farmers, industry and communities to understand climate risks and take action.

A prototype of the Climate Services Platform will be available nationally from June 2021 and will provide regional-scale:

- historical and current weather and climate information
- climate projections across Australia.

The additional funding enables further development and expansion of the capabilities, ultimately targeting national coverage, with appropriate regional tailoring.

In parallel, the Government will explore integration with the recently announced Australian Climate Service, and this will inform future investment in the capabilities.

Be informed

For more information, see [Future Drought Fund](#). You can also register for updates at our haveyoursay.awe.gov.au/future-drought-fund.

An Australian Government Drought Initiative

