



agriculture, land reform & rural development

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DISASTER ASSISTANCE SCHEME FRAMEWORK

A FRAMEWORK TO MANAGE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE SCHEMES

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) is responsible for Chapter 6 of Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002 (referred to as the Act in this document) which provides for coordination of funding of post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation with more emphasis on disaster risk reduction. Disaster declaration, preliminary and detailed disaster assessments underpin DALRRD decision/s on establishing effective funding models and further creating favourable and inclusive funding allocations to assist disaster-affected farmers. DALRRD developed a comprehensive Disaster Relief Scheme Framework as a roadmap in the roll-out of government funding grants to assist all the categories of producers within the Agriculture sector.

Natural disasters have cost billions in monetary terms and unparalleled social difficulties in the past and present years. It is generally acknowledged that most rural households depend on agriculture for their livelihood as their source of food and income. Agriculture plays a prominent role in the stability and resilience of farming communities for sustaining food security. The 1991/92, 2001/02, 2014/15, 15/16 drought, the 2007/08, 2016/17 Veld Fires and the 2008/9, 2010/11, 2013/14 floods are just some of the common recurring natural disasters directory affecting the stability of food security for the country. It can thus be concluded these common disasters are rapidly increasing and have become a regular feature of the climate variability across the country.

When these recurrences take effect, subsistence, smallholder and commercial farmers tend to lose their livelihood investments, and subsistence and smallholder farmers are usually affected the most. The impact of these natural disasters results in direct effects such as loss of natural pastures, livestock and crop production, high feed and input prices, job shedding etc

The Disaster Management Act 57 of 2002 puts more emphasis on disaster risk reduction, where activities aimed at disaster risk avoidance, prevention, mitigation and preparedness are prioritized. Section 7(2)(k) of the Act further requires that the national disaster management framework make provision for 'a framework within which organs of state may fund disaster risk management with specific emphasis on preventing or reducing the risk of disasters, including some grants to contribute to post-disaster recovery. The framework is designed to provide the process of implementation of natural disaster relief scheme developed post the declaration of the following hazards: flood, drought, veld fire and hail storm including cold conditions.

2. ACRONYMS

CARA -	Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act No. 43 of 1983)
CASP-	Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme
CCDM -	Climate Change and Disaster Management
DALRRD-	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
DCoGTA-	Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
DoRA-	Division of Revenue Act (Act No. 2 of 2002)
DMA-	Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002)
HoD-	Head of Department
LRAD-	Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development
LSU-	Large Stock Unit
MAFISA-	Micro Agricultural Financial Institutions of South Africa
NAC-	National Agro-meteorological Committee
NDMC-	National Disaster Management Center
NT-	National Treasury
NGO-	Non-Governmental Organization
O.A-	Organized Agriculture
PDA-	Provincial Department of Agriculture
PDMC-	Provincial Disaster Management Centre
PFMA-	Public Finance Management Act (Act No. 1 of 1999 as amended)
SARS-	South African Revenue Service
SOP-	Standard Operational Procedures
SLA-	Service Level Agreement

3. DEFINITIONS

“Agricultural Infrastructure” means animal facilities, farm infrastructure and equipment appropriate for agricultural production. Includes farm fencing, animal handling facilities etc

“Cold Spell” means the sudden onset of relatively cold weather over some time

“Commercial farmer” means a farmer producing primarily for market purpose and makes a living from farming.

“Conditional grant”: means grants provided from national level that is to be spent linked to relevant prescripts of the grant.

“Departmental programmes” means programmes offered by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development that assist farmers within the sector. These include but not limited to CASP, LRAD, MAFISA etc.

“Disaster” means a progressive or sudden, widespread or localized natural or people-induced occurrence that causes or threatens to cause damage to property, infrastructure or the environment, and is of a magnitude that exceeds the ability of those affected to cope with its effects using only their resources.

“Drought” means a prolonged, abnormally dry period when there is insufficient water for user’s normal needs. Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries suffer first and eventually, everyone feels the impact.

“Drought disaster” means damages caused by the deficiency of precipitation/ rainfall over an extended period.

“Fire hazard” means a fuel complex, defined by volume, type, condition, arrangement, and location, that determines the degree both of ease of ignition and fire suppression difficulty

“Registered Farm feed” means (a) (i) any substance obtained by a process of crushing, gristing or grinding, or by the addition to any substance or the removal therefrom of any ingredient; or (ii) any condimental food, vitamin or mineral substance or other substance which possesses or is alleged to possess nutritive properties; or (b) any stock lick or substance which can be and is used as a stock lick, whether or not such stock lick or substance possesses medicinal properties

“Flood plain” means a relatively level area adjacent to the river channel susceptible to inundation by recurrent floods

“Floods” means a natural event or occurrence where a piece of land (or area) that is usually dry land, suddenly gets submerged underwater. Some floods can occur suddenly and recede quickly.

“Heatwave” is an extended period of hot weather relative to the expected conditions of the area at that time of year. There is a specific criterion that the South African Weather Service (SAWS) applies to each area, to determine whether heatwave conditions are met or not. The

criterion reads as follows: If the maximum temperature at a particular area is expected to meet or exceed 5 degrees Celsius above the average maximum temperature of "the hottest month" for that particular place, as well as persisting in that mode for 3 days or more, then a heatwave may be declared.

"Hail Storm disaster" means damages caused by showery precipitation in the form of irregular pellets or balls of ice more than 5 mm in size.

"Livestock" means Cattle, Sheep, Goats Pigs, Ostrich and Poultry

"Livestock Unit" means a unit which consists of the prescribed number of animals of a prescribed kind, type, breed, age or sex, or which is in a prescribed phase of production or is of a prescribed approximate live mass according to the standardized conversion table.

"Livestock losses" means livestock which died during the natural disaster (drought, veld fire, flood, cold spell and hailstorm)

"Own contribution" means a contribution by beneficiaries of the scheme in kind in terms of own labour or hired labour or group of farmers forming a unit to collect goods provided by the state. A unit or individual farmer/s not contributing to the tradeoff or cash payment on goods provided by the state, rather unit or individual farmer/s contributing cash for the purchase of diesel or cash for maintenance of structures such as boreholes or any other agricultural inputs provided by the state. This contribution is determined and agreed upon among the qualifying beneficiary before assistance to the specific farmer, who benefits from the scheme.

"Recovery" means decisions and actions taken after a disaster to restore or improve the pre-disaster living conditions of the stricken community, while encouraging and facilitating necessary adjustments to reduce disaster risk (NDMF, 2005).

"Response" means measures taken during or immediately after a disaster to provide assistance and meet the life preservation and basic subsistence needs of those people and communities affected by the disaster (NDMF, 2005).

"Shared Infrastructure" means a community sharing an agricultural and water infrastructure for food production and other common households benefits

"Scheme" means a scheme established in terms of section 8 of CARA

"Smallholder farmer" means a farmer who produces food for home consumption, as well as sells surplus produce to the market.

"Soil rehabilitation" means a replacement of lost soil from a specified source or hazard e.g. flood

"Water Infrastructure" Water infrastructure is a system of supply, treatment, storage and water resource management. Includes irrigation systems, dams, boreholes, windmills, animal drinking troughs, contours, canals and channels that distribute water to production points within the farms

“Subsistence farmer” means a farmer who due to resource constraints and limited technology produces food to supplement households’ food needs with little or no selling of produce to the market.

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4. INTRODUCTION

The Sectoral Disaster Risk Management Plan of the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) identifies natural disasters as phenomena that release a range of impacts in the Agriculture sector. It further acknowledges that, over the past years, impacts for the sector continued to be felt from the common natural disasters such as cold spells, drought, floods and fires as well as animal & crops disease outbreaks and migratory pests. This has prompted government to take proactive action of promoting disaster risk reduction as well as effective relief and recovery. However, poor or lack of proper coordination has been a challenge that hampers provision of optimal relief during disaster situations, hence, DALRRD developed a disaster relief framework.

The Disaster Relief Framework provides a master guideline on the implementation of various relief schemes across provinces and at national level. It sets out a standard broad operating procedure for coordination, control, management and effective use of disaster relief grants aimed at addressing disasters caused by floods, veld fires, drought and cold spells. The directives outlined in this framework relate only to the measures that must be put in place to alleviate the impact of agricultural disasters to achieve agricultural economic sustainability and to ensure food security in the country.

5. LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY MANDATES

5.1. Guidance is mainly derived from the following legislations:

- i. **Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002) and Disaster Management Amendment Act (Act No. 16 of 2015):** To provide for an integrated and coordinated disaster management policy that focuses on preventing or reducing the risk of disasters, mitigating the severity of disasters, emergency preparedness, rapid and effective response to disasters and post-disaster recovery.
- ii. **Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act No. 43 of 1983):** To provide for control over the utilization of the natural agricultural resources of the Republic to promote the conservation of the soil, the water sources and the vegetation and the combating of weeds and invader plants; and for matters connected therewith.
- iii. **Public Finance Management Act (Act No. 1 of 1999 as amended);** To regulate financial management in the national government and provincial governments, to ensure that all revenue, expenditure, assets and liabilities of those governments are managed efficiently and effectively; to provide for the

responsibilities of persons entrusted with financial management in those governments; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

- iv. **Division of Revenue Act (Act No. 2 of 2002):** To provide for the equitable division of revenue raised nationally among the national, provincial and local spheres of government; and for matters connected therewith.
- v. **The AgriBEE Charter (gazette on 20 March 2008):** To facilitate Broad-based Black Economic Empowerment.
- vi. **Animal diseases Act (Act No 34 of 1984):** To provide for the control of animal diseases and parasites, for measures to promote animal health, and for matters connected therewith.
- vii. **Animal Identification Act (Act No. 6 of 2002):** To consolidate the law relating to the identification of animals and to provide for incidental matters.
- viii. **Animal Improvement Act (Act No.62 of 1998):** To provide for the breeding, identification and utilisation of genetically superior animals to improve the production and performance of animals in the interest of the Republic; and to provide for matters connected therewith.
- ix. **Agricultural Pests Act (Act No. 36 Of 1983):** To provide for measures by which agricultural pests may be prevented and combated, and for matters connected therewith
- x. **National Veld and Forest Fire Act (Act No. 101 of 1998):** To prevent and combat veld, forest and mountain fires throughout the Republic.

5.2. This framework must further be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- i. National Disaster Management Policy Framework (2005)
- ii. Sendai Framework of Action
- iii. Draft Sectoral Disaster Risk Management Plan
- iv. Draft Agricultural Drought Management Plan
- v. Draft Veld Fire Risk Management Plan
- vi. Draft Flood Management Plan
- vii. Draft Cold Spell Management Plan

5.3. Legislative imperatives

The Department has different programmes and projects which are mainly dealing with disaster risk reduction. The government and other entities need to invest in disaster risk reduction to save millions of Rands which could have been used in response, recovery and rehabilitation. As such, prior to funds being made available for disaster response and recovery, section 57 of the Disaster Management Act will be considered. Section 57 of the Disaster Management Act stipulates that when a municipality or a province in the event of a local or provincial disaster request the national government to financially contribute to post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation, the following factors may be taken into account:

- i. Whether any prevention and mitigation measures were taken or initiated by the municipality or province, and if not, the reasons for the absence of such measures;
- ii. Whether the disaster could have been avoided or minimized had prevention and mitigation measures been taken;
- iii. Whether it is reasonable to expect that prevention and mitigation measures should have been taken or initiated in the circumstances by the municipality or province;
- iv. Whether the damage caused by the disaster is covered by adequate insurance and if not, the reasons for the absence or inadequacy of insurance cover; and
- v. The magnitude and severity of the disaster and whether or not available financial resources at the local level, or if it is a provincial disaster at the provincial level are exhausted.

6. STRATEGIC GOAL

The disaster relief framework strives to ensure effective disaster risk management as required by the Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002), Disaster Management Amendment Act (Act No. 16 of 2015) and Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act No. 43 of 1983) for the sustainable agriculture sector.

7. PURPOSE OF THE FRAMEWORK

The purpose of this framework is to:

- i. Promote the implementation of disaster risk reduction measures and conservation of natural resources as required by the Disaster Management Act and other natural resources legislations.
- ii. Promote and enhance farmers' responsibility in disaster risk management.
- iii. Assist the affected farming communities as guided by the Disaster Management Act

8. OBJECTIVES OF THE FRAMEWORK

- i. To assist farming communities who have been severely affected by natural disasters and cannot cope with the effects of the disaster using their resources.
- ii. To assist in the conservation of natural resources.
- iii. To promote the implementation of disaster risk reduction measures by the farming communities.
- iv. To promote the involvement of local entrepreneurs in disaster relief schemes as required by the AgriBEE Charter. One of the charter's objective is to unlock the full entrepreneurial skills and potential of Black People in the Sector. It also talks about increasing the extent to which communities, workers, co-operatives and other collective enterprises own and manage existing and new agricultural Enterprises, increasing their access to economic activities.
- v. To promote skills development for local communities involved in disaster assistance schemes
- vi. To facilitate the creation of job opportunities for the local community members
- vii. To assist in retaining jobs of farmworkers in some instances/cases.

9. IMPLEMENTATION

9.1. Scope of the framework

The disaster relief framework covers all categories of farmers (subsistence, smallholder and commercial) who have been affected by a declared disaster in line with the Disaster Management Act. Only farms that were operating by the time of declaration of a state of a disaster within the declared areas qualify for the scheme. This Framework shall be activated

in the event of a disaster covered within this Framework, provided funds are made available for emergency response, recovery and rehabilitation.

9.2. What is NOT covered by the framework

- i. Restoration of changed environment and irreparable land at all cost
- ii. Damages to assets (farm vehicles, tractors, farmhouses, crops etc.) that are or should be insured
- iii. Compensation for crop yield and livestock losses
- iv. Loss of income or consequential damages
- v. Damages/losses within farms that were not functional and/or not in production at the time or before a disaster occurrence or declaration.
- vi. The scheme must not be seen as a replacement for insurance; farmers are encouraged to have insurance for their produce.
- vii. Farmers who farm along the flood lines or failing to adhere to disaster risk reduction measures.
- viii. Infrastructure such as dams, weirs, flood walls, reservoirs, windmills, etc. that were poorly constructed prior to the damages by the disaster.
- ix. Illegal water extraction, dams and weirs
- x. Feedlot, Piggery, Poultry, Ostriches and Game are classified under Intensive production, therefore, insurance **must** be in place.

9.3. Eligibility

- i. Farmers across all categories as defined will be eligible for relief assistance provided they do not receive the same or similar type of assistance from any other government department/agency or civil society or private sector.
- ii. All livestock owners must have animal identification and brand marks for their livestock.
- iii. All farmers must be registered on a national database of farmers.
- iv. The funds will be allocated in the form of a conditional grant. Factors that may influence the size of the grant may be (a) availability of funds (b) geographical extent of the damage; (c) initial estimate of losses (d) the response capacity of key government departments/agencies in the country (e) previous responses/expenditure trends (f) whether the scheme will make a significant impact on the affected and (g) improvement of the situation/condition.

10. CRITERIA FOR ASSISTANCE

The disaster relief assistance is provided to all categories of farmers, but special emphasis is put on those who are unable to cope with their resources including youth, women and people with disabilities. Hence DALRRD has developed the following criteria to determine how assistance may be provided to farmers. The tables below demonstrate the scale:

Table 1: For livestock feed

Farmer category	Number of livestock	Government contribution	Own contribution
Subsistence	1-10	90%	10%
Smallholder	11-30	80%	20%
Commercial	31+	50%	50%

Animals such as piggery, poultry, game etc. which are under intensive production are not covered in this framework. This is because these types of farming are considered self-sufficient and owners are expected to purchase insurance for them.

Table 2: For seeds/fertilisers/seedlings

Farmer category	Number of hectares	Government contribution	Own contribution
Subsistence	1-10	1-2ha	-
Smallholder	11-30	10 ha	-
Commercial	31+	No assistance	100% (insurance)

In terms of agricultural infrastructure, the beneficiaries must collectively make own contribution either by labour, security, maintenance etc. depending on the type of infrastructure.

Table 3: For agricultural infrastructure repair/construction

Farmer category	Government contribution	Own contribution
Subsistence	90%	10%
Smallholder	80%	20%
Commercial	50%	50%

Table 4: For Water quality analysis

Farmer category	Government contribution	Own contribution
Subsistence	100%	-
Smallholder	100%	-
Commercial	-	100%

Table 5: For Soil testing

Farmer category	Government contribution	Own contribution
Subsistence	100%	-
Smallholder	100%	-
Commercial	-	100%

Table 6: For soil rehabilitation

Farmer category	Government contribution	Own contribution
Subsistence	90%	10%
Smallholder	80%	20%
Commercial	50%	50%

11. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF BENEFICIARIES

Figure 1 below illustrates the process for selection of beneficiaries. The PDA must develop its own criteria for qualifying to receive assistance. Farmers who do not meet the criteria may be disqualified from the relief assistance.

The following should be considered by the PDAs when selecting beneficiaries:

- i. Beneficiaries must be farming within disaster –affected areas, where assessments and/or verifications have been conducted.
- ii. Disaster assessments and verifications are conducted to determine the extent of damage within a disaster area.
- iii. Livestock farmers must have Animal identification card and brand marks to be considered for assistance.
- iv. Crop farmers must keep proper records on data such as the size of area planted, number of trees, harvest frequency, etc. to qualify for assistance.
- v. Livestock farmers whose stocks are above the determined carrying capacity of the land may be disqualified from receiving assistance.
- vi. Farmers who do not practice good farming methods may be disqualified from receiving assistance.

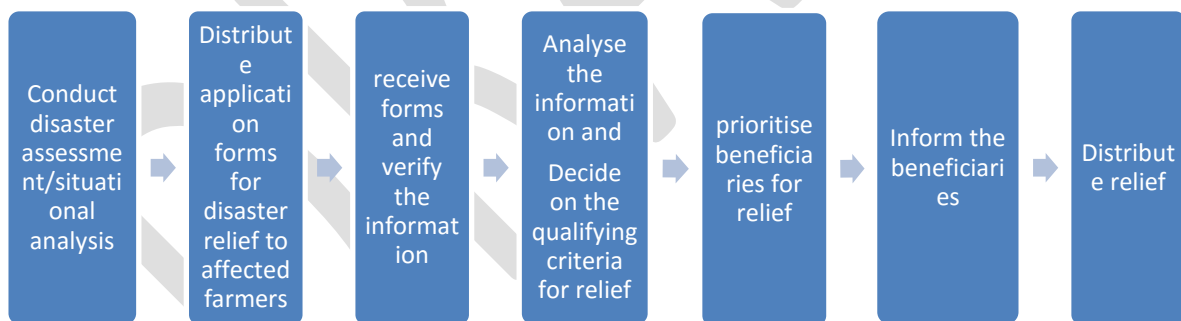


Figure1: Process for selection of beneficiaries

12. PROCESS OF FUNDING ALLOCATION AND IMPLEMENTATION

Process	Leading role-players	Supporting role-players
Disaster occurrence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary assessment report submitted 	PDA	
Assessment and costings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment forms by affected farmers Verification and classification of disaster 	PDA NDMC	DALRRD, PDMC
Disaster declaration	MDMC/PDMC /NDMC	PDMC, DALRRD, PDA
Application for funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission of a business plan 	PDA	PDMC, DALRRD,
Approval of a business plan	NDMC, NT	PDMC, DALRRD
Allocation of funding	NDMC/NT	PDMC, DALRRD, PDA
Reprioritisation of beneficiaries	PDA	DALRRD
Submission of Implementation plan based on the allocated funding	PDA	PDMC, DALRRD
Implementation of the scheme	PDA	PDMC, DALRRD
Monitoring and evaluation	DALRRD, PDMC, NDMC	PDA, Farmers
Closure of the scheme	PDA	PDMC, DALRRD, PDA, farmers,

13. VOUCHER SYSTEM

- i. In-case of a roll-out of relief assistance through a voucher system, a proper guideline to ensure accountability and that relief goes to the correct beneficiaries should be outlined by the provinces/implementing authorities.
- ii. The voucher system should be monitored closely to manage misuse.

- iii. General conditions as specified in this framework should be adhered to as well as the management of the scheme/roll-out.
- iv. Prior implementation of the voucher system by provinces, each province should submit a document outlining the implementation and the operating procedures of the scheme
- v. Procedures should be clearly defined focusing on the equitable distribution of relief for the entire category of farmers.
- vi. Vouchers system should benefit all intended beneficiaries especially the smallholder and subsistence farmers who are resource-poor
- vii. Transport must be provided for farmers who are out of reach of the depots to redeem the vouchers.
- viii. The approach should be representative of the provisions of the AgriBEE Charter by contributing to the emancipation of local entrepreneurs.
- ix. The DALRRD will upon its satisfaction with the voucher system operating procedures, support the province to commence with the roll-out of the relief after meeting the conditions stipulated below.
- x. The criteria for assistance stipulated above must be followed when implementing the voucher system.

14. IMPLEMENTATION OF DISASTER RELIEF SCHEME AT NATIONAL LEVEL

The Scheme may be implemented at national level based on the Minister's discretion or any other reason. This will imply that implementation and procurement will be managed at national level. Heads of Department of respective provinces will then be informed in writing on the arrangement. Through the support of the PDA's, DALRRD will lead and facilitate coordination of resources to assist the affected farmers. Depending on the scope of the projects, the DALRRD may appoint more than one service provider if necessary.

15. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

PDA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop standard operating procedures for implementation of the scheme Verify ownership and the losses before assistance (Provision of feed and implementation of infrastructure projects is made available).
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create awareness to farmers and other stakeholders about disaster risk management issues particularly drought management and overgrazing. • Liaise and work closely with municipalities in the management of communal farms, the development and enforcement of by-laws. • Manage the scheme funds following the relevant prescripts. Ensure that all irregularities, corruption and mismanagement of the scheme are prevented where possible. In case they do occur, such activities should be reported, investigated and relevant procedures followed to address the incident. • Mobilise farmers for collection of relief • Monitor the implementation of the scheme • Regular reporting on the performance of the scheme to the relevant role • Communicate and monitor risk reduction measures to farming communities • Monitor and evaluate the scheme and update of advisories • Promote resilience measures • Compile provincial reports • Monitor farming and climate conditions in the province
Organised Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote good farming practices including record keeping. • Communicate and promote disaster risk reduction measures within the sector. • Assist in ensuring that the scheme is implemented following the framework and other relevant legislations. • Assist and participate in the implementation of the scheme, in particular during planning phase as well as the monitoring and evaluation.

Farmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement best farming practices and record the farming activities regarding their businesses. • Implement and inculcate disaster risk reduction measures in daily farming activities and decisions. • Consider and implement advisories
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribution (“own contribution”) towards the scheme • Abide by the guidelines of the scheme and other relevant legislations as well as report irregularities to relevant authorities.ⁱ • Promote and implement resilient approaches • Keep records of business operations
DALRRD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the scheme in the provinces. • Visit the affected provinces upon implementation and throughout the duration of implementation • Monitor the financial expenditure of the scheme • Give support and guidance to the province throughout the implementation of the Scheme • Report to relevant structures and authorities within the sector. • Request assistance from relevant authorities where necessary • DALRRD finance and internal audit will form part of the implementation
NDMC/PDMC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Disaster Management Act, • Collate submissions by sector departments for assistance, • Request and provide emergency funding, • Declare, classify and verify disasters. • Take charge of multisectoral coordination
Provincial/National Treasury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate disaster funding • Provide grant framework • Monitor disaster expenditure
Other Sector Departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate and assist in the regular monitoring of conditions in the province. • Participate in conducting disaster assessments and provide guidance regarding line function related matters. • Assist in the implementation of the scheme, in particular during monitoring and evaluation phase. • Communicate and promote disaster risk measures within the sector, focusing particularly to the relevant natural resources legislations. • Communicate intended support through NDMC to avoid duplication of efforts and promote coordinated and integrated approach.



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16. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 14.1 This framework must be applied in accordance with all relevant official notices and prescripts with specific reference to the Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002), Disaster Management Act 16 of 2015, Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act no. 43 of 1983) the AgriBEE Charter, Division of Revenue Act (Act No. 2 of 2002), and the Public Finance Management Act (Act No. 1 of 1999 as amended)
- 14.2 Allocated funds must only be utilized for the purpose approved for. However; where the conditions have improved and it is necessary to reallocate the funds, the PDA must get approval for deviation from the funder through DALRRD.
- 14.3 The assistance may be granted provided that the disaster has occurred and declared as such, and that those affected cannot cope without assistance from government and that section 57 of the DMA has been considered.
- 14.4 In a case where the disaster is looming but not declared, the affected province may make funding available and implement it in line with this framework.
- 14.5 Assistance will only be provided in the areas where assessments were conducted and the areas listed in the reports. However, if conditions improve in some of the listed areas, those areas may be removed after re-assessments have been conducted.
- 14.6 Only assessment forms signed by the relevant authorities (i.e. applicant, extension officer, chief/headman/municipal representative, and departmental official) will be regarded as valid.
- 14.7 The province should have the standard operating procedures documented and distributed to all officials and stakeholders involved in the implementation of the scheme.
- 14.8 The scheme will assist commercial farmers who are registered with the South African Revenue Services (SARS).
- 14.9 Grant may not be used to cover expenses and purchases made before the receipt of grant unless prior arrangement was made with relevant authorities and the condition is in the interest of farming communities to ensure fair support.

- 14.10 Assistance may be made available to qualifying projects within government programmes (i.e. LRAD, CASP, MAFISA etc.) in case they have been assessed and included in the project list.
- 14.11 Farmers must comply with the Disaster Management Act (DMA) Act No. 57 of 2002 (as amended), Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA) No. 43 of 1983, and National Veld and Forest Fire Act, 1998 (Act No. 101 of 1998). Failure to comply with the relevant prescripts may lead to disqualification from the scheme particularly farmers with own land and resources.
- 14.12 Farmers should ensure that farmworkers continue to have access to services (e.g. water) available on farms and that jobs of the workers are secured in the long-run.
- 14.13 In cases where additional funds have been acquired elsewhere (other than government departments (e.g. NGO, private sector, donor funding etc.) to augment the scheme funds, proper coordination, monitoring and evaluation system should be put in place and accountability should remain with the provincial department.
- 14.14 Youth, Women and people with disabilities must be prioritized for relief
- 14.15 In cases where it is cheaper or convenient to allow beneficiaries to purchase goods or services for themselves, the voucher system may be considered in line with section 13 of this framework.
- 14.16 PDA must update farmers information on the provincial farmer database at all times
- 14.17 If funds allocated are insufficient to assist qualifying farmers, assistance will be reduced proportionately amongst the three farmer categories (i.e. Subsistence, Smallholder and Commercial Farmers); this is to ensure fair participation and distribution of assistance to affected farmers. However, the most disadvantaged and vulnerable must be prioritized.
- 14.18 In the case of a service provider/s being appointed to implement any scheme within this framework, the departmental procurement procedures should be adhered.
- 14.19 Service Level Agreements (SLA) should be in place for all service providers taking part in the scheme. The terms of the scheme as spelt out in the framework should be explained to ensure compliance.
- 14.20 In the case of the service provider being acquired for implementation of any scheme within this framework, job opportunities should be created for unemployed local community members.
- 14.21 Farmers must be encouraged to ensure their produce to avert the risk.

- 14.22 The PDA should disseminate early warnings and advisories, monitor and report on compliance.
- 14.23 Risk reduction measures must be implemented by farmers to avoid or reduce the impact of the disaster.

17. MANAGEMENT OF THE SCHEME

17.1. Financial management

- i. Operational funds must be provided for by the PDA
- ii. Relevant role players (i.e. PDA, DALRRD, Provincial Finance Unit, Internal Audit, Provincial Treasury, National and Provincial Disaster Management Centres) should be involved throughout the implementation of the scheme i.e. planning, administration, reporting, monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.
- iii. Compliance with MFMA and PFMA and other financial management prescripts must be ensured at all times
- iv. Any interest accrued through the disaster relief fund must be declared to the NDMC/National Treasury to ensure that relevant legislation is applied for the utilisation of such interest.

17.2. Procurement

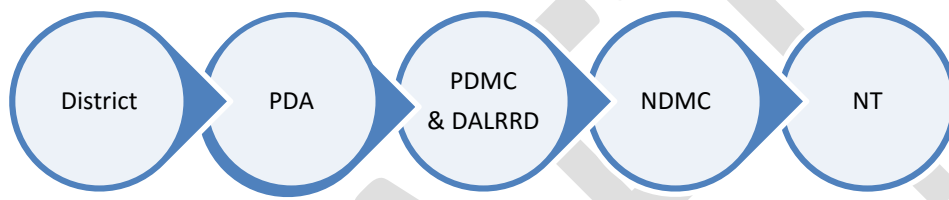
In a case where a disaster has been declared in line with the disaster management Act, the emergency procurement procedures must be effected as per section 41(2)(i) of the Disaster Management Act. This means that normal supply chain procedures may not be followed to address the effects of a disaster as quickly as possible, this must be approved by the relevant treasury. In case of deviation, approval should be sought through the Transferring Officer.

18. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Regular monitoring and evaluation of the scheme must be undertaken jointly by DALRRD, PDA, PDMC and NDMC; progress to be reported to the relevant authorities to resolve the challenges that may be identified and maintain the successes. Involvement of relevant sections and stakeholders (e.g. Infrastructure, Finance and Internal Audit) within the province in the monitoring and evaluation of the scheme is very important.

18.1. Reporting

The diagram below illustrates the reporting line ideal during the implementation of the disaster relief schemes. However, the reporting may also depend on how the funding was obtained. For example, funds transferred through DALRRD to PDA, the PDA report will be submitted to NT through DALRRD. Where direct transfer of funds to the province was done through NDMC, the PDA may report to NT through PDMC and NDMC. In such case, a copy of the report must be submitted to DALRRD.



The PDA must submit monthly progress report (including expenditure and cash flow projections) using the prescribed format/template to be submitted on or before the 10th day of every month including a 'Nil' report in the event of no activity during the month of reporting. This will enable DALRRD to compile a consolidated report and submit it to the National Treasury and NDMC on the 15th day of every month. The similar report should be submitted to the PDMC and NDMC. The quarterly report must be submitted to DALRRD on the 10th of the first month after the end of the quarter. All expenditure reports must be audited.

19. COMMUNICATION COORDINATION

Communication will be done by Communications Directorate in line with the departmental established communications strategies, protocols and procedures. Continuous communication must be done throughout the entire disaster management cycle to promote awareness on disaster risk reduction measure including user-friendly early warning information, which is translated into all official languages where possible. Provinces have a responsibility to ensure that early warning messages and coping strategies reach farmers at all levels.

20. INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

Prior to any scheme being implemented under this framework, DALRRD will consult with the affected provinces to inform them formally about the allocation availed by the National Treasury and its conditions. Letters will be written to the MECs and HoDs of provincial departments of agriculture as well as heads of provincial disaster management centres of affected provinces. All relevant internal stakeholders will be consulted, and where necessary, a task team/internal Joint Operations Centre (JOC) will be established to fast track and monitor progress.

21. CLOSURE OF THE SCHEME

- 21.1. The scheme will be closed once all activities as outlined in the business plan have been delivered according to agreed standards, and all payments done
- 21.2. Final detailed report (including expenditure versus the allocation) must be submitted by the PDA within 60 days after the scheme has been completed
- 21.3. The PDA must submit an audited financial report to National Treasury through DALRRD at end of the financial year and/ or after the scheme has been completed.
- 21.4. Data of all beneficiaries (i.e. farming communities, service providers and temporary workers) who benefited from the scheme should be submitted to DALRRD by the PDA.

22. DOCUMENT REVIEW

This framework will be reviewed after every three years; however, should the need arise, it will be reviewed and improved annually.

23. RISK REDUCTION MEASURES

The following risk reduction measures are key in preventing and/or mitigating the impacts of natural hazards:

23.1 Drought/ Very dry conditions

- Awareness and capacity building on disaster risk management including on drought.
- Issuing of monthly advisories and daily extreme warnings including on below normal rainfall conditions.
- Drilling and equipping of boreholes.

- Selection of drought tolerant cultivars.
- Scouting and controlling of pests associated with drought conditions.
- Keeping livestock in balance with available grazing including provision of additional feed and licks.
- Adherence to relevant vaccinations in line with the season.
- Best veld management practices including rotational grazing and camping systems.
- Water conservation strategies including water harvesting techniques as well as utilisation of grey water.
- Repairing of all irrigation equipment.

23.2 Flooding

- Awareness and capacity building on disaster risk management including on floods.
- Issuing of monthly advisories and daily extreme weather warnings including on conditions favourable for above normal rainfall conditions.
- Relocation of movable assets to safe place when heavy falls are forecast.
- Covering of livestock feed during rainy days especially the one with urea content.
- Scouting and controlling of pests and diseases associated with wet conditions following flooding.
- Adherence to relevant vaccinations in line with the season.

23.3 Veld fires

- Awareness and capacity building on disaster risk management including on veld fires.
- Adherence to the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, 1998.
- Joining of Fire Protection Associations by farmers.
- Issuing of monthly advisories and daily extreme weather warnings including on conditions favourable for the development and spread of runaway fires.
- Construction of firebreaks.
- Relocation of movable assets including livestock when favourable conditions are forecast.

23.4 Cold Spells

- Awareness and capacity building on disaster risk management including on very cold conditions.
- Issuing of monthly advisories and daily extreme weather warnings including on very cold conditions that might affect livestock and crops.
- Covering of sensitive vegetables at night when conditions for very cold conditions have been forecast.
- Sheltering of livestock.

23.5 Heat waves/ Very hot

- Awareness and capacity building on disaster risk management including on heat waves / very hot conditions.
- Issuing of monthly advisories and daily extreme weather warnings including on heat waves conditions that might affect livestock and crops.
- Timing of irrigation - rather late afternoon or early evening to reduce evaporation.
- Sheltering of livestock, and provision of sufficient water points.

23.6 Severe thunderstorms

- Identifying natural or built areas/shelters where animals can be kept during such conditions and ensuring livestock has adequate markings for identity.
- Staying well informed about livestock and conducting an inventory after the event.
- Monitoring the media for information regarding severe storms/flash floods in the area.

APPROVAL

Mr RM Ramasodi

Director General: Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development

Date:

DRAFT