



The Hon. David Littleproud MP

**Minister for Agriculture, Drought and
Emergency Management
Deputy Leader of the Nationals**

MEDIA RELEASE

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Spearheading locally led flood recovery

- **Local voices remain central to the ongoing recovery from the 2019 North Queensland flood event.**
- **Two Implementation Working Groups with a direct connection to the recovering communities have met for the first time.**
- **Priorities over the coming months include rolling out the first grants in the \$60 million Australian Government package to support recovery, resilience and disaster preparedness.**

The communities affected by the destructive monsoon trough that wreaked havoc in North Queensland, in early 2019, are the voices the Federal Government are listening to lead their recovery.

Two Implementation Working Groups, one for the North-West and one for the North-East, have met for the first time to map out the next steps in the recovery.

Minister for Agriculture, Drought and Emergency Management David Littleproud said the working groups ensure local voices remain central to the strategy's implementation.

"The people of North and North West Queensland need to be at the centre of the recovery, determining their own future," Minister Littleproud said.

"From the very early days we've demonstrated our commitment to locally led, locally understood and locally implemented solutions for these communities.

"There are distinct differences between these regions so it was important that we established two separate working groups to focus efforts on their needs.

The working groups have the task of identifying priorities and develop strategies to implement to implement them.

"They will also ensure their communities will be supported into the future.

"The working group members are well connected with their communities and regions so a large part of their role is talking to others about how they too can support the strategy.

"This isn't the government's strategy, it's North and North West Queensland's strategy.

"It's a blueprint for the future that can be used by anyone with a stake in its long-term prosperity."

The first tranche of grants that are part of a \$60 million package of measures to kick-start the strategy's implementation will roll out over the coming months.

Information on *After the flood: A strategy for long-term recovery* and the implementation working groups, including membership, can be found here:

<https://www.droughtandflood.gov.au/flood-recovery>

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