



ACT WATER STRATEGY
STRIKING THE BALANCE
2014-44 **IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN TWO (2019-23)**



ACT
Government

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**ONLY RAIN
DOWN THE
STORMWATER
DRAIN**



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INTRODUCTION

The ACT Water Strategy 2014–44—Striking the Balance (the Strategy) was publicly released in August 2014. The first Implementation Plan (2014–18) was issued at the same time and set a course for putting the Strategy into action.

The Strategy marked a new approach to water management for the ACT Government as the Territory emerged from the millennium drought and the priority shifted from a single water security focus to addressing new challenges for water resource management. These challenges included deteriorating water quality from land use change like urban development, the pressures on maintaining a growing stormwater infrastructure network and the need to develop enhanced stewardship between community and government in water resource and catchment management.

A report card on progress with the first implementation plan was released in June 2018. The report card shows that very good progress has been made, with 27 of the 31 actions in the IP having been completed. Of the remaining actions, three are in progress and are identified for completion early in this implementation plan. The remaining action will commence in 2019, pending the outcome of a current study.

The highlights of Implementation Plan 1 included:

- > establishment of the ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group as a statutory body and the release of a Regional Catchment Strategy, endorsed by the interjurisdictional members of the Coordination Group
- > commencement of the ACT and Commonwealth funded ACT Healthy Waterways project, which has so far delivered:
 - planning and investigation for at least 19 water quality infrastructure projects, of which 12 had commenced by 30 June 2018
 - research into in-lake processes that contribute to blue-green algae outbreaks
 - an integrated water quality monitoring program
- > in-principle agreement to water trading between the ACT and NSW
- > delivery of the regional H2OK stormwater education and behaviour change program
- > continued facilitation of the Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch Program, involving over 200 volunteers providing over 2400 water and riparian survey reports each year, consolidated into a regional catchment health indicator report.





DEVELOPMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2

Consultation with key stakeholders was a key priority when starting to bring together Implementation Plan 2. To inform the development of the plan, three well-attended stakeholder workshops were arranged that addressed the existing Strategy outcome areas:

1. Healthy Catchments and Waterbodies
2. A Sustainable Water Supply Used Efficiently
3. A Community that Values and Enjoys Clean, Healthy Catchments and Waterways

These workshops looked at actions for Implementation Plan 2 as well as their priority.

In addition, a further integration workshop was held with stakeholders to explore gaps and synergies across the outcome areas and with other ACT plans and strategies.

In addition to the report card on Implementation Plan 1, other related work has been useful in informing the development of Implementation Plan 2; these are explained below.

WATER SENSITIVE CITIES INDEX

The Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities, based in Melbourne, has developed a tool for benchmarking cities in terms of how water contributes to their identity and liveability, recognising that water is needed for drinking and washing as well as for cool, healthy green places to live, work and play. The index has ascribed values for the ACT and Canberra’s current state of practice in response to seven goals of a water sensitive city:

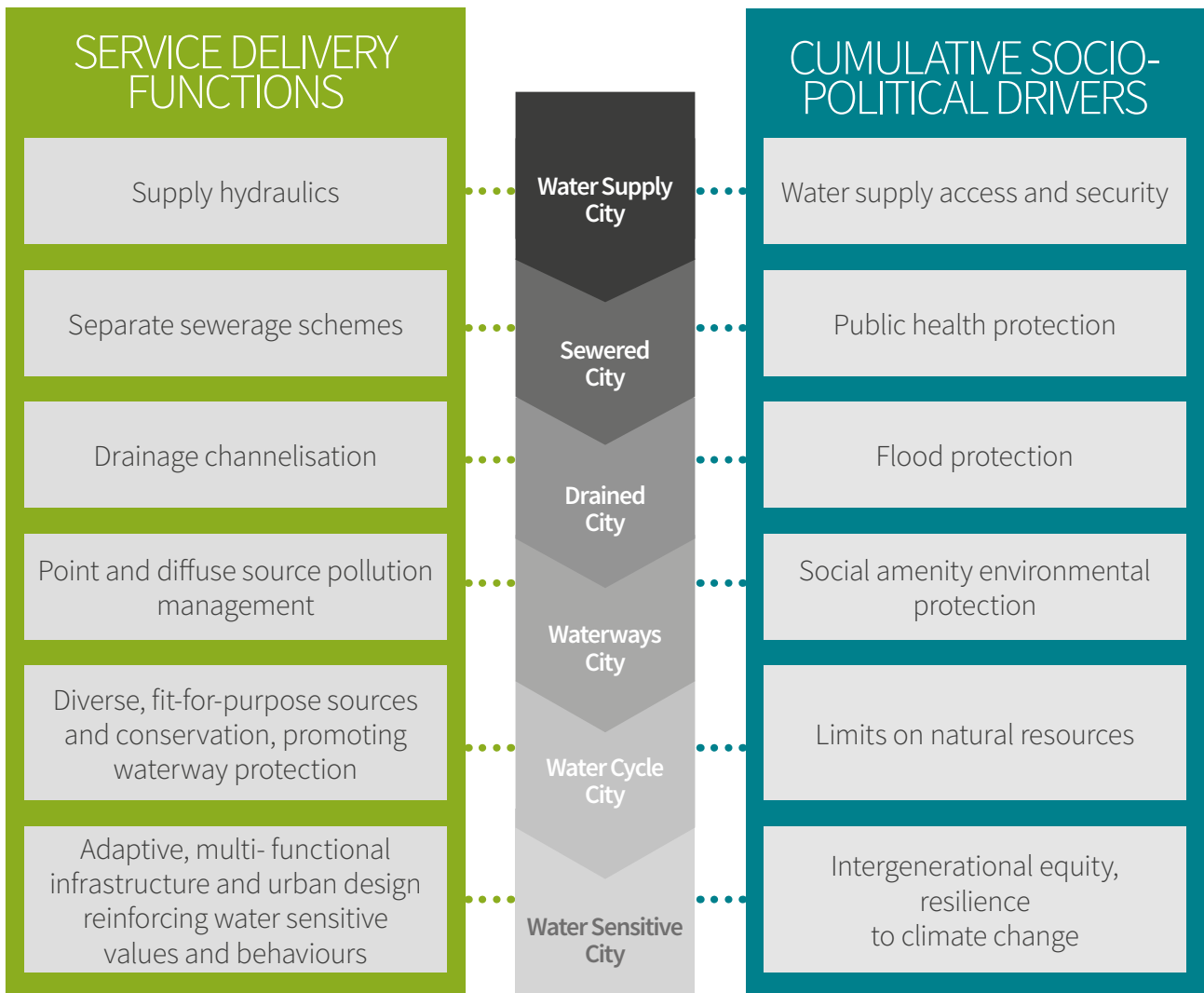
- > Ensure good water sensitive governance
- > Increase community capital
- > Achieve equity of essential services
- > Improve productivity and resource efficiency
- > Improve ecological health
- > Ensure quality urban space
- > Promote adaptive infrastructure

Water Sensitive Cities Index accredited consultants, Alluvium and E2Designlab, convened a workshop in Canberra in August 2018 with academic, industry, government and community experts in the water area to benchmark the relative position of the ACT and Canberra with other cities.

The first part of the benchmarking is to place Canberra along a continuum from Water Supply City to Water Sensitive City in terms of the degree to which Canberra demonstrates the properties that characterise each phase. The score is based on the calculated percentage of indicator scores that are above or equal to the threshold values associated with each idealised city-state.

The index is a global tool and is often used in developing countries where conditions are not as advanced as those we enjoy.

FIGURE 1:



Each stage on the continuum can be characterised as follows:

Water supply city

The most basic state of water management, where a centralised system provides potable water to an urban population relatively cheaply and equally available to all.

Sewered city

Building on the previous state, the sewered city is driven by a desire for better public health and hygiene.

Drained city

A need to protect homes and infrastructure from flooding is the driver behind the drained city. The channelling of waterways systems enables the development of floodplains. The community expects water supply, sewerage and drainage services to be provided cheaply.

Waterways city

The environmental impacts of both water extraction and waste processing are taken into account. As the social and aesthetic values of clean waterways are more appreciated, urban planning begins to integrate water into urban design. Water abstraction is managed and receiving waters are protected through stormwater treatment systems like gross pollutant traps, artificial ponds and wetlands and raingardens distributed through the city. Water supply sources start to diversify with some water for non-potable uses sourced from stormwater and wastewater treatment.

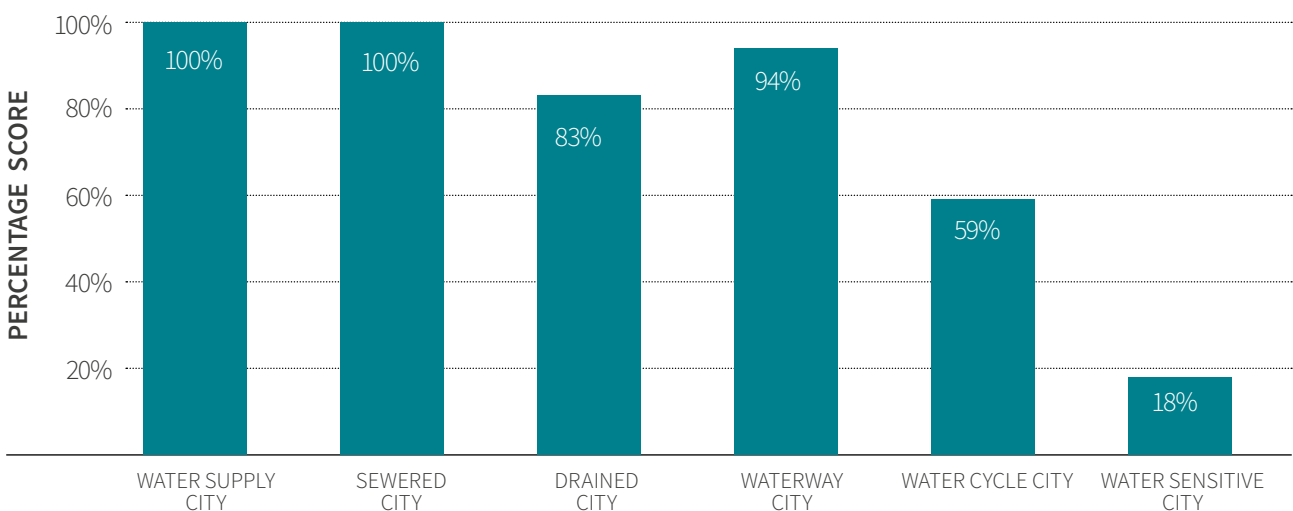
Water cycle city

In this state, water is actively conserved and supplies are coming from diverse sources such as stormwater, greywater and recycled wastewater for fit-for-purpose uses. Sustainability is now widely embraced and water supply services are delivered through a range of co-management arrangements between government, business and the community. The water cycle is acknowledged and reflected in urban planning to promote local amenity, climate change adaptation and recreational opportunities.

Water sensitive city

In this state, the water cycle is fully recognised within the urban fabric in meeting the liveability needs of the community. A water sensitive city manages water in a way that protects the health of receiving waters, mitigates flood risk and creates a green urban fabric that provides for the harvesting and supply of recycled water. Infrastructure, technology and urban design is flexible, accommodating changing community needs. The community is actively engaged with water through recreation, in planning and in care and management. 'Green' and 'blue' infrastructure is addressing urban heat island effects, providing high quality urban amenity and enhancing liveability.

FIGURE 2: THE PERCENTAGE SCORE FOR EACH STAGE FOR CANBERRA



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR CANBERRA?

All cities in Australia show 100% progress as water supply and sewerage cities.

Canberra is 83% drained with the limit being on adequately understanding and addressing the impacts of flash flooding.

Canberra scored highly (94%) as a waterway city due to its well-connected green and blue space, the application of water sensitive urban design and strong ecological connectivity.

As a water cycle city, Canberra is also well on the way (59%). There is good collaboration across the water sector, water sensitive urban design is becoming 'mainstream', with some evidence of collaborative design. There is some water re-use and recycling, although this is still in its early stages.

Canberra shows early signs of moving to a water sensitive city (18%), with a score at the top of the range for Australian cities so far indexed.

Cities are benchmarked against 34 indicators in 7 goal areas that, when well expressed, represent a water sensitive city. Scores against each indicator, provided in the workshop, are tallied and averaged for each goal and represented in a 'spider diagram' (see below).



The hatched line on the spider diagram represents the scores for a water cycle city. Scores of five across all goals reflects achievement of a water sensitive city rating.

The results are encouraging in many areas, with most improvements required in increasing community capital (awareness, understanding and involvement) and improving ecological health (mainly due to the number of concrete stormwater drains in the city).

As a result of the indexing work, a ten point plan was recommended to the ACT Government:

- > Establish a water sensitive narrative and vision
- > Strengthen interdisciplinary platforms
- > Develop a comprehensive knowledge base
- > Protect natural assets and increase biodiversity
- > Bring the community along on the water sensitive journey
- > Ensure Indigenous interests are represented
- > Enhance community preparedness to respond to extreme events
- > Comprehensive stormwater management review and audit focussing on WSUD assets and maintenance
- > Develop business cases for strategic investment in green-blue living infrastructure projects
- > Showcase innovation in practice to mitigate the urban heat island effect

These points have been addressed in preparing Implementation Plan 2.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT ON ACCEPTANCE OF STORMWATER ASSETS

The ACT Auditor-General undertook an audit of the acceptance process for stormwater assets from construction to their management by the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate. The Auditor-General was looking to ensure best practice was being employed in dealing with this asset class, which is only second in value to public housing in the ACT.

The Auditor-General concluded that while the ACT Government has set out clear asset management objectives for accepted stormwater assets, in particular the ACT Water Strategy 2014-44, these objectives may not be met due to deficiencies in the asset acceptance processes and the management of accepted stormwater assets. The Auditor-General found that the acceptance processes are particularly deficient with respect to the design of stormwater solutions as these are negotiated between agencies with competing objectives. This process needs to be replaced with one focussed on adopting solutions that achieve the overall stormwater objectives of the ACT Government. This would reduce the risk that accepted assets may not meet these objectives.

The process for developing stormwater solutions would be further enhanced by increased catchment wide planning and explicit consideration at the design stage of how to fund the maintenance of proposed assets. Options for such funding need to be explored.

The Auditor-General made 15 recommendations to improve the acceptance arrangements. The ACT Government accepted all but one recommendation. Recommendation 3, relating to alignment of design codes and standards, was accepted in part. The part-recommendation to amalgamate the Water Sensitive Urban Design Code and the Design Standards for Municipal Infrastructure was accepted in-principle as further work has been done to update the design code and ensure consistency between the two documents.

The agreed recommendations have been incorporated into the actions for Implementation Plan 2.

ACT WATER RESOURCE PLAN—AS PART OF THE MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

The ACT sits entirely in the Murray–Darling Basin and the Murrumbidgee River Catchment, occupying 0.2% of the land area of the Basin, with 18% of its people and using 0.02% of the water. While the majority of issues facing this wider catchment do not come from urban areas, the ACT has a responsibility to ensure we minimise our impact on downstream communities. The ACT Water Resource Plan demonstrates how the ACT is managing its water resources consistent with the Murray Darling Basin Plan.

Under the Commonwealth Water Act 2007, the ACT must provide a ten-year Water Resource Plan that demonstrates how surface water and groundwater is managed in the ACT consistent with the Basin Plan.

The Plan identifies the maximum amount of water that can be taken from the environment for use (the sustainable diversion limit of 42.5 gigalitres for surface water and 3.16 gigalitres for groundwater) as set by the Basin Plan, and identifies:

- > the ACT's water resources including the water held in Goongong Dam
- > provisions for environmental watering through environmental flows
- > water quality targets, causes of water quality degradation and measures to address these threats
- > Indigenous water values and uses.

The ACT's surface water and groundwater plans are expected to be submitted for Commonwealth accreditation in the first half of 2019.

Given the significant changes in water planning and management that have occurred since the ACT Water Resources Act was developed in 2007, including the development of the ACT planning arrangements in accordance with the Murray–Darling Basin Plan, a foundational action is proposed to review and update the ACT Water Resources Act.

The review will ensure that the Act reflects current best practice and aligns with the functional organisation of water resource management in the Territory.





HOW WILL THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN BE ROLLED OUT?

Implementation Plan 2 provides a further road map for continuing to address the key actions required to protect the health of our water catchments, to ensure ongoing access to water resources and to ensure the community both enjoys the values of water as well as being engaged in the care and management of the resource.

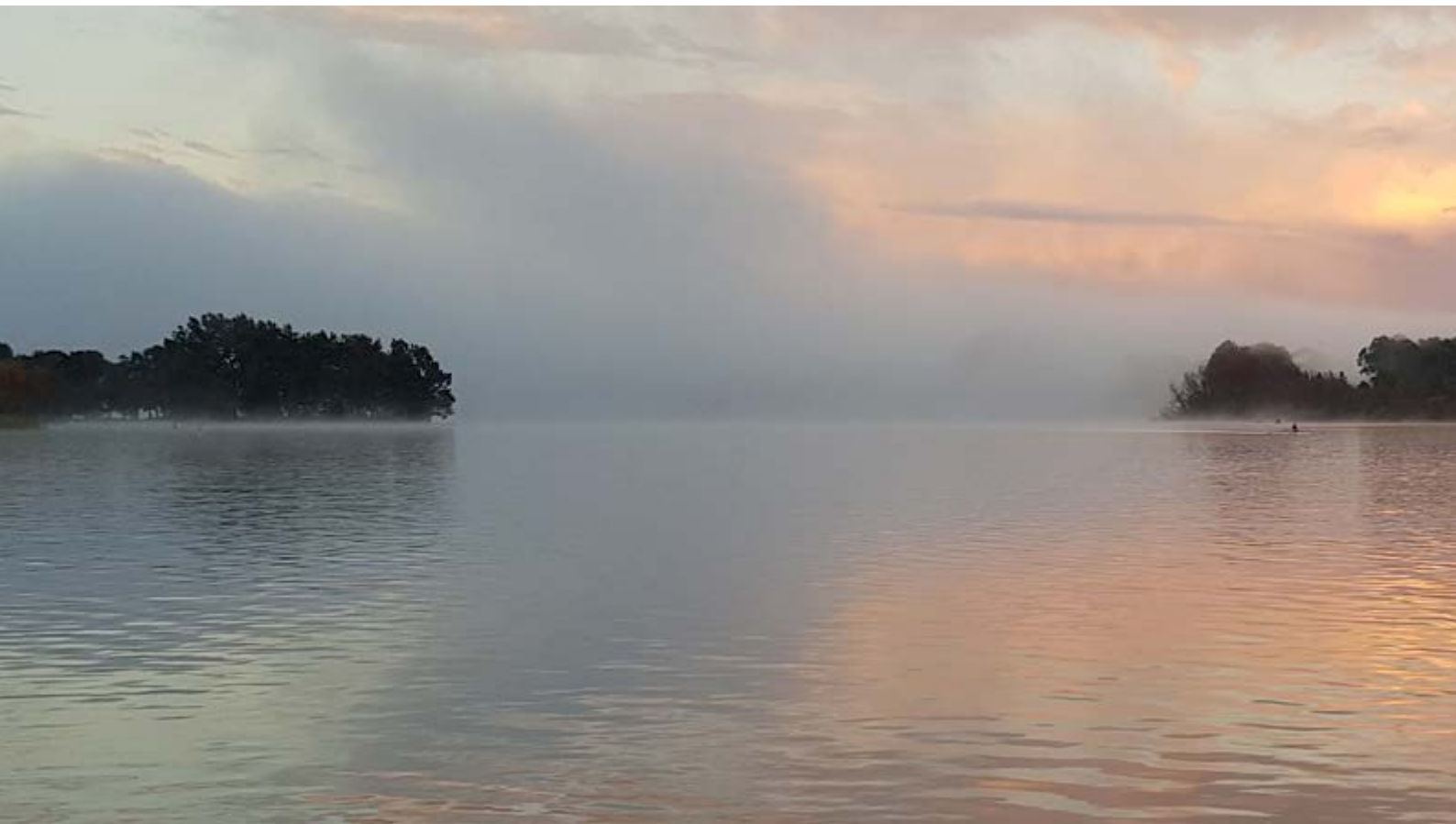
The timing to achieve the various milestones in the 18 actions will depend on agreement on priorities and the availability of resources both financial and human. The ACT Government will focus its efforts on ensuring priority actions are addressed and progress with this five-year implementation plan is well tracked and reported.

Implementation Plan 2 recognises there are newly identified 'foundational activities' that are critical to overall delivery. These are detailed in the following table.

RESOURCING

Resourcing is fundamental to implementation. Some of the actions will be completed from existing resources or a realignment of resources while other actions will be subject to future budget decisions.

One of the funding sources for the implementation of the Water Strategy is the Water Abstraction Charge (WAC). This charge supports the delivery and maintenance of urban and non-urban water supplies, including water catchment management, environment protection of ACT streams and lakes, along with water policy development and administration. The WAC is imposed under the provision of the Water Resources Act 2007.



WHO IS INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTATION?

Continuing implementation of the Strategy is the responsibility of the ACT Government together with key partners like Icon Water as well as community, academic and business stakeholders and industry representatives. Everyone in the ACT community has a part to play in achieving the objectives of the Strategy.

Implementation Plan 2 will emphasise collaboration and partnerships as key delivery mechanisms. It acknowledges and values the synergies between Government plans and strategies.

This Strategy also does not operate in isolation from other Government strategies and plans, including the Territory Plan and strategies and plans for nature conservation, climate change, sustainability, living infrastructure as well as pest plants and animals. Actions in this plan will also assist in meeting objectives across other plans and strategies.

Implementation Plan 2 will also build on the momentum achieved from 2014 and focus on meeting the significant policy and administrative challenges that need to be addressed to ensure our management of ACT water resources keeps pace with our growing community, responds to the pressures of climate change and ensures the community as a whole is engaged in and contributing to healthy water resource outcomes.

While Implementation Plan 2 reflects the Government's aspirations for the second phase of implementing the ACT Water Strategy, the Government believes that partnerships are a key mechanism for effective implementation. These partnerships and collaborations with governments (Territory and Commonwealth), research and academic institutions, professional organisations and community organisations are key to success. The breadth and scope of activities in this plan mean that not one party can take responsibility for implementation. Consequently, the plan identifies a lead organisation as well as potential partners and support organisations.



THE KEY ACTIONS

Following the experience gained with the first implementation plan, Implementation Plan 2 will, as a priority, focus on:

- > ensuring there is a sustainable funding environment for water resource management in the Territory
- > reviewing the Water Resources Act 2007 to ensure it reflects current best practice and alignment with the functional organisation of water resource management in the Territory and accommodated other current government initiatives such as water trading
- > an emphasis that ensures Canberra remains a water efficient city, particularly in the light of the millennium drought and the current dry conditions that have seen water storage levels drop from 100% in spring 2016 to 65 % today
- > creating and maintaining effective partnerships and collaborations between government, academic, research, business and community organisations to deliver on the Water Strategy
- > continuing to use best practice science to guide on-ground actions to protect and manage or water estate.



ACT WATER STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS AND MILESTONES

Governance

Actions	Milestones	Linkages	Lead
F1 Review and update the ACT water policy and regulatory framework	Complete a review and update of the Water Resources Act 2007 (2019–20) ¹	Alignment of ACT water planning and management with Murray–Darling Basin Plan requirements	EPSDD Environment Division, in consultation with CMTEDD



OUTCOME 1: HEALTHY CATCHMENTS AND WATER BODIES

Target:

The ACT will maintain or improve the quality of water across all sub-catchments within the ACT

Actions	Milestones	Linkages	Lead
STRATEGY 1: Achieve integrated catchment management across the ACT and region			
ACTION 1: Strengthen coordination and collaboration for catchment management across the ACT and region	Support for the ACT and Region Catchment Management Coordination Group (Ongoing)	ACT and Region Catchment Strategy	EPSDD
	Support high-level coordination of water matters across ACT Government by operational groups to address priority projects (Ongoing)		Environment Division
	Establish an effective partnership between community and government for water catchment and waterways management (2019–20)		Catchment Management and Water Policy
	Ensure local Indigenous representation on water and catchment governance bodies (2019–20) to allow for participation in decision making processes.		
	Establish an Upper Murrumbidgee Aboriginal Nations Group (2019–20)		
	Develop an integrated catchment management framework for the ACT (to complement the regional catchment strategy) (2020–21)		
ACTION 2: Enhance knowledge and spatial planning for water and catchment management	Continue implementation of the ACT and Region Catchment Management Strategy (Ongoing)	Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch CHIP Report	EPSDD
	Empower local Indigenous communities to share their knowledge of land and water (Ongoing)		Catchment Management and Water Policy
	Support citizen science through Waterwatch, Frogwatch and related programs (Ongoing)		
	Implement a comprehensive open access data management system for water quality and catchment health (2019–20)		
ACTION 3: Integrate water cycle management and green infrastructure into the planning and design of urban development	Implement water sensitive urban design principles and practice in urban planning and development (Ongoing)	Territory Plan WSUD Code; Living Infrastructure Strategy	EPSDD
	Incorporate water and living infrastructure objectives into the Territory Plan, including an appreciation of the catchment context in development (2019–20)		Strategic Planning, Catchment Management and Water Policy
	Prepare an holistic water cycle management plan (2020–21)	ACT Planning Strategy	Icon Water
ACTION 4: Improve water monitoring and analysis across the ACT and region	Undertake enhanced modelling of stormwater impacts of proposed and future development (Ongoing)	ACT Auditor-General Report 1/2018 Acceptance of Stormwater Assets	EPSDD
	Roll-out an integrated water monitoring plan, recognising the links with monitoring of other environmental values (2019–20)		Catchment Management and Water Policy, in consultation with Conservation Research
	Prepare a research strategy about water quality and catchment health (2019–20)	Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch CHIP Report	

Actions	Milestones	Linkages	Lead
Strategy 2: Protect and restore aquatic ecosystems in urban and non-urban areas			
ACTION 5: Improve water quality and ecosystem health in the ACT and Region's rivers, lakes, aquifers, ponds and wetlands	<p>Undertake targeted waterway, riparian and water catchment on-ground works guided by integrated monitoring (Ongoing)</p> <p>Continue to control terrestrial and aquatic pest plants and animals (Ongoing)</p> <p>Take advantage of opportunities enhancing habitat value for aquatic species (Ongoing)</p> <p>Improve compliance and enforcement, including education regarding appropriate erosion and sediment control techniques on development sites and rural and broadacre lands in the ACT (2019–20)</p> <p>Develop Actions for Clean Water ((ACWA) Plans for Googong and Cotter catchments.</p>	ACT Aquatic and Riparian Conservation Strategy and Action Plans; Pest Animal Management Strategy; Lakes, Ponds and Wetlands Management Plan; Murrumbidgee River Corridor Management Plan	<p>EPSDD</p> <p>Environment Division</p> <p>Access CBR</p>
ACTION 6: Ensure appropriate management (volume, timing and quality) of environmental flows	<p>Explore options for enhancing environmental flows to support ecosystem health, especially in the Murrumbidgee River (2020–21)</p> <p>Investigate arrangements for Indigenous cultural water flows in local waterways (2019–20)</p> <p>Review the environmental flow guidelines in accordance with statutory timeframes (2023–24)</p>	ACT Aquatic and Riparian Conservation Strategy and Action Plans	<p>EPSDD</p> <p>Environment Division</p>
ACTION 7: Strengthen compliance and enforcement for water resource management	Reduce point source pollutants such as sediment, litter and chemicals through targeted compliance and enforcement and education campaigns (Ongoing)		Access CBR
Strategy 3: Manage stormwater and flooding			
ACTION 8: Manage stormwater infrastructure sustainably	<p>Continue to engage the community to better understand the role of stormwater infrastructure and its management (Ongoing)</p> <p>Implement the recommendations of ACT Auditor-General's Report 1/2018 relating to Government acceptance of new stormwater assets (2019–20)</p> <p>Update the current ACT Stormwater Asset Management Plan to reflect current stormwater management priorities and linked to a sustainable funding model (2020–21)</p>	ACT Auditor-General Report 1/2018 Acceptance of Stormwater Assets	TCCS
ACTION 9: Improve planning, monitoring and compliance for stormwater management	<p>Recognise in planning the capacity of the stormwater system to support multiple values including ecosystem health, water quality, climate change adaptation, human health and amenity (Ongoing)</p> <p>Include stormwater infrastructure in an integrated water monitoring system (2019–20)</p>		<p>EPSDD</p> <p>Strategic Planning/ Catchment Management and Water Policy</p>
ACTION 10: Improve planning, information and regulation for flood management	<p>Make publicly available enhanced flood risk information (2019–20)</p> <p>Address flood risk and management in the Territory Plan and associated codes (2019–20)</p> <p>Finalise the Strategic Flood Risk Management plan via the Strategic Flood Risk Management Committee (2019–20)</p>		<p>Strategic Planning</p> <p>ESA</p> <p>Catchment Management and Water Policy</p>

OUTCOME 2: A SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY USED EFFICIENTLY

Target: Live within the Sustainable Diversion Limits set for the ACT

Actions	Milestones	Linkages	Lead
Strategy 4: Plan long-term water supplies			
ACTION 11: Plan for long-term water security	<p>Enhance the modelling of catchment yields and demands for water to understand climate risk and ACT's water security in light of expected population growth (2019–20)</p> <p>Achieve the endorsement of the ACT Water Resource Plan by the MDBA (2019–20)</p> <p>Undertake a feasibility analysis of possible water trading and water efficiency measures available for implementation in the ACT (2019–20)</p> <p>Explore the possibility of the ACT participating in the Commonwealth Murray-Darling Basin Water Infrastructure Program (2019–20)</p> <p>Review current actions undertaken to provide compliance with the 1 year in 20 water restriction level of service target (i.e. permanent water conservation measures) and provide advice on where these actions can be strengthened (2020–21)</p>		<p>EPSDD</p> <p>Icon Water</p>
ACTION 12: Strengthen water trading arrangements	<p>Implement the appropriate institutional arrangements to allow the interstate trade of ACT water entitlements (2019–20)¹ with NSW, Commonwealth and other MDB jurisdictions</p> <p>This will be achieved by activities such as:</p>		<p>EPSDD</p> <p>Catchment Management and Water Policy</p> <p>Icon Water</p> <p>CMTEED (EPA)</p>
ACTION 13: Investigate the benefits and costs of more diverse water supply options	<p>Finalise the evaluation of the Inner North Reticulation Network (2019–20)</p> <p>Investigate the benefits of local water supply systems (2020–21)</p>	<p>Non Potable Water Master Plan</p>	<p>TCCS</p> <p>EPSDD</p> <p>Catchment Management and Water Policy</p>
Strategy 5: Manage and promote water services efficiently and sustainably			
ACTION 14: Improve and monitor provision of water services	<p>Agree on and continue to monitor levels of service for ACT water utilities (2019–20)¹ through National Performance Reporting (BoM)</p>		<p>EPSDD</p> <p>Catchment Management and Water Policy</p>
ACTION 15: Encourage water users to conserve and use water wisely	<p>Continue to monitor the effectiveness of water pricing in promoting water use efficiency (Ongoing)</p> <p>Review the WSUD water efficiency target for new development and redevelopment based on a water reduction targets compared to 2003 levels (2019–20)</p> <p>Promote water use efficiency through education programs (Ongoing)</p> <p>Investigate the merits of requiring separate water metering for multi-unit developments (2019–20)</p>		<p>ICRC</p> <p>Treasury</p> <p>Catchment Management and Water Policy</p> <p>Utilities technical regulator</p> <p>Icon Water</p>

OUTCOME 3: A COMMUNITY THAT VALUES AND ENJOYS CLEAN, HEALTHY CATCHMENTS AND WATERWAYS

Target: Live within the Sustainable Diversion Limits set for the ACT

Actions	Milestones	Linkages	Lead
Strategy 6: Provide clean and safe water for the ACT			
ACTION 16: Improve management of rivers, lakes and public space to promote recreational use and reduce risks to public health	Provide timely advice to recreational users about water quality (Ongoing)		Access CBR
	Support local community groups to adopt and assist in the maintenance of waterways and waterbodies in partnership with government (Ongoing)		EPSDD
	Engage local communities to understand the recreational demand for waterways and waterbodies (2019–20)		Environment Division
Strategy 7: Engage the community on understanding and contributing to a more sustainable city			
ACTION 17: Promote community involvement in management of ACT water resources	Continue to target urban and rural residential homeowners and the building and construction industry through ACT and region education and behaviour changes programs (Ongoing)		EPSDD
	Provide information to the community to understand the role and function of stormwater infrastructure (Ongoing)		Catchment Management and Water Policy
	Celebrate our water environment (Ongoing)		
ACTION 18: Ensure that indigenous and other cultural values are recognised in managing water planning and use	Develop and promote an Indigenous narrative about our waterways and waterbodies (2019–20)		EPSDD
	Promote the potential for dual naming and use of Ngunnawal names for waterbodies and waterways (2019–20)		Environment Division
	Create and support Indigenous care groups (2019–20)		PCS



TRACKING PROGRESS

Implementation of the Strategy will continue to be monitored by the Director-Generals' Water Group, which is a senior executive management group representing the heads of the ACT Government agencies and corporations with responsibilities for water. The group meets at least twice a year and receives a report on implementation progress as a standing item.

Within the five-year cycle of this plan, there will be the need to adjust priorities and continue to adapt as elements are implemented, new things are learnt and approaches change. This is adaptive management in action. Annual progress will be reported in the EPSDD Annual Report.

The Strategy also includes targets and interim targets that are required to be tracked in order to inform its efficacy.

Target	Strategy Targets and Indicators	Performance Measurement
Target 1 - The ACT will maintain or improve the quality of water across all ACT managed sub-catchments (30 year target)	<p>A: The AUSRIVAS performance classifications for select reaches of major rivers are maintained or improved. The level of nutrients, organic material and sediment loads entering the ACT reach of the Murrumbidgee River is no greater than from a well-managed rural catchment.</p> <p>B: In the case of urban creeks, reduction in the intensity and volume of urban stormwater flows so the run-off event that occurs on average once every three months is no larger than it was prior to development.</p> <p>C: In the case of regulated water supply catchment streams, provision of the base flow, riffle and channel maintenance flows, and special purpose flows, is in accordance with the ACT Environmental Flow Guidelines.</p> <p>D: In the case of natural ecosystems and modified ecosystems, protection of the base flow, riffle and channel maintenance flows, and special purpose flows, is in accordance with the ACT Environmental Flow Guidelines.</p>	<p>(A) EPSDD: Will utilise AUSRIVAS macroinvertebrates monitoring to meet our National River Health Program commitments. Reported through ACT Water Report.</p> <p>(B) EPSDD: Water sensitive urban design is implemented in accordance with provisions within the Territory Plan. Reported through EPSDD Annual Report.</p> <p>(C,D) Access CBR (EPA): Monitored through licensing arrangements and reported through EPSDD Annual Report.</p>
Interim Target 1a - A measurable improvement in catchment health in areas (sub-catchments) that receive funding for on-ground works from the ACT Priority Project (Commonwealth funded, 2014--19) (10 year target)	<p>A: Median Total Phosphorus load from rural catchments less than 12 kg/km²/yr.</p> <p>B: Median Total Phosphorus load from urban catchments less than 20 kg/km²/yr.</p> <p>C: Median Organic material (measured as TOC) load from rural catchments less than 200 kg/km²/yr.</p> <p>D: Median Organic material (measured as TOC) load from urban catchments less than 500 kg/km²/yr.</p> <p>E: Median Suspended Solids load from rural catchments less than 5000 kg/km²/yr.</p> <p>F: Median Suspended Solids load from urban catchments less than 10,000 kg/km²/yr.</p>	<p>(A-F) EPSDD: All indicators] Measured through monitoring component under the Integration Water Quality Monitoring Program</p>

Target	Strategy Targets and Indicators	Performance Measurement
Target 2 - Support living within the Sustainable Diversion Limit (SDL) set for the ACT (30 year target)	<p>A: Meeting the ACT Water Strategy Think Water Act Water's 25% reduction in mains water usage per capita target by 2023.</p> <p>B: Meeting the 40% target under the Water Sensitive Urban Design code for reducing mains water usage in new developments, extensions and refurbishments.</p> <p>C: Maintaining the measures set under the permanent water conservation scheme and investigate any possible extension of the measures.</p>	<p>(A) Icon Water and EPSDD: Measured by utility and reported through Icon Water Annual Report and National Performance Report (Utilities).</p> <p>(B) EPSDD: Measured through ACTSmart Household programs and reported through EPSDD Annual Report.</p> <p>Water sensitive urban design is implemented in accordance with provisions within the Territory Plan.</p> <p>(C) Icon Water and EPSDD: Measured by utility and reported through Icon Water Annual Report.</p>
Target 3 - Increased community understanding and participation in managing and improving waterways in the ACT (30 year target)	<p>A: Increased number of community hours devoted to management of aquatic ecosystems, e.g. wetlands, creeks etc. (compared to 2013).</p> <p>B: Increased initiatives generated by the community for catchment improvements.</p> <p>C: Number of Waterwatch volunteers/sites being monitored monthly and annually (and community monitoring integrated into ACT Water Report).</p> <p>D: Waterwatch monitoring includes data of changes in community behaviour and impacts on water quality, e.g. observed litter, damage to river banks, illegal activities etc.</p> <p>E: Number of education campaigns delivered on improving water quality.</p>	<p>(A-C) EPSDD and TCCS: Data captured through urban wetland groups, Waterwatch events, other relevant community events supported by ACT Government, relevant community data (e.g. Catchment Groups, Greening Australia).</p> <p>(D-E) EPSDD: Measured and reported through community education component under the Basin Priority Project and EPSDD Annual Report.</p>
Interim Target 3a - The ACT's community's awareness and understanding of waterways, their functions, and why their protection is vital has increased (5 year target)	<p>A: Number of education campaigns delivered on improving water quality.</p> <p>B: Number of education campaigns delivered on domestic behaviour regarding water demand and quality management (gardening waste, car washing, detergents, fertiliser etc.).</p> <p>C: Number of education campaigns delivered on improving awareness of waterway function and protection, e.g. species reliant on good water quality such as platypus, native fish, waterbugs and frogs.</p>	<p>(A) EPSDD: Measured and reported through community education component under the Basin Priority Project.</p> <p>(B) Icon Water and EPSDD: Measured and reported through EPSDD Annual Report.</p> <p>(C) EPSDD: Reported through EPSDD Annual Report.</p>

