



Australian Government

A horizontal bar composed of several colored segments: yellow, orange, blue, red, green, grey, and dark blue.

# Nation Building

**ECONOMIC  
STIMULUS  
PLAN**

## *Nation Building - Economic Stimulus Plan*

### *Social Housing Initiative*

*Prepared by*

*the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs*

## *Nation Building - Economic Stimulus Plan*

\$42 billion committed by the Prime Minister on 3 February 2009

Stimulus package targets four major infrastructure areas

- Education
- Social Housing
- Transport
- Environmental, in particular private housing

\$6.4 billion has been earmarked for Social Housing



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## *Social Housing Initiative*

\$6.4 billion being applied to

- Stimulate building and construction activities through new construction and repairs and maintenance
- Increase the supply of Social housing stock
- Provide increased opportunities for homelessness people or those at risk to gain secure, long term accommodation.

Complements other Commonwealth initiatives: for example National Affordable Housing Agreement and the National Rental Affordability Scheme.



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## *What is the Social Housing Initiative?*

### **Two Elements**

#### Element 1 – New Construction

Stage 1 –construction brought forward - 2,300 homes at a cost of \$690 million.

Stage 2 –construction projects to provide 17,700 homes at a cost of \$5.3 billion

Element 2 – 45,000 dwellings refurbished at a cost of \$400 million.



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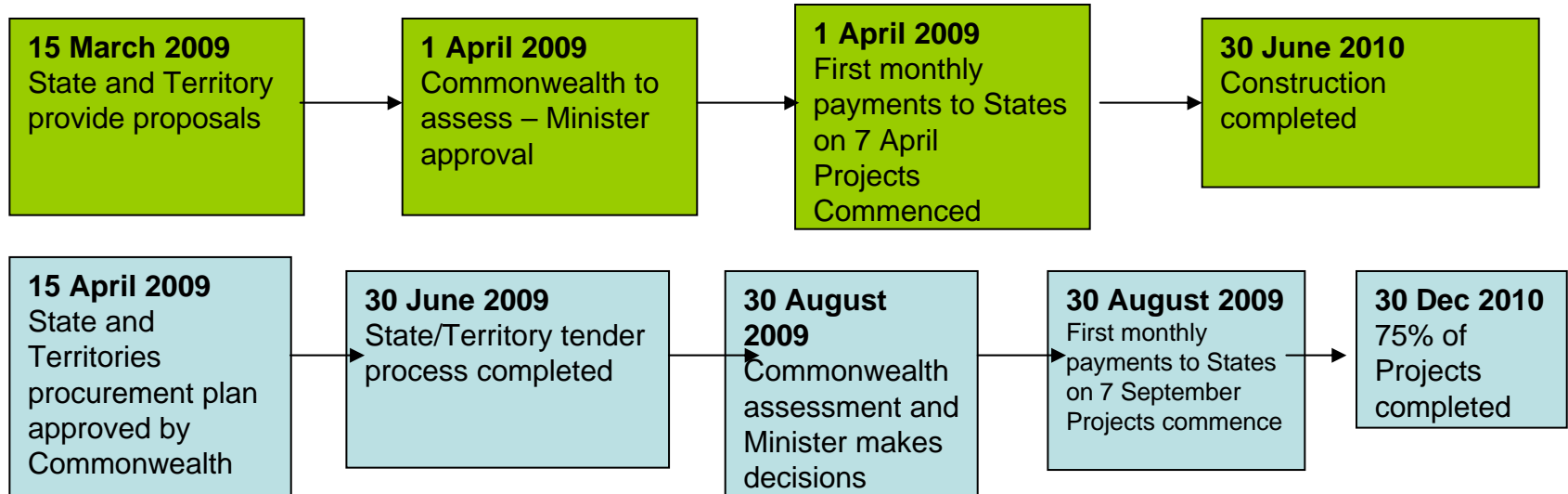
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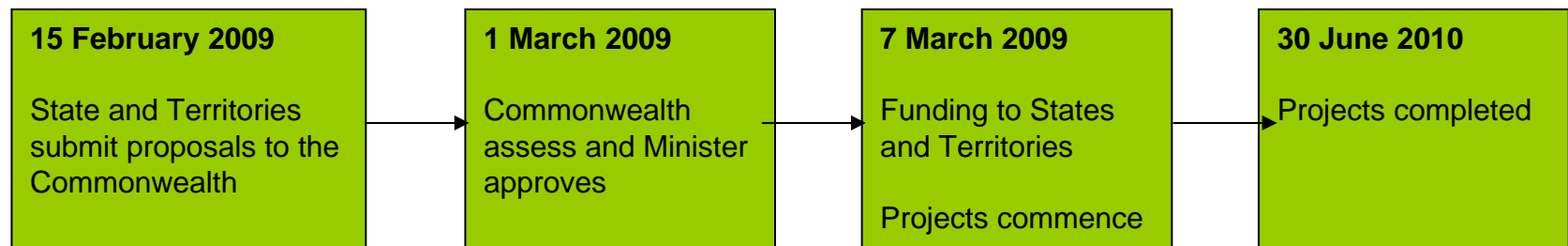
## Timeframes

### Element 1 – New Construction

#### Stage 1



### Element 2 – Repairs and Maintenance





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## *Expected Outcomes*

- **3 years** →
- **75%** →
- **45,000** →
- **50%** →
- **NOW** →
- **20,000 New Dwellings**
- **Completed by 2010**
- **Existing stock refurbished**
- **Reduction in waiting times**
- **Immediate stimulus to building industry**



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## *What results the Commonwealth wants*

### • **Stage 2 Construction – General**

- Developments with good access to public services and employment opportunities
- Mixed communities – avoid concentration of disadvantage
- Target groups with highest needs – aged, disabled, homeless
- Reduced waiting periods for allocation of social housing
- Mix of urban and regional locations
- Compliance with National Building Code of Practice and Building and Construction Occupational Health and Safety requirements.



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## *What results the Commonwealth wants*

- **Stage 2 Construction – Universal Design**

- Dwelling design facilitates access by those with disabilities and the aged, in particular those with limited mobility.
- Dwellings design ensures adaptability for providing improved access in the future.



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## *What results the Commonwealth wants*

- **Stage 2 Construction – Environmentally sustainable and cost effective**
- Looking for projects that can achieve a 6 star energy rating
- Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme – [www.nathers.gov.au](http://www.nathers.gov.au)
- Factors that contribute include
  - Layout
  - Roof, wall, windows and floor construction
  - Orientation and shading
- Other energy efficiency measures include
  - Energy efficiency lighting
  - Alternative energy hot water systems (solar)
  - Water saving and harvesting measures



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## *What results the Commonwealth wants*

- **Stage 2 Construction – Community Housing organisations**

Encouraging growth of the not for profit community housing sector.

Current capacity varies across jurisdictions.

Looking for partnerships and joint proposals involving community housing providers, developers and investors.

Opportunities to leverage (within limits) other Commonwealth social housing programs.



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## Governance

- Commonwealth government has overall responsibility for the Economic Stimulus Plan
- The Commonwealth and the States and Territories have appointed coordinator-generals in each jurisdiction to oversight implementation of the plan. This group reports and advises the Prime Minister, the Premiers and the Chief Ministers.
- A national social housing coordinator has been located in FaHCSIA.
- Each State and Territory has a counterpart housing coordinator.



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## *Where to from here?*

States/Territories will call for housing/construction proposals under Stage 2.

States/Territories will provide proposals to FaHCSIA by 30 June 2009.

The Commonwealth Minister for Housing, **the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP**, will make final funding decisions.

These decisions will be made by 30 August 2009.



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## *Contacts*

Go to the FaHCSIA website [www.fahcsia.gov.au](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au) the click on Housing/Homelessness.

Fact Sheets, Timeframes, Guidelines will be available.

Each State/Territory has a contact person for you to get more information – on FaHCSIA website.

Watch for opportunities to tender or provide proposals.