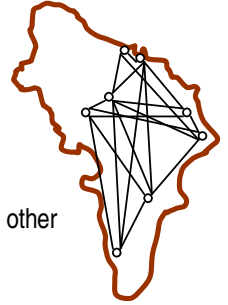


Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM)

Bulletin September 2005



Regional Investment Strategy

The Regional Investment Strategy (RIS) was officially launched on 29 August 2005. The BDTB is in the process of making arrangements for delivery of the RIS including the appointment of staff to key operational and program management positions.

BDTB Restructuring Underway Shortly

As previously indicated the operation and governance of the Burdekin Dry Tropics Board (BDTB) has been under review and the result is a move to a new structure with associated amendments to the Constitution of Burdekin Solutions Limited (the public company behind the BDTB).

The restructure will involve the rationalisation of the operation of the BDTB and will culminate in the separation of the management and administration of the company from the representative input and strategic direction setting components involved with community based natural resource management delivery.

In other words the business side of things will be run by a skilled-based Board, as is the case with companies, with input to strategic direction and governance from the community provided through a number of Partnership Panels. There will be four Partnership Panels i.e. Indigenous Traditional Owners; Industry; Community and Local Government.

The Local Government Partnership Panel will be established through negotiation with the Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM) and HESROC. Matters to be decided include the composition of the panel, geographic distribution for meeting arrangements, frequency of meetings, communications and coordination of the panel.

Arrangements for and composition of the other Partnership Panels are yet to be determined.

We look forward to working with the BDTB in its new form and strengthening the BDT Regional Local Government Network (NRM) as it takes on a new and more substantial role in regional NRM in the Burdekin Dry Tropics.

While We Wait

The Regional Investment Strategy (RIS) will not be implemented to any great extent until the BDTB has its new staffing arrangements in place. What can we (local government) do while these preparations are underway?

One of the initial tasks of the new BDTB program managers will be to determine priority areas for action. This has been done in a broad sense during the preparation of the regional NRM Plan and RIS and the detail now needs to be filled in.

Local government can assist by identifying priority areas for local action and be ready to pass this information onto the program managers when they are appointed. This will provide the BDTB with immediate options for on-ground work while overall strategic direction and priority areas are determined. For more information and assistance with this task contact John Gunn.

Project Products – CB07

All products from the Burdekin Dry Tropics component of the CB07 project have been finalised and are being put on a CD for distribution to Network Councils. Products will also be placed on the BDT Regional Local Government Network (NRM) Website.

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