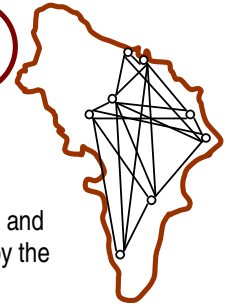


Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM)

Bulletin February 2005



New Year – New Focus

Supporting and further developing the Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM) will continue to be the focal point for the activities in 2005. The focus of the initiative will move to capacity building and supporting Councils in the Burdekin Dry Tropics Region to effectively engage in natural resource management (NRM) at the regional, sub regional and local levels.

The BDT local government network will be supported through funding from the State Investment Plan (SIP) project CB07.

Regional Investment Strategy

While the new focus is capacity building the immediate priority still remains ensuring local government is properly represented in the finalisation of the Regional Investment Strategy (RIS).

On 10 and 11 February 2005 the Burdekin Dry Tropics Board (BDTB) will be conducting a workshop for the sub regional groups to discuss delivery arrangements. The Project Officer and Facilitator of the BDT local government network will attend the workshop and put forward the views expressed by network members during the consultation process.

If there are any additional matters that any Council wants considered please contact Andrew or John prior to the workshop.

The Draft Regional NRM Plan

The BDTB staff have reviewed all the responses to the draft plan and incorporated changes. The amended plan will be submitted to the Northern Region Coordination Group on February 7 and to the Joint Steering Committee soon after.

The BDTB hopes to have the plan accredited and signed off by the State and Commonwealth by the end of March.

Network Support

While continuing to support the BDT local government network in the regional NRM planning process the Facilitator and Project Officer will be engaged in a number of activities to make the network more functional.

A key component of the effective operation of a network is communication so the first step is to review current communication pathways and make sure we are catering for the needs of each Council in the network.

Work on communications has already started with visits and presentations to Jericho, Belyando, Nebo and Bowen Shire Councils in January. Follow up with network contacts will happen in the near future. Until we have the best pathways established please bear with the current communication processes so we can input to the Regional Investment Strategy.

New Board Members

At the most recent HESROC meeting (2 February) Cr Brian Beveridge of Charters Towers City Council was nominated for the position of the Local Government West Director on the Board.

The AGM of the BDTB will be held in early March and assuming his nomination is endorsed by the non-HESROC western Councils, Cr Beveridge will become the new LG West Director. Cr Trina List of Burdekin Shire has been nominated for LG East.

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An initiative of:



with;
Belyando
Bowen
Jericho
Mirani and
Nebo Councils