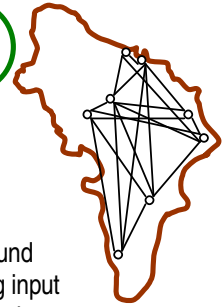


## Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM)

Bulletin May 2005



### NRM Inventory & Communication Workshops

During May the planned NRM inventory & communication workshops/ meetings have been held at Nebo, Belyando, Mirani and Burdekin Shires, and Charters Towers City. Workshops with the remaining network Councils need to be held in June so we can complete the Skills Inventory and other project outputs.

The workshops are being held at each council in the Burdekin Dry Tropics (BDT) region to determine current local government natural resource management (NRM) associated activities and to improve communication processes.

The inventory will provide a better idea of the type and extent of NRM work already being done and how local governments fit into the regional NRM picture.

The review of communications will provide us with a snapshot of how well the network is operating. Modifications to the Communication Strategy can then be made to increase the effectiveness of communications within the network and between the network and other stakeholders.

### Changing Face of NRM

The Burdekin Dry Tropics Board has appointed a new executive officer (EO) in Mr Bob Frazer. Bob has extensive experience working with community and including in an executive role in the Burdekin region. Along with Bob a number of new BDTB Directors are busy familiarising themselves with all aspects of the Burdekin Dry Tropics Board operations and the world of NRM.

One of the first priorities of the new EO is to establish the processes for the delivery of the BDT Regional NRM Plan and Investment Strategy. This is a challenging time and we wish Bob and the new Directors well in their endeavours.

### Upcoming Network Activities

The Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional Local Government Network (NRM) was formed around twelve months ago with the intent of providing input to the BDT Regional NRM Plan and Investment Strategy while working to increase the capacity of local government to participate in the regional NRM processes. Actions in 2005 have been funded through a National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) State-level Investment Project (SIP) i.e. CB07. We would like to acknowledge the support received in the BDT through this funding source.

This phase of funding is scheduled to finish at the end of June 2005. A number of communication products have been developed during the CB07 project as well as the previous HESROC and BDTB funded project. All material produced is available to network Councils on request and will also be available on the WW Web in the near future.

Material to be produced before the end of the CB07 funded project includes:

- Summary of NRM Funding Opportunities;
- LG NRM resources list, and
- Summary from the skills register report.

### Model for the Future

The potential exists to strengthen and expand the BDT local government network and present it as a case study of an internally driven model for local government capacity building and involvement in community based NRM.

Given the increasing effectiveness of the current model used in the BDT region we propose to provide the BDTB with a framework for the delivery of local government related NRM initiatives via the network. Detail on the framework will be available shortly.

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