



action
Salinity & Water
AUSTRALIA



Local Government NRM Funding Opportunities In the Burdekin Dry Tropics.

Burdekin Dry Tropics Regional
Local Government Network (NRM)

June 2005



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1. Introduction

It is widely recognised that local governments in North Queensland make considerable contributions to the sustainable use of the regions natural resources as the sphere of government that is closest to the community with responsibility for the management of public land, strategic and town planning and development assessment. Local government also carries out important activities with environmental implications such as pest management and waste disposal. The potential role Councils have to play in community based natural resource management processes is significant. This potential role, however, is not necessarily reflected by individual Council's capacity.

As a result Councils often rely on external funding to enhance the work they can accomplish in relation to environmental issues and natural resource management. Listed below are the some major sources of funding available in Queensland for local governments, either in partnership with community groups \ individuals, or as specific projects to help carry out the day to day obligations of councils in a more sustainable manner.

2. Regional Funding Arrangements

2.1 Introduction

The current arrangement for natural resource management (NRM) funding delivery on a regional level relies principally on the Australian Government's \$3 Billion Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) and the \$1.4 Billion National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP). Funds are delivered via recognised regional NRM bodies.

Additional to this the other major regional funding component comes from the National Landcare Program, a long standing Australian Government Program, which focuses at the local scale on landholders and community groups.

2.2 National Action Plan for Salinity & Water Quality (NAP)

From: <http://www.napswq.gov.au/>

The National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) is the first of its kind. It tackles two major natural resource management issues facing Australia's rural industries, regional communities and our unique environment.

Australian and State and Territory Governments work with people in communities to find local solutions for local problems. Regional planning and investment at a regional level is the principal delivery mechanism for the NAP. At this level the NAP is jointly delivered with the [Natural Heritage Trust \(NHT\)](#).

2.3 National Heritage Trust (NHT)

From: <http://www.nht.gov.au/>

The Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) was set up by the Australian Government in 1997 to help restore and conserve Australia's environment and natural resources. Since then, thousands of community groups and organisations have received funding for environmental and natural resource management projects.

The NHT provides funding for environmental activities at a:

- community level (through the Australian Government Envirofund) (see section 3.2);
- regional level; and
- National/State level.

2.4 Integrated Delivery of the NAP and the NHT

From: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/about-nrm.html>

Integrated delivery of the NAP and the NHT will streamline planning and implementation of natural resource management based on regional needs.

The programs are driven by single regional plans, developed by local communities and supported by government and the best available science to improve the management of natural resources on a regional scale. The Burdekin Dry Tropics Board is the recognised regional NRM body tasked with the development of the regional NRM Plan and Investment Strategy for the Burdekin Dry Tropics region.

At the regional level, the level common to both the NAP and the NHT, a single accredited natural resource management plan and a single investment strategy per region will be used as the basis for investment for both programs. This is to ensure that the two programs are delivered in an integrated manner at this level.

In addition, monitoring and evaluation processes, communications strategies, capacity building strategies and the development of market-based instruments and environment management systems will be aligned for the two programs.

Fifty-six regions have been identified covering all of Australia, and a natural resource management plan will be developed for each. Plans will consider all environmental, social and economic impacts of natural resource management decisions on a regional basis.

There are two main methods of delivery for this integrated approach; regional allocations to state and territories and the regional competitive component.

(funding from the Natural Heritage Trust is also available to communities through the Australian Government Envirofund see 3.2)

2.4.1 Regional Allocations To State And Territories

From: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/publications/pubs/funding-opportunities.pdf>

The Australian and State/Territory Governments direct the majority of funds from the NAP and the Trust to regions for the implementation of integrated natural resource management plans. These plans prioritise the most important issues for action and funding, and are assessed and accredited by the Australian Government and respective State/Territory Government. Once accredited, the regional body develops an investment strategy to secure the necessary funds to implement the plan.

Regional bodies funding for regional investments is \$284m for 2005-2006 (comprising \$139m Trust and \$145m NAP funding). In addition, State and Territory Governments match the Australian Government Trust funding component either in cash or in kind support; and match the NAP funding component in cash. Ministers sitting on the Natural Heritage Ministerial Board and relevant State/Territory Ministers approve regional investment strategies.

Visit <http://www.nrm.gov.au> or contact your state team or regional NRM facilitator. For a list of contacts visit <http://www.nrm.gov.au/contacts/index.html>

2.4.2 Regional Competitive Component

The Regional Competitive Component supports large-scale, multi-region, multi-year projects that will lead to significant improvements in the sustainable management of natural resources. Preference is given to projects that

generate cross-regional benefits, which may not otherwise be identified as a high priority by individual regions. Matching funding or in-kind support is desirable but not essential.

Around \$20 million is available for new projects over three years through to 2007-2008.

Projects should address one of the following priority areas:

- threatened species (individual species or collective);
- coastal zone and the marine environment;
- Ramsar wetlands and their catchments;
- feral pests;
- sustainable production;
- Indigenous engagement.

The relevant state/territory Joint Steering Committee assesses the priority of the proposed projects before submitting them to the Australian Government secretariat for advice by a technical committee and the Natural Heritage Trust Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee provides recommendations to the Ministers sitting on the Natural Heritage Ministerial Board for consideration.

2.5 National Landcare Program (NLP)

From: <http://www.affa.gov.au/content/output.cfm?ObjectID=D2C48F86-BA1A-11A1-A2200060B0A04273>

The National Landcare Program (NLP) is a longstanding DAFF program which supports the Landcare movement and the sustainable use and management of natural resources. The NLP encourages landholders to undertake Landcare and related conservation works by supporting collective action by communities to sustainably manage the environment and natural resources.

The NLP has been highly effective in encouraging farmers to adopt sustainable management practices, and improve their productivity, profitability and the condition of our natural resources, both on and off farms. Landcare is also strong in regional towns and metropolitan centres.

The Australian Government has demonstrated its continued commitment to the NLP by ensuring continuity of funding until 2007-08. The partnership between government and the community is critical to encouraging on-ground action to improve natural resource management at the farm, catchment and regional level.

Program Overview 2004-2008.

[Landcare Support](#) - assists the Australian Landcare Council, the National Landcare Facilitator and Landcare Australia Ltd. It also funds publications, newsletters, conferences and workshops.

[Natural Resource Innovation Grants](#) - one-off grants to groups or individuals to develop innovative approaches to natural resource management in primary production or processing.

[Sustainable Industry Initiatives](#) - investments in projects to help industry groups and organisations identify and address the broader NRM issues facing them and better assess performance.

Priority National Projects - funds projects in high priority areas identified by the Australian Government.

3. *Funding Available in Partnership with Community*

3.1 The Australian Government Envirofund

From: <http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund/>

The Australian Government Envirofund is the local action component of the Australian Government's \$3 billion Natural Heritage Trust. It helps communities undertake local projects aimed at conserving biodiversity and promoting sustainable resource use.

Community groups and individuals can apply for grants of up to \$30,000 (GST inclusive) to carry out on-ground and other actions to target local problems. Grants of up to \$50,000 (GST inclusive) will be considered where the magnitude, complexity or public benefit of the project is such that additional funding would be beneficial.

Round 7 (2005 Drought Recovery Round)

Now inviting applications for funding. Applications for Round 7 close at 5pm on **Friday 26 August 2005**.

Applications will be accepted for projects located in areas that are, at 26 August 2005, **Exceptional Circumstances declared areas**. (For more information on exceptional circumstances areas see the DAFF web site at <http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist/>).

The round will target works and measures that can:

- protect the land, water, vegetation and biodiversity resource base from the effects of the drought;
- assist preparations for the recovery from the drought; and
- prevent environmental damage when the drought ends.

Please read the Round 7 Guide and Application Form carefully before starting your application, as the eligible activities are quite different to regular rounds of the Envirofund.

Some of the new features for Round 7 are:

- The Application Form has been simplified and reduced by about a quarter compared to the last round.
- The requirements for matching contributions by applicants have been relaxed, in recognition of the tight financial position facing many drought-affected rural communities and landholders, and the need for urgent action. For this round, applicants are asked to contribute \$1 (in cash or in kind) for every \$3 sought from the Envirofund, instead of the usual \$1:\$1.
- Applicants that are incorporated community groups (such as landcare groups) may now submit more than one application.
- Sponsored applicants that are individuals, partnerships, companies or trusts may now seek up to \$1,000 for the sponsor's costs.
- Indigenous projects that pass on caring for country techniques and traditional knowledge focused on natural resource management but do not have on-ground works are now eligible for funding.
- Successful applicants will have 18 months to complete their projects.

The earliest that funding will be available is November 2005.

Changes to the Envirofund

Ministers agreed to some changes to the Envirofund arrangements for future regular rounds. Briefly they are;

- **The Envirofund will have only one regular call for applications in each financial year.** This has been done to avoid clashing with the Australian Government's Community Water Grants which will have two calls for applications in 2005/06. Exact timing of the regular Envirofund Round has to be decided but it is likely to be in the September/October period to allow maximum time for the completion of applications whilst allowing an adequate period for their assessment and the payment of grants.
- **The application form has been simplified.**

- **Successful applicants will be allowed 18 months to complete projects.** This has been introduced to allow applicants sufficient time to synchronise their funding with optimal seasonal conditions.

If you have a question regarding these changes or about any other aspect of the Envirofund, please call the Envirofund Hotline on 1800 303 863 or email envirofund@daff.gov.au

Other Resources:

[Guide and Application Form](#)

[Hints for Completing a Successful Application](#)

Planning your project and preparing to make an application (see <http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund/preparing.html>)

Sample Fencing Management Agreement (see <http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund/fencing.html>)

Envirofund Monitoring and Evaluation Pack (including the Pre-project Survey and Project Final Report Forms) (see <http://www.nht.gov.au/envirofund/publications/m-e/index.html>)

Note on the naming of Envirofund rounds

The naming convention for the Envirofund rounds has been simplified. The rounds will be consecutively numbered, with a bracketed indication of whether the round was the first or second call for the financial year.

New name	Previous name
Round 1 (First call for 2002-2003)	Round One 2002-2003
Round 2 (Drought Recovery Round)	The Drought Recovery Round 2002-2003
Round 3 (First call for 2003-2004)	Round One 2003-2004
Round 4 (Second call for 2003-2004)	Round Two 2003-2004
Round 5 (First call for 2004-2005)	Round One 2004-2005
Round 6 (Second call for 2004-2005)	
Round 7 (Drought Recovery Round)	
Round 8	

3.2 Threatened Species Network

From: http://www.wwf.org.au/How_you_can_help/Do_something_practical/Do_a_community_project/index.php

More than 230 on-ground conservation projects have been funded through the [Threatened Species Network](#) Community Grants Program, enabling community groups right across Australia to help save threatened species.

Managed by the Threatened Species Network, the grants program encourages communities to take long-term responsibility for the ongoing health of our natural environment, specifically targeting the needs of species and ecological communities recognised as threatened by the Australian Government. Grants are provided for activities such as:

- Habitat restoration
- Weeding and feral animal control
- Monitoring and surveying species populations
- Fencing
- Fire management

Other Resources:

[Program Guidelines](#)

[Application Guide](#)

[Application Form](#)

3.3 2005 Community National Resources Awareness Activity Grants

From: http://www.nrm.qld.gov.au/community/ca_grants.html

The Community Natural Resource Awareness Activity Grants are once again being offered to Landcare, Coastcare, Bushcare, Waterwatch and other community natural resource management (NRM) groups to develop small, innovative and creative promotional projects in partnership with community, school, youth or business groups, and / or local government.

These grants are intended to take an entertainment, educational or cultural approach to strengthening the community's awareness and involvement in sustainable NRM in Queensland.

Other Resources:

[Grant Guidelines and Application Form](#)

3.4 Living Wetlands Fund

From: www.wetlandcare.com.au

Over 600 community members are involved in Wetland Care Australia's Living Wetlands Fund sponsored projects across Australia. It is a very satisfying and practical way for the community to become involved with and care for the wetlands and catchments that are at their doorsteps. Many wetlands now have a specific group of landholders or local residents who are dedicated to the rehabilitation of the site.

There has been over \$550,000 granted nationally to community wetland repair projects through sponsorship from Banrock Station Wines and funding from the Natural Heritage Trust.

Grants are to a maximum of \$20,000, and can be used to produce a management plan for the wetland, or to begin on-ground repair works.

3.5 Gambling Community Benefit Fund

From: <http://www.gcbf.qld.gov.au/about-us/index.shtml>

The Gambling Community Benefit Fund receives money from taxes on Golden Casket lotteries, wagering, keno and gaming machines. It distributes these funds to community projects on a quarterly basis. The GCBF is just one way the Government returns taxes received from gambling activities. In redistributing gambling taxes through its grants program, the Gambling Community Benefit Fund plays an important role in ensuring, on balance, the community benefits from gambling in Queensland. Applications must be from Queensland-based organisations. Virtually all Queensland nonprofit community organisations are eligible to apply for a grant, either in their own right (if incorporated) or through a sponsor (if not incorporated).

3.6 The Breakwater Island Casino Community Benefit Fund

From: <http://www.biccbf.com.au/index.php?module=simple&moduleversion=2&id=9&title=Home>

The Breakwater Island Casino Community Benefit Fund was established in 1987 by the Queensland Government to allocate grants to non-profit community organizations in North Queensland, which provide facilities or services to the community at large. The fund is charged with the responsibility of recommending to the Minister the disbursement of monies received from a 1% levy on the gross gaming revenue of the Jupiter's Casino in Townsville.

The fund disburses grants twice a year. For applications received 30 April, organisations will be notified of the result by the following August. For applications received by 31 October, organizations will be notified of the result by the following February. Successful organizations will receive documentation from the secretariat, which must be completed and returned prior to the grant being forwarded to the organisation.

Applications should be restricted to capital expenditure projects or items. Grants usually do not exceed \$5,000.00. The fund contributes, on average, around \$120,000 each round.

Applications are confined to Queensland within the Local Authority Areas of Townsville, Thuringowa, Charters Towers, Mackay and Mount Isa Cities, and the Shires of Hinchinbrook, Burdekin, Dalrymple, Whitsunday, Bowen, Mirani, Sarina, Nebo, Flinders, Richmond, McKinlay and Cloncurry

(Note: Belyando and Jericho Shires not included in the Breakwater Island Casino Community Benefit Fund grant area)

Other Information:

[Guidelines](#)

[Application Form](#)

4. *Funding Available Direct to Local Government*

4.1 Australian Government Water Fund

From: <http://www.nrm.gov.au/water-fund/index.html>

The Australian Government Water Fund will invest a total of \$2 billion over 5 years to fund practical, on-the-ground water solutions through the following programmes:

- Water Smart Australia (\$1.6 billion);
- Raising National Water Standards (\$200 million);
- Community Water Grants (\$200 million).

Information on Water Smart Australia and Raising National Water Standards is available on the [National Water Commission web site](http://www.nwc.gov.au/). (<http://www.nwc.gov.au/>)

4.1.1 *Australian Government's Community Water Grants*

From: <http://www.communitywatergrants.gov.au/>

Australia faces a great challenge to better manage our scarce water resources now and into the future. The Australian Government's Community Water Grants provides \$200 million over five years to help communities make a real difference to the way water is used.

This funding will provide grants of up to \$50,000 to eligible community organisations to encourage wise water use. In some instances the grants can be combined to provide larger grants to community based non-government organisations.

The Community Water Grants aim to:

- promote a culture of wise water use through community engagement and awareness about saving and conserving water;
- encourage best practice measures and demonstrate water wise solutions adapted to tackle local needs and problems;
- provide the support and means for community groups to undertake on-ground projects under the three areas of activity: water savings-efficiency, water reuse-recycling and surface and groundwater health such as protecting or enhancing the health of rivers, wetlands and groundwater resources.

A wide range of groups can apply including:

- Local governments;
- Schools;
- Indigenous organisations;
- Community groups such as:
 - environmental groups;
 - rural organisations;
 - sporting associations and social clubs;
 - community-care sector such as hospitals, nursing homes and childcare centres;
 - regional natural resource management bodies.

The first round of grants is open for applications from 30 June 2005 to 4 October 2005 . Projects are allowed 15 months for completion.

To apply for a grant, you will need a copy of the Application Guidelines and the Application Form for Round 1. These are available at: <http://www.communitywatergrants.gov.au/round1/index.html>

[Download the Application Guidelines - PDF \(guide.pdf - 338 KB\)](#)

[Download the Application Form - PDF \(application.pdf - 525 KB\)](#)

It is anticipated that the second round of grants will be advertised in March 2006.

[Demonstration projects](#) provide actual examples of projects and organisations the Community Water Grants programme will support. These projects demonstrate how communities can make a big difference by employing simple but clever solutions to save water or improve the health of their local waterways.

Other Resources:

[Demonstration Projects](#)

4.1.2 *Water Smart Australia*

Water Smart Australia is a large project programme and will support on-ground water resource projects that will make a significant contribution to the sustainable and efficient management of Australia's water resources in rural, regional and urban areas.

Water Smart Australia projects are expected to help overcome impediments to introducing innovation in water management, leading to substantial improvements in areas such as water resource management, water supply and delivery, efficiency of water use, water for the environment or water quality and general health of water bodies.

Examples of projects and activities which are suitable candidates as Water Smart Australia projects include, but are not limited to, those which:

- improve river flows for better environmental outcomes
- return groundwater aquifers to sustainable levels
- lead to water savings through improvements in irrigation infrastructure
- encourage or advance on-farm water use efficiency improvements
- desalinate water for use in cities and towns
- recycle and reuse stormwater, 'grey' water and wastewater from sewage
- provide more efficient storage facilities, such as underground aquifers
- provide alternatives to ocean outfalls and the better management of sewage in our coastal cities, and
- develop water efficient housing design.

Priority will be given to projects which result in on-ground water management improvements and which produce a significant public benefit.

As a general guide, the minimum project contribution from the Fund is of the order of \$1 million and the maximum funding duration is four years. Nonetheless, highly relevant projects that seek less than this level of funding may be considered for assistance. These might include a project definition phase of a larger eventual project.

Applicants who consider that they have a project that has merit and is worthy of funding through Water Smart Australia are encouraged to contact the National Water Commission on 02 6271 5500 to discuss its suitability. Staff of the Commission will also provide advice on the best way to develop an application.

Applications for the first round of funding closed on 30 June 2005.

4.1.3 *Raising National Water Standards*

The Raising National Water Standards programme aims to assist the development of the necessary tools for good water management in Australia. It will be managed by the National Water Commission (NWC) and will direct targeted investment to Australia's national capacity to measure, monitor and manage its water resources. (Separate guidelines for this programme will be available from the NWC).

Examples of areas of activity to which investment will be directed under the Raising National Water Standards Programme include:

- facilitating a nationally consistent system for water data
- developing and implementing necessary framework for good water management
- strategic assessment of groundwater resources
- working with local communities to improve conservation of water systems
- facilitating more harmonised national approaches to water management
- improving the quality of public information about water, and
- establishing and promoting the Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme for household appliances, and implementation of the Smart Water Mark regime for household gardens.

4.1.4 *National Water Commission*

The **National Water Commission** (NWC) is a key element of the National Water Initiative (NWI). On 25 June 2004 COAG agreed to the detail of a National Water Initiative (NWI) to provide greater certainty for investors in the water industry and for the environment, and which will allow Australia's water management regimes to adapt to future changes in water availability responsively and fairly in both rural and urban areas.

The NWC is responsible for driving water reform, providing advice to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) and the Australian Government on national water issues, and assisting in the administration of the Australian Government Water Fund. The NWC was formally established under the *National Water Commission Act 2004*, which was enacted in December 2004.

The Commission is an independent statutory body within the Prime Minister's portfolio, comprising up to seven Commissioners. The Prime Minister announced the appointment of the Chair and Commissioners on 10 March 2005.

The Commissioners have recognised expertise in water resource policies and management, relevant scientific disciplines, public sector governance and administration of natural resource programmes.

The NWC is also responsible for the administration of Water Smart Australia under the Australian Government Water Fund.

4.2 Cities for Climate Protection™ Australia

From: <http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/lgmodules/index.html>

The Australian Government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 8% above 1990 levels by 2010. This reduction is significant and requires the combined effort of all Australians. The Australian Greenhouse Office works with local government, industry and the community to reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions.

Cities for Climate Protection™ (CCP™) Australia is a program which assists local governments and their communities reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The program is funded through a commitment of \$13 million over 5 years, made by the Prime Minister in his statement, Safeguarding the Future, in November 1997. CCP™ Australia is an international trade-marked program of the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) delivered in collaboration with the Australian Greenhouse Office.

Other Resources:

[Milestone Assistance Grants](#)

[Travel Demand Management \(TDM\) Assistance for M5 Councils](#)

[Working Energy Program for local government](#)

4.3 Landfill Remediation Assessment Program (LRAP)

From: <http://www.lgp.qld.gov.au/?ID=98>

Under the Landfill Remediation Assessment Program (LRAP), \$7.5M is being made available to local governments, to meet up to 50% of the cost of assessing the risks (health and environmental harm) posed by closed landfill sites and identifying the costs of remediation.

The objectives of the LRAP are to facilitate, through financial support and guidance, an assessment by local governing bodies of their former landfill sites to determine, for each of those identified sites:

- the current and/or potential environmental harm, or current and/or potential risk to public health;
- the extent of any remediation work which may be necessary;
- and the likely cost of the remediation work which is necessary.

Subject to the availability of program funding and Ministerial discretion, assessment and rehabilitation needs of other local government owned/controlled contaminated sites may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Other Resources:

[Guidelines](#)

[Application form and Questionnaire](#)

[Subsidy Claim Form](#)

4.4 Advanced Wastewater Treatment Technologies Scheme (AWTT)

From: http://www.lgp.qld.gov.au/docs/local_govt/grants_subsidies/funding/awtt/chapter4_awtt.pdf

The objective of AWTT is to encourage the introduction, into Queensland, of new and/or innovative wastewater treatment technologies, which provide greater value for money in terms of cost efficiencies and environmental and social impacts.

Specific aims of this assistance measure include:

- to promote best practice wastewater treatment and disposal in Queensland
- to assist local governing bodies to maximise both their choices of processes and value for money spent
- to overcome a natural reluctance by organisations
- to risk being the first to introduce advanced technologies and processes.

AWTT Advanced Process Subsidy may be paid towards works, which provide for the introduction of new/innovative wastewater treatment and disposal technologies into Queensland.

As the funding for major AWTT projects is limited, there will be only a few instances where this type of additional assistance may be provided. As a guide, total subsidy assistance (inclusive of AWTT Advanced Process Subsidy) would not be expected to exceed 50% of the cost of a project (60% for an innovative wastewater re-use project), with the actual AWTT Advanced Process Subsidy made available towards a single project not likely to exceed \$1 million.

Other Resources:

[Guidelines](#)

[Application Form](#)

5. *Labour Assistance and Education*

5.1 Green Corps

From: <http://www.greencorps.com.au/Page.asp?l1=1&l2=1>

Green Corps gives young people the opportunity to participate in projects designed to preserve and restore Australia's natural environment and heritage.

Green Corps participants also gain improved career and employment prospects through accredited training, structured work activities and work experience. They receive assistance in preparation for employment, personal development opportunities and also provide an opportunity to contribute to the well being of the community.

Protection of our environment and heritage is what ignites Green Corps. Young Australians have grown up conscious of the environmental challenges we face. They appreciate the need for change and want to be a part of making that change happen. Green Corps offers just such an opportunity. But this is not just any opportunity. Green Corps will be doing great things for the environment that just wouldn't happen otherwise. Projects that make a lasting contribution.

Green Corps is a Commonwealth Government youth development program offering people aged 17-20 the opportunity to receive quality training while participating in projects that contribute to significant environmental and cultural heritage initiatives.

Local Government agencies are often looked on as excellent partner agencies for the delivery of Green Corps. Projects.

Other Resources:

[Partner Agency Pack](#)

[Project Proposal](#)

5.2 Conservation Volunteers Australia

From: <http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au/capacity-building/index.htm>

For over 20 years CVA has involved thousands of Australians in the care and preservation of their local environment. Conservation Volunteers Australia works in partnership with Regional Bodies, Local Councils, National Parks and community groups across Australia to increase community involvement in practical NRM activities.

In addition to providing teams of managed volunteers, CVA is now able to offer project partners training and support in volunteer risk management.

CVA can work in partnership to assist environment projects in five major ways:

- [Teams of managed volunteers](#)
- [In Safe Hands Toolkit](#)
- [Workshops in Volunteer Risk Management](#)
- [Course in Conservation Volunteer Management](#)
- [Certificate 1 in Active Volunteering](#)

6. *Grants Databases*

6.1 General

A number of online databases and websites exist with an extensive listing of grant schemes and funding opportunities. The most relevant for natural resource management and environmental purposes are listed below.

6.2 NRM Incentives Database

The Natural Resource Management Incentives Database, which was produced by the State Government, is an extensive list of funding available from various sources. It is completely searchable and lists grants under various categories, such as the provider, the geographical area they are available in and the activity to be funded. This site will provide access to literally hundreds of potential funding providers for NRM activities such as waste minimisation, eco-investment, vegetation management and pasture rehabilitation.

The database can be found at: <http://www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au/funding/incentives/index.html>

6.3 Department of Environment and Heritage Grants Guide

The Federal Department has produced a guide to grants available for Environmental and Heritage based activities. Several of these are alible to local governments under certain conditions.

[Download this Guide.](#)

(<http://www.deh.gov.au/programs/publications/guide/pubs/grants-guide.pdf>)

6.4 Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio of Grants.

The DAFF provides several varying grants, many of which support NRM activities. A Broad outline can be found in [the DAFF Portfolio of Grants](#).

(http://www.daff.gov.au/corporate_docs/publications/pdf/about_affa/grants_for_web.pdf)

6.5 GrantsLINK

GrantsLINK is a site containing information on all of the grants available to community through the Federal Government. While it covers a wind range of activities, it is fully searchable, and easy to use.

Visit the [GrantsLINK](#) Website.

(<http://www.grantslink.gov.au/index.htm>)