



The Northern RDA Alliance (NRDAA) comprises of eight RDAs whose regions make up Northern Australia. This network, representing the Gascoyne in Western Australia to Gladstone in Central Queensland, has been meeting regularly and providing input to the Australia Government on the development of the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia and the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility. Our aim is to support policies and to prioritise investment opportunities to ensure the sustainable development of Northern Australia.

**Key points about RDAs in the Alliance:**

- All independent, apolitical, not for profit organisations.
- Funded by the Australia Government to deliver regional economic development activities and outcomes.
- Willing to facilitate activities across government boundaries and portfolios.
- Flexible, adaptive, efficient and effective at delivering new initiatives.
- Committee members and staff have been appointed on the basis of their extensive networks across governments, industry and communities.
- RDAs have regularly contributed to regional planning in partnership with key stakeholders.
- Have on-the-ground knowledge of how to facilitate and advocate for outcomes in Northern Australia.

The NRDAA can continue to greatly assist the Government's policy on Northern Australia. Our focus is to drive the key ground-breaking reforms and investments needed to secure our future through the implementation of initiatives outlined in the White Paper on Developing Northern Australia.

In collaboration, RDAs in the NRDA are already delivering:

- **Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP)**  
Working with stakeholders to adopt this road prioritisation process and plan for Queensland and to migrate the methodology across to other jurisdictions to assist with strategic road infrastructure across northern Australia. The IQ-RAP is a planning and decision-making tool for investments into road networks to support regional economic development.
- **Northern WA Prospectus**  
Delivering an investment prospectus for projects across Northern Western Australia which could be used as a model for Northern Australia investment attraction.
- **Investigation of Alternative Solutions to Shortfalls in Regional Telecommunications**  
Delivering the High Speed Wireless Technology Pilot to test the potential of long-distance point-to-point microwave links as a low-cost strategy to expand the benefits of existing fibre infrastructure.

Other priorities for the NRDA include:

- **Development of a Northern Australian Energy Strategy**  
Engagement of Energy stakeholders, CSIRO, State & Federal Government, energy generators and providers in Northern Australia to understand future opportunities for energy demand, generation supply to provide secure, reliable and affordable electricity across the north.
- **Development of a Northern Australian Water Security Program**  
Working with stakeholders to deliver secure, quality water supplies across Northern Australian regional centres and communities.
- **Development of a Policy Position of Delivering Incentives for Northern Development**  
Developing a framework for creating incentives and lifting investment barriers for private capital in Northern Australia. Supporting the establishment of the Developing Northern Australia CRC.

The NRDA is supportive of the Australian Government's efforts to focus policy and investment attention on Northern Australia and are well positioned to be the independent voice of Northern Australia as the priorities within the White Paper are implemented.

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