



## Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan

*Driving Productivity  
in Australia's Transport Network*

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### **Roads Plan Key to Economic Development and Jobs**

Queensland Senator Glenn Lazarus has thrown his support behind the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP), which is aimed at increasing economic development and jobs in regional areas across Queensland.

The IQ-RAP identifies the road network and prioritises upgrades over the next 18 years.

Senator Lazarus met with IQ-RAP Secretariat – Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland Chief Executive Officer Glenys Schuntner today to discuss the IQ-RAP and how it will drive Queensland's economy forward.

Ms Schuntner said it's vital that all sides of politics are aware of the significance of the plan in developing Northern Australia.

"Prioritised investment in the network will connect communities, improve services and grow the economy and jobs into the future," Ms Schuntner said.

"The plan supports Australian Government strategies to develop Northern Australia and also contributes to the national economy through providing improved and more direct connectivity to southern domestic markets, as well as international export markets."

Senator Lazarus said the IQ-RAP is an excellent initiative which provides a blueprint for a system of high quality roads across inland Queensland.

"The initiative will upgrade existing roads and bridges across rural and regional Queensland," Senator Lazarus said.

"The IQ-RAP road network will enable farmers to get their products to market faster, reduce road deaths, provide much needed jobs for local communities and increase tourism across rural and regional Queensland."

An average of \$277 million per year expenditure over 18 years can achieve these prioritised upgrades to the road network (Total of \$5 billion).

The area covers 1.4 million km<sup>2</sup> which equates to 82% of Queensland and 19% of Australia.

The IQ-RAP is a bipartisan project funded by 33 local governments, 8 Regional Roads and Transport Groups, 4 RDA Committees, the NQ RDA Alliance and RACQ to drive economic development across regional Queensland.