



TOWNSVILLE
AND NORTH WEST
QUEENSLAND INC

Developing the long term
sustainability of our region

Newsflash From the Chairman



RDAF keeps delivering for regional Australia Round Three and Four Announced

The Australian Government's Minerals Resource Rent Tax has delivered the remaining three rounds of the Regional Development Australia Fund (RDAF). Announcing new guidelines and opening rounds three and four today, Regional Australia Minister Simon Crean said the Federal Government had improved RDAF in response to community feedback.

"Round three will see \$50 million dedicated specifically to projects in small towns, while round four will distribute \$175 million to support strategic infrastructure projects," Mr Crean said. "Both rounds will be rolled out at the same time—so \$225 million is available now for partnership projects right across Australia. "We will also soon be announcing details of round five, which will confirm in full our commitment to delivering RDAF. It will mean all our commitments in relation to this program will be announced in advance of the next election. "RDAF will continue to drive a cultural change in regional funding by focusing on priorities of persistence and projects that stack-up, partnership and leverage, and regional reach. "This approach to regional funding has seen the \$350 million committed in the first two RDAF rounds leverage \$1.2 billion in total project investment. "The regions are determining 'what' is needed and the Federal Government is providing the 'how'."

Mr Crean said the Federal Government has improved the RDAF guidelines to make it easier to apply and broaden the sorts of projects which can be funded.

"Round three will directly address feedback from communities by targeting \$50 million—in grants of between \$50,000 and \$500,000—for projects in towns with a population of 30,000 or less," he said. "Round four will see \$175 million allocated through grants of between \$500,000 and \$15 million to deliver priority regional infrastructure in partnership with funding from state and local governments, and the private sector. "We will aim to allocate at least \$40 million to arts and culture projects in rounds three and four—the amount provided to the sector in rounds one and two."

Mr Crean reaffirmed the Federal Government's commitment to partnership projects that provide an investment multiplier.

"The first two rounds of RDAF invested \$350 million in 81 projects with a total leveraged value of \$1.2 billion—that's a partnership multiplier of up to one to four," he said. "If we achieve the same partnership multiplier in the final three rounds of RDAF, there is the potential to leverage more than \$2 billion in total investment. "Regional communities understand the benefits of joining the dots and building strong investment partnerships with the three levels of government, and in some cases, the private sector."

Mr Crean said it was important for projects unsuccessful in the first two rounds of RDAF to persist.

"More than half of the 46 projects successful in the second round missed out in the first round—but they persisted and got their project up," he said. "Keep working with your RDA—it's the committee that decides which Expressions of Interest (EOI) are selected as priority projects to proceed full applications."

Application information:

- the new guidelines will be available on the RDAF website from Thursday, 25 October 2012
- rounds three and four will be open for EOIs from Thursday, 25 October 2012
- applicants can submit one EOI for round three and one for round four—for different projects
- the EOI process will close on Thursday, 6 December 2012.

For further details of the remaining rounds, revised guidelines and to access an EOI form, visit: <http://www.regional.gov.au/regional/programs/rdaf.aspx>.

Paul Woodhouse
Chairman

RDA Committee

Mr Paul Woodhouse
Chairman



Paul joined RDA in 2012. Retiring from local government after serving 12 years as Mayor and Councillor of McKinlay Shire Council to follow other interests, Paul is a primary producer in north west Queensland.

Ms Lyn McLaughlin
Deputy Chair



Lyn joined RDA in 2009. She is a former Mayor and Councillor of Burdekin Shire Council and represents the region on several committees. Lyn is a primary school teacher.

Mr Jeff Jimmieson
Treasurer



Based in Townsville, Jeff and his wife Debbie own and operate an events management business Access All Areas Event Management. Born in Toowoomba, Jeff has lived in Townsville since 1985.

Mr David Kippin
Secretary



David is CEO at Townsville Enterprise Limited, North Queensland's peak economic development and destination marketing organisation. David has previously held senior positions in Financial and Professional Services and Corporate Advisory.

Cr Rick Britton



Rick was elected to Boulia Shire Council in 2007 and has served as Mayor since 2008. Rick and his wife Ann own and operate the cattle station Goodwood Pastoral Company.

Dr Scott Crawford



Based in Townsville, Scott is CEO of NQ Dry Tropics, the natural resource management body for the Burdekin region. Originally from Brisbane, Scott has lived in Townsville for 13 years.

Cr Tracy Forshaw



Tracy has been a Councillor on the Burke Shire Council since 2008. Tracy and her husband Ian own and operate an earthmoving, quarry and concrete business in Gregory.

Mr Trevor Goldstone



Trevor is the Director, Business Development and Operations at the Faculty of Law, Business and Creative Arts at James Cook University. Trevor moved from Adelaide to Townsville in 2009.

Cr Greg Jones



Greg is the Mayor of Flinders Shire where he has served as a Councillor since 1994. Greg and wife Carole operate an Electrical, Refrigeration & Air Conditioning business in Hughenden.

Mr Mike Westerman



Mike is the General Manager, Xstrata Mount Isa Copper Operations and has more than 20 years' experience as a mining engineer in underground and open pit environments.

Position Vacant

People interested in nominating for the Committee can find more information at <http://rda.gov.au/node/15>

Also please do not hesitate to call Glensy Schuntner, CEO on 07 4760 1612 for a discussion about the role.

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