

R-CV 4: Supporting Community Groups

Provide opportunities to share knowledge and access information and resources, enhancing the capacity of community groups to continue their vital role in managing the natural resources of the Wet Tropics region.

This strategy delivers on these Regional Themes	Biodiversity	Biosecurity	Coastal Systems	Sustainable Industries	Water
	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
This strategy delivers on these Strategic Outcomes	Supportive, policies, plans and regulations	Collaborative, adaptive planning and action	Traditional Owner Benefits	Sustained and diverse resourcing	Community stewardship, values and action
	✓	✓	✓		✓
Outcome	<p>Providing support to community groups will bring a range of benefits, including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased capacity for groups to make informed decisions and deliver good on-ground outcomes. • Stronger, more capable community groups. • More stable groups and membership. • Better opportunities for integration between research organisations and the community. • Increased opportunities for involvement by the community, with improved community awareness of natural resource management. 				
Justification	<p>Local people have a strong connection to their local area; with the right support and resources, this can translate into a legacy of positive natural resource management and stewardship. Strong, effective community groups are capable of achieving huge outcomes! Their connection to their local area and the people who live there can ensure local priorities are identified and acted on. The cumulative knowledge built up by community groups over many years puts them in a good position to deliver a whole range of NRM projects and outcomes, while the relationships within their local communities can ensure the message is reaching a broad audience.</p>				
Key steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify, develop and make available appropriate training and development opportunities for volunteers and community groups. 2) Provide opportunities for volunteers from different locations (within the Wet Tropics region and beyond) to share ideas, success stories and other relevant information on group management eg. Through networking opportunities (online and in person), Wet Tropics Plan (as a knowledge hub), case studies, story maps, etc. 3) Investigate and pursue funding opportunities, including novel and innovative approaches, to ensure community groups have the financial resources to implement projects and maintain momentum. 				

Feasibility considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ There are already many active and effective community groups operating across the Wet Tropics. ✓ Community groups have developed relationships and close links to their local community. ✓ In many places, community groups already have good momentum; support to existing, effective groups provides good value for money to achieve positive natural resource management outcomes. ✓ The Wet Tropics Plan and Spatial Portal provides a way for the community to access information on new scientific information and mapping data. ✗ All community groups face the difficult reality of limited and / or short term funding arrangements and volunteer burn-out and succession. ✗ If appropriate organisational systems and processes are not in place, volunteer changeover can result in loss of knowledge and capacity. ✗ Social dynamics within groups can create conflict and distract from the group's purpose and actions. 																					
	Local Landscape Projects	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr style="background-color: #c6e0b4;"> <th style="text-align: left;">Local Landscape Project</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Location</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>DT5 Daintree Action Group</td> <td>Daintree</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HB4 Data Hub</td> <td>Hinchinbrook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HB6 Hinchinbrook Community Nursery</td> <td>Hinchinbrook</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CN7 Local Partnerships for Change</td> <td>Cairns</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NT8 Capacity Building Support and Grants</td> <td>Granite Range Corridor, Barron River Bioregional Corridor, local creek corridors</td> </tr> <tr> <td>ST3 Support for Community Revegetation</td> <td>Curtain Fig – Wongabel – Herberton Range</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NC8 Nursery Establishment and Restoration Taskforce</td> <td>Northern Cassowary Coast</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RM1 Native Plants Community Nursery</td> <td>Russell Mulgrave</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RM7 Catchment Community Support</td> <td>Russell Mulgrave</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local Landscape Project	Location	DT5 Daintree Action Group	Daintree	HB4 Data Hub	Hinchinbrook	HB6 Hinchinbrook Community Nursery	Hinchinbrook	CN7 Local Partnerships for Change	Cairns	NT8 Capacity Building Support and Grants	Granite Range Corridor, Barron River Bioregional Corridor, local creek corridors	ST3 Support for Community Revegetation	Curtain Fig – Wongabel – Herberton Range	NC8 Nursery Establishment and Restoration Taskforce	Northern Cassowary Coast	RM1 Native Plants Community Nursery	Russell Mulgrave	RM7 Catchment Community Support	Russell Mulgrave
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