

R-CV 13: Sustainable Urban Planning and Practices

Conduct community education campaigns to encourage more sustainable design, planning and management in urban areas, leading to changes in approaches and policy on a broader scale.

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>Applying sustainable planning and management principles for urban areas across the region will allow for a range of positive outcomes, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Making better use of existing urban areas, reducing pressure on agricultural land or natural areas. ▪ Providing social and community benefits. ▪ Fostering strong community stewardship and ownership of projects. ▪ Preventing problems, rather than having to fix issues resulting from poor planning or design. ▪ Urban development which is well suited to our tropical environment.
Justification	<p>Land management and use in the Wet Tropics landscape is highly contested, particularly in the higher density coastal urban areas. Good education, planning and involvement of a range of stakeholders in sustainable designing and planning can help prevent problems, while allowing for reasonable and sustainable growth and making the most of our enviable tropical environment. Taking a positive, proactive approach and showcasing alternative options to create healthier, more natural urban environments can help bring about changes in culture and attitude.</p>
Key steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Establish links with existing planning organisations and review areas of knowledge gaps or areas with known planning challenges. 2) Conduct initial investigations into the type of education campaigns required (eg. identify the audience, key messages, method of delivery), in particular focusing on areas where there are gaps in knowledge or where improvements could be made. 3) Identify relevant stakeholders who could be involved in developing and preparing information for education campaigns. 4) Deliver the campaign in selected trial areas, monitor results and obtain feedback, before more widespread implementation.
Feasibility considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ There are existing networks of experienced planners within the region, who are well aware of the unique challenges and opportunities presented in the tropics. ✓ Many urban locations are highly visible by large numbers of people; successful and alternative approaches to management would be widely recognised. ✗ There are competing demands for land use and management across the landscape, requiring careful planning and consultation to achieve well-supported planning outcomes. ✗ It can take time to bring about changes in historical approaches.

Local Landscape Projects	Local Landscape Project	Location
	CN2 Designs for the Future	Cairns urban areas
	CN14 Creek to Coral	Cairns urban waterways
	CN20 Higher Density Living	Cairns urban areas
	NC20 Alternative Energy Generation	Northern Cassowary Coast