

Expression of Interest

Steering Group - Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub

The Cairns-Port Douglas region is home to coral stewardship and recovery projects supported by Traditional Owners, scientists, tourism operators and the community who are deeply committed to a healthy and resilient Reef.

The Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub (formal name to be finalised in early 2021) seeks to strengthen a network for collaboration, communication, connection and capacity that enables greater collective impact through a range of scales of reef protection and rehabilitation actions.

It aims to support the resilience of coral reefs and the communities and businesses that care for them through building on and accelerating site stewardship and rehabilitation work underway, enhancing coordination across projects, supporting knowledge sharing, and strengthening connections between local and large-scale coral protection, restoration and adaptation research.

Hub activities

The hub model is based on an action-learning approach where a range of partners “learn through doing” and share lessons learned to improve collaboration and project outcomes locally and across other regions.

In the short-term, the hub proposes to build on existing efforts with a focus on four main activities that support: 1) Coordination, 2) Communication, 3) Connection, and 4) Capacity and tools. More information can be found in the [Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub Discussion Paper](#).

Hub governance

- A small Steering Group (ideally ~10 members) will provide leadership to guide the design of the hub (informed by the broader hub network), including identifying how to set strategic priorities and implementation plans. The Steering Group is intended to reflect the diversity of the hub network, not intended to be a fully representative group for the region. The Hub will actively seek to engage widely with those interested, offering an inclusive approach to engaging in Hub activities.
- An ‘independent’ Hub Coordinator, skilled in working with diverse groups, will help establish the Hub with guidance from the Steering Group, initiate agreed priority work and support knowledge sharing. The Coordinator will help to connect projects funded through the Reef Trust Partnership (and other projects where suitable) and provide a centralised connection point for GBRF programs.
- The Hub is supported through funding from the Partnership between the Australian Government's Reef Trust and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation. It is enabled by the Partnership's Community Reef Protection and Traditional Owner Reef Protection programs, and the Reef Restoration and Adaptation Program. These three program areas will support and work with the Hub in its design and delivery.
- Projects funded under the Reef Trust Partnership offer opportunities to trial approaches, apply frameworks for shared measurement, strengthen models for collaboration, or other key priorities, but are just one work stream for the hub and the selection of funded projects sits outside of the role of the Steering Group.

Steering Group members

The Steering Group is intended to be skills and experience based. Steering Group members will share their expertise and be active champions for collaboration. Members will bring knowledge of issues relevant to their sector or networks to Steering Group discussions, but will act in the broader interests of the Hub and region.

The intent is for the Steering Group to include a member or members from each of the following groups:

- Cairns-Port Douglas Traditional Owners
- Small and/or larger Tourism enterprises engaged in restoration, or industry nominee / peak body
- Community organisations or NGOs active in the region
- Regional science or research organisations
- Reef Restoration & Adaptation Program
- Great Barrier Reef Foundation
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

There will be opportunities outside of the Steering Group to contribute to the Hub through the broader Hub network and engagement processes.

Roles and responsibilities

The Steering Group will inform the approach for designing and implementing Hub activities including:

- Finalising the draft Terms of Reference for the Steering Group
- Informing the position description for the Hub Coordinator (part-time role ideally based in Cairns-Port Douglas, to be advertised in early 2021)
- Informing the design of the Hub and planning activities to help set the priorities for the Hub's operation
- Providing oversight for the Hub implementation process, including approving an annual work plan and communication plan
- Providing input and oversight of the Hub Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan to track and report on Hub progress and achievements to enable an action-learning approach
- Advising on approaches and opportunities for strategic communications
- Providing strategic advice as requested by the Hub Coordinator

Members of the Steering Group will commit to:

- Contributing to the Steering Group as an expert with relevant knowledge and skills to benefit the broader sector
- Participating in scheduled meetings (an estimated four 2-hour meetings, as well as providing out-of-session feedback from time to time)
- Dedicating appropriate time to prepare for meetings and to any agreed follow up actions
- Putting into practice the five key principles of the Hub: respect, inclusivity, collaboration, action-focus and supporting learning.
- Appointed for an initial 6-month term.

Submitting an EOI

This Expression of Interest (EOI) is to identify, via an open and transparent process, Steering Group members for the Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub.

Please review this document to consider if you would like to nominate for the Steering Group. Steering Group roles are not remunerated, although in instances where time cannot be covered through existing roles, then honorariums may be considered. Travel expenses (as relevant) will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

To express your interest in joining the Steering Group, please respond to the following selection criteria:

- Demonstrated technical knowledge, relevant experience and/or interest in local-scale coral protection, restoration and adaptation on the Great Barrier Reef
- Established relationships within your relevant group/interest-area and examples of fostering collaborations across groups, community and industry within the Cairns-Port Douglas region
- Demonstrated interest and/or experience in designing programs that seek to strengthen shared impact

Please also declare all actual, perceived or potential conflicts of interest relating to any relevant areas of the Reef Trust Partnership.

Your application should be no more than 1-2 pages maximum (not including CV or resume) and include your contact details, professional affiliations and one relevant professional referee.

Please send your completed application and CV to applications@barrierreef.org. For queries please contact the GBRF Grants Office by emailing grants@barrierreef.org.

Applications close on Thursday, January 14 at 5pm.

Assessment of EOIs

Expressions of Interest will be assessed based on outlined criteria. All applicants will be advised of outcomes in writing.