

Expression of Interest: Independent Chair, Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub Steering Group

Purpose

The Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub is seeking applicants for an Independent Chair of the Steering Group for a two-year term. The Independent Chair will facilitate a Steering Group that is representative of the diversity of the Cairns-Port Douglas Reef Hub network, providing localised strategic leadership to guide the design and operations of the Hub.

Background

The Cairns-Port Douglas region is home to a growing number of 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 (the Hub) aspires to be 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 by building on and accelerating site stewardship and rehabilitation work, 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.

The Hub network includes individuals and organisations that want to learn, share and collaborate to undertake reef restoration initiatives within the Cairns-Port Douglas region. The Hub is intended to be an open knowledge and sharing network that is broad and inclusive, supporting those who are championing and delivering on-ground work.

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 here](#).

Hub governance

- A Steering Group, representative of the diversity of hub network will provide local and locally-relevant strategic leadership to guide the design and operations of the Hub, informed by the broader hub network. They will facilitate development and oversee implementation of annual work plan and a strategic plan, and play an important role in enabling transparency and accountability. Members will be connectors to enable engagement from the wider network to empower a range of partners building Reef and community resilience.
- A Coordinator, skilled in working with diverse groups, is responsible for day-to-day management of the Hub and delivering agreed priority work with advice from the Steering Group.
- The Reef Trust Partnership (RTP) provides funding for employment of the Hub Coordinator and implementation of an agreed annual work plan for some core Hub activities.
- A draft Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan has been developed for the Hub to help support accountability and adaptability.
- A paid independent Chair role has been proposed to further strengthen local leadership, transparency and capacity for the Hub.

Steering Group members

The Steering Group is intended to be skills and experience based, with representation across a diversity of sectors. Steering Group members will share their expertise and be active champions for collaboration, sharing and for building a sustainable model for the Hub to bring wide community benefits. Members will bring knowledge of issues relevant to their sector or networks to Steering Group discussions, and will act in the broader interests of the Hub and region.

Beyond the Steering Group, the Hub network will also actively seek to engage widely with those interested, offering an inclusive approach to engaging in Hub activities.

Steering Group Chair roles and responsibilities

Independent Chair remuneration will be \$12,000 per year, plus reasonable expenses for an initial two-year term. It is expected that this will represent a minimum commitment of 10 days of work per year.

The Chair of the Steering Group will:

- Convene and facilitate regular Steering Group meetings (4-6 times per year, usually in regular business hours), including developing, reviewing and circulating relevant material
- Actively drive strategic program direction with input from the Steering Group
- Enable the Hub Steering Group and Hub Coordinator to oversee progress on delivery of the Strategic Plan, including tracking and sharing Hub progress and achievements to enable an action-learning approach
- Undertake targeted strategic engagement activities outside of meetings, including relationship building and enabling a sustainable model for Hub continuity past 2024
- Oversee strategic risk management and dispute resolution
- Commit to the standard terms of the Steering Group
- Be based in the region.

Submitting an Application

This Expression of Interest (EOI) is to identify, via an open and transparent process, an Independent Chair for the Hub. First Nations people strongly encouraged to apply.

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

- Demonstrated knowledge and relevant experience in governance (including chairing multi-sector groups), strategic planning and leadership relevant to local-scale coral protection, restoration and adaptation on the Great Barrier Reef (noting that relevant experience may come from other sectors)
- Strong established and diverse relationships within the Cairns-Port Douglas region and examples of fostering partnerships and collaborations across groups, community and industry
- Demonstrated experience in designing programs that seek to strengthen collaborative impact through a sustainable program model to help foster continuity and legacy, and a clear approach regarding how you propose to champion the Hub as a platform for collaboration and 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 2 pages maximum (not including CV or resume) and also 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 14 April 2022 at 5pm.

Assessment of EOIs

Expressions of Interest will be assessed based on outlined criteria. Interviews will be held with short-listed candidates. All applicants will be advised of outcomes in writing.



Great Barrier
Reef Foundation