

# Natural Resources Investment Program 2018-2022

The Natural Resources Investment Program 2018-2022 works under a natural resource management asset framework with the following priorities:

**Land:** Building stable and resilient landscapes

- Improve the health and stability of soil
- Improve the condition and extent of native woody and non-woody vegetation

**Water:** Achieving sustainable use and management of water

- Improve the quality and flow of surface water overland and in-stream (including Reef water quality)
- Improve the quality and level of groundwater

**People and communities:** Facilitating effective regional management and stewardship

- Improve NRM capacity (knowledge and skills)
- Improve NRM aspirations and attitudes (awareness and engagement)

**Science and knowledge:** Knowing the state of natural resource management assets and effectiveness of interventions

- Improve asset monitoring and analysis
- Improve project/program evaluation and outcome reporting

In addition, there is a specific Reef Water Quality component—targeted funding aligned to the *Draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017-2022*.

The Natural Resources Investment Program 2018-2022 is based on the following principles:

- **Integration** – integrates natural resource management planning and delivery across regions, issues, industry sectors and government agencies, to provide community and environmental benefits.
- **Collaboration** – provides a framework that promotes effective collaboration between landholders, communities, traditional owners, delivery partners, stakeholders, and agencies, to harness the knowledge and energy of people committed to building resilient natural landscapes.
- **Efficiency** – targets funding for maximum return on investment and encourage projects to leverage other sources of funding to capitalise on opportunities and strengthen community buy-in.
- **Outcome-based** – invests in evaluating and reporting on landscape and community program impacts. Innovative approaches to evaluation that use the latest tools and build the capacity of participants are encouraged.
- **Adaptive management** – builds upon past success, and experimental approaches will be considered, along with opportunities for learning and informing the iterative processes that support future investment decisions. Evaluation will occur throughout the delivery of the program and will support continuous improvement of the program.
- **Regional coordination/delivery** – organises project delivery at the regional scale to ensure effective NRM outcomes state-wide. Regional delivery organisations are well-placed to align and integrate efforts in partnership between government, the NRM community, local Indigenous people and industry.
- **Public benefit** – funding will be provided where activities are considered to provide a significant public outcome, which would not occur without government intervention.