



# Queensland Communities in Transition

Fitzroy Basin Association, Rockhampton – community capacity building through corporate partnerships

An important component of building the capacity of Communities in Transition is not only forging relationships within their community but also identifying connections and resources outside their community. Making external connections gives communities access to new ideas, information, resources and opportunities. Such connections include working with the corporate world.

An excellent example is the *Lendlease Foundation's Springboard* program. In 2018, Lendlease entered a 10-year partnership with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation. Through this partnership, the Capricorn Coast region was selected as Springboard's program location to provide Lendlease employees with a unique opportunity to learn about the impacts and threats to the Southern region of the Great Barrier Reef. Eight programs will be held each year over the next four years that will see around 1,000 of its employees collaborate with local community groups and organisations.

Together the group will work to find new solutions for six key projects to help improve economic and environmental sustainability of the region. The program aims to help foster personal and professional development in Lendlease employees whilst generating a positive social and environmental legacy for their community partners.

One of the many community groups who is heavily involved with this program is Fitzroy Basin Association.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- \$5 million partnership between Lendlease and the Great Barrier Reef Foundation
- 1000 Lendlease delegates from across the globe will work with local and Indigenous communities over a period of four years
- Six key projects to help improve economic and environmental sustainability of the region.



*"Connecting and empowering our local community is FBA's driving mission. This opportunity allows our community access to additional expertise, resources and inspiration. The ideas generated for fostering environmental responsibility are invaluable."*

Rebecca French, Engagement Manager,  
Fitzroy Basin Association Inc. (FBA)

## The Springboard Program

Over the next four-years Lendlease delegates from around the globe will travel to the Capricorn Coast for 32 residential programs. Each program will build on the work completed by the previous delegates' visit on six key economic and environmental projects. Lendlease's design and delivery partner on Springboard, Impact International, facilitate the projects bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience to community members and community stakeholders (including FBA).

The partnership enables the Lendlease delegates to gain a deeper understanding of the environmental threats to Capricorn Coast region and explore new ways to make a difference.

This program has been modelled off the Lendlease Springboard Tasmania Peninsula program, which delivered fantastic results for all involved and their wider community.



Lendlease delegates exploring FBA's Flow Centre

## Community benefits

The Tasmania Peninsula program, that the Capricorn Coast project is modelled on, reported that the two-year program created social return of investment of \$1.4 million through adult volunteering and \$14,350 through school students.<sup>1</sup>

### Key reported outcomes experienced by participating adult community volunteers:

- an increased appreciation for cultural diversity and exposure to new ideas;
- an improvement in communication between youth and adults who rarely engaged before;
- stronger social bonds that brought the community together and fostered useful connections;
- a sense of connection to outside world;
- access to delegates with professional skills who provided assistance on the projects; and
- additional funding for project groups through Springboard.

### Key reported outcomes experienced by school students include:

- increased aspirations and hope for the future through interactions with Springboard delegates;
- new skills and increased self-confidence
- a wider perspective in life
- enhanced pride in their community; and
- improved teamwork and collaboration skills

In addition, the program generated a total of \$4.6 million in value for local businesses from Springboard's investment and delegates' personal expenses.<sup>1</sup>

## Fitzroy Basin Association's involvement:

As central Queensland's Natural Resource Management group, Fitzroy Basin Association (FBA) supports the adoption of environmentally-friendly practices, promotes sustainable development and protects the region's special places and species through collaborative partnerships with community, industry and all levels of government. FBA's passionate and knowledgeable employees work with landholders, community members and community groups year-round to collaboratively meet an objective to improve land management, water quality and the enhance the health of the Great Barrier Reef. FBA.

Fitzroy Basin Association is involved in the Lendlease Springboard project in multiple ways.

- **Familiarisation with the region and the challenges it faces at FBA's Flow Centre**

FBA Flow Centre is Australia's only permanently housed Natural Resource Management display. The centre has, and will continue to be utilised by Lendlease to quickly familiarise their visiting delegates to the region. Expertly designed and full of interactive displays, the centre skillfully establishes the connection between land and reef and the key environmental and industry challenges that the region faces. Once familiar with the region and these pressing problems, the Lendlease delegates will start work on the six key economic and environmental projects. One of these projects being Landcare.

- **Project work to help inspire the next generation of Landcare future leaders**

The project's objective is to engage with people in the local community to drive meaningful and relevant sustainable land management by inspiring the next generation of Landcare future leaders. In addition to working with FBA team of highly knowledgeable Landcare and agricultural specialists Lendlease delegates will also interact with local community members and Landcare representatives.

- **Connections and networking**

Importantly, the long-standing connections FBA has across the Capricorn Coast and wider central Queensland region has and will continue to assist the Springboard project to protect Australia's biodiversity at a local scale.



Lendlease delegates visiting local grower Ian and Sandy Groves with FBA staff members

