04  FOREWORD FROM THE PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
05  ABOUT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA
06  BRISBANE
08  DARLING DOWNS AND SOUTH WEST
10  FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND AND TORRES STRAIT
12  FITZROY AND CENTRAL WEST
14  GOLD COAST
16  IPSWICH AND WEST MORETON
18  LOGAN AND REDLANDS
20  MACKAY - ISAAC - WHITSUNDAY
22  MORETON BAY
24  SUNSHINE COAST
26  TOWNSVILLE AND NORTH WEST
28  WIDE BAY BURNETT
30  GOVERNMENT TRADE AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE
As Queensland’s Premier and Minister for Trade, I am committed to taking our regions to the world, and bringing the world to our regions.

The Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) provides the perfect platform to showcase the diversity and strength of regional Queensland to a global audience.

Our regions have a lot to offer the 71 nations and territories participating in GC2018: significant investment opportunities and export capabilities in food production and agriculture, natural resources, renewable energies and other world-leading innovations; globally-renowned tourism destinations like the Great Barrier Reef, and unique tourism products like rainforest eco tours; and major industry events like Beef Australia 2018.

Queensland’s five international airports continue to welcome more direct flights from overseas airlines, bringing a record number of visitors straight to our regional centres.

The economic benefits of GC2018, estimated to be worth more than $2 billion, will reach beyond the Gold Coast and into every corner of our vast State thanks to associated events like Trade 2018, the GC2018 Trade and Investment Program.

Led by the Queensland Government, in partnership with the City of Gold Coast and supported by the Federal Government, Trade 2018 leverages the Games by bringing government and business leaders together to build new relationships, strengthen trade and investment ties and explore opportunities across the Commonwealth. It is Queensland’s single biggest chance to market itself as an ideal destination to invest and do business.

Running alongside world-class sport and a celebration of culture, Trade 2018 opens the doorway for Queensland to strengthen international and domestic partnerships, exploit investment opportunities and develop new global value chains well into the future.

Queensland is known for innovation and technology development across traditional, new and disruptive sectors. Nowhere is this entrepreneurial culture more apparent than in our dynamic regions. Our reputation for industrial strength, innovation and diverse investment opportunities will live on beyond the GC2018 closing ceremony.

As part of the Trade 2018 program, the Queensland Government is partnering with Regional Development Australia to showcase the rich and diverse industries in Queensland’s regions.

Thanks to the interest produced by the GC2018, I expect to see our regions continue to flourish, generating further growth, maintaining strong economies and creating the businesses and jobs of tomorrow.

GC2018 provides the ideal opportunity to share our knowledge and strengthen collaborative partnerships across the Commonwealth for many years to come.

The theme of Trade 2018 is Lead. Inspire. Expand. Queensland’s vision is for this to become the globally-resounding catch cry of our thriving regions and the economic legacy of the biggest, most inclusive, most trade-focused sporting event in our State’s history.

Annastacia Palaszczuk

ANNASTACIA PALASZCZUK MP
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND
MINISTER FOR TRADE
OUR NETWORK

The Regional Development Australia (RDA) network is made up of local leaders who work across government, business and community groups all with the goal to improve their local region. This is achieved by supporting economic and workforce development, local procurement, strategic regional planning and informing government programs and infrastructure investments.

AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

This Australian Government initiative brings together all levels of government and is funded by the Australian Government and by state, territory and local governments in some jurisdictions.

COLLABORATION

Our network shares information and collaborates to develop innovations and solutions that can be adapted across the country to help grow Australia’s regions.

RDA committee members are passionate and dedicated local leaders who act as an effective conduit across government, industry and with the community to support the development of their regions. They bring a broad range of experiences, including from local government, the private sector, the community and not-for-profit sectors.

A VITAL LINK

The RDA network is a vital link between regional stakeholders and all three levels of government. Our RDA committee members act as real-time advisers to government on critical regional development issues, opportunities and challenges in their regions.

Our network provides regional intelligence to inform policy and the implementation of regional programs, information campaigns and grant funding opportunities.

KEY PRIORITIES MATRIX

RDA Committees work with their key stakeholders to identify key priorities that will benefit the economic future of their region. Major topics for RDA Key Priorities Matrix are:

- Infrastructure Investment
- Economic Development
- Skills and Ready Workforce
- Environmental and Natural Assets.

The Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, the Hon Kristy McBain MP was appointed in May 2022.

The Regional Development Australia program is administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts.
Brisbane - Australia’s new world city and Queensland’s vibrant capital - offers an open, stable and competitive business environment where strong collaboration between industry, research and government is driving the development of the industries of the future. With a population of 1.2 million, Brisbane is Australia’s closest capital city to Asia with an economy valued at $157.9 billion. This represents almost 10 per cent of the national economy in Australia’s most regionalised state. Innovators, entrepreneurs and industry leaders are drawn to Brisbane for its sub-tropical lifestyle, burgeoning arts and cultural scene, sports and recreational opportunities and world-class education, health and community services.

**KEY SECTORS**

**Mining Equipment, Technology and Services** - Brisbane is a world leader and centre of excellence in the mining equipment, technology and services (METS) sector and has the largest METS cluster in Australia, featuring many global energy firms.

**Food and Agribusiness** - Queensland’s agricultural research and development capability ranks amongst the best in the world. A particular specialisation and expertise is found in tropical and subtropical agriculture, with Brisbane hosting TropAg, the biennial International Tropical Agriculture conference. Many innovative food manufacturers with a particular strength in meat processing and distribution to Asia and beyond are based in Brisbane.

**Renewable Energies and Clean Technologies** - Brisbane is recognised as a world leader in the development of clean coal technology. The Queensland Government’s renewable energy initiatives including carbon capture and storage pilot projects are based in Brisbane. There is increasing demand for remote energy, waste and water treatment technologies, and Queensland is leading innovation in biomass and biofuels, including ethanol production.

**International Education and Training** - Brisbane is a significant contributor to Queensland’s second largest services export just behind tourism; international education and training generated $4.13 billion for the Queensland economy in 2016 and it provides 19,000 jobs across the state. Brisbane was home to 78,000 students in 2016.

**Aviation and Aerospace** - Queensland has long been a leader in aviation (it’s the ‘Q’ in Qantas), and you’ll find an unsurpassed range and depth of aviation and aerospace industries in Brisbane including the Qantas heavy maintenance precinct, the national aviation and aerospace training provider Aviation Australia, and the Asia Pacific HQ of Boeing Australia. University aerospace research institutes based in Brisbane are leading in areas such as aerospace automation (an Australian first), advanced hypersonics, nanotechnology and materials.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

**Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals** - Brisbane is home to world-class research facilities and hospitals, generating a critical mass of knowledge and high-value niche businesses in biomedicine, vaccine research and drug discovery, tropical health, oncology, hospital management and e-health, and the emerging human bionics sector.

**Drones, AI and Robotics, Spatial Innovation, DLT and Blockchain** - Ground-breaking developments in the high-tech sectors of the future are flourishing in Brisbane. The inaugural *World of Drones* conference was held in 2017 where Brisbane’s particular strengths in agtech and remote sensing were on show. Brisbane is also home to the largest cohort of spatial innovators in Australia along with a rapidly expanding AI and robotics sector. Brisbane is the base for a fast-growing network of fintech, distributed ledger technology (DLT) and blockchain innovators.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Investment opportunities are to be found across all of Brisbane’s growth sectors including Australia’s second largest infrastructure project, the Queen’s Wharf integrated resort development, due for completion in 2022.

The City of Brisbane is focused on growing the products, technologies and services of the future supported by a strong culture of innovation, a highly skilled workforce and world-class educational and research facilities.

Brisbane provides all the ingredients for a competitive – and liveable – future.

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**

[www.rdabrisbane.org.au](http://www.rdabrisbane.org.au)

RDA Brisbane
Ph: +61 7 3117 3744
admin@rdabrisbane.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Global hub for the METS (mining equipment, technology and services) sector
- World-class infrastructure, education and state-of-the-art research facilities, and a highly skilled workforce
- An ideal base for the industries of the future including spatial technologies, human bionics and renewable energy
KEY SECTORS
Food and agribusiness is the leading industry and the largest employer in the Darling Downs and South West region, generating 33 per cent of regional exports valued at over $3.1 billion in 2015-16, and 15,000 local jobs. Agriculture represents 34 per cent of registered businesses in the region, compared with the Queensland average of 9.7 per cent. The region’s agricultural capabilities and growth potential is supported by a suite of infrastructure, a skilled workforce, research and education facilities, innovation development and technology.

Mining, construction, manufacturing, health care and transport are also large employers in the region.

INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES

Transport and Logistics - The Darling Downs and South West region is establishing itself as a major transport and logistics hub. The connectivity and proximity of the region to critical transport corridors provides access to national and international export opportunities. Contributing to this growth is the provision of significant nation-building infrastructure, including the Toowoomba Wellcamp Airport and business park, the proposed Inland Rail and the Toowoomba Second Range Crossing.

Agtech and R&D - Research and development into genetics, agriculture production systems, climate and drones are world class. The region is a hub for trials and innovation from both the research sector and private agribusiness.

ICT and Big Data - Pulse Data Centre (Pulse DC), the first regional Tier III data centre of its kind in Australia, is set to become one of the region’s most valuable economic assets, providing a major boost to business innovation. Pulse DC is designed as a primary site to support corporate and enterprise customers, all three levels of government and global technology giants.

Customers can design their data building to suit their business needs, with multiple tier levels and tailored security requirements. All components of the Pulse DC design are optimised for the local climatic conditions. With diverse, fibre feed paths from multiple carriers, the site is not reliant on any one major city for continuous connectivity, providing high level connectivity resilience.

This site is also an ideal carrier point of presence and a distribution hub, servicing Western Queensland and beyond. Pulse DC will feature three separate data buildings, each with independent mechanical and electrical infrastructure. With high power capacity and a large footprint, this site is ideal for businesses of any size, including global technology firms, guaranteeing exceptional delivery of a first-class data centre at a very competitive cost.

Pulse DC will be a key driver of innovation amongst traditional businesses, such as agriculture, mining, education and health, as well as acting as a catalyst for growth in IT-related industries.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES
As the world population grows, demand for food will increase significantly. The Darling Downs and South West region’s ability to produce a diverse range of products and its proximity to key infrastructure, including ports and airports, sets it apart from other Australian agricultural areas.

The region’s capability is backed by a skilled workforce and a strong focus on improving productivity through research and innovation. It’s well positioned to supply high quality food and fibre products to new and emerging global markets and is an attractive investment destination.

GET THE BIGGER PICTURE: www.rda-ddsw.org.au

RDA Darling Downs and South West Ph: +61 7 4638 0089 admin@rda-ddsw.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Major agricultural hub, underpinned by connectivity, research and innovation
- Significant nation-building infrastructure development supported by a growing transport and logistics sector
- Australia’s first regional Tier III data centre, driving industry innovation
The pristine tropical region of Far North Queensland and Torres Strait (FNQ&TS) boasts two World Heritage areas – the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics - along with flourishing tourism, agricultural, education and service sector industries. Cairns is the centre of this diverse region which encompasses Torres Strait, Cape York, the Gulf, the Tablelands and the Wet Tropical Coast. The regional economy is centred around the tourism sector, with strong contributions from the resources, agriculture, construction, marine, aviation and international education sectors. Cairns Airport is Australia’s busiest regional international airport providing direct links to global markets.

**KEY SECTORS**

**Tourism** - World-class natural attractions provide the basis for a thriving tourism industry valued at $4 billion to the regional economy. Visitation continues to grow with the region attracting 1.8 million domestic and nearly 1 million international visitors each year.

**Agriculture** - Agriculture contributes $863 million to the regional economy with leading exports including raw sugar, live cattle, tropical horticulture and tropical pasture seed. A large fishing industry supplies Asian and domestic markets and the region has a strong aquaculture sector.

**Mining** - The mining industry contributes $860 million to the regional economy, predominantly from bauxite mining.

**Construction** - The region has a well-developed building and construction sector, one of the region’s largest industry employers.

**Marine Services Sector** - Cairns is home to a large maritime servicing and shipbuilding sector, based around fishing and reef fleets, small craft, superyachts, cargo vessels and cruise liners. Cairns offers strong capabilities in shipbuilding, repairs, refits, maritime training and ancillary marine services.

**Aviation** - Cairns is a vital international aviation hub, offering world-class service industries including installation, maintenance, logistics and engineering. Cairns is the only recognised service facility for Bombardier’s Dash 8 Q-Series aircraft in the southern hemisphere, and boasts the largest avionics facility in Australia. Cairns Aviation Skills Centre is a leading training institution for aircraft engineers and technical support staff, attracting students from around Australia and the world.

**Education** - Cairns is an education city with two leading universities - James Cook University and CQUniversity - as well as a leading vocational TAFE college. The education sector offers strong diversity with over 140 schools and world-class training facilities servicing the marine, aviation, mining, tourism and hospitality sectors. International students make up an increasingly important part of the local education economy, with 32,000 international students studying in Cairns in 2016.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

The region produces dried tropical fruits, a large range of fruit wines and liqueurs, Australian native fruit condiments, coffee, vanilla bean and flavoured products, dairy and specialty cheeses, and has a thriving organic food sector. The agri-manufacturing sector is set to grow with a range of initiatives including the FNQ Food Incubator.

The FNQ&TS region is emerging as a renewable energy investment ‘hot spot’ across wind, solar, biofuel and battery technology.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The FNQ&TS region is positioned to grow its core and emerging industry sectors maximising on its close proximity to Asia, strong transport and freight connectivity, outstanding location, diverse culture and its growing population.

Cairns Regional Council offers investment incentives to businesses wishing to locate, expand or retain their operations in the Cairns region.

Investment projects and opportunities across the region encompass:

- Tourism accommodation and facilities including the Global Tourism Hub
- Agricultural innovation and agtech
- Renewable energy
- Regional aviation facilities
- International education and innovation.

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**

[www.tropicalnorth.org.au](http://www.tropicalnorth.org.au)

RDA Tropical North
Ph: +61 7 4041 1729
info@rdafnqts.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Leading Australian tourism destination – gateway to World Heritage Great Barrier Reef
- Tropical living expertise including tropical agriculture, food and health
- Internationally-renowned marine and aviation hub
- An education city with two leading universities
The Fitzroy and Central West region is diverse with rich natural, social and cultural assets that contribute to Australia's economy and play a critical role in the development of Northern Australia. Geographically, the region represents about one quarter of Queensland's land area and serves as the gateway to Northern Australia, with key transport and export hubs and a range of transport assets.

The Fitzroy and Central West region’s economy has been driven by global demand for energy and food resources. The region produces almost one half of Queensland’s electricity and its natural deep-water port in Gladstone is Queensland’s largest multi-commodity port.

KEY SECTORS

The Fitzroy and Central West region has a strong economic outlook with competitiveness in mining and gas, vocational and tertiary education, advanced primary production, tourism, manufacturing, health and community services.

Agriculture - The region is home to a multi-million dollar agricultural industry, which represents almost one half of Queensland's total agricultural exports. Key commodities includes beef, cotton, herbs, grain and fruit. The Central West's beef industry is a leading export sector. Rockhampton houses two large export licensed abattoirs and one of the largest livestock sales facilities in Australia.

Mining and Resources - The Bowen Basin in Central Queensland is Australia's largest coal reserve and has 46 operational coal mines, extracting over 200 million tonnes of coal annually, which represents about 90 per cent of Queensland's coal production.

Proximity to the Bowen, Surat and Galilee Basins, with established freight and logistics infrastructure, position this region as a major hub for coal, energy and gas production. In addition to coal and gas, the region is home to a large portion of the world’s lead and zinc resources, as well as significant reserves in silver, copper and gold.

Gladstone Port is the world’s fifth largest coal export port, facilitating over 30 per cent of Queensland's exports.

INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES

Tourism - Over the last decade, tourism has become an economic pillar for the Fitzroy and Central West region. From glorious and iconic landscapes in the west to the Great Barrier Reef in the east, there are significant opportunities to further grow the tourism sector.

The Fitzroy and Central West region is part of the Outback Queensland and Southern Great Barrier Reef tourism markets and has experienced significant visitation growth in recent years.

The region features a number of iconic tourism attractions including the Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame, Qantas Founders’ Museum, the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum, Great Keppel Island and Capricorn Caves. The region is also growing its tourism events market by building on the success of the Vision Splendid Film Festival, the Big Red Bash and the Birdsville Races.

Education and Research - Central Queensland is home to CQUnter, one of the top 500 universities worldwide. With over 30,000 students (including almost 5200 international students in 2016), CQUnter has established itself as a research-focused university with close collaboration and partnerships with industry and the community.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Continued expansion of the agriculture industry is driving demand for education, training and infrastructure projects in the Fitzroy and Central West region. Significant opportunities exist for direct investment in the region to add value to the mining sector and facilitate further expansion of the mineral corridor.

GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:

www.rdafcw.com.au

RDA Central & Western Queensland
Ph: +61 7 4847 6503
eo@rdafcw.com.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- The gateway to Northern Australia - a critical transport and export hub
- Major mineral hub and energy producer
- The home of Queensland’s largest multi-commodity port
- An iconic outback tourism destination with world-class attractions
he Gold Coast is a city in transformation. Growing from an economy built on construction and tourism, the Gold Coast is diversifying into a knowledge-based economic environment with strengths in health and medical, education, food, marine and sport. With a gross regional product of $35 billion and a population of 577,000, one in ten Queenslanders call the Gold Coast home, with more than a million international tourists visiting the city each year.

KEY SECTORS

Health and Medical – Health and medical, the Gold Coast’s largest sector, employs over 40,800 highly skilled workers and contributes over $2 billion to the economy.

Education - The Gold Coast attracts students from more than 100 countries.

Sport - A sporting excellence hub offers high-performance training, international sporting events, education, sport science, specialised clinicians, coaching staff, sport management and innovative manufacturing.

Marine – The Gold Coast is headquarters for internationally recognised marine manufacturing brands.

Film - Home to a film-making hub which boasts the largest sound stage in the southern hemisphere, the region has a diverse range of locations and world-class production facilities.

Tourism - With an enviable natural environment and diverse experiences, the Gold Coast is one of Australia’s premier tourism destinations. Recent developments include the Gold Coast International Airport, Light Rail, Pacific Fair Shopping Centre and The Star Gold Coast.

Food and Beverage – The Gold Coast is recognised for innovative development across functional foods, fresh produce and processing, and manufacturing.

INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES

The Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct is a unique global business location for high-tech industry development, research collaboration and jobs of the future. Supported by $5 billion in infrastructure, including a world-class university and two major hospitals, the precinct is also active in clinical trials with global partners.

The region has leveraged Queensland’s fresh and abundant food offering by building a niche food and beverage industry through the export of value-added Queensland products.

The Gold Coast will be the location of a $60 million manufacturing facility for NevHouse, innovative builders of low-cost homes using recycled plastic waste.

Gilmour Space Technologies is developing new hybrid-engine rockets for delivery of low-cost space launch vehicles. This provides the Gold Coast with an opportunity to leverage on the demand for low-cost space orbit vehicles.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The 2018 Commonwealth Games (GC2018) provides a once-in-a-decade opportunity to generate wide economic benefits for the Gold Coast. The Games will shine a spotlight on the region to an audience of 1.5 billion people.

The Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct, which includes the Gold Coast University Hospital and Griffith University, will also incorporate the new $550 million Commonwealth Games Village. Following GC2018, the village and its supporting infrastructure will be transformed into a mixed-use residential development enhancing the entire precinct and promoting further investment.

Other investment opportunities exist in health, advanced design and manufacturing, co-working, retail, hospitality and professional services.

The food and agribusiness sectors offer investment opportunities in intelligent automation, agricultural technology, native Australian biological solutions, plant and animal breeding capabilities, biosecurity solutions, biofutures and farm management solutions.

Education and training opportunities include the co-delivery of programs in areas such as health and medical, tropical medicine, sport, environment, food and agriculture. Sport research partnerships exist with leading Gold Coast institutions, and the marine sector offers a range of investment opportunities in manufacturing and refits.

GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:
www.rdagoldcoast.org.au
RDA Gold Coast
Ph: +61 411 558 834
admin@rdagoldcoast.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Home to the $5 billion innovative Gold Coast Health and Knowledge Precinct
- Global film-making and sporting excellence hubs
- An emerging space industry
- A leading exporter of niche value-added Australian foods to global markets
Ipswich and West Moreton region of Queensland is experiencing strong economic and population growth. Proximity to the metropolitan area and major transport networks, along with its agricultural valleys, vital waterways and diverse economy are key to the region’s competitiveness. The region has a combined gross regional product (GRP) of $12.9 billion with investment and population continuing to increase. In 2018, private and government construction valued at $8.09 billion will commence within the Ipswich and West Moreton region. Such significant investment is a contributing driver to both employment and lifestyle opportunities for the region.

**Ipswich** - Ipswich is the fastest growing city in Queensland with a current population of 200,000, predicted to double by 2031. Located 40 kilometres south-west of Brisbane, Ipswich covers approximately 1090 square kilometres. Queensland’s oldest provincial city, it offers architectural, natural and cultural heritage.

**Scenic Rim** - Located about one hour’s drive south of Brisbane, the Scenic Rim region is home to a number of thriving country towns and contains more than 30,000 hectares of parkland and three dams. The region covers over 4000 square kilometres and is home to 40,000 people. Residents enjoy the relaxed lifestyle afforded by the small country towns and villages that feature beautiful scenery, as well as a mix of traditional and alternative forms of rural business and industry.

**Lockyer Valley** - Situated in the western growth corridor between Toowoomba and Brisbane, the Lockyer Valley is renowned as the ‘salad bowl’ of the nation and offers the ideal work / life balance.

**Somerset** - The Somerset region is commonly known as the Brisbane Valley, as the Brisbane River courses through the region.

**KEY SECTORS**

Ipswich’s GRP was $8.96 billion in 2015-16, which represents 2.9 per cent of Queensland’s economy, with over 70,000 local jobs in the key industry sectors of manufacturing, health care, retail, education and training, construction, and transport and logistics.

The Scenic Rim’s primary businesses are in agriculture and horticultural production, the equine industry and the tourism sector.

The Lockyer Valley’s GRP was $1.4 billion in 2015-16 and the region’s population is expected to grow to more than 57,000 by 2031. In ten years, the total value of agricultural output in Lockyer Valley has increased from $187 million to $374 million. Vegetables account for over 79 per cent of the total agricultural output.

The primary economic activity in the Somerset region is agricultural production. The region is also the location of two major water storage dams which also serve as a tourist attraction by offering water-based recreational activities.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

Queensland is home of land and air defence in Australia and Ipswich is central to this capability. The city will be the location of significant new investment to build the recently announced LAND 400 Phase 2 contract, delivering the next generation of combat reconnaissance vehicles to the Australian Army, a significant step forward for Ipswich and Queensland manufacturing.

The current expansion of the RAAF Base Amberley will see a significant increase in airbase personnel and additional spending on defence infrastructure. Greater Springfield is Australia’s largest master-planned city and remains a key economic driver in the western corridor. Ripley Valley will also continue to have a significant effect on both population and the regional economy.

Bromelton, located a few kilometres west of Beaudesert, is the proposed site of one of Queensland’s largest transport and logistics precincts.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The primary infrastructure projects of Bromelton, ARTC Inland Rail, Toowoomba Second Range Crossing, the development of Springfield and Ripley Valley and the future planning of a protein precinct in Somerset, offer significant investment opportunities.

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**

www.rdaiw.org.au

RDA Ipswich & West Moreton
Ph: +61 7 3812 4144
admin@rdaiwm.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Fast population growth driving investment and innovation
- Queensland’s salad bowl with rapid growth in agriculture development
- Home to Australia’s largest master-planned city
- Home to Australia’s largest RAAF Airforce base and growing defence sector capability
The Logan and Redlands region is ideally located between Brisbane and the Gold Coast with excellent access to the Port of Brisbane, and the Brisbane and Gold Coast international and domestic airports. A uniquely diverse community with over 127 cultures, this dynamic region is steeped in culture and heritage. The Logan and Redlands region features high-density city living, industrial precincts, villages, islands, rainforest, rural hinterland, farmland, beaches, bays, creeks and freshwater lakes as well as iconic flora and fauna.

**KEY SECTORS**

The region has combined regional exports of over $7 billion. Advanced and intelligent manufacturing is a key driver of the region’s competitiveness, with exports of renewable energy technology, human pharmaceutical and supplement products, veterinary pharmaceutical products, product design and commercialisation.

Teys Australia is the second largest meat processor and exporter in Australia, employing more than 4500 people across 10 locations. The Beenleigh facility processes up to 1300 cattle per day, with exports to more than 40 countries.

Other top exporting sectors include: construction; wholesale trade; tourism (accommodation and food services); rental, hiring and real estate services; education and training including international students; transport, planning and warehousing; retail trade; and agriculture, forestry and fishing.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

The Logan and Redlands region is home to a number of emerging industry sectors:

- Construction services and building construction
- Motion picture and sound recording (screen)
- Public administration and regulatory services
- Administration and support services.

Film-friendly Redlands is building a global reputation as a location of choice for screen productions of all sizes.

Noteworthy productions filmed in the region include: *Aquaman; Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales; Unbroken; The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader; In Like Flynn; Safe Harbour; Harrow; and Hoges.*

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities for investment in the Logan and Redlands region include: high-rise development with short-term accommodation; tourism infrastructure including major tourist attractions; health and wellbeing facilities; and agricultural technology, including the bio-economy and protected cropping industry sectors.

**Toondah Harbour Priority Development Area**

- The $1.39 billion revitalisation represents unrivalled tourism, cultural and economic growth opportunities for South East Queensland.

**Weinam Creek Priority Development Area**

- This is a regional gateway to Moreton Bay, with opportunities for a transport hub and waterfront commercial and recreational precinct.

**Redland Health and Wellness Precinct**

- The hub will incorporate the planned expansion of the private and public hospital and identify potential industry clustering opportunities around the hospitals.

**Redland Aquatic Centre and Emergency Precinct**

- With an investment of over $70 million, the project will utilise nearly 40,000 square metres of land in the centre of South East Queensland and deliver a world-class aquatic centre, new surf lifesaving headquarters and a Centre of Excellence for Queensland. There is also potential to include emergency services agencies and a fully integrated disaster response centre.

Key strategic partnerships in the region include Griffith University, University of Queensland, Australian Technology Agricultural College, Australian Industry Trade College, CSIRO, Queensland Government Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation, and TAFE Queensland.

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**

www.rdaloganandredlands.org.au

RDA Logan & Redlands
Ph: +61  7 429 377 803
admin@rdaloganandredlands.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Fast growing population - expected to grow by 50 per cent over 20 years
- Popular international blockbuster film location
- Advanced and intelligent manufacturing a key driver of the region's competitiveness
The Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday (MIW) region, located halfway between Brisbane and Cairns on Australia’s east coast, boasts enviable employment, investment and lifestyle opportunities. With a population of 170,000, the region has become one of Australia’s strongest regional economies contributing $16 billion annually to the nation’s gross domestic product. The jewel in the crown is the region’s abundant natural resource base, together with large areas of industrial land, significant transport networks, complementary infrastructure and support services. This is further supported by direct access to growing Asia Pacific markets via world-class ports and airline routes.

The region boasts: a strong and diverse agricultural and bio-commodities sector; emerging biofuels and renewables industry; world-renowned tourism destinations; expanding mining opportunities including metallurgical coal and high quality thermal coal, as well as clean technologies; trunk infrastructure and logistics industries.

**KEY SECTORS**

**Coal** - The MIW region produces some of the most widely sought after hard-coking coal in the world. Mining currently contributes over $13.9 billion of gross revenue to the region’s economy and employs almost 16,600 people. The MIW region is home to 32 operating coal mines with a number of new mines under development. These mines produce 71 per cent of Queensland’s metallurgical coal and 31 per cent of its thermal coal. The ports of Hay Point/Dalrymple Bay and Abbot Point handle 69 per cent of Queensland’s coal exports.

**Mining Equipment Technology and Services** - The MIW region has become a world leader in the mining equipment, technology and services (METS) sector with proven strengths in mining safety, management, site closures and rehabilitation. There is significant opportunity to export the knowledge developed in this industry to the global mining industry.

**Manufacturing** - The region’s manufacturing sector currently contributes over $3.7 billion of gross revenue annually to the region’s economy and employs 4699 people.

**Agriculture** - The MIW region has a diverse agricultural mix with beef and grains in the west, and sugar and horticulture along the coast. The agricultural sector currently contributes over $1.4 billion of gross revenue annually to the region’s economy and employs 4672 people.

**Tourism** - Home to the world-renowned Whitsunday Islands and other significant natural land-based tourism assets, the tourism industry is a key driver for the MIW region generating over $1.5 billion of gross revenue annually and employing 8000 people.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

**Biofutures, renewables and aquaculture** - Biofutures, renewables and aquaculture are three emerging agricultural industries, with the MIW region producing almost 15 per cent of Queensland’s ponded aquaculture production.

The MIW region is well positioned to capitalise on the growing market in biofutures given its access to biomass, access to markets and established involvement in the industry. The region is at the forefront of Australia’s bioindustry and is home to the QUT’s Renewable Biocommodities Pilot Plant, Mackay Sugar’s 38 MW co-generation plant (fuelled by bagasse) and Sucrogen’s Bio-Ethanol Bio-Refinery, which has the capacity to produce 60 million litres of ethanol per year. A significant number of renewable projects are also in various stages of development within the MIW region.

**Knowledge and technology export** - With an internationally recognised resources services sector, there is significant opportunity to export knowledge and technology globally. CQUniversity provides specialisation in civil, electrical, mechanical and mining engineering as well as mechatronics.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Considerable investment opportunities exist in the biofutures and aquaculture sectors such as the planned 259-hectare facility at Guthalungra which will produce prawns and cobia. The MIW region is becoming increasingly recognised as a major hub for the METS sector in Australia, driving innovation in mining equipment, technologies and services and making it an ideal region for investment.

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**
www.rdamiw.org.au
RDA Greater Whitsundays
Ph: +61 7 4957 6160
info@rdagw.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- World leader in mining technology, equipment and services
- Home to the glorious Whitsunday Islands
- Emerging biofutures and aquaculture industries
The Moreton Bay region is one of the fastest growing economies in Australia and is the third largest local government area by population in Australia behind Brisbane and the Gold Coast. The region is home to a diverse range of settlements including rural, urban and bayside communities, each with its own characteristics and strong sense of identity.

KEY SECTORS

Manufacturing and Construction - The two largest export sectors for the Moreton Bay region are manufacturing and construction, which together account for 54 per cent of the region’s $5.6 billion exports.

Key drivers for these sectors are the availability of high quality affordable industrial, commercial and retail sites across the region’s key employment locations, including Brendale, Burpengary, Caboolture, Clontarf, Lawnton, Narangba, Northeast Business Park (North Harbour) and North Lakes.

Agribusiness - The Moreton Bay region also has strong agriculture, forestry and fishing sectors. The agribusiness sector contributes $347 million in sales and employs over 1700 people in the region. Strawberry sales contribute $46 million to the local economy and Moreton Bay is one of Australia’s largest berry growing regions.

Tourism - Each year, the Moreton Bay region attracts more than 2.9 million visitors from around the world, spending over $670 million in the local economy and providing over 8500 direct and indirect jobs from tourism. By 2019, this is expected to increase to 3.6 million visitors with an $810 million expenditure and 10,000 plus jobs.

The region boasts year-round offerings, from log fires and whale watching in winter to beaches, camping and festivals in summer. Local operators are working collaboratively to increase the number of events and attractions and position the region as a destination in its own right. There are 11 thriving precincts, each with its own distinct and unique personality, including the picturesque rural towns of Samford Valley and Dayboro; Woodford, home of the famous Woodford Folk Festival; and Bribie Island with its relaxed family beaches.

Food and Beverages - The food and beverage product manufacturing industry employs more than 970 people and contributes more than $356 million in sales, with exports valued at $121 million.

Other key sectors in the Moreton Bay region include: education and training; rental, hiring and real estate; and transport, postal and warehousing.

INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES

Education and Training - The education and training sector in the Moreton Bay region has significant export growth potential. The development of a university precinct at The Mill Moreton Bay in 2020 is expected to strengthen Moreton Bay’s position in Australia’s education export sector.

Construction Technology - Innovation in construction technology development will also feature in future growth as the sector continues to supply construction and manufacturing capability and expertise to the wider Brisbane and South East Queensland region. Growth in the food sector and food innovation is also strong.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Moreton Bay region is strategically located in South East Queensland north of Brisbane, with direct access to world-class export infrastructure including the Port of Brisbane, Australia TradeCoast and the Brisbane domestic and international airports, enabling businesses to access both domestic and international markets with ease.

Moreton Bay Rail Link - The Moreton Bay Rail Link investment attraction offers significant export potential. This major infrastructure project includes five new rail stations and precincts along the Moreton Bay rail line.

The Mill Precinct - The Mill Precinct at Moreton Bay is a world-class innovation and knowledge precinct. Over a 460-hectare footprint, the precinct will provide 204,000 square metres of commercial, retail, industry and mixed-use floor space and will create over 6000 high knowledge jobs.

GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:

www.rdamoretonbay.org.au

RDA Moreton Bay
Ph: +61 437 080 986
info@rdamoretonbay.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- One of the fastest growing economies and populations in Australia, fueling an advanced construction sector
- World-class innovation and knowledge precinct opening in 2020
- Export-focused agribusiness sector
The Sunshine Coast is one of Australia’s top ten significant urban areas with a population of over 300,000. The region has a vibrant and growing economy, competitive business conditions, accessibility to major national and international markets, and a quality lifestyle for residents and businesses. Situated approximately 100 kilometres north of Brisbane, the Sunshine Coast is a diverse subtropical region with stunning beaches, lush hinterland and scenic mountains. Positioned on the doorstep of Asia and the Pacific Rim and in close proximity to Brisbane, the region is well connected to national and international markets through its major transport networks - the Bruce Highway, the national rail network and the Sunshine Coast Airport.

KEY SECTORS

The Sunshine Coast economy is one of the largest regional economies in Australia. High-value industries support the region’s major infrastructure projects, and offer exciting investment opportunities in response to demand from global markets. Under strong regional leadership, the Sunshine Coast economy is strengthening and expanding core industries of tourism, construction and retail, and diversifying into the new high-growth sectors based on the natural strengths and competitive attributes of the region.

Food and agribusiness is the biggest export sector with more than 900 businesses located in the region and an industry value of A$670 million. The health and wellbeing industry is one of the largest economic generators on the Sunshine Coast and the largest employer in the region.

INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES

The region has a flourishing innovation ecosystem that is driving entrepreneurial activities across many sectors including: sports, major events and leisure; innovative and functional foods; aviation and aerospace; medical technologies, health and wellbeing; and clean technologies and professional services. With a passion for innovation and collaboration, the Sunshine Coast region is emerging as an exciting innovation hub. Thousands of innovative businesses, high-performing export companies and global executives are benefiting from calling Sunshine Coast home and enjoy being part of a local community with a rapidly expanding global reach.

The region also hosts a number of world-class international events including the Noosa Triathlon, Noosa Food and Wine Festival, Caloundra Music Festival and the Sunshine Coast Ironman.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Sunshine Coast offers investors the opportunity to be part of some of the most exciting developments in Australia:

- Delivery of an international submarine broadband cable infrastructure providing a $700 million economic benefit to the regional economy
- The Maroochydore City Centre, Australia’s only greenfield city centre within an existing urban area
- The Sunshine Coast Airport expansion delivering direct access to more Australian and international destinations
- A 17- hectare Health and Medical Precinct adjacent to the new Sunshine Coast University Hospital campus
- Peregrine Digital Hub, a curated space focusing on technology enterprises, accelerating business and employment growth
- Commercial, residential and mixed-use precincts providing opportunities for development across a range of community and commercial uses, including the largest residential development project in Australia.

The combination of the Sunshine Coast region’s competitive business environment, unrivalled mix of quality investment opportunities, prime commercial and residential locations, accessibility to global markets, diverse economy, new infrastructure, focus on innovation, highly skilled and educated workforce, and an idyllic environment and lifestyle makes the Sunshine Coast a location of choice.

GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:
www.rdasunshinecoast.org.au
RDA Sunshine Coast
Ph: +61 7 5479 6554
info@rdasunshinecoast.org.au
invest.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Unparalleled investment opportunities
- Named as a Smart 21 Community of 2014, 2015 and 2017 by the Intelligent Community Forum
- Existing industry clusters, diversity and growing supply chains
Townsville, the largest city in Northern Australia, is the economic hub of the Townsville and North West region. Spanning 449,190 square kilometres, the region represents a quarter of Queensland’s land area, and comprises 15 local government areas. With a population of 266,162, the region is home to over 5 per cent of Queenslanders with an economy valued at $21 billion. The region boasts strong transport infrastructure which meets the needs of North and North West Queensland exporters. This includes the Port of Townsville, the Port of Karumba and the Port of Lucinda with links to North, South and Western Queensland.

Over 5000 kilometres of state-controlled roads and 1543 kilometres of the national road network connect the region, with ten main roads serving as the backbone to the Townsville and North West Queensland. The region also benefits from regular air networks and through the rail networks of Aurizon, Pacific National and Queensland Rail.

**KEY SECTORS**

**Mining** - The Townsville and North West region has an internationally significant mining industry, and is the leading Australian exporter of copper, zinc and lead. Townsville’s close proximity to Asia and its world-class port, servicing over 20 shipping lines, makes it an ideal export centre.

**Beef, Agriculture and Fisheries** - The region has substantial grazing and agricultural industries, with a focus on beef production (home to 25 per cent of Queensland cattle) and sugar (34 per cent of the state’s total production), with new growth opportunities around irrigated agriculture emerging in the Flinders River precinct. Townsville is also one the main commercial fishing ports in Queensland.

**Defence** - Townsville is home to Australia’s largest army base, Lavarack Barracks, with over 6000 soldiers, 129 civilian employees and 6000 dependants. A RAAF base is also located in Townsville, with over 800 personnel and 100 civilians and contractors. The region has a significant skill set for expanding defence-related industries.

**Education, Science and Research** - The Australian Institute of Marine Science, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and James Cook University (JCU) all contribute to the region’s world-leading reputation in marine science research. JCU also has significant research expertise in biodiversity, tropical ecology and environments, global warming, tourism, tropical medicine and public health care in under-served populations.

CQUniversity and TAFE both have campuses in Townsville offering a range of courses.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

**App Development** - Townsville and North West Queensland is becoming a hub for mobile app development. The Townsville startup Safety Culture launched an app in a Townsville garage in 2004; it’s now used by more than 30 million people to conduct safety inspections worldwide. The company has established offices in San Francisco, Kansas City and Manchester, while remaining headquartered in Townsville.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Opportunities exist in agriculture and food processing, mining, tourism, renewable energy, defence, new technologies and other industries.

**Bio-Energy** - The North Queensland Bio-Energy project involves the construction of a $640 million renewable energy facility incorporating raw sugar, ethanol and power generation at Ingham in North Queensland. This state-of-the-art facility will be the first of its kind in Australia and will produce approximately 350,000 tonnes of sugar annually. The project, operational in June 2021, will boost sugarcane growers’ revenue through the production of additional products and is expected to create over 220 new jobs.

The Cloncurry Bio-fuel and Waste Treatment Precinct is an innovative project involving the establishment of a facility for value-adding activities using effluent water and other waste products in Cloncurry. The project will demonstrate to local landowners or investors the commercial viability for developing plantations on suitable sites which can provide timber, bio-fuel and feed stock for the Cloncurry processing facility.

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**

www.rdanwq.org.au

RDA Townsville and North West Ph: +61 7 4410 3655
info@rdanwq.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Major port centre with global trading links
- Innovative app developments
- Home to largest Australian army base
- Emerging bio-energy hub
the Wide Bay Burnett region, just 250 kilometres north of Brisbane, stretches 48,600 square kilometres from the fertile soils of the Burnett to the naturally-gifted Fraser Coast. With a population of 295,000, the region boasts a tapestry of nature’s wonders including the iconic World Heritage-listed Fraser Island and the gateway to the southern Great Barrier Reef. This beauty and diversity is characterised by a stunning coastline of pristine beaches, inland towns and mountain ranges. Encompassing the cities of Bundaberg, Maryborough, Hervey Bay and Gympie, it remains a sought-after tourism and lifestyle destination.

**KEY SECTORS**

Known as Queensland’s ‘food bowl’, the Wide Bay Burnett produces significant quantities of livestock, sugar, fruit, nuts, vegetables, citrus, timber, seafood and specialty crops. The region’s agricultural production was valued at $1.1 billion in 2015-16, or 10 per cent of Queensland’s total.

The agribusiness sector includes timber production and processing, beef, pork and poultry, sugar cane, tree crops (75 per cent of Queensland’s macadamia nuts are grown in Wide Bay Burnett), fruit and vegetables (especially avocados, citrus and tomatoes) and seafood production.

The region is home to iconic businesses including Nolan Meats, Bundaberg Sugar, Bundaberg Rum, Bundaberg Brewed Drinks, Peanut Company of Australia, Australian Macadamias, Austchilli, Hyne Timber, Downer, Laminex Industries, Nestle, Ironbark Citrus, Swickers, Ocean King Prawns, Proteco Oils and Urangan Fisheries.

**INNOVATIVE AND EMERGING INDUSTRIES**

More than 6000 hectares of the Port of Bundaberg was declared a State Development Area in 2017 and identified to attract a range of commercial and recreational pursuits including increased dry and wet bulk trade, bulk fuel storage and transport, coastal shipping, defence vessel servicing, the marine industry, super yacht servicing and coastal residential development.

The port provides unique business development and trade opportunities, providing access to new and emerging global markets without the congestion and capacity issues experienced at larger ports north and south.

Manufacturing accounts for 9 per cent of the region’s employment with the largest manufacturing segments being machinery and equipment, metal fabrication, food manufacturing and processing, aviation and marine.

The region has an established supply chain with significant infrastructure including water, sugar mills and meat processing facilities. Recently there has been strong investment in high-value agribusiness processing plants and specialist manufacturing equipment.

The Wide Bay Burnett is a burgeoning tourism destination, featuring iconic Fraser Island and the Southern Great Barrier Reef, idyllic coastlines and heritage towns. The region is renowned for sport and event tourism, agri-tourism, cultural and indigenous tourism, recreational fishing, beach and hinterland retreats, wineries and eco-tourism activities.

With its proximity to Brisbane, strong population growth, skilled workforce, affordable living and investment environment, the Wide Bay Burnett is positioned to experience growth in the emerging industries of aviation, transport equipment manufacturing, food technology, ecotourism, biofuels and high-value export agriculture.

**INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Significant investment opportunities exist for mining and energy sectors, with reserves of coking coal and minerals including bauxite, magnetite and ilmenite, ready to be mined and extracted.

Wide Bay Burnett is serviced by three jet-equipped airports (Bundaberg, Maryborough and Hervey Bay) offering affordable, greenfield airside access for aviation infrastructure and investment.

The Wide Bay Burnett is simply the perfect place at the perfect pace!

**GET THE BIGGER PICTURE:**

www.rdawidebayburnett.org.au

RDA Wide Bay Burnett
Ph: +61 7 4124 2526
info@rdawidebayburnett.org.au
REGION FAST FACTS

- Queensland’s food bowl and a global hub for food production, processing and export
- Home to iconic Australian food brands
- A world-class port, serving as a gateway to key Asian markets
- An unforgettable tourism destination featuring the World Heritage-listed Fraser Island
**TRADE AND INVESTMENT QUEENSLAND**

Trade and Investment Queensland (TIQ) is the Queensland Government’s dedicated global business agency, helping Queensland exporters take their products to overseas markets, and promoting Queensland as the perfect place for investment.

With eight offices across the state, and fifteen offices around the world, TIQ has one of the largest and most dynamic networks of any Queensland Government agency.

**If you’re a regional business:** Our trade and investment advisors can work with you to develop the skills, networks and acumen you need to successfully enter export markets.

**If you’re thinking of bringing your investments or business to Queensland:** Our expert staff can provide market analysis and business cases to demonstrate why Queensland is the right choice for you. They can also provide introductions and support, opening doors and streamlining your experience.

**If you’d like to buy Queensland’s world-class products:** We can connect you with the best Queensland enterprises, goods and services.

**TIQ – creating connections between Queensland’s regional businesses and the world.**

www.tiq.qld.gov.au
Ph: +61 7 3514 3147
Email: tiq.info@tiq.qld.gov.au

---

**WHAT CAN AUSTRALIA OFFER YOUR BUSINESS?**

The Australian Trade and Investment Commission – Austrade – can help you identify and take up investment opportunities in Australia as well as to source Australian goods and services.

Our assistance includes:

- Providing insight on Australian capabilities
- Identifying potential investment projects and strategic alliance partners
- Helping you identify and contact Australian suppliers
- Developing international markets for Australian exporters.

www.austrade.gov.au

---

**LANDING PADS FOR STARTUPS**

Australian Landing Pads provide market-ready startups and scaleups with access to some of the world’s most renowned innovation hubs including San Francisco, Tel Aviv, Shanghai, Berlin and Singapore. As a Landing Pad participant you will have access to:

- An up-to-90 day residency in a co-working space
- Introductions to networks of investors, mentors and strategic partners
- Access to a dedicated Landing Pad Manager and a community that supports Australian entrepreneurs
- Business advice to help grow your business.