



BRISBANE



Regional Development Australia (RDA) Brisbane ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2019-20



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1. Introduction

This Annual Business Plan is for the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 and features RDA Brisbane working with a wide range of stakeholders to address the identified Regional Priorities while delivering on the RDA Charter to achieve economic development outcomes in Brisbane and more broadly.

RDA Brisbane's key focus areas for the coming year are to namely:

- Support and promote the region's specialist and emerging sectors for clustering purposes, to increase competitiveness, make global connections, increase trade and investment outcomes and for future planning viz the SEQ City Deal
- Support business development through innovation, delivery of ASBAS Digital Solutions and awareness of Government programs

These complement and respond to, but do not duplicate, priorities in the region of the three levels of Government with whom we will continue to work, along with industry, business, academic and community stakeholders. Collaboration, communication and making connections are the RDA's strengths which will be harnessed to produce outcomes needed to stimulate economic development.

With Brisbane being the engine room of much of Queensland's economic growth, there is a strong interdependency with the regions for its labour and supply chain needs, so it is inevitable that much of RDA Brisbane's momentum is more broadly focused – and this is in line with the principles of RDA Capacity Building National Initiatives announced in December 2018, which encourage cross-regional connections.

1.1 RDA Brisbane's Vision and Mission Statements

The RDA Committee changed and simplified its Vision and Mission to reflect:

- Brisbane as the capital city and centre of the State's economy
- How we support broader regional outcomes
- The interdependence of city and region
- Leverage of our knowledge base and influence in Brisbane
- That we are an all-round, agile connector and collaborator
- That we facilitate and coordinate to achieve New World City outcomes

VISION

RDA Brisbane's Vision is to be an enabler of Brisbane's unique economic development potential as a New World City.

MISSION

RDA Brisbane's Mission is to engage and collaborate to connect business, industry, community and all levels of government to facilitate productive partnerships that develop Brisbane's economic prosperity, and leverage broader cross-regional, state-wide and national outcomes.

The Committee and staff look forward to implementing the 2019-20 Annual Business Plan and further enhancing the work and influence of RDA Brisbane.

1.2 Highlights from the Previous Year

RDA Brisbane continued to take a lead role as well as partner to drive key collaborative initiatives in Brisbane and also across the broader Queensland RDA regions. Over the year we built upon the new RDA focus on trade, investment and global connections in line with implementing the Charter for RDAs. A summary of the key achievements and learnings are below:

- To follow on from the successful <u>Queensland Regions Trading Globally</u> prospectus produced collaboratively last year as part of our Commonwealth Games Trade2018 event, RDAB developed a <u>Brisbane Global</u> trade and investment portal promoting Brisbane's specialist and emerging industry sectors, along with hard copy folders and industry fact sheets. These are being extensively promoted at events with international stakeholders and globally including:
 - o 21st TCI Network Global Conference in Toronto attended by delegates from 40 countries
 - o Trade Commissioner in Canada
 - Visiting international students
 - o Presentation to 14 universities at the Hubei (China) Education Forum
 - METS sector events
 - o By BioniQ in China and India
- RDA Brisbane commenced a new third party contract for 3 years to deliver the **Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) Digital Solutions** program, initially across 10 Queensland RDA regions including Brisbane, and then from 1 January expanded to take in all of Queensland. This involved significant establishment activities including developing a <u>website</u>, recruiting Digital Advisors, new social media and partnerships with the Queensland RDAs for promotion and with 23 councils across Queensland to host workshops. RDA is sub-contracted to Perth-based organisation Business Station, which won the Australian Government contract to deliver the program in Area 2 (comprising WA, NT and Queensland) from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021. Another partner, Treeti Business Advisory, is delivering the program in the NT.

- RDAB partnered with EDA and TCI Network Oceania in its **Clusters for Economic Growth and Industry Transformation** event, which was held as part of Queensland Small Business Week in May. Sponsored by ID and underwritten by EDA, the event featured European Cluster Manager of the Year, Bianca Dragomir, sharing key insights and tools for Australian clusters to shape open, inter-connected, multi-collaborative, innovation-driven and financially self-sustained clusters, to leverage smart investments through smart collaborations. The
- RDAB continues to be a partner in the **EXPRESSWAY™ Network Forum**, along with Microsoft Innovation Hub and TAFE Queensland, which clocked its 3,000th attendee at the monthly innovation forums. This innovation business network connects innovative businesses and scalable startups, offering opportunities for businesses to make connections, share ideas, form collaborations with each other, connect with investors, and find out about services available from government and business support agencies. The network has expanded into Moreton Bay and Logan & Redland regions.
- In a bid to connect businesses with export opportunities, RDAB partnered with the Brisbane West Chamber of Commerce and led another "Connecting Brisbane companies with global buyers via Alibaba.com" seminar in July 2018 to enable Brisbane SMEs to learn about the opportunities Alibaba offers for Queensland brands and exporters to connect with Chinese buyers. Alibaba is the world's largest online and mobile commerce company. More than 507 million mobile users connect through Alibaba's China retail marketplaces each month. The event was held in partnership with Chinadirect Sourcing. Attendees were taken through the process of how SMEs can access the Chinese market through the Alibaba ecosystem by Brisbane's Lindy Chen, Managing Director, Chinadirect sourcing who is one of two Global Service Partners in Australia for Alibaba.
- RDA Brisbane, as Foundation Partner in the **RED (Regional Economic Development) Toolbox** has been connecting potential partners to the RED Toolbox, raising awareness and hosting stakeholder meetings and demonstrations involving the 3 levels of government, industry, international business councils and chambers about how the toolbox can facilitate collaboration to boost regional development, trade and investment The toolbox has the potential to build productive regions, industries and increase exports. It works by enabling active, timely collaboration across organisations, industry sectors and regions, and the sharing of ideas, projects and best practice examples. It showcases some 7,000 Australian producers to markets across the world.
- RDAB is an active leader of regional networks. It continues to chair and facilitate the **GIBIN** (the **Government Industry Business Information Network**), an informal network in South East Queensland which is understood to be the largest of its kind in Australia, comprising representatives of over 60 Business and Industry Associations, RDAs, Universities and Government agencies (Local, State and Federal) that deliver services or develop initiatives for business. GIBIN news is supported by the **The Biz Buzz** Facebook page which is a direct conduit to business, providing information on government grants, resources and events.
 - o Arranged a GIBIN workshop on ABR non public data, attended by State, Federal, Local Government and RDA representatives

- RDAB is a go-to organisation and has made numerous **strategic connections** both nationally and internationally throughout the year for and between business/industry, the 3 levels of government, regional, national and international stakeholders, using our extensive networks (including GIBIN, EXPRESSWAY and TCI partnerships), knowledge and influence to foster innovation and economic development outcomes.
- RDAB provided feedback to government through surveys, consultative forums including helping to organise these, and serving on the national SME Export Hubs Advisory Committee including influencing the strategic inclusion of RDA as partners and/or applicants into the Export hub eligibility and selection criteria.

RDA Brisbane plans to build on these and many other achievements and introduce new initiatives to support economic development (principally through building business capability and industry growth) in Brisbane and the broader economic region.

2. Overview of Committee Members and Staff

2.1 Members

All members, under the Chairship of Dr Patricia Rowe, are active participants on the RDA Committee. Members serve voluntarily and come from a variety of business, community, education and government backgrounds. They participate actively in Committee meetings, bringing informed views, ideas and connections for our strategy development, contributing intelligence, setting strategic objectives and fulfilling governance obligations.

These appointments make up our full complement of ten Committee members, who will serve until December 2020. Their profiles and expertise are found on the RDA Brisbane website https://www.rdabrisbane.org.au/about-us/committee-members.

To maintain our strong working relationship with Australia's largest Local Government Authority whose boundaries mirror those of RDA Brisbane, a Brisbane City Council representative is among the Committee members.

The Office Bearers form the Management Committee - comprising the Chair (position appointed by the Minister), Deputy Chair (appointed by the Chair), Secretary and Treasurer (elected positions from among the Committee members) - which meets bi-monthly to handle RDA procedural business and design the agenda ahead of the full Committee meeting also held bi-monthly.

2.2 Staff

RDA Brisbane continues to have a stable, committed and skilled staff team which has contributed to the RDA's strong momentum and achievements during the year, harnessing the considerable level of stakeholder engagement and relationship building. The staff have skills and wide-ranging expertise in regional

economic development, international clusters, event management, project management, and financial management https://www.rdabrisbane.org.au/about-us/staff

A contracted marketer, bookkeeper and casual office support complement the permanent staff. From time to time university post-graduate interns are engaged and assigned to project work.

3. Operational Parameters for the Coming Year

RDA Brisbane's primary funding source is operational funding from the Department of Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, which provides it with the resources to carry out its broad-ranging and comprehensive agenda for the betterment for Brisbane and its surrounding regions.

RDA Brisbane will continue into year 2 of a 3 year third party contract to deliver the Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) Digital Solutions program across Queensland. RDA is sub-contracted to Perth-based organisation Business Station, which won the Australian Government contract to deliver the program in Area 2 (comprising WA, NT and Queensland) from 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2021. Business Station pays RDA Brisbane for staffing, covers costs of marketing, travel, equipment and operations plus will provide an additional staff resource to complement our Queensland Program Manager. All Digital Advisory costs are covered by the program funding held by Business Station.

RDA Brisbane will seek other supplementary sources of funding and secure third-party contracts that align with its strategic objectives.

RDA maintains a current Risk Management Strategy and Workplace Health and Safety Plan as required by the RDA Better Practice Guide. RDA Brisbane strives to maintain a high level of occupational health and safety for its staff, members, contractors and volunteers throughout all areas of its activities, and complies with the Queensland Work Health and Safety Act 2011

4. Strategic Context and Regional Priorities

As Australia's new world city, Brisbane is an emerging economic powerhouse and gateway to the Asia-Pacific region. It is the closest Australian capital city on the eastern seaboard to Asia and offers an attractive business environment in a region supporting an ever-increasing share of global economic growth. Brisbane is a major hub for large resource and energy companies, a significant centre for research and innovation and plays an influential role in the State's growth and prosperity. It is the leader and an important catalyst for the South East Queensland (SEQ) region, and as such our regional priorities and

analysis make reference to evidence and issues that encompass Brisbane, SEQ and Queensland more broadly. SEQ is the largest region in Queensland in terms of population and economic activity and serves as a socioeconomic hub to the rest of Queensland as well as interstate and foreign markets. SEQ's strong lifestyle factors help drive population growth, while its diverse and advanced economy promote a variety of broader economic and investment opportunities.

RDA Brisbane's planned activities, aligning with the RDA Charter, will complement the economic development agendas of the 3 levels of government as they relate to business and jobs growth, productivity, competitiveness, innovation, globalisation, entrepreneurship, industry growth sectors and SMEs.

The 3 levels of government are currently negotiating an **SEQ City Deal** that will provide a tripartite focus on investments and actions to align planning, investment and governance to accelerate growth and job creation, stimulate urban renewal and support the future prosperity and liveability of the SEQ region. The Statement of Intent for the SEQ City Deal notes the following 6 priority areas:

- 1. Connecting Infrastructure;
- Jobs and Skills;
- Liveability and Sustainability;
- 4. Housing and Planning;
- 5. Digital; and
- 6. Governance and Leadership.

The **2032 SEQ Olympic Games bid** is gathering momentum, with 8 SEQ councils participating in a feasibility study to host the event and the Queensland Government and now Federal Government indicating commitment. The Council of Mayors (SEQ) released the SEQ People Mass Movement Study which outlined the need for effective and timely public transport and road network infrastructure to accommodate the region's growth and which would be needed to mount a competitive bid.

The 5 key strategic priorities of the region over the next 3-5 years and more immediately are intrinsically linked, and are discussed below, with RDAB's planned activities identified to address the priorities.

1. <u>Increased connections to Export and Investment opportunities</u>

Exports support one in five Queensland jobs, with increased trade in goods and services predicted to be the key driver of economic growth in the state over the next few years. At the macroeconomic level, trade increases the rate of innovation in the economy due to the transfer of knowledge and technology and the need to continually improve products and practices due to increased competition. Further opportunities will be opened up as the Australian Government negotiates more Free Trade Agreements but to engage globally we need to maximise the growth, promotion, investment in and selling of our productive industries strategically, with "joined up thinking", smarter planning, value adding and targeting to achieve more investment and export.

Queensland's Trade & Investment Strategy 2017-2022 sets out priorities to build on Queensland's existing strengths, further diversify the economy, target key overseas markets, build the export capabilities of small and medium-sized businesses, increase international engagement with Asia and beyond, and promote investment in businesses, infrastructure and innovation.

Brisbane Marketing (the Brisbane City Council's economic development agency) has a dedicated team of 8 staff involved in its "invest Brisbane" strategy, whose role is to attract investment to Brisbane and engage with clients at a strategic level to deliver business outcomes, including: developing business cases; sourcing valuable local supply chains; facilitating critical introductions; undertaking talent and labour analysis and establishing collaborative partnerships; sourcing competitive property solutions and market knowledge.

Benchmarking of the SEQ region indicates that the region is only a recently globalising region. SEQ has the lowest share of export-oriented sectors when compared with global like-regions. This is mainly due to the comparatively small to modest size of the region's business and financial services, trade and tourism clusters and sectors. SEQ's smaller overall export economy is despite our higher share of commodities, with its productive agriculture, mining and petroleum related industries.

A comparative analysis of the size of different sectors in the economy indicates a need for economic diversification, with Brisbane having three of the four sector profiles that are least geared to the globally traded services and knowledge economy. It also indicates Brisbane is behind in terms of the extent to which its advanced services economy is globalised, how networked advanced producer services firms (eg consulting, law, advertising, accountancy) are with other cities in the global system, which is seen as one of the key indicators of global city status.

While Brisbane is a highly competitive destination for international education and one of the leading cities for this in the world relative to its size, Brisbane is eclipsed by Sydney, Perth and Melbourne for Foreign Direct Investment per capita globally which feature in the top 15, and is slipping down the rankings as growth patterns in other global regions become more favourable to investors.

It is therefore important that a long term goal addresses the expansion of our productive specialist and emerging industries to diversify our economic base to become more resilient and less open to the impacts of changes in demand on any one sector of our economy. Sustainable wealth, export opportunity and jobs are created by productive industries, rather than by support industries and services. The medium term goal is for a smart specialisations strategy for SEQ which will also contribute the SEQ City Deal's priority of Jobs & Skills.

RDAB will build on its profiling and promoting of the region's specialist and emerging productive sectors through our Brisbane Global connect brand. We will build upon the hard copy and web-based collateral to promote Brisbane regional specialist and emerging productive industry capabilities at local and global forums, and promote and link our industries, clusters and sectors via our partnerships with TCI Network globally and stakeholders domestically.

2. Enhanced capability and capacity of small business

Queensland's small business sector is continuing to grow after recording its fifth consecutive year of growth according to the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics data. Queensland is now home to more than 438,000 which is a 2.7 per cent increase in the 12 months to June 2018, and comprise 97.7 per cent of all businesses across the State, employing 44 per cent of the private sector workforce.

Construction continues as the industry with the most small businesses now accounting for more than 75,000 firms. The Transport, Postal and Warehousing sector showed the highest growth for the second consecutive year increasing by more than 14 per cent from 27,400 to more than 31,300. There was also strong growth in the administrative and support services area which experienced a 6 per cent increase.

Small business continues to play an important role in Brisbane's economic development; of the over 120,000 businesses in the Brisbane LGA, 97% are small (fewer than 20 employees) and 62% are non-employing. More and more successful small businesses are exporting as digital technology and globalisation create a more conducive environment to enter export markets.

The Australian Government aims to boost small business under its moves to cut red tape, reduce taxes, extend instant asset write-offs, provide better access to finance, and with programs such as Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS), which RDAB is delivering in Queensland.

RDAB will continue to play a lead lead role in boosting small business capacity and capability in across Queensland and involving the Queensland RDAs in its 3-year delivery of the Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) Digital Solutions program, through a partnership with Business Station which is contracted for the program in Area 2 (WA, NT and QLD). RDAB will promote Government programs for small business through our various lead roles and partnerships in networks, events and social media.

3. Industry cluster development and support

In 2018, the European Cluster Collaboration Platform (ECCP) identified that 11% of the 650 <u>European Union clusters</u> want to do business with Australian clusters. This presents a huge opportunity for Australia and its regions to open up global opportunities in the lucrative European market.

Similarly there are industry clusters throughout the Americas and Asian Pacific region where there is opportunity for collaboration with Australia.

There is growing recognition by Federal and State Governments of the value of clusters to achieve global competitive advantage, but we are far behind the rest of the world. Industry policies are being extended to cater for cluster funding, with the Australian Government's SME Export Hubs funding to 10 projects across Australia in the Industry Growth Sector (IGC) industries of food innovation, energy resources, advanced manufacturing, and METS (there were no

projects funded in cyber security or med tech & pharma). There were no projects funded for Brisbane, despite RDA Brisbane's efforts and extensive partnerships in submitting applications for METS and Biomedical sectors, however RDA is continuing to work with these sectors with a view to submitting for future funding rounds. The Queensland Government has provided funding to METS Ignited for an SEQ METS industry cluster with a particular focus on tailings and water sustainability, digital data and analytics and robotics and automation, for which a Cluster Development Manager was employed in January 2019. RDAB is represented on a State level METS Cluster Leadership group and the SEQ METS advisory group for this burgeoning sector (Mining Equipment & Technology Services). Running parallel and in conjunction with the METS cluster initiative is the emerging Queensland Field Robotics cluster and RDA Brisbane again participates on this advisory committee and may be the auspicing organisation as the cluster becomes financial.

A longer term goal is for an increasing number of specialist and emerging (productive) advanced technology industry sectors to be developed into formal clusters with outcomes of making SMEs more strategic, collaborative and innovative, creating more jobs for the future, growing exports, attracting greater investment, and placing the region's advanced technology sectors on a global stage to accelerate growth at a much greater rate than could be achieved by working alone and in isolation.

In the short term, RDAB proposes to take a national lead in developing an Australian Cluster Guide to profile Australia's regions' industry strengths and emerging opportunities (subject to funding) as a collaboration with all RDAs nationally and then facilitate global cluster connections, through our partnership with TCI Network Oceania. We have also been invited to submit a proposal to DFAT for cluster collaboration and capability building with the South Pacific Island nations (subject to available funding).

We will explore and facilitate cluster development opportunities including with Queensland's emerging space industry, holding an awareness/educative forum with a view to developing a space futures hub/cluster formation, and take an active part on cluster advisory committees to ensure their successful formation, such as METS and Robotics

4. Enhanced industry competitiveness and business innovation

According to a 2018 report "The Innovative Imperative" released by the CSIRO's Data61 unit, Queensland is entering a high stakes era of economic disruption which can deliver new global markets, higher incomes and improved lifestyles – or put hundreds of thousands of traditional workers in jeopardy. The development of automation, robotics and artificial intelligence is becoming a major growth industry itself and Brisbane's technology sector is developing quickly to keep pace. The growth of the mining services sector particularly in SEQ complements demand for Queensland's higher quality coal and rare minerals. The report said the State has to prioritise investment in technologies that would diversify the economy, take a global customer outlook and support high-growth "frontier firms" to foster talent and research and development activity.

In the global rankings, Brisbane has modest results in both the number of innovative firms and breakthrough companies, compared with higher education and public R&D investment, which suggests that the system for commercialisation of knowledge and innovation is below where it should be. Scaling up scalable startup companies, fostering an innovation ecosystem and the environments in which innovation precincts might arise, mature and succeed are considered success factors. The Queensland Government has undertaken a broad review of the State's innovation strategy and has released the "Building Our Innovation Economy - Advance Queensland Strategy (Draft)" report. The draft report advocates broadly for collaboration and clusters, which RDAB's input advocated strongly for.

RDAB's partnership in the EXPRESSWAY innovation network is helping innovative businesses and high growth potential startups create collaborate connections and connect with investors and government assistance and programs. In the longer term we would envisage an expanded network fostering innovation and collaboration throughout Queensland.

RDAB will continue its partnership with TAFE Queensland and the Microsoft Innovation Hub in hosting the EXPRESSWAY innovation network forums in Brisbane and broader regionally.

RDAB will make strategic connections throughout the year with and between business/industry, the 3 levels of government, regional and national stakeholders and international clusters and players, utilising our extensive networks – including the EXPRESSWAY innovation network, Government Industry Business Information Network (GIBIN), TCI Network, the RED Toolbox and its iterations – along with our knowledge, relationships and influence to foster innovation and economic development outcomes.

5. Greater Economic Development Outcomes

Transport and infrastructure are priorities relevant to all levels of government because free movement of people and freight is an enabler of economic development, with Brisbane also acting as a portal to other regions and overseas markets. 71% of Queensland's population is based in SEQ and the region needs major corridors and transport networks that can keep up with the region's growth and economy.

Australian and Queensland governments last year jointly funded a \$1.5 million study to look at options for improved freight rail connections between Acacia Ridge and the Port of Brisbane. It is acknowledged that freight connections with the Port are critical in supporting SEQ's continued economic growth and development and in unlocking the full economic potential of the Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Rail project. Infrastructure Australia identified a dedicated rail freight line servicing the Port of Brisbane as a high priority and this is one of the options which was investigated as part of the study and for which RDAB will be advocating.

The size and reach of Greater Brisbane's visitor economy ranks low when benchmarking Brisbane against other New World Cities. Brisbane along with Perth and Adelaide have particularly fallen down the global rankings of international meetings hosted between 2012 and 2017, and all five Australian mainland capitals rank in the bottom half for direct air links. Measures of the number of global connections also show relative decline as other global cities become much more connected.

Despite SEQ's sizeable trading functions and growth platform, it ranks lowest when benchmarked against like-regions for trade throughput in terms of airport cargo tonnage (with Brisbane Airport being the region's main airport). This is because none of the airports specialise in airport cargo.

Opportunities in the next year will be opened up with:

- the second Brisbane Airport runway to be completed in 2020, effectively doubling existing capacity to match that of Singapore and Hong Kong
- The SEQ 2032 Olympics bid, as early as 2020

And in 3-5 years:

• the Queen's Wharf Integrated Resort to open in 2022 which will attract more visitors to Brisbane.

Longer term infrastructure which has already commenced or will commence construction by 2025:

- Cross River Rail
- Brisbane Metro
- Brisbane Live stadium
- Gabba redevelopment

Through its "prosper" theme, the SEQ Regional Plan *ShapingSEQ* gives great emphasis to the role of freight and the supply chain network to the economy by spatially identifying these and their relationship to regional economic clusters (RECs). As the population grows so does the importance of an efficient and effective freight system. Recognising the relationship between RECs and their enabling infrastructure is important to ensuring the region maximises economic opportunities.

The SEQ City Deal will be key to providing a tripartite focus on investments and actions that will help align planning, investment and governance to accelerate growth and job creation, stimulate urban renewal and support the future prosperity and liveability of the SEQ region.

RDAB will advocate for SEQ RDAs to have involvement in the SEQ City Deal negotiations, contributing value for the region's economic development precincts, clusters, jobs and skills as well as connectivity infrastructure.

RDAB will provide feedback to government on critical issues affecting the region's economic development.

RDAB will promote the merits of the airport and port in the development of collateral to promote Brisbane globally; we will investigate ways that the airport can be assisted to capitalise on new opportunities, mitigate competitive threats and extend its reach and reputation globally.

While there are many initiatives planned and underway with major players at the fore, RDAB will keep a watching brief with a view to providing advice to government on any critical issues, highlighting activities to keep industry and business stakeholders informed, and identifying how and where we can add value.

4.1 Summary of top 5 strategic priorities for upcoming year:

- 1. Increased connections to export and investment opportunities including for our specialist sectors
- 2. Enhanced capability and capacity of small businesses
- 3. More cluster development through facilitation, profiling, local and global linking and supporting events
- 4. Enhanced industry competitiveness and business innovation
- 5. Greater economic development outcomes utilising our influence, networks and partnerships

4.2 Summary of top 5 key business activities for upcoming year:

RDAB has prioritised its activities on where we have gathered momentum and influence and where we can make an impact with our available resources and expertise in addressing the Regional Priorities, while operating within the parameters of the RDA Charter. RDAB is able to work with flexibility and agility to seize new opportunities and refocus where government directions may change. All our activities which we either lead or support leverage partnerships or collaboration with key business/industry, government or community stakeholders.

- 1. Profile and promote the Brisbane region's specialist sectors to make them more nationally and internationally competitive
- 2. Deliver the ASBAS Digital Solutions program throughout Queensland
- 3. Facilitate the formation and operation of competitive clusters, provide global connections and support cluster events
- 4. Partner with TAFE Qld and Microsoft Innovation Hub in the EXPRESSWAY Innovation Network and monthly forums
- 5. Provide advice to Government including participation of RDA in the SEQ City Deal

5. Annual Work Plan

RDA BRISBANE WORK PLAN 2019-20					
ACTIVITY KEY ACTIONS BUDGET ITEM TIMELINE RESOURCES					
Ongoing					
Use our networks, etc to make strategic connections/partnerships	 Participate in stakeholder networks; take timely action Onboard Queensland RDAs to an EDA Corporate Membership 	Operational – Salaries Funded in 2018-19 (Collaboration & Engagement)	Ongoing	CEO Regional Development Coordinator (RDC) CEO	
Explore and facilitate the formation of competitive clusters and global connections/matching	 Provide auspicing support to and participate on the SEQ METS and Qld Field Robotics Cluster Leadership & Advisory Groups Identify, profile and connect with emerging and specialist sectors. Provide expert support for cluster development. Facilitate cross cluster collaboration and cluster matchmaking opportunities in the greater Brisbane region (and where relevant across Queensland and Australia). 	Operational - Salaries	Ongoing	RDC	
Deliver ASBAS Digital Solutions program across Queensland	 Through workshops, one-on-ones and webinars Recruit more Digital Advisors 	ASBAS project funds	Ongoing	ASBAS Program Manager	

Promote Government programs and RDA ASBAS Digital Solutions Qld	 Participate in Lord Mayor's Business Forums Send out GIBIN alerts and hold GIBIN meetings E-newsletters, social media, Email alerts Participate in Jobs Fairs and Small Business Expos 	Operational – Salaries ASBAS project funds	Ongoing	CEO ASBAS Program Manager
Host monthly EXPRESSWAY Network Forums with partners	 Help identify presenters Monitor numbers, organise catering Follow up innovative businesses with productive connections 	Operational – Marketing/ Stakeholder Events	Ongoing	CEO
Develop an Australian Regions Cluster Guide	Consult with all RDAs, Austrade, DIRDAC, Dept of Industry, Innovtion & Science & IGCs	Subject to DIRDAC project funding	Ongoing/all year	RDC CEO
Support stakeholders to develop project proposals for funding – subject to available funding/rounds/as tasked	Hold briefing sessionsProvide assistance, as needed	Operational – Salaries; Marketing/Stakeholder events	Ongoing	CEO
Provide advice to government	 Participate in/facilitate consultation forums Provide advice on critical issues SEQ City Deal 	Operational – Salaries / fee for service	As needed/ongoing	CEO RDC
Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages	 Articles in e-Linkages Social media posts Austrade, IGC, industry, business and cluster media and publication channels 	Operational - Salaries	Ongoing	CEO

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Present at forums, participate on judging panels and/or submit award nominations to recognise the RDA's role in regional economic development	Participate in opportunities as they arise	Operational – Salaries, Travel	Ongoing	CEO RDC
July-September Quarter				
Annual Audit	Prepare accounts for audit	Operational - Financial	September-October	Bookkeeper CEO Auditor
Annual Report	Prepare Annual Report and Outcomes table	Operational - Salaries	July-August	CEO
Promote and develop our specialist and emerging sectors and clusters	 Participate in 2019APCS Facilitate an international cluster expert visiting for APCS to engage with the specialist and emerging 	Funded in 2018-19 (collaboration/engagement)	July	RDC, CEO RDC
	 sectors Provide advice to TIQ India Trade Commissioner Build on our Fact Sheets with 	Operational - Salaries	July-September	RDC
	new sectors, such as Robotics (web and hard copy)		September	RDC
Explore opportunities with the space industry/space futures with a view to hub/cluster development	Organise a stakeholder awareness/educative forum	Operational – Marketing/Stakeholder forums	August/September	Committee Member Regional Development Coordinator
Explore cluster matching/collaboration/ capacity building with Pacific Island nations	Develop a proposal for DFAT about facilitating cross cluster and matchmaking opportunities across greater Brisbane and Qld	Subject to Aus Aid/DFAT funding	July – August	RDC CEO
Initiate SEQ City Deal involvement	Meet with CEO of COMSEQ Meet with DIRDAC Dep Sec	Operational - Salaries	July	CEO, RDC

	Revisit and refresh the SEQ Advanced Manufacturing specialisations (specialist sectors) with participation from SEQ RDAs (lead)			
Participate in RDA SEQ Cluster Meeting	Propose and lead agenda items	Operational - Travel	September	RDC (in CEO's absence)
October-December Quarter				
Promote and develop our specialist and emerging sectors and clusters and make global connections	Participate in 2019 TCI Global Conference in Antwerp, Belgium	TCI funds	October	RDC
Use ASBAS to help build export capability	Approach Qld SME Export Hubs funding recipients and existing clusters (SEQ)	ASBAS project funds	October-November	CEO ASBAS Program Manager
Investigate ways to maximise Brisbane's international connectivity via the Airport	Meet with BAC	Operational - Salaries	October	CEO Committee Member
Promote ASBAS Digital Solutions Qld in remote regional Queensland	Participate in an Outback Qld Regional Roadshow (organised by AusIndustry)	ASBAS project funds	October	CEO
Participate in RDA National Forum	 Contribute to program as requested Arrange Capital Cities' RDA meeting Arrange to meet with politicians 	Operational – Staff travel; Committee Members travel	November	Chair, Deputy Chair, CEO
January-March Quarter				
Budget review	Do a 6 monthly budget review with a view to transferring further funds into Staff Entitlements	Operational - Salaries	January	CEO

Use ASBAS to help build export capability	Approach Qld SME Export Hubs funding recipients and existing clusters (broader Qld)	ASBAS project funds	February	CEO ASBAS Program Manager
Participate in RDA SEQ Cluster Meeting	Propose and lead agenda items	Operational - Travel	March	CEO
April-June Quarter				
Prepare Annual Business Plan	Committee Planning ForumStakeholder consultation	Operational - Salaries	May-June	CEO
Participate in RDA SEQ Cluster Meeting	Propose and lead agenda items	Operational – Travel	June	CEO
Promote and develop our specialist and emerging sectors and clusters and make global connections	Partner with TCI Network Oceania to organise a national Cluster event	TCI Funds Operational - Salaries	May-June	CEO RDC

Summary of RDAB	Activities
2019-20 DASHBOARD	new activities

OUTCOME THEME 1
Increased economic
opportunities and investment in
Your Region

Identify economic development opportunities that leverage private and public sector investment in Your Region.

Connect Your Region with industry sectors, international trade partners

OUTCOME THEME 2

sectors, international trade partners, financial markets, regional entrepreneurs and business leaders to attract investors to explore new opportunities to grow local jobs in Your Region.

Increased trade and jobs creation

Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.

OUTCOME THEME 3

Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.

OUTCOME THEME 4 Achieve Government program objectives

Assist in the delivery of Commonwealth programs including public and private sector decentralisation.

OUTCOME THEME 5 Maximise access to Government programs and grants

Promote and disseminate information on Commonwealth policies and grant programs and support community stakeholders in Your Region to develop project proposals to access funding.

OUTCOME THEME 6 Advice supports development outcomes

- Provide evidence-based advice to the Commonwealth on critical regional development issues; and
- Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages to all levels of government, industry, business and community sectors.

Connect innovative businesses, entrepreneurs and scalable startups via the EXPRESSWAY innovation network forum (in which RDAB is a partner) to share ideas, form collaborations with each other, connect with potential investors, and find out about programs and services available (lead) – also relates to Outcome Theme 2

Explore and facilitate the formation of competitive clusters and important global connections to support and grow our industries' competitiveness (lead)

- Explore cluster matching/collaboration/capacity building with the Pacific Island nations (subject to Aus Aid/DFAT funding) (lead)
- Explore opportunities with the space industry/space futures with a view to hub formation (lead)

Use our extensive networks, influence and partnership in The RED Toolbox to foster collaboration and make strategic connections with and between business/industry, government, regional and national stakeholders and global players for innovation and trade & investment outcomes (lead)

Profile and promote the Brisbane region's specialist and emerging industry sectors

- Promote our specialist and emerging sectors and clusters in conjunction with the 2019APCS (lead)
- Promote and connect at the 2019 TCI Global Conference in Belgium (lead)

Use the ASBAS Digital Solutions program to help build export capability for small businesses (support) - Outcome theme 4 also refers

SEQ City Deal – advocate to COMSEQ and the Dept's Cities Unit for RDA involvement in contributing value for the region's economic development precincts and clusters (support) – Outcome Theme 6 also refers

Investigate ways to maximise
Brisbane's international
connectivity via the airport
capitalising on new opportunities,
mitigating competitive threats and
extending its reach and reputation
globally (support)

Consult with all RDAs, Austrade, DIRDAC and Ausindustry in developing an Australian Regions Clusters Guide (subject to funding from DIRDAC) (lead)

Build on our specialist and emerging industry sector Fact Sheets with new sectors, such as Robotics (web and hard copy) (lead) Deliver the ASBAS
Digital Solutions
program across
Queensland to
provide digital
solutions advice to
small businesses;
also use the
program to build
export capability
(lead) – Outcome
Themes 2&5 also
refer

Use coordination of the GIBIN and participation in Lord Mayor's Small Business Forums to promote Commonwealth initiatives and grant programs (also via social media, enewsletters, email alerts) (lead)

Where relevant, support stakeholders to develop project proposals for funding (support) Provide advice to government on strategic opportunities and critical issues, and contribute to consultations (support)

Keep a watching brief with a view to adding value and providing advice to government on transport and digital connectivity infrastructure issues, including the SEQ City Deal Outcome Theme 3 also refers

Provide information to the region on regional activities and competitive advantages (lead)

Present at forums, participate on judging panels and/or submit award nominations to recognise the RDA's role in regional economic development (support)

6. Communications Strategy

Communication plays an integral part in RDA Brisbane's overall operational and strategic work and in supporting the 6 Outcome Areas for RDAs. Using a variety of and targeted methods of communication enables effective interaction with both our internal and external stakeholders and ensures that our activities receive extensive awareness of and engagement with participants in regional economic development.

RDAB continues to place a strong emphasis on using digital communication, including digital and social media, which reflects the need to get key messages out quickly, economically and to a mass audience:

- E-newsletters and Special News Email Alerts— HTML using Vision 6 via email and placed on the website promoting RDA activities, Government programs, announcing programs and special events, and for stakeholder consultation
- RDAB has an extensive electronic database with 7,000 stakeholders and growing, that has been built up over the past 9 years and is regularly updated and maintained
- Facebook RDAB has 3 Facebook accounts: <u>RDA Brisbane</u>, <u>ASBAS Digital Solutions</u> and <u>The Biz Buzz</u> (the latter in partnership with Brisbane West Chamber of Commerce, promoting business events, grants and resources). We use these accounts to promote our activities, events, stakeholder partnership activities and Government programs. We also share posts from the 3 levels of government relating to regional economic development and promoting the region's comparative advantages, as are relevant to our stakeholders
- Twitter is used to a lesser extent, having been used extensively in past years to promote our CLICK! Digital events
- Survey Monkey for surveys (including post-event surveys) and analysis
- Event platform Eventbrite for events
- The RDAB website is kept up to date and contains the Biz Buzz Facebook feed, news tabs which are updated between newsletters and information about the RDA, its role and Committee
- A dedicated <u>ASBAS Digital Solutions</u> website is kept updated with workshops held across Queensland and registration links, along with profiles of Digital Advisors, and is used to gather EOIs from small businesses wishing to participate in the program
- Zoom is being used for video conferencing and to run ASBAS webinars
- The CLICK! Digital website is still being held as a sign post to the ASBAS Digital Solutions Queensland website

Traditional forms of communication still play an important role and serve to build relationships, such as meetings, hosting workshops, forums, tele- and videoconferencing. RDAB is accommodated in a serviced office building that provides access to meeting rooms and boardrooms in several Brisbane locations, and these are frequently used to host face to face communication.

7. Table of Outcomes, Outputs, Activities and Performance Measures

OUTCOME THEME 1	Increased economic opportunities and investment in Your Region				
OUTPUT i.	Identify economic development opportunities that leverage private and public sector investment in Your Region.				
What will we do? (Complete this column only for your Business Plan)	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures		
Activity 1.1: List in this column each of the Activities You plan to undertake to perform the Output and meet the Outcome. Connect innovative businesses, entrepreneurs and scalable startups via the EXPRESSWAY innovation network forum (in which RDAB is a partner) to share ideas, form collaborations with each other, connect with potential investors, and find out about programs and services available	Provide a description of your activities during the year relating to this outcome and output. Please note whether your RDA has played a lead or support role in the activities. RDA role: Lead	Provide a description of how the activities contributed to the achievement of the outcome and output.	Priority Performance Measure(s) Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity. 1.1 Number of organisations or potential investors engaged and/or assisted with, and investment opportunities created 2.2 also refers Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)		
Activity 2.1: Explore and facilitate the formation of competitive clusters and important global connections to support and grow our industries' competitiveness	RDA role: Lead		Priority Performance Measure(s) 1.1 Number of organisations or potential investors engaged and/or assisted with, and investment opportunities created Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)		

OUTCOME THEME 1	Increased economic opportunities and investment in Your Region				
OUTPUT i.	Identify economic development opportunit	Identify economic development opportunities that leverage private and public sector investment in Your Region.			
What will we do? (Complete this column only for your Business Plan)	What did we do? (Complete this and the columns to the right for your Annual Report on Outcomes)	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures		
 Explore cluster matching/collaboration/cap acity building with the Pacific Island nations (subject to Aus Aid/DFAT funding) Explore opportunities with the space industry/space futures - with a view to hub formation 			3.2 Number of requests from government to participate in strategy development and regional development projects and outcomes from input provided		

OUTCOME THEME 2	Increased trade and job creation.			
OUTPUT ii.	Connect Your Region with industry sectors, international trade partners, financial markets, regional entrepreneurs and business leaders to attract investors to explore new opportunities to grow local jobs in Your Region.			
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures	
Activity 2.1: List in this column each of the Activities You plan to undertake to perform the Output and meet the Outcome.	Provide a description of your activities during the year relating to this outcome and output. Please note whether your RDA has played a lead or support role in the activities.	Provide a description of how the activities contributed to the achievement of the outcome and output.	Priority Performance Measure(s) Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity. 2.1 Number of organisations assisted directly or indirectly including the number of potential and/or actual jobs created.	

OUTCOME THEME 2	Increased trade and job creation.			
OUTPUT ii.	Connect Your Region with industry sectors, international trade partners, financial markets, regional entrepreneurs and business leaders to attract investors to explore new opportunities to grow local jobs in Your Region.			
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures	
Use our extensive networks, influence and partnership in The RED Toolbox to foster collaboration and make strategic connections with and between business/industry, government, regional and national stakeholders and global players for innovation and trade & investment outcomes (lead)	RDA role: Lead		Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)	
Activity 2.2: Profile and promote the Brisbane region's specialist and emerging industry sectors • Promote our specialist and emerging sectors and clusters in conjunction with the 2019APCS (lead) • Promote and connect at the 2019 TCI Global Conference in Belgium (lead)	RDA role: Lead		Priority Performance Measure(s) 2.2 Number of organisations, entrepreneurs and emerging business leaders connected with business support, investment and growth programs. Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)	
Activity 2.3 Use the ASBAS Digital Solutions program to help build export capability for small businesses (support) - Outcome theme 4 also refers	RDA role: support		2.3 Number of organisations connected with export opportunities or export readiness support.	

OUTCOME THEME 3	Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes.			
OUTPUT iii.	Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.			
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures	
Activity 3.1: List in this column each of the Activities You plan to undertake to perform the Output and meet the Outcome. SEQ City Deal – advocate to COMSEQ and the Dept's Cities Unit for RDA involvement particularly in contributing value for the region's economic development precincts and clusters – Outcome Theme 6 also refers	Provide a description of your activities during the year relating to this outcome and output. Please note whether your RDA has played a lead or support role in the activities. RDA role: Support	Provide a description of how the activities contributed to the achievement of the outcome and output.	Priority Performance Measure(s) Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity. 3.1 Number and nature of collaborative working groups/projects/partnerships with governments and regional stakeholders and economic development outcomes resulting from this. Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A) You may choose to set additional Performance Measures as part of the Business Plan process and report against these in the Annual Report on Outcomes. Additional measures should be listed here.	
Activity 3.2: Investigate ways to maximise Brisbane's international connectivity via the airport capitalising on new opportunities, mitigating	RDA role: Support		Priority Performance Measure(s) 3.1 Number and nature of collaborative working groups/projects/partnerships with governments and regional stakeholders and economic development outcomes resulting from this.	

OUTCOME THEME 3	Cooperative effort with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders leads to improved economic development outcomes. Develop and maintain positive, collaborative, working relationships and partnerships with all levels of government, industry, community and other regional stakeholders which address identified gaps or needs in economic development activity.		
OUTPUT iii.			
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
competitive threats and extending its reach and reputation globally (support)			Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)
Activity 3.3: Consult with all RDAs, Austrade, DIRDAC and Ausindustry in developing an Australian Regions Clusters Guide (subject to funding from DIRDAC)	RDA role: Lead		Priority Performance Measure(s) 3.1 Number and nature of collaborative working groups/projects/partnerships with governments and regional stakeholders and economic development outcomes resulting from this. Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)
Activity 3.4: Build on our specialist and emerging industry sector Fact Sheets with new sectors, such as Robotics (web and hard copy)	RDA role: Lead		Priority Performance Measure(s) 3.4 Region investment prospectus or similar collaboratively developed Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)

OUTCOME THEME 4	Achieve Government program objectives.		
OUTPUT iv.	Assist in the delivery of Commonwealth programs including public and private sector decentralisation.		
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 4.1: List in this column each of the Activities You plan to undertake to perform the Output and meet the Outcome Deliver the ASBAS Digital Solutions program across Queensland to provide digital solutions advice to small businesses; also use the program to build export capability (lead) — Outcome Themes 2 & 5 also refer Note: RDAB does not envisage having any level of activity against Priority Performance Measure 4.1 due to Brisbane not being a region considered for the Australian Government's decentralisation agenda.	Provide a description of your activities during the year relating to this outcome and output. Please note whether your RDA has played a lead or support role in the activities. RDA role: Lead	Provide a description of how the activities contributed to the achievement of the outcome and output.	Priority Performance Measure(s) Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity. 4.2 Number and description of initiatives to assist in the delivery of Australian Government programs Also 5.3 Number of organisations assisted to connect with government programs Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A) You may choose to set additional Performance Measures as part of the Business Plan process and report against these in the Annual Report on Outcomes. Additional measures should be listed here.

OUTCOME THEME 5	Maximise access to Government programs and grants.		
OUTPUT v.	Promote and disseminate information on Commonwealth policies and grant programs and support community stakeholders in You Region to develop project proposals to access funding.		
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 5.1:	Provide a description of your activities during the year relating to this outcome and output. Please note whether your RDA has played a lead or support role in the activities.	Provide a description of how the activities contributed to the achievement of the outcome and output.	Priority Performance Measure(s)
List in this column each of the Activities You plan to undertake to perform the Output and meet the Outcome			Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity.
	RDA role: Lead		5.1 Number of organisations assisted to connect with government programs.
Use RDAB's coordination of the GIBIN and participation in Lord Mayor's Small Business Forums to promote Commonwealth initiatives and grant programs (also via social media, e-newsletters, email alerts)			Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)
			You may choose to set additional Performance Measures as part of the Business Plan process and report against these in the Annual Report on Outcomes. Additional measures should be listed here.
Activity 5.2:	RDA role: Support		Priority Performance Measure(s)
Add additional rows for activities as required.			5.1 Number of enquiries received/generated and proposals assisted with.
,			5.2 Number and value of successful proposals.
Where relevant, support stakeholders to develop project proposals for funding			Note - RDAB does not envisage as high a level of activity with these two performance measures in view of the non applicability to metropolitan regions of Departmental regional funding programs such as the BBRF

OUTCOME THEME 6	Advice supports development outcomes.		
OUTPUT vi.	For Your Region: • Provide evidence-based advice to the Commonwealth on critical regional development issues; and • Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages to all levels of government, industry, business and community sectors.		
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 6.1: List in this column each of the Activities You plan to undertake to perform the Output and meet the Outcome Provide advice to government on strategic opportunities and critical issues, and contribute to consultations (support) • Keep a watching brief with a view to adding value and providing advice to government on transport and digital connectivity infrastructure issues, including the SEQ City Deal Outcome Theme 3 also refers	RDA role: Support Provide a description of your activities during the year relating to this outcome and output. Please note whether your RDA has played a lead or support role in the activities.	Provide a description of how the activities contributed to the achievement of the outcome and output.	Priority Performance Measure(s) Report against the priority the performance measure(s) relating to this activity. 6.1 Number of reports or submissions to the Aust Government about critical regional development issues Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A) 6.4 Number of government consultation sessions/surveys/inquiries/advisory groups the RDA provided input to/hosted

OUTCOME THEME 6	Advice supports development outcomes.		
OUTPUT vi.	For Your Region: • Provide evidence-based advice to the Commonwealth on critical regional development issues; and • Provide information on regional activities and competitive advantages to all levels of government, industry, business and competence.		
What will we do?	What did we do?	Did it have an impact?	Performance Measures
Activity 6.2:	RDA role: Lead		Priority Performance Measure(s)
Add additional rows for activities as required.			6.2 Effectiveness of communication of regional activities and competitive advantages to regional stakeholders
Provide information to the region on regional activities			Stationord
and competitive advantages			Additional Performance Measures (delete cell if N/A)
Activity 6.3:	RDA role: Support		Priority Performance Measure(s)
Add additional rows for activities as required.			
Present at forums, participate			Additional Performance Measures
on judging panels and/or submit award nominations to recognise the RDA's role in regional economic development			6.7 Number and nature of activities resulting in promotion/recognition of regional activities (eg presenting at conferences, regional/industry awards judging panels)