



Australian Government
Department of Industry, Science,
Energy and Resources

AusIndustry
Cooperative Research
Centres Program

Anne Stünzner | CEO



- **\$75m Commonwealth funding for 10 years** to fund industry-led research collaborations as part of the Cooperative Research Centres Program (CRC-P).
- **R & D projects delivering outcomes in:**
 - agriculture and food (including aquaculture)
 - northern health service delivery
 - Traditional Owner-led business development (in these areas).

69

RD&E
projects

\$91m

co-contributions⁹

\$45m

CRCNA funds

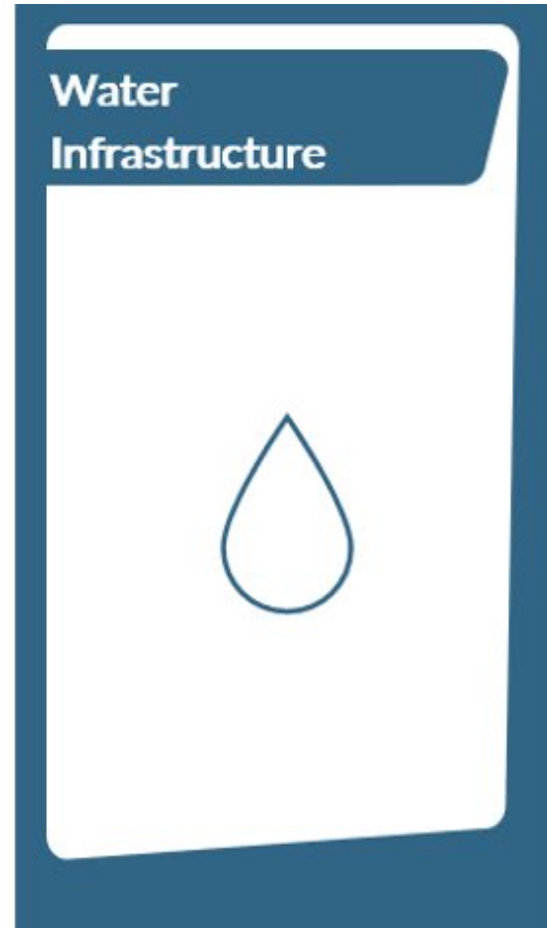
313

participants

20

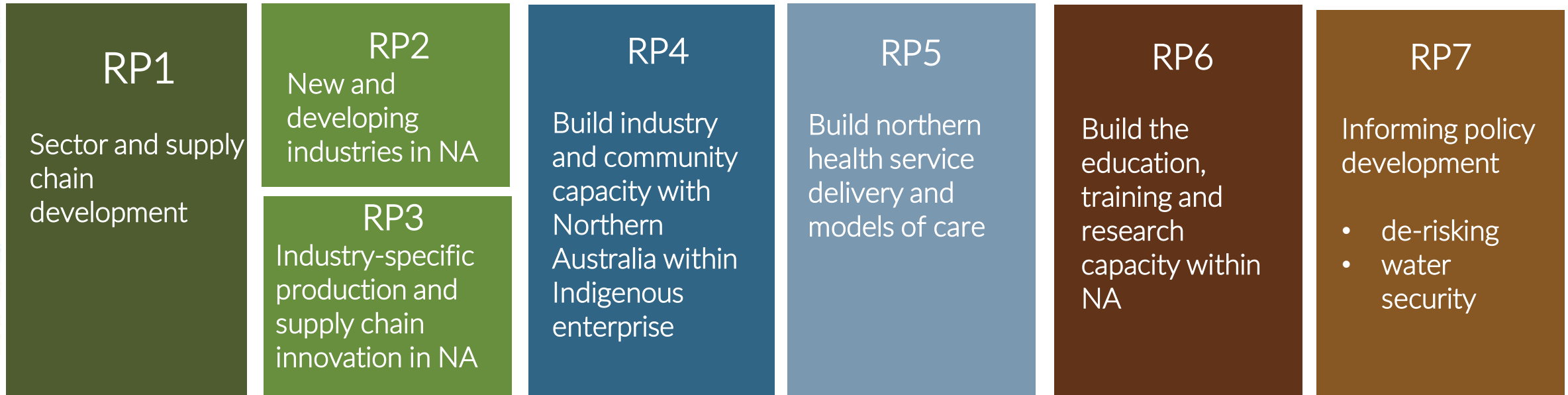
PhD
students

Drivers of developing Northern Australia



...de-risk the Northern Australian investment landscape to enable the sustainable economic development of Northern Australia.

Research programs



ENABLING INFRASTRUCTURE

CROSS JURISDICTIONAL POLICY HARMONISATION

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

ACTIVATING THE INDIGENOUS ESTATE





Opportunity pipeline

- **\$10m Water Security for Northern Australia**
- **\$10m Northern Australian Health Alliance**
- **\$10m Activating the Indigenous Accord**
- **\$16m Building a transformational farming system – The Ord, WA, Douglas Daly/ Roper NT & Gilbert Basin QLD**

**Water
Infrastructure**



**Opportunities for project investment : Northern Australian University
Alliance Stage One – Gone to Contract**

\$5 million CRCNA : \$5 million NAUA package to develop a research programs to address northern water resource challenges CDU, CQU, JCU.

Place based approach Ord, Douglas Daly/Katherine, Rookwood, Gilbert Basin

1. Innovation in Water Storage and Extraction
2. New Water Efficient Cropping Systems
3. New Catchment Scale Development Models
4. Mobilising Indigenous Water Resources
5. Lifting Human Capacity and Skills in the Water Sector

Enabling infrastructure



Opportunities for Project Investment

Northern Australia Health Alliance \$5m:\$5m – Currently Contracting

1. Support and enhance formal education and training for an equitably oriented, culturally intelligent health and wellbeing workforce across all health disciplines and elements of rural health training pipelines
2. Enhance professional support, career development and career pathways for rural health and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workforce across all health disciplines
3. Determine need and mechanisms to finance appropriate health service delivery models for rural and remote health service delivery
4. Strengthen and grow northern-led research capacity and funding

Indigenous Accord Implementation – joint activities

– Open EOI

Activating the Indigenous Estate



1. Creating jobs, fostering labour participation, entrepreneurship and business acumen
2. Access to capital and international markets
3. Infrastructure to support Indigenous economic development
4. Activate the economic value of land, water, sea and cultural resource rights
5. Institutional arrangements that work to activate, accelerate and optimise Indigenous economic development across northern Australia
6. Knowledge management systems and research and development to support Indigenous commercial end-users

CRCNA project priorities : Platform for investment

Activating the Indigenous Estate



Opportunity for project investment: WHY?

- Stage 1 Currently funding work with ANU and ILSC for \$250,000.00
- Committed a 5-year, \$5m CRCNA:\$5m ILSC program of work to operationalise the IRG Accord to activate the Indigenous Estate.
 - By 2030 a 5 % increase in agricultural land
= \$210 million GDP + 1,519 jobs
 - A 20% increase in agricultural land
= \$820 million GDP + 6,009 jobs
 - By 2040 a 5% increase in agricultural land
= \$240 million GDP + 1,698 jobs
 - A 20% increase in agricultural land
= \$960 million GDP + 6,716 jobs

Activate the economic value of land, water, sea and cultural resource rights

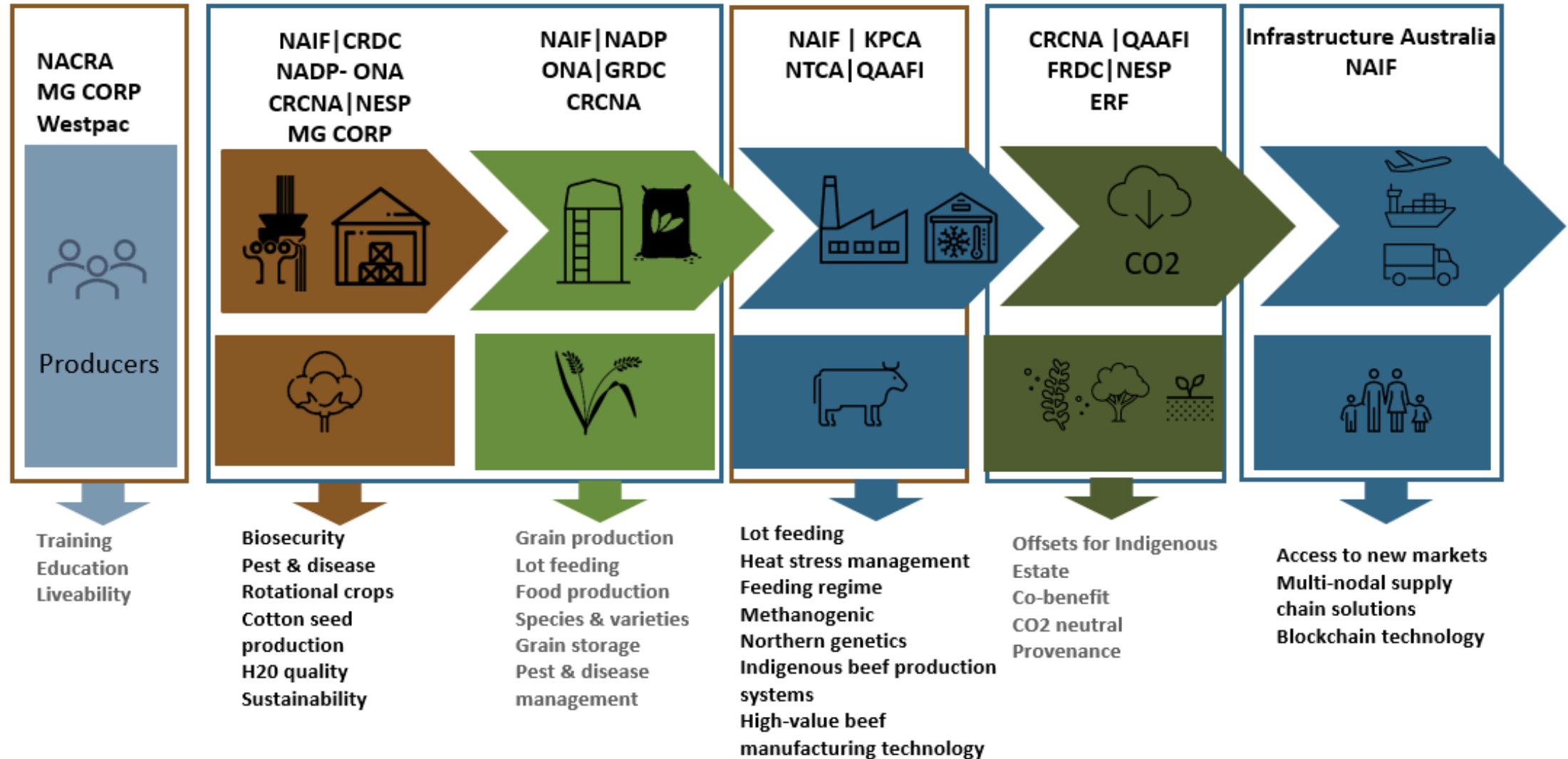
- NT Tropical rock oyster (Blacklip Rock Oyster) R & D
 - Yagbani Aboriginal Corporation
 - Anindilyakwa Land Council
 - Hatchery protocol developed
 - Moving to scale-up on-Country farming

1,000,000 released to date value \$217m & 500+ jobs
- WA Tropical rock oyster R & D
 - Murujuga Aboriginal Corporation
 - Phase 2 = commercial scalability, skills identification & training with TOs, marketing

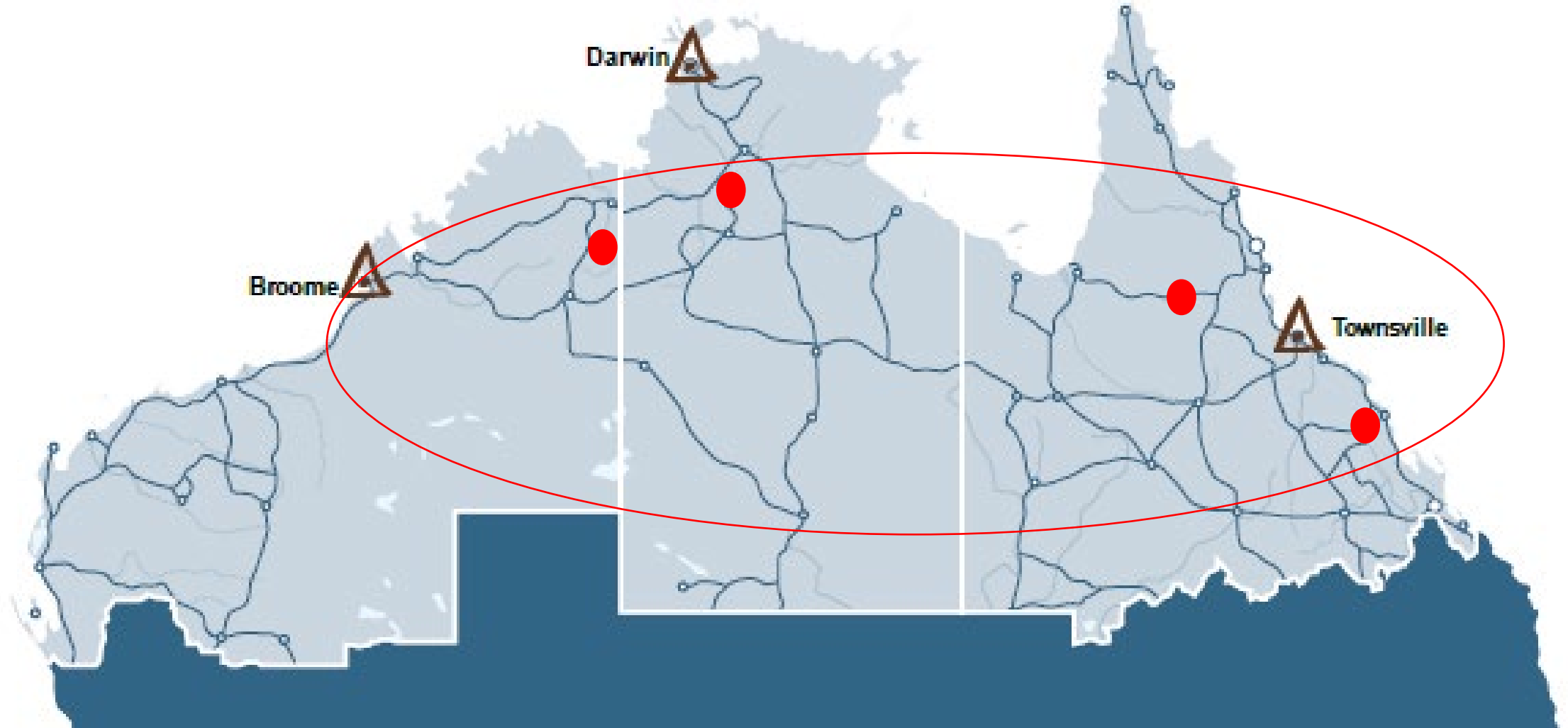


Aquacultural & agricultural career & business pathways | Regulatory & policy enablers | Knowledge

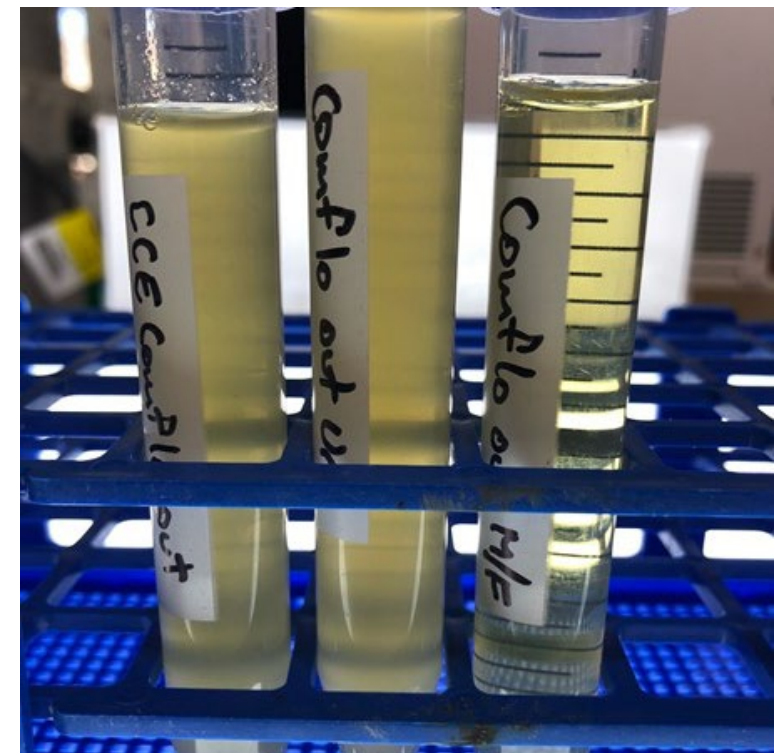
Cotton Grain and Cattle – Farming Systems Approach \$16m



Repeatability across Northern Australia: Ord | Katherine | QLD



Investing in R & D
to diversify the
sugarcane industry



1. Sugarcane Industry Situational Analysis: Industry consultation and roadmap development

Participants

- Sugar Research Australia Limited
- Australian Sugar Milling Council Pty Limited
- Queensland Cane Growers Organisation Ltd
- Australian Cane Farmers Association Limited
- AgForce Queensland Farmers Ltd

Summary

- Through undertaking broad industry engagement and consultation, this project will examine the industry's current challenges and future opportunities for development.
- The objective is to deliver a roadmap for the sugarcane industry which clarifies how the industry wants to develop (incrementally and transformationally)
- How does the sugarcane industry intend to get there over the next two decades.



2. New industries in alternative processing of sugarcane biomass

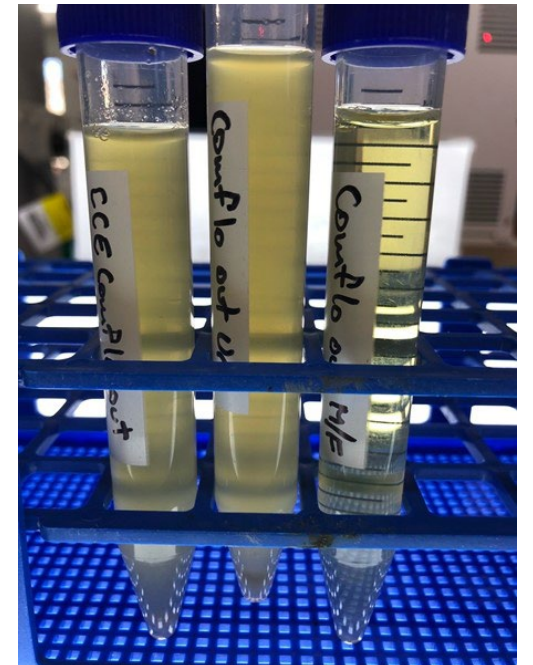
Participants

- Townsend Industries

Summary

This project will test a pilot alternative sugarcane processing facility in Mackay using the Tilby cane separator. The four components to be extracted from the sugarcane biomass during this project are: Comrind, Comfith, Comflo, and Dermax.

These components are then processed by third parties into over 20 high value products. Greatly increasing the final value of a tonne of sugarcane.



3. Project B Green

Participants

- Burdekin Renewable Fuels Pty Ltd
- Sugar Research Australia Limited
- Procom Consultants Pty Ltd
- S & L Peters Pty Ltd
- Haldor Topsoe A/S

Summary

- Project BGreen is a biorefinery based on converting sugarcane juice to glycols and biomass to 'green' hydrogen and urea.
- This project will produce a techno-economic feasibility study.



4. Suitable sugarcane to diversify income and add value

Participants

- QQAFI
- Far Northern Milling Pty Ltd
- Sugar Research Australia Limited

Summary

- Review tropical sugarcane varieties, as well as 'Energycanes' and sorghums, to increase biomass feedstock supply to the mill
- Seek high value constituents in the sugarcane supply that will increase extracted value and diversify income to the sugarcane industry supply & value chain.



New industries from alternative rotation crops in a sugarcane farming system

5. Seed handling, crushing and refining infrastructure feasibility project

Participants

- GO Resources Pty Ltd
- Savannah Ag Research Pty Ltd
- Profeeds NQ Pty Ltd
- Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)
- Department of State Development Infrastructure Local Government and Planning
- Port of Townsville Limited

Summary

- The project will examine the feasibility of locating a crushing/refining facility for oilseed crops, like safflower, within northern Queensland.



6. Developing an oilseed industry in Northern Australia

Participants

- Farmacist Pty Ltd
- Olive Vale Pastoral Pty Ltd
- The Lakeland farming Trust
- Savannah Ag Research Pty Ltd
- John Kenny

Summary

This project will deliver opportunities for growers to diversify into alternative oilseed cash crops through the identification of suitable options for their individual region with a specific focus upon their role within the sugarcane farming system.





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