

DARLING DOWNS AND SOUTH WEST INC

# Our own "go to" organisation for regional development

Regional Development Australia Darling Downs and South West (RDA DDSW) is an independent not-for-profit organisation partly funded by the Australian Government. It consists of local leaders volunteering their time and skills to support economic development.



#### What is Regional Development Australia?

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a partnership between Australian, State, Territory and Local Governments to strengthen regional communities. RDA consists of a national network of 55 committees, which are made up of local leaders to work with all levels of government, business and community groups to help coordinate resources and actions to develop our regional communities.

# Priorities for RDA Darling Downs and South West

The new board of RDA DDSW focuses on the following priority portfolio areas to develop our region:







**Employment and Skills** 



Value Chains, Market Development and Logistics



Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Disruption

RDA DDSW also has three over-arching priorities:



1. Improving stakeholders' access to funding



2. Assisting stakeholders in progressing priority projects



3. Communicating issues to and from the Commonwealth Government

# Darling Downs and South West Snapshot



31,010 local businesses

GRP \$19.80 billion



Population density 0.01 persons per hectare

2031 expected population 376,000



5.09% Unemployment 133,303 employed residences

Local Jobs 140,909

Largest Industry – Health Care and Social Assistance

Land Mass = 23% of Qld

397,204 square kilometres



DDSW produces one third of Queensland's agricultural output

## THE RDA DDSW TEAM

### Local people developing local solutions

Each RDA DDSW board member has a portfolio and supports a local government



Prof Jim Cavaye RDA DDSW Chair Employment and Skills Portfolio Paroo Shire – Friend Council



Peter Wilson RDA DDSW Board Member Value Chains, Market Development and Logistics Portfolio Goondiwindi Regional Council – Friend Council



Stuart Mackenzie RDA DDSW Deputy Chair Investment Attraction Portfolio Murweh and Quilpie Shire – Friend



Geraldine Doumany
RDA DDSW Board Member
Value Chains, Market Development and
Logistics Portfolio
Western Downs Regional Council – Friend
Council



Sarah Delahunty

RDA DDSW Treasurer

Employment and Skills Portfolio
Toowoomba Regional Council – Friend
Council



Fiona Gaske
RDA DDSW Board Member
Innovation, Entrepreneurship and
Disruption Portfolio
Maranoa Regional Council – Friend
Council



Julia Telford

RDA DDSW Secretary
Innovation, Entrepreneurship and
Disruption Portfolio
Balonne Shire and Southern Downs
Regional Council – Friend Council



Marco Otaolo RDA DDSW Board Member Investment Attraction Portfolio Bulloo Shire – Friend Council



**Trudi Bartlett**RDA DDSW Director of Regional Development



**Craig Alison**Project Officer SW RED
Co-funded by RDA DDSW



### Strong, Confident and Vibrant Regions

Regional Development Australia (RDA) is a national network of Committees made up of local leaders who work with all levels of government, business and community groups to support the economic development of their regions.

RDA Committees have an active and facilitative role in their communities and a clear focus on growing strong and confident regional economies that harness their competitive advantages, seize on economic opportunity and attract investment.



Regional Development Australia is an Australian Government Initiative

Do you have a project you would like to progress?

Need to connect with other stakeholders?

Want to find out more about grants and funding?

#### **CONTACT US**

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