

A photograph of two people in a natural wetland environment. On the left, a person wearing a straw hat, a high-visibility yellow vest over a grey shirt, and blue pants is kneeling and looking at a book. On the right, a person wearing a grey hat, a red life vest over a grey shirt, and dark waders is crouching and holding a large, shallow, woven basket. The background is filled with lush green vegetation and a body of water with lily pads. A large, semi-transparent, stylized 'X' or arrow shape is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image.

FIRST NATIONS PARTNERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE PROGRESS

**FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF
OUR UNIQUE AUSTRALIAN ECOLOGY**

Economic Development Queensland

Creating and investing in sustainable places for Queensland to prosper





A SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIP IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

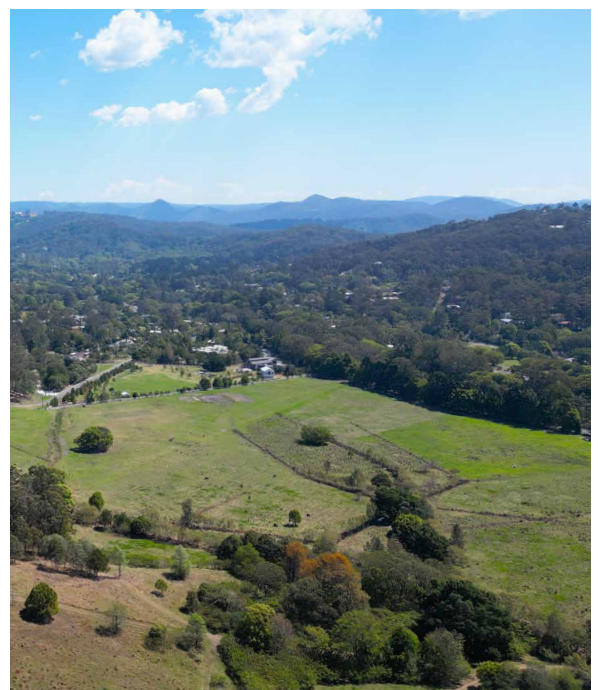
Economic Development Queensland (EDQ) is proud to partner with Biodiversity Australia, a leading Australian environmental management consultancy, key supplier and 100% First Nations-owned business. This is an important partnership that helps achieve a balance between economic development and ecological management in key EDQ-led infrastructure projects throughout Queensland.

Currumbin Eco Parkland Project

ABOUT EDQ

EDQ is a specialist land use planning and property development unit within the Queensland Government and is working with partner suppliers like Biodiversity Australia to deliver projects that drive economic prosperity for Queensland while mitigating risks and negative impacts on the environment.

EDQ has worked with Biodiversity since 2021 when they were selected through an open market tender process to work on a weed management vegetation project in North Queensland. After impressive results on that initial project, Biodiversity Australia was invited to attend a First Nations Business Expo in 2022 hosted by EDQ. Exposure to further project teams and departments saw additional opportunities to partner with EDQ on key projects throughout Queensland as an environmental consultant and service provider.





MEET BIODIVERSITY – A LEADING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANCY

Biodiversity Australia was founded over 20 years ago by Managing Director Steven Noy. Steve is proud of his Indigenous heritage with the Ualarai People (part of the Muruwari people). Growing up in bush communities and understanding where his people came from, Steve developed a deep appreciation for the natural world from a young age.

The values of connection to the land and sensitivity of native wildlife are a fundamental part of Biodiversity's commitment to impactful ecological management across Australia.

Over the last two decades, Steve has merged his lifelong passion for Australian wildlife, and wealth of experience in land management, and established a successful company of more than 100 employees who share his vision.

Today, Biodiversity Australia offers extensive experience in the management and delivery of specialist environmental

consulting services including ecology, fauna management, vegetation management, aviation and biosecurity management. Their projects range from small to large-scale, and they collaborate with clients across diverse industries and sectors, including Government (local, State, and National), defence, and residential sectors.

Steve and the Biodiversity Australia team are also committed to creating opportunities to employ and engage with local Indigenous youth communities, and Steve served as a member of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Business Innovation Reference Group (BIRG).

Biodiversity Australia embraces opportunities to partner with organisations like EDQ who share their passion and commitment to creating positive ecological and cultural impact.



Biodiversity
AUSTRALIA



BIODIVERSITY OFFERS A DIVERSE RANGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

All Biodiversity Australia projects are unique; they each require a mix of diverse, specialised skills and services across ecology, aviation and biosecurity and fauna, and vegetation management, including:



Bushfire risk assessment and bushfire prevention



Environmental impact assessments and compliance



Feral animal control, pest management and relocation



Weed management and vegetation management plans



Threatened species monitoring, including camera surveillance and thermal imaging



Koala habitat assessment and management plans



Wildlife emergency response and rescue



GIS mapping and surveys

You can find more details about these areas on the Biodiversity Australia [website](#).

A PARTNERSHIP THAT SUPPORTS BUSINESS GROWTH & CAREER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Steve Noy, Founder and Managing Director of Biodiversity, attributes the success of Biodiversity Australia's services to the EDQ team's open communication, collaboration, and engagement in every project. Steve is particularly complimentary of the support of EDQ Project Managers, including their championing of Indigenous business from the first Biodiversity engagement onwards.

The strong engagement of the EDQ partnership, coupled with Biodiversity Australia's exceptional performance on their initial project, has propelled Biodiversity into a rapid growth trajectory alongside EDQ. What initially started as a relatively small land management project in Townsville with EDQ in 2021 has now expanded into substantial, full-time contracts at prominent EDQ sites in both Currumbin and Gladstone.



EDQ relies on a dedicated team of three Biodiversity staff members who handle a wide array of fieldwork activities in the very early phase of the Currumbin Eco-Parkland project. Additionally, this contract has created an opportunity for a traineeship program on-site. Presently, a local 19-year-old Indigenous woman holds the traineeship, while she also completes her 'Certificate 3' qualification. She works closely with the EDQ site project management team and collaborates with the broader Biodiversity Australia team to achieve outstanding results.



EDQ AND BIODIVERSITY JOIN FORCES ON KEY PROJECTS

Biodiversity Australia is committed to minimising impacts on the environment whilst balancing commercial outcomes. EDQ first worked with Biodiversity in 2021, on EDQ's Townsville weed and pest control project. Since then, Biodiversity Australia has been successful in securing additional projects with EDQ, delivering their highly skilled

and sophisticated land management services and ecology resources to create a positive environmental impact in each project.

Below are a few recent highlights from the partnership across key EDQ-led projects in Queensland.

1. CURRUMBIN ECO-PARKLAND PROJECT

Overview: The Currumbin Eco Parkland Project comprises 148 hectares of land within the Currumbin Valley. Biodiversity Australia provides land management services to support its ecological restoration.

Successes: In 2023, Biodiversity Australia conducted extensive fieldwork towards ensuring the balance and health of this valuable ecosystem and encourage natural regeneration. They have assisted in increasing the site's environmental and ecological values by undertaking successful vegetation control activities that decrease the future impact of weeds and prevent potential ecological degradation of the site. This ranges from fire risk reduction activities, to targeted control of invasive species, and the geofencing of threatened flora, where an alert is issued if someone is within 10 metres of a threatened species.

"Biodiversity Australia provided excellent GIS data, excellent weed control outcomes and reporting, including a tailored platform with photographs, observations, animal sightings and other information that is georeferenced. This information has helped inform the Currumbin Ecological Restoration Planning work and engagement with other stakeholders."

Jodie Cawter, Property Officer, EDQ Industrial Development

The Currumbin Eco Parkland Project





Gladstone State Development Area

2. STANWELL TO GLADSTONE POWERLINES PROJECT

Overview: The Stanwell-Gladstone Infrastructure Corridor supports the establishment of multiple underground pipelines, approximately 97 kilometres long. Biodiversity provides services to help reduce the disruption of construction on individual landowners, surrounding communities, and the environment.

Successes: Biodiversity Australia has liaised and audited over 120 different landholders, compiling an updated weed mapping and management plan for each property, and enabling the GIS system dashboard to deliver live data insights to stakeholders.

Australia needs infrastructure, and thankfully we are more sensitive to environmental needs and impact today. We strive to achieve a balance between economic development and ecological management; we want to make sure the environment isn't an afterthought."

Steve Noy, Founder and Managing Director,
Biodiversity Australia.



Biodiversity Australia is proudly a certified and registered Indigenous-owned business with Supply Nation, the Australian government-endorsed Indigenous business directory.

EDQ IS COMMITTED TO BUILDING LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS WITH FIRST NATION BUSINESSES

Engagement with Biodiversity Australia has greatly enhanced EDQ projects across multiple locations, and EDQ is excited to continue to expand their partnership and positive ecological impact together as future projects arise.

EDQ is committed to expanding knowledge on how to engage with First Nations businesses, to showcase and advocate for the Queensland Indigenous Businesses sector. EDQ hosted a First Nations Business Expo in 2022, which provided networking opportunities for Queensland's Indigenous businesses. EDQ is pleased to have procured \$1.6 million from the First Nations businesses that participated in the expo.

EDQ leads a vast range of state infrastructure projects requiring different types of external suppliers and encourages procurement partnerships with eligible First Nations businesses.

GET IN TOUCH TO BECOME AN EDQ SUPPLIER

The Queensland Indigenous Procurement Policy offers a framework that aims to boost collaboration with Indigenous businesses, increasing employment opportunities and enhancing the economic engagement of First Nations Australians.

EDQ WELCOMES APPLICATIONS OF INTEREST FROM FIRST NATIONS SUPPLIERS

Here are some ways you can let us know about your business and find out how to become an EDQ supplier.

Visit: www.forgov.qld.gov.au/procurement

Email: enterprise@dsdsatsip.qld.gov.au for more information about the Queensland Indigenous Procurement Policy or Indigenous business support.

Register to QTender: www.epw.qld.gov.au to receive new tender submission opportunity alerts.

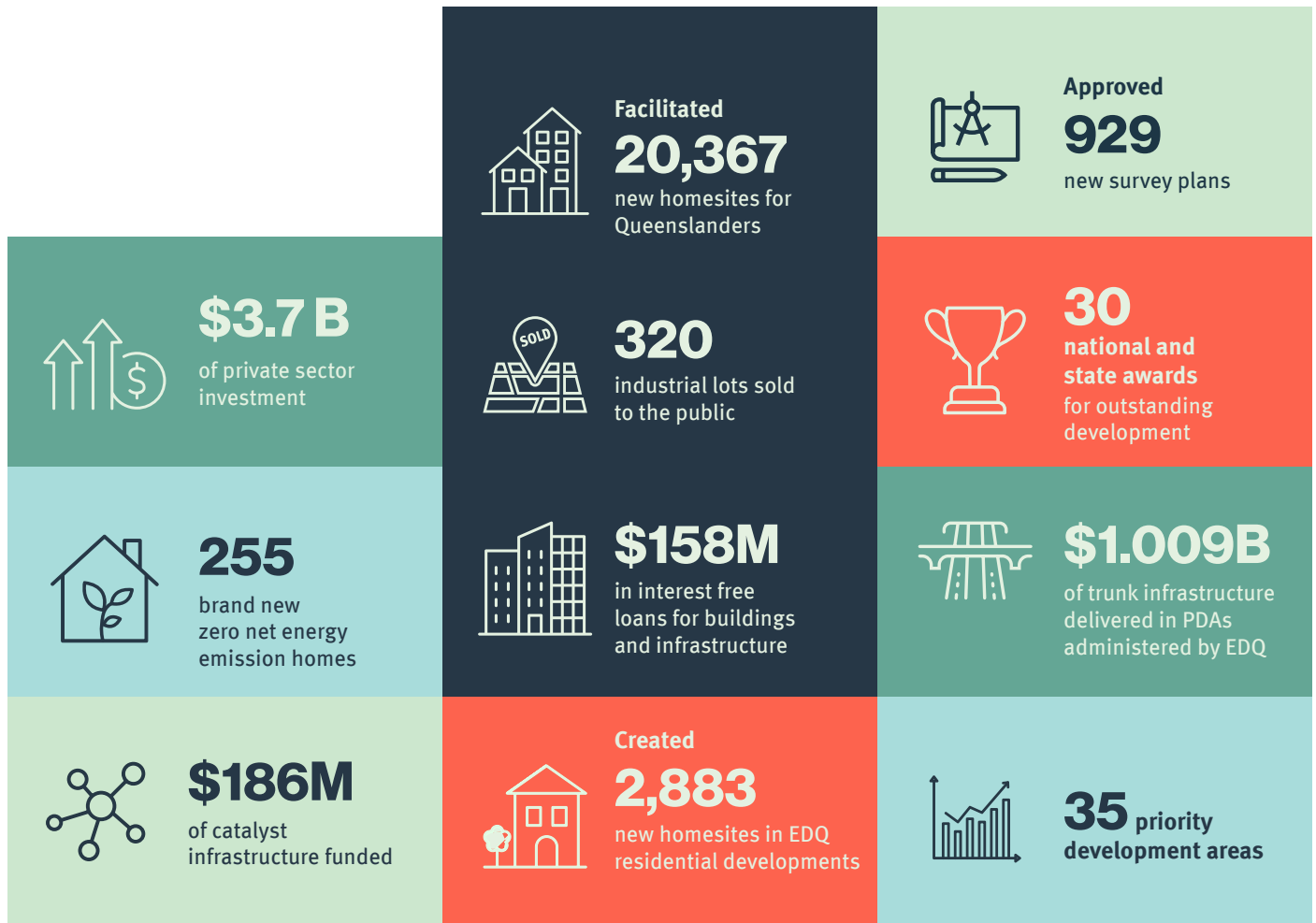
Register with Supply Nation: www.supplynation.org.au - the Australian government-endorsed Indigenous business directory.

"Biodiversity's open communications around Indigenous employment, cultural considerations and persistence to find the right local Indigenous trainee has been excellent."

Jodie Cawter, Property Officer, EDQ Industrial Development

EDQ DELIVERS IMPACT

EDQ embraces partnerships across government, Industry and the community to lead and deliver infrastructure and property projects for Queensland's economic benefit. In the 10 years since the Economic Queensland Act 2012 was legislated, EDQ has made an incredible contribution to the state's economic, social and environmental growth, including:



PARTNERING WITH EDQ

EDQ is leading considerable infrastructure projects that are putting construction infrastructure pipelines into play over the next 10 years, leading up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and beyond, and welcomes enquiries from potential development, local government, and other investment partners.

Currently, there are 35 PDAs in Queensland; many include opportunities to develop affordable, sustainable

residential estates in partnership with local government and industry, and associated infrastructure to support new communities such as schools, parks, retail, industrial and commercial development.

EDQ welcomes the opportunity to meet and discuss these opportunities in detail.



Contact Us

Contact Economic Development Queensland by:

Email: edq@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au

Phone: (07) 3452 7880

Post: Economic Development Queensland
Department of State Development,
Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
GPO Box 2202
Brisbane Queensland 4001 Australia

Website: edq.qld.gov.au

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