

Regional Outcomes On-Farm for Sustainability

“ROOFS”

Bulletin 2

Update on ROOFS scoping study progress

The ROOFS project seeks to incorporate Australia's best methods and tools for addressing natural resource management issues into a system that is useful for landholders, government and regional interests. The first step of the project is the stakeholder analysis, which involves asking stakeholders at local, regional, state and national level what they want in such a system.

The ROOFS Stakeholder Analysis undertaken between June to September 2005 involved the following activities:

Stakeholder consultation:

- 7 workshops were held in the Tamar Region in July incorporating private and public landholders, industry, local and state government and education, research, environment and cultural organisations

National Reference Panel:

- Meeting of leading national research organisations and Australian Government departments for input and advice on ROOFS design

National scoping of tools and systems:

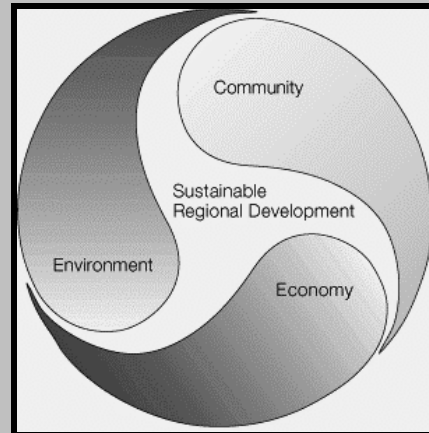
- Literature review of sustainable agriculture issues, tools and systems applicable for Australia
- Networking with other national reviews of sustainable agriculture tools and systems

Interconnected knowledge workshops:

- 2 workshops on grazing and native vegetation held in September with stakeholders to develop knowledge systems based on 'communities of practice'

Tools database:

- Development of user friendly ROOFS tools database for natural resource managers in the Tamar



The Stakeholder consultation indicated that a property sustainability system should incorporate the following broad principles:

- *A grass roots approach in which land managers are central*
- *Mechanisms to support landholder and community sustainability (social well being and profitability)*
- *The use of appropriate, trusted and up-to-date science*
- *Adequate sharing of duty of care responsibilities*
- *Delivery systems that build local capacity*
- *The need for some kind of approval/endorsement*
- *Facilitators are important to provide co-ordination and assistance to both individual and groups of landholders*
- *'Translators' are important for interpretation of information (including legislation) making it relevant for local application*
- *Integration of information products across agencies*
- *Collaboration to better align development and enforcement of legislation*
- *Collaborative approaches*
- *Stronger supply chain linkages*
- *Education*

“The aim of the ROOFS scoping study is to develop a delivery model for sustainable land-use change in the Tamar Region”.

SCOPING STUDY ACTIVITIES

(revised dates)

Interim findings from scoping of National Tools and Systems indicate:

- **Lack of consistent** approaches for property scale systems (such as Integrated PMP and EMS programs) resulting in confusion and duplication
- **Lack of use of national information and Decision Support Systems** due to costs, issues of computer use, software knowledge, data and information requirements
- The need to use **monitoring tools** and **indicators** that landholders **already use** or those that landholders **will benefit** from measuring. **Costs** to monitor need to be **borne by those who benefit** from the measurement
- **Perception of process rather than performance approaches** to property scale management system approaches
- Perceived **costs of property scale approaches** and **lack** of adequate **farm scale** data
- Emerging **whole of supply chain approaches** to sustainable production
- Relative success with landholders of **Industry productivity and enterprise planning systems** which are incorporating environmental issues into their delivery frameworks
- Inadequate linking of **social and rural counselling support** services and NRM and agricultural services
- Lack of comparative assessments of market based instruments (MBI) programs and projects around Australia
- Limited examples of **translating NRM planning between regional and property scales**

20th September

Compilation and analysis from stakeholder investigation activities

20th October

(Issue of Bulletin 2)

Development of draft concept proposal

24th November

Recommendations for delivery framework for spatial & other information.

30th November

(Issue of Bulletin 3)

Consult with committee and stakeholders re draft design

Scoping of investment opportunities

16th December

Develop investment proposals for specific funding opportunities

(Issue of Bulletin 4 final)

Contact details

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Updates will be listed on <http://tamar-nrm.org.au/index.html>



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